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The General Mass Meeting
Convention Hall Thursday Evening

WHEREAS the Sociological Conference and
Round Table discussions dwelt with the
profound and vital
questions of race and
nation, it was left to
the Mass Meetings
to reflect the true spirit of the
University, “within and with­
out.”

Prevented from marching by
the inclement weather, the great
crowd of students, alumni, fac­
ulty, and trustees gathered at
7:30, and after devoting the first
half hour to jollification with
class and departmental yells and
songs, the meeting was called to
order by Ex-Chief Justice Peelle,
President of the Board of Trus­
tees. The general topic—The
Significance of the Fifty Years
of the History of Howard Uni­
versity, and of the Advance of
the Colored Race with which it
is connected—was presented in
four different aspects by eminent
speakers.

The first address was given
from the Point of View of the
Nation by the Honorable Frank­
lin K. Lane, Secretary of the In­
terior, who pointed out in a
scholarly and effective manner
the fact that Howard University
was established neither upon
facts nor experience, but through
the foresight of the founders,
and upon their faith and belief
in the capacity of the Negro.
“Howard University,” he said,
“was a challenge to the Negro
which he has met and made
good.” Touching briefly upon
the chivalry and patriotism of
the colored people, the Secretary
expressed the official gratifica­
tion and congratulation of the
government for the work of How­
ard University, and suggested
the great expectation of the fu­
ture.

Carl H. Kelsey, Ph. D., Profes­
sor of Sociology, University of
Pennsylvania, was the second
speaker on the topic, and dis­
cussed it from the Educational
and Sociological Point of View.
In an address no more learned
and scientific than it was far
reaching and fundamental, Dr.
Kelsey reviewed the educational
and sociological possibilities of
the Negro; proved by scientific
data the social advancement of
colored people and their increas­
ing advancement in education,
art and culture. The speaker
expressed the faith of the great
educators in Howard University
and the colored people of the
United States.

Music by the Orchestra under
Professor Tibbs was followed by
the third address, given by Pres­
ident Kealing of Western Univer­
sity, Quindaro, Kansas. Dr.
Kealing discussed the topic from
the Point of View of the Negro.
Direct and forceful, the speaker
(Continued on Page 6)

Elements in Racial Progress

ECONOMIC, political,
moral, and spiritual
forces are all controll­
ing factors in racial
evolution. The eco­
omic is of commanding
importance. In
our creed economic
determinism has no place. The
influence of moral forces upon
the trend of human affairs is too
unmistakable to admit of such a
belief. But reason and historical
fact force the concession that eco­
nomic force, if not ultimate and
inevitable, is at least a fundamen­
tal factor in determining racial
progress. It affects political sta­
tus. Mr. R. R. Wright stated, in
the Sociological Conference here,
that home ownership encourages
patriotism, and patriotism is cer­
tainly essential to the highest po­
litical activity. Again, serfs and
and tenants have always been the
ruled; and the propriety class,
the rulers. Economic progress
and political rise usually go hand
in hand. History, from Roman
to American, bears testimony to
this fact. The broadest democ­
racy does not change this ten­
dency.

Economic forces affect race
morals. “Home ownership en­
courages moral stability.” Prof. Brawley
pointed out in the recent Confer­
ence the effect of economic needs
upon the morals of students. Their summer work often reacts injuriously upon their morals. And upon the student is race progress largely dependent. The influence of economic advantage upon moral actions is shown in the Negro's ownership of slaves, and in the selling of the slave by the Northener only when slave-ownership was found economically of no advantage. The economic force, then, affecting as it does, political and moral status is certainly a controlling factor in racial progress.

Of scarcely less importance is the influence of the political element upon racial advancement. Social trends and state actions progress or retrogress together. It is infinitely more difficult to effect social reforms, without, than with, political aid. The inequality in the educational provisions for whites and Negroes is a problem essentially political said someone from the floor of the Sociological Conference. Per se, the the problem is obviously educational, but relative to cause, is political. Correct the political situation and the problem will solve itself. If any portion of society wants reforms it must enlist government aid. Miss Florence Kelly tells of the futility of the efforts of the National Consumers' League to change industrial conditions until state assistance was given. Miss Mary White Octington tells of social reforms effected in New Orleans and in Porto Rico by strong governmental action. Social progress, thus racial progress, is dependent, then, in a large measure, upon the political element.

