

The Normal Pointer

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No. 6

An Explanation.

Some time ago, a month to be exact, the management of this staff thought it feasible and desirable to establish a weekly Pointer and do away with the monthly tradition. In order to do this many things had to be considered. First the faculty were consulted, then the printers and finally the advertisers. A weekly paper, as you well know, costs more than a monthly as put out by this school. By cutting down the number of copies and by some clever manipulations by Mr. Moxon, the printers contracted to publish a weekly for the remainder of the year without an extra charge. One of the necessary conditions, however, was the fact that the year's paper had been purchased and this supply must be used. That is the reason the weekly pointers you have received are in book form. This fault, if termed as such, can be remedied next year when the printing contract is made.

We feel that it is no more than just that you who subscribe for the paper should know and understand why we think a weekly better, and why thinking so we have tried to establish it.

In the first place, all the colleges such as Carroll, Lawrence, Beloit and others have weekly papers, some of them bi-weekly. Whitewater, one of our sister Normals, has a weekly and seems to be making good. This is their tryout year, as ours, and if they can succeed there why not here? The papers published by the various preparatory schools of the U. S., termed as monthlies, are not periodicals as McClures and the established editions. They become mere pamphlets. They are supposed to have a literary value, but do they have it? To a small extent, yes, that is all. Compare any High school or Normal periodical with an established one as the Literary Digest, McClures, Everybody's, from the literary standpoint and you will notice the difference. Of course we do not believe we have a literary paper in the weekly but we at least have a live paper. Then again, stories written by students can be run in the weekly advantageously and receive just as great literary value. Another

thing, our periodical never came out on time. Why? Everyone says that's your fault, referring to the editor and business manager. Admitted it is our fault, but are we totally to blame for having the fault? In any established line of business, men upon entering that business are compelled to start at the bottom and learn the ropes. How about the students at the head of a school paper? They are thrown into a new field with no hints or suggestions from those who controlled the work the previous year. Experience is a good teacher but sometimes a slow one. I am speaking of course from my own experience, but how about the issuing of Pointers in preceding years? There were very few times when the total number of six issues were given out and seldom were they on time.

Many more citations could be given as to why the monthly Pointers have never been a success; but consider the advantage of the weekly and then make a comparison. News items can be given out fresh, not salted, to the readers. Things that happened two days ago or a day ago are still clear in people's mind. Some of the particulars of the event may be lacking and these are established thru reading the weekly paper. Besides, the majority of people want news first and literary material afterward. The weekly Pointers are given out on a specified day of each week. This day is always the same for each week and the place of delivery never changes. Students and faculty begin to look forward to that day and would be immensely disappointed if the Pointers were late. The lapse of time is not so great that they forget about the issues as with a monthly.

Our hope is that in the coming years this school will have both a monthly and weekly Pointer. When we leave we will try to leave helpful hints and suggestions for the coming staff. If each staff would leave a written document telling what they did and how they did it, I feel sure that each year would see the efficiency of the paper increase. We want a leading paper, not a second number, and why should each year's staff learn things from actual contact when they can so much easier thru others' experience?

Woman Suffrage.

Miss Alice Curtis favored the school with a short address on "Woman Suffrage" at exercises Wednesday morning. At 3:30 o'clock the same day, she delivered a more lengthy address on the same subject, going into details. She cited many examples of woman suffrage, going back to the time of our forefathers.

"Emancipation of Women is the Last Step in Democracy. Founders of government permitted some women to vote in early days, if they were property owners. Wyoming had had woman suffrage for forty years. Today there are ten suffrage states and one territory, Alaska. Illinois women can have right of national and municipal suffrage, but not state. Another campaign will be necessary in Wisconsin. In the last contest woman suffrage was defeated by 90,000 votes." She predicts that in five years Wisconsin will be a suffrage state.

"At the conference held at Budapest in 1913, twenty-five countries were represented. The movement in the United States is by states. The predicting sign of the rights of women in the United States is hopeful. At present there are four million voting women."

In regard to the means by which women have attempted to gain suffrage in England, she stated that in 1832 Englishmen rose and destroyed property in order to prove their rights to the ballot. Other leading statements for suffrage were:

"Politics influence the home. The home woman should have the right to protect the home interests of men, women and children."

