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Howard University Journal

A WEEKLY PAPER PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, D. C

Volume XV

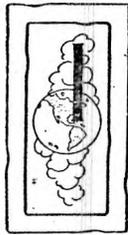
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1917

Number 5

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Are the Upperclassmen Justified?



In every land and clime there are certain laws and practices that are sanctioned by custom. These customs are sacred and precious. So, here in Howard we have customs and practices that are inviolable. In spite of these conditions, we find a seeming laxity of respect and distrust for the Upper Classmen, and this disregard suggests that these customs are no longer the privilege of this distinguished student group.

Now, viewed from any angle you please, the Upper Classmen's position warrants the respect and the confidence of the University at large. These young people have had from three to four years experience in University life. And there is no better opportunity to learn and profit by this knowledge than through practice. They have had to pass through the same state of development as their lower brother. On arrival at the threshold of the junior and senior year in college, they are ripe to conduct the petty and minor student matters. This is granted by all, yet we are hampered on every side.

Then, on the other hand, the Upper Classmen represent the training and culture of a Howard Man. If the University is unwilling to place responsibility

and care of the minor details of school administration on her juniors and seniors, she needs not ask that they be weighed in the balance of performance on graduation, for they shall be found
(Continued on page 2.)

The Place to Die

How little reck's it where men die,
When once the moment's past
In which the dim and glazing eye
Has looked on earth its last;
Whether beneath the sculptured urn
The coffined form shall rest,
Or in the nakedness, return
Back to its mother's breast.

The soldier falls mid corpses piled
Upon the battle plain
Where reinless war steeds gallop wild
Above the gory slain;
But though his corpse be grim to see,
Hoof-trampled on the sod,
What reck's it when the spirit free
Has soared aloft to God?
The coward's dying eye may close
Upon his downy bed,
And softest hands his limbs compose
Or garments o'er him spread;
But ye who shun the bloody fray
Where fall the mangled brave,
Go strip his coffin lid away,
And see him in his grave!

'Twere sweet indeed to close our eyes
With those we cherish near;
And wafted upward by their sighs
Soar to some calmer sphere;
But whether on the scaffold high,
Or in the battle's van,
The fittest place for man to die
Is where he dies for man.

—Michael J. Barry.

The Stylus



AMONG the many literary societies of Howard University, no one holds such a high and coveted place as the Stylus. This society, organized in 1916 by

a few college students with the assistance of Professor Alain LeRoy Locke and the now Lieutenant Gregory, has as its purpose the encouragement of original literary expression and the development of creative imagination.

The Stylus limits its regular membership to 19 of the best English students of the college. Among the honorary members are William Stanley Braithwaite, Chas. W. Chestnutt, W. E. B. DuBois, Alice M. Dunbar, Kelly Miller and others who cooperate with the regular members in the development of literary composition, of race literature and cultural life.

During the first semester the work of the Stylus, as outlined by Prof. Locke, the faculty member, is an intensive study of a great poet as Dunbar, Whitman, or Hawthorne. When this study is completed a competitive contest for the best short story on a race subject comes as an incentive and stimulus to the members. Much interest and literary rivalry, moreover, is aroused by awarding a prize of \$10 to the successful contesting member.

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The second semester is taken up mostly by written composition, reading from great authors and recitals by well known speakers and composers. Frequently, The Stylus secures the presence and assistance of noted writers and composers like Marguerite Spaulding Gerry and James Weldon Johnson. Then, too, a competitive entrance contest is held every year at which time all students of college grade and standing are eligible to compete. The essays, shorts stories, or poems are credited according to their merit of composition, structure, and thought. In 1916 the Stylus published the first literary magazine to be published by the students of any Negro college. The work of the Stylus must continue, in spite of the fact that the society has been seriously depleted by the entrance of many of the members into a military field of endeavor. With such a foundation as was constructed by the founders and such a purpose and determination, the Stylus is destined not only to continue the work so nobly begun, but also to surpass it in quality and efficiency.

Are the Upperclassmen Justified?

(Continued from page 1)

wanting. Howard proposes to honor and love her sons and daughters; her children crying with a still small voice beg that it may be well to start this filial attitude while the students are within her honored walls.



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Most of the failures of the student body to pay heed to the solicitations and admonitions of the Council of Upper Classmen can be placed at the inaccessible door of the Faculty. There could be no greater incentive to uphold and defend the ideals of a half a century's growth than for this learned body of gentlemen to rely more faithfully on that choice body of young men and women—the Council of Upper Classmen. Above all this neglect on the part of the Faculty leads this twentieth century student body to question whether the professors are a co-operative group of men or an individualistic gathering of eccentrics bent on nursing the government "pork" barrel. Our colored scholars must learn that their duties do not end with the daily recitations. They are the mold of the coming generations. If they but realize this condition it will not be long before we can witness the dawn of a new day, a day when we can measure arms with the Yale "bull dog" and the Princeton "tiger."

There are scores of questions and appeals thrust at the Faculties on every turn. But the item that would appeal most to the plastic mind of the student body in general would be a statement of the position of the Upper Classmen in Howard University. Once the question is settled a thousand subservient minds would send up a petition of thanks for this monumental undertaking. Every energy and heart throb would concern itself in obtaining the coveted status of an Upper Classman. Moreover, to start an upward march in these perilous times would add zest and morale to the flagging student spirit.

The one essential step toward establishing the position of the Juniors and Seniors is an open statement by the Faculty. This venerable body of men should encourage the Council in every effort. Our lower classes could be

made to understand the situation without any friction or delicate maneuvering. Frankly the author is inclined to believe that the mass will cultivate the respect and esteem of those who are on the verge of graduation.

The present conditions demand that some change be made. Daily we see the evidence of some flagrant and unspeakable evils. Visit the dining hall and you are greeted with a crude and distasteful manner of eating: taking of food with the knife, munching from a whole slice of bread, removing refuse, bones etc., with the fingers. The young men fail to rise and stand while the young ladies retire from the room. Such conditions are a disgrace and a shame to find in the greatest of Negro colleges. Juniors and Seniors could be very easily placed at the head of each table and assist in disabusing the untutored minds of these habits.

Many other abuses should be brought to their timely cessation. Among them are the grotesque and animal positions of the young men and women at the annual reception—with apologies to our beloved Matrons efforts. Then too there is the ubiquitous and obstreperous gentleman who wilfully keeps his hat on his head in the corridors of the buildings. A catalogue of inexpedient manners and practices is unnecessary for those who have their normal gifts.

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To ask protection for the University is not unwarranted. In all of the leading Eastern schools there are certain marked limits of the lower classes. They are the result of the customs that have been in vogue since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. Pennsylvania issues its Freshman "bible", a book of rules and regulations that are formulated by the Upper Classes. Howard is not a reform school. Yet, she may take a leaf from the note book of these famed Universities and improve the suggestions.

Juniors and Seniors demand this position and their claims are justified. Let the Faculty Lead the student body thru the dark and gloomy caverns of despair up to the sun-kissed mountain peak of a new life and a new day by placing the mantle of responsibility on the shoulders of those who would render a community service. *Thales.*

The Stylus Competitive

The *Stylus* Competitive is now open and will close on November 26, 1917. All candidates for entrance will please have their manuscript in the University Post Office on or before that day.

—*De Reath Irene Byrd,*
Scribe.

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School of Liberal Arts 1918

The Senior Class of the School of Liberal Arts met on November 3, and elected the following officers:

G. Lucke, President; H.V. Jacobs, Vice President; Miss Talita Burnside, Secretary and Treasurer; W. Berry, Chaplain.

This year promises to be a busy one for the class, and the class is living up to its old motto that characterized it in the Freshman year; that is, working silently and quickly.

False Economy

The Howard Library no longer subscribes to the *New York Times*. This is indeed surprising, in view of the high place held by the *Times* as the leading newspaper of today. There seems to be no reason why the *Times* should be excluded from our library unless it is a question of expense. Still two cents a day would hardly bankrupt the resources of the library. If, however, we must have economy, why not sacrifice one of the little local newspapers, which are read by comparatively few people; and restore the "Times", which is read by every one, because the news it contains is of universal interest? It is a common complaint of teachers that Howard students are not informed on current events. But how can students acquaint themselves with the events of the day, when the most valuable source of information is denied them in the library? Moreover, the average student is interested in the news of today, and many have felt very keenly the lack of the *New York Times*.