Instances: "Colorado laws passed thru initiative of women. All laws which have to do with children, divorce, humane, etc."

California: "Social and economic right is the prerogative of woman. Womanhood movement one of the most spiritual movements that the world has ever known."

Suffrage clubs have been formed at Milwaukee and Superior Normals. Under Miss Curtis's direction a Stevens Point Normal Suffrage Club was organized. Miss Mary Brady was elected president, Laura Cooper vice president, Esther Gill, secretary, Winifred Meade, treasurer. An active working committee was also formed.

Question:—Who stole the Rural Seniors feed!

Athletics.

Although there will be some track athletics, the general trend of spring training will be base ball. In order to compete successfully with High schools it would be necessary to have a large number of entries in a track meet and we are unable to place more than six men in the field. Therefore the boys decided in favor of base ball. However, six men will no doubt participate in the track meet held at LaCrosse and the same number will enter the meet at Milwaukee later in the season. Base ball practice has been on for a week and much interest is shown. Mr. Schneller says we have fine material and will no doubt have a winning base ball team.

At a recent meeting of the Tennis Association, Mr. Fairchild was elected president, Earl Johnson treasurer and secretary. Beginning next week the courts will be put in good condition. The turf is to be taken off, the soil loosened and rolled until it becomes hard. The surrounding fences will be repaired and wherever needed new posts will be installed. The association is open to all students of the school and by paying an entrance fee of twenty-five cents anyone can become a member. Those wishing to join must see Earl Johnson and pay the entrance fee before they can become regular members of the association. By way of remark we might add that Mr. Fairchild is a professional at the game and a very able and willing instructor in its science.

Pay Up.

As the school curriculum approaches a close it is well for all to clean up incidentals before leaving. Many of you have one incidental, very small no doubt to you but very useful to us. As a gentle reminder I wish to state that the motion is now in order to pay up subscriptions for the Pointer. If you are one of those forgetful persons, tie a string around your finger when you go home, or to your room, Friday night, and leave it there until Monday. This is one way of reminding you of your debt. All people who subscribe for the Pointer at the beginning of the year are liable to the amount of seventy-five cents. This amount can be paid to Moxon, O'Connell or Dafoe. Please bring money whenever convenient for you to do so during the next week.



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Miscellaneous.

Miss Nina Coye has enrolled for the fourth quarter and will remain in school until she has completed her course.

The Senior Fair, which was to be held Saturday night of this week, has been called off for the time being at least.

Alf Anderson was absent Monday of this week. He visited the school in which he will probably teach the coming year.

Who beat it down to the basement with a plate of veal cutlets last Friday after rhetoricals? Were they seasoned properly, Ignatz?

Gertrude DeKolver has undergone a slight attack of tonsillitis during the past week. She seems to have survived the ordeal beautifully.

Mr. Sims spent Wednesday afternoon at Custer, where the model observation school is located. He returned on No. 5 the same evening.

Miss Isabelle Mathews, a former student of Superior Normal until the recent disaster, has enrolled for the fourth quarter and will complete her course here.

Miss Beth Davis, a friend of Miss Meade, was a visitor here over Saturday and Sunday. She is teaching at present in one of the deaf schools at Appleton.

Percy Dafoe has transferred his activities from S. P. N. to the Dafoe farm located near Dancy, Wis. He will enter the agricultural department at Madison next fall.

Friday of last week Mr. Sims and Miss Allen were in Milwaukee for the purpose of selecting architects who will plan the structure of the new addition for the domestic science department.

The following members of the faculty will act as judges at declamatory contests held in the following places tonight: Mr. Smith, Medford; Mr. Herrick, Amherst; Messrs. Ames and Hyer, Grand Rapids.

Thursday morning of last week the school was favored with an address by Mr. Nagler, assistant secretary of state. Mr. Nagler came to Stevens Point at the invitation of the local Business Men's Association and was a participant in a debate held that evening at the Empire amusement hall in this city.