Kelly Miller, Jr., Pursuing Doctor's Degree at Clark University

Kelly Miller Jr., '16, received his A.M. in Physics and Mathematics from Clark University last June. During the summer "Kelly" was employed in the Structural Materials Testing Laboratory of the United States Bureau of Standards, Department of Commerce, in Pittsburg, Pa. His very excellent work in the bureau not only reflected credit upon "Kelly" and Howard University, but was rewarded with rapid promotions. At the opening of the school year, however, he resigned this very lucrative position and returned to pursue his Doctor's degree, at Clark where he has received a fellowship in Physics. We wish for him the very highest success.

Campus Dots

Latin students who thought that they were going to have a "snap" during Professor Lightfoot's absence, are now complaining that the student substitutes are making them work harder than "Flaccus" did.

Farther Berry is now in the theological department, while Father Dyett is going in for law.

W. O. Atkins, one of the more prominent members of the Junior Class, is stopping by on his way to camp Dix as a conscript.

The following was taken from the "personal" column of one of our colored newspapers:

"Sister Ann Cunningham made an inspiring call on Sister Fannie Nelson, of Monroe Street, and gave her a dollar for the Charity Club, in the presence of Mrs. Sister Mitchell, from Tennessee. She sang a song entitled, "Sister Fix Your Feet For Travel, For Your Home is Over Jordan"—and offered prayer.

[Signed] Mrs. Ann Cunningham.

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Friday, November 9, 1917

EDITORIAL

Women and the War

War is daily stripping the mask from the face of the world, and nothing is made plainer than the place of woman in these perilous times. The man-made "woman's place is the home and she must let the rest of the world go as it pleases" is proved fallacious. No more striking proof exists than that of Madame Breshkovskaya, the little grandmother of Russian Freedom. She says "I

tried to be a good loyal soldier, true to my post. Thirty-three years of prison and deportation have limited my opportunities for work. Only eleven years of work, in constant danger of discovery by the authorities and under legal disabilities have fallen to my share." A simple statement of a faith nobly kept: so "Babushka" sees her Russia coming into the light of freedom.

As stupendous a task as this cannot fall to the lot of us all. Neither can all of us go to the Front to nurse and cheer, but our little tasks can be well done. Economically and scholastically, we have our duty and we can begin to do it now. Howard needs us. We must learn every activity of our University life. It is possible that the next three years will find the majority of our men gone, yet Howard must live on, unimpaired. Women of Howard, awake! Life is calling you.

Undue Anxiety

We are the victims of needless anxiety. We have been led to suppose that entrance into the war is the quickest way to the other world. Those of us who have relatives and friends in either the Conscript Army or the Reserve have prematurely bid them a final good bye. As our men go to fight in France it is natural to think that our casualties will be as theirs. Statistics show that only eleven out of every ten thousand soldiers are lost. According to the *North American Review*, the death toll in this war is less than that of any war in the past.

Besides the fact that our solicitude is unwarranted, we do our men an injustice when we are so pessimistic. Their mental feeling will vitally affect their success, and certainly the attitude of those they leave behind will be ever present with them. Only by hope, courage, and faith can we inspire in these men the spirit that will

Europe, through the gates of Berlin and back to our own dear country.

Unpardonable Disrespect

Knitting in Chapel, crocheting in chapel, chattering in chapel are unpardonable. And they are offenses of which our young women are guilty. Those who respect themselves and the service request those guilty of such breaches of decorum to grant them the courtesy of an uninterrupted service.

Lack of Courtesy

A gentleman's hand instinctively goes to his hat when he meets any woman. A number of our male students hail, approach, and attempt to entertain our young women with hats flurriedly settled upon their brows. Perhaps this too is an outcome of the war. If so, we have not been informed.

A Plea

Two years ago almost every issue of THE JOURNAL contained a plea for the revival of what was called "The Howard Spirit." The plea was evidently heeded for the articles ceased to appear and the students said a better era had come and Howard was the primary interest of every one of her members, banded together by common interests to fight for her.