Earl Moxon and Alf Anderson have returned from a week's trip on the Portage branch, where they gave musical recitals. They covered Montello, Westfield, Packwaukee and Bancroft. They were greeted at each place by large crowds.

The following students have accepted positions for the coming term: Edna Warner, Menomonie; Earl Moxon, Manawa; Wm. Miltimore, Sparta; Bertha Ballard, Baldwin; Mary Hanna, Manawa; F. Jungck, Kendall; Agnes Morrissey, Grand Rapids; Isabel Pfiffner, Menomonie, and Clarence Strand, Granton.

Class play rehearsals follow one another very consistently, and already the roughness has disappeared and the cast has taken on the appearance of professionals. Some plans have been made in reference to an out of town trip, similar to that of "A Modern Ananias." Alf E. Anderson has been selected as business manager and will no doubt schedule a series of engagements in towns on the Portage branch.

Y. W. C. A.

Moorhead, Minn., April 6, 1914.

Miss Kyrren Kittleson,

Stevens Point, Wis.

Dear Miss Kittleson:—

It gives me pleasure to respond to your letter asking for a short article telling of the work done by the Y. W. C. A. in our Normal school. We feel that our association is a very prosperous one this year, and that it has done some work that may be suggestive.

We opened the year's work with a membership campaign. One day all of the girls of the school were asked to remain in the assembly room for a few minutes after chapel. The purposes and aims of the association were explained, and reasons why girls should belong to the Y. W. C. A. were given. With this a contest was begun.

The members were divided into four groups, the Bluebirds, Canaries, Shamrocks and Cardinals; each team was to get as many members as it could. The contest was to last two days and the three losing teams were to give a small party for the winning team. The contest was conducted on a scoring of points. Each new member counted as one point and the dues for each term as one point. The dues that could be collected from any old member for a term counted as a

point. From the enrollment of about three hundred and seventy-five girls in this school, two hundred became members of the Y. W. C. A., and about eighty dollars for dues were collected.

Some students of the University of Minnesota came to us and presented the play "Back to the Farm." It furnished good amusement and a sum amounting to seventy dollars was cleared at the performance.

The association is aided by five members of the faculty, each one of whom helps in one department of the work. The weekly meetings are held just after chapel in the assembly room, so more remain for the meetings than otherwise would, for they are already in the room. We have an average attendance of about one hundred at the meetings.

Four of our members were sent to the Student Volunteer Convention in Kansas City. Each year we send two delegates to the summer conference at Lake Geneva. The delegates pay back to the association what has been given them after they begin their teaching. They pay back the amount at the rate of five dollars a year.

I am sure that the girls in our school will be very glad to hear of the work your association is doing this year.

Very truly yours,
Myrtle Sholty.

Rural Notes.

The Farmers' and Homemakers' Conference held at the Normal recently is attracting quite a little attention in the state.

Practice is now on for Rural Seniors. Twenty of the class will be ready to go out into the schools of Portage and other counties in the fall.

Miss Martha Petersen, a graduate of last year, will enter the Normal in the fall. Miss Petersen is completing a successful term of school in Wood county.

Miss Mary Mateofsky, Miss Agnes Olson, Miss Gladys Uthagrove and Miss Ruth Danielson, graduates of last year's Rural class, are planning to enter the Normal for the summer session.

Miss Brewster, of the Normal faculty, entertained the Senior and Junior classes, Miss Graham of the High school faculty and

Mr. and Mrs. Phelan, in her room at the Normal last Tuesday evening. Contests between the classes, games and a general good time made the evening one of the most enjoyable of the year. Light refreshments were served after which the party broke up, all voting Miss Brewster the best of entertainers.

Mr. Phelan attended a conference of the school men of Wisconsin engaged in the training of teachers held at Madison April 10th and 11th. Representatives from the University, the State Normal schools, the county training schools and the High schools engaged in the training of rural teachers were present. The purpose of this conference was to determine ways and means of training teachers better for service in all classes of the state's public schools. By motion of the representatives present the State Superintendent was empowered to appoint a committee to formulate plans for the betterment of educational conditions in Wisconsin. A committee was named to prepare a program for another meeting to be held next year at the call of the state superintendent.



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all