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But with the opening of this year we are face to face with a painful situation. Doing their bit in the name of Howard, many of our best men have answered the call to arms and left us sorely depleted in numbers. And to all appearances these men have taken with them all semblance of a Howard spirit. The lack of interest in University affairs is quite evident. In general we are walking around the campus in a listless way saying that so many of the good ones are gone, no one is left to manage affairs and the school seems to be going backward.

This is certainly a wrong attitude. Those who have left us have gone to what they feel is a better cause. In their new field they are working with sincerity and enthusiasm and making good. Claiming to think as much of them as we do, is it right to them that we should neglect the work they have intrusted to those of us who are left? Should it please them to know that we have been so dilatory in caring for the interest of their alma mater which was so dear to them? Is it fair that we should allow the school whose name they have honored, to lag behind?

But neglecting other factors, where is our pride in Howard? She should be our prime interest; her glory should be the ultimate end of all our actions. She is ours and there should be no time when we are not willing to sacrifice for her. She should be a part of us as much as we are a part of her.

Fellow students, you are asked to help remedy existing conditions. Wake up, each of you,

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and make yourself an active unit in University life! Attend the mass meetings and earnestly support our athletics; attend the meetings of the Alpha Phi and aid the development of the literary side of our existence; subscribe to THE JOURNAL—make a financial success of the one University publication—make possible the publication of its news; be present at your class meeting and find there how we may best pull together for our own good and Howard's glory, maintaining here an alert, progressive home ready to welcome our U. S. R. men at any time they may return to us. Let this be our motto—"Howard first, with all good things that redound to her glory foremost in our minds; her interests our interests; her success our pride and joy."

—E. May Harper '19

Medical Notes

On Thursday evening, October 25, the Freshmen Medics held a get-together meeting and banquet at 1902 4th street, N.W. The affair was exceptionally well attended, only one man from the entire class being absent. The young doctors celebrated the occasion of their first meeting with considerable enthusiasm. Individual speeches were made, in which the men displayed their eager zeal for work, their inexhaustible ardour for success and their undying ambition to strive to illuminate the Medical Profession and to benefit humanity. 'Doctor' Charlie Howard was toastmaster for the occasion and acquitted himself nobly in that capacity. His appropriate jests and characteristic criticisms would have done justice to Mark Twain. The closing remarks of President Dismukes will long be remembered by the class of 1921 as being expressive of its highest aims—Success and Benefaction to Humanity.

Calender of Events

October 28, 1917.

SUNDAY—9:00 a. m. Y. M. C. A. meeting.

4:30 p. m. Vesper Service.

Topic: The Fine Art of Living.

6:30 p. m. Y. P. B. of the W.

C. T. U. Election of Officers.

MONDAY—8:00 p. m. Arts and Sciences Senior Class reception for officers.

TUESDAY—6:30 p. m. University Prayer Meeting.

8:00 p. m., Freshman Debating Trials.

THURSDAY—Officers reported at Cantonment.

Football Mass Meeting.

FRIDAY—8:00 p. m. Alpha Phi Literary Society.

SATURDAY—2:00 p. m. Game between Lincoln and Howard at Lincoln. Lincoln 6, Howard 0.

November 4, 1917

SUNDAY—9:00 a. m., Y. M. C. A. Meeting.

4:30 p. m., Vesper Service—

"The Fine Art of Living."

6:30 p. m., Y. W. C. A. Meeting.

Address: Rev. J. F. Gregory.

MONDAY—8:00 p. m. Athletic Association.

TUESDAY—6:00 p. m., University Prayer Meeting—God's care for the individual as a basis for practice in prayer.

THURSDAY—8:00 p. m. Kappa Sigma Debating Club.

FRIDAY—3:30 p. m., Pestalozzi Froebel Society.

8:00 p. m. Alpha Phi Literary

SATURDAY—8:00 p. m. Senior reception to Sophomores.

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ATHLETICS

Melvin Davis, Editor

Lincoln Defeats Howard (6—0)

One of the most hard fought and cleanest games of the season was witnessed at Lincoln on Saturday November third 1917. The resulting score does not by any means reflect upon the ability of the Howard Team.

Howard received the ball from the kick-off. After five consecutive first downs, the ball was carried to Lincoln's 20 yard line. Unfortunately, in Howard's attempt to score from this position the ball was lost as a result of a fumble. This seemed to take all of the impetus from Howard's attack. Lincoln now taking the ball, advanced to Howard's 25 yd. line with successful rushes and passes. At this point, Howard with renewed courage, held Lincoln for downs. Howard received the ball; and, after three rushes and a failure to kick on the fourth down, the ball was turned over to Lincoln in Howard's territory. Lincoln made a successful pass over the line, but failed to kick goal. This signal score for Lincoln ended the first half of the game.

In the last half, our opponents successfully carried out their defensive policy. Howard was once within striking distance of the goal, but lack of the necessary "punch" kept them from scoring.

—*C. Herbet Marshall, '20.*

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The Football Situation

Howard loses to Lincoln and Union defeats Hampton. Union undoubtedly has a strong team or Hampton, like Howard, has a comparatively weak team. It is evident that Howard will have her hands full next Saturday when she meets Union. Last year Union gave promise of upsetting the football championship by scoring on both Hampton and Howard. This year she appears to be living up to the promise by downing Hampton, the strongest of the big teams. If past form means anything Howard will lose to Union by a large margin. This would be true if the team remained in tact as it played the first two games; but now as the strength of the team is weakened by the loss of five regulars, there is no ground for ever hoping to win. It is up to the students to use all available means to change the unfortunate turn of affairs into a brighter channel.

Captain Pinderhughes cannot play, it seems, because of his injured shoulder and since the Lincoln game Green, Waters, Matthews, and Young have refused to play another game. This leaves one old regular, Coleman on the team. With such a situation as this it would appear that Howard has not a chance of holding her own. The interest of the remaining members is dead as is shown by the size of the squad out to practice. Twelve men have reported to practice each morning since the Lincoln game. There is no team that can expect to win by practising against air. Howard is no exception and if the team is not strengthened soon it will be fool hardy to play another game

of football this entire season. The powerful influence of Howard was severely strained last year by the baseball team; and, if the type of football team that we will have the remainder of this season is permitted to play the other schools, there can be nothing gained but the loss of Howard's cherished athletic prestige which has been fought for and won by the efforts of many a true Howardite of old. It would be far better to cut out football for the rest of the season than to tear down the work of Howard's loyal alumni athletes.

Medical Class 1920

On Wednesday, October 24, 1917, the Sophomore Medical Class was organized and the officerselected. The following members were elected officers for the term 1917-1918:

J. P. Sampson, President; P. A. Hilton, Vice-President; Miss C. J. Sutton, Treasurer; S. A. Phillips, Secretary; J. H. Brooks, Sergeant-at-Arms; J. T. Davis, Chaplain; W. T. Howard, Reporter.

The class regrets very much the absence of Messrs. I. G. Bailey and A. M. Morton, who were members of the Freshman Class.

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Teachers College Alumni Notes

Ethel A. Cuff (A.B. 1915) Teaching English, Colored High School, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Julian S. Hughson, (A.B. 1917) Teaching public schools, Norfolk, Va.

Mary Imogene Waring (B.S. 1917). Teaching Howard Orphanage, Kings Park, L. I.

Mabel E. Bickford (Normal 1917). Appointed Clerk War Department, Washington, D.C.

Rhena E. Terry (Kindergarten 1917.) Teaching Kindergarten, Public School, West Chester, Pa. Miss Terry succeeds Miss Mary Peyton who has accepted position in our Carnegie Library.

Willie Belle Stitt (D.S. 1917). Teaching Public Schools, Milton, Del.

William Sherman Savage (A.B. 1917). Teaching Okolona College, Okolona, Miss.

Clayborne George (A.B. 1917). Commissioned First Lieutenant, U. S. Reserve Corps, and is stationed at Camp Meade. Admiral, Md.

Howard Hale Long, (B.S. 1915). Commissioned First Lieutenant, U. S. Reserve Corps, and is stationed at Camp Meade, Admiral, Md.

Sydney Evelyn Hughes (A.B. 1917). Teaching Normal and Industrial Institute, Fredericksburg, Va.

Annie Crawford Rattley (Kindergarten 1916). Teaching Sandy Springs, Md.

Leonard Francis Morse (A.B. 1915). Teaching State College, Baton Rouge, La.

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Some Interesting Books Added to the University Library

Second List

Martin, Helen—Tillie.

Mason, A. E. W.—Witness for the Defense.

O'Brien, E. J.—Best Short Stories of 1915. Best Short Stories of 1916.

Henry, O.—The Four Million. The Trimmed Lamp. Voice of the City.

Steel; Flora Annie.—On the Face of the Waters.

Tolstoi.—War and Peace.

Turgenev—Virgin Soil. Liza.

Ward, Mrs. Humphry—Lady Rose's Daughter.

Wharton, Edith—Ethan Frome. House of Mirth. Madame de Treymes. Tales of Men and Ghosts. The Touchstone. Custom of the Country.

Debater's Handbook Series—Woman Suffrage. Single Tax. Monroe Doctrine. Military Training. Immigration. Child Labor. American Merchant Marine. Unemployment.

Baker, H. T.—Contemporary Short Story.

Boyd, E. A.—Contemporary Drama of Ireland.

Ward, A. W. and Waller, A. R.—Cambridge History of English Literature. Vols. 7, 9, 12, 13. (Completing our Set.)

Gellini, Beventue—Life, Translated by J. A. Symonds.

Kropotkin, Prince—Memoirs of a Revolutionist.

Barton, G. A.—Archaeology and the Bible.

Wace and Piercy—Dictionary of Christian Biography and Literature.

Bogart and Thompson—Readings in the Economic History of the United States.

Walling, W. E. and others—Socialism of To-day,

Bury, J. B.—Ancient Greek Historians.

Denis, Pierre—Brazil.

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The Commercial College

Courses in Bookkeeping, Stenography, Typewriting, Commercial Law, History, Civics, etc. Gives Business and English High School education combined. Ad-

Of Interest

"The struggle of Haiti and Liberia for Recognition" by Mr. Charles H. Wesley,

The Washington Conservatory of Music and school of Expression opened late in September. It has forty graduates and will have Mr. R. D. C. Dorsey and Miss Grace Gibbs added to its faculty.

Dr. Anson Phelps Stokes, secretary of Yale University, has been elected principal of Hampton Institute.

Miss Norma Keene is the first colored woman to be placed on the state pay roll in Portland, Oregon.

The Y. W. C. A. of Howard University is doing its bit thru its earnest and sincere devotionals held on Sunday evenings at 6:15 in Miner Hall.

Remember the subscriptions for the "Students Friendship War Funds" are *due* on Saturday, November 10, at the latest.

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Miss Lucy B. Slowe of Baltimore, Md., and a graduate of Howard University, has won five cups for tennis playing this season and the championship cup of New York for two successive seasons.

The Biological Journal Club invites all students who have had one year of college science to be present at the meetings, which are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays in the month, at three o'clock in Science Hall.

"The Oath of the Negro Voters," in the November issue of *The Crisis*. Every Negro man should read it.

Alpha Phi Meeting

Last Friday evening the Senior Class of the Teachers College gave a short but excellent program at the weekly meeting of the Alpha Phi. Miss May Miller, president of the class opened the program with a few appropriate remarks. A vocal solo was given by Miss Jefferson, and an instrumental solo by Miss Madeline Williams. Miss Talita Burnside ended the program with a recitation.

This Friday evening the Junior Class of the College of Liberal Arts will have charge of the meeting and the members are preparing a splendid program. A large audience is expected.

Reporter of Alpha Phi.

They Say

That the Director of a certain department on the "hill" refused to subscribe for the JOURNAL because he went in the printing office and read it for nothing.

That every technicality is used by the faculty to keep the JOURNAL from appearing.

That several hearts beat lighter since the departure of one Lieutenant who "could be happy with either were t' other dear charmer away."

That our Library finds itself very complete without *The New York Times*.

That the impression has got about among the students that yelling and any other show of spirit on the campus is very bad form.

A tall, lean recruit had just joined up in England. A sergeant and lieutenant were discussing him.

"'E's thin as a ramrod and 'e don't even look strong enough to 'elp in the store," complained the sergeant.

"He'll do to clean the rifles," answered the lieutenant.

"And oo's a-goin' to pull 'im through?" wailed the sergeant, in a defiant manner.

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