Perhaps the most important factor in racial advancement is the moral and spiritual. The most dangerous pitfalls lie in the wake of cynicism, skepticism, irreligion. The fall of ancient Greece and Rome testify to that calamity, an inevitable result of immorality. Fallen Jerusalem is a solemn warning to any race that would forsake its religion for earthly gain. As the great pendulum of history has swung from East to West it has marked the successive moral and spiritual rise and fall of nations. With the predominance of moral and religious fervor comes national greatness; with the domination of cold, irreverent materialism comes achievement, but then sudden calamity; this has been the almost invariable course of nations and races.

Impure morals undermine the individual and the racial life. "Long life," declares Dr. C. V. Roman, "is a reciprocal factor of morality" and a glance about us reveals the truth of this statement. Great infant mortality in our own race, Mr. Eugene K. Jones, of the Urban League, attributes in large measure to laxity in morals.

But even more certain than the moral is the spiritual element in its influence upon racial progress. Morality is concerned with the relations of man to man, religion with the relations of man to a supernatural being, in Christendom, of man with the Christian God and what a race is to be depends ultimately upon the nature of this relation. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." The economic, political and moral forces contribute their part to human development, but, in the final analysis, the true progress of a race is dependent upon the genuineness of its religious or spiritual life. And even in an age such as this, dominated by cold, material, and commercial ideas there rises above the horizon of social consciousness a broadening ray of recognition of this truth.

The elements, then, in racial progress are economic, political, moral, and, above all, spiritual, and any plan to succeed in solving any race problem must give that consideration to each factor demanded by its relative importance.

—W. S. N. '18.

The Ira Aldridge Club Makes Its Initial Appearance Before the Public

The Ira Aldridge Club, which was organized by the Freshman Class of the School of Liberal Arts and is now composed exclusively of its members, made its initial appearance in a drama entitled "Ze Moderne English" on Wednesday evening, February 28, in Library Hall. The success of the event from every point of view more than met the expectations of the audience which filled even the standing room of the Hall.

At eight thirty o'clock the President of the club, Miss Officer Davidson, appeared on the stage and extended a hearty welcome to the audience; after which, she very concisely outlined the short history of the Club and gave the names of some of the

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The program was then rendered. amateurs and won commendation "Lustspiel Overture," the guests assembled in the dining room of Miner Hall to dinner on Friday evening, March 9, the young lad of Messrs. Adams, Roger, Brice, Gregory, who, with his usual untiring efforts, has made important sacrifices, and contributed much to the progress of the Club. The program was then rendered.

The Ira Aldridge Club Orchestra rendered a selection which pleased everyone and the encore met with even greater approval. "Ze Moderne English" was then presented. Miss Mary West, Isadore Williams, and May Miller and Messrs. Norman McGhee, John Holmes, and William Lofton, who composed the cast, showed extraordinary ability as amateurs and won commendation from all present. Miss Helen Lawrence sang a very appropriate selection.

The President again appeared on the stage and bade everyone a happy good night.

—Oscar G. Brown, '20

The Juniors Dine

Complying with the invitations of Messrs. Adams, Koger, Brice, Mazyck, Ross, Burke, Hawk and T. B. D. Dyett to the Junior girls of Miner Hall to dinner on Friday evening, March 9, the young ladies assembled in the dining room at five-thirty. As the Orchestra softly played "Lustspiel Overture," the guests "en grande toilette" were seated at tables under a canopy of old gold and purple, the Junior colors. The sides of the canopy hung down, like a rope-curtain to form a kind of private room for the party. At the center of the canopy, just above the place where the tables met in the shape of a "T," there was the letter "H," made of clusters of smilax. Just below was hanging a purple basket filled with flowers, drooping gracefully over the tables. Running the length of the tables, leaving just enough room for the individual dishes, were mounds of smilax, with here and there a flower springing up from the mass. In the centers of both tables were vases filled with flowers. At each young lady's place was a bouquet of sweet peas, and at each young man's, a white rose. Artistically concealed within the folds of each napkin were flowers. The favors were tiny, silk American flags.

The elaborate dinner consisted of five courses. After the first course Mr. Bush Hunter, accompanied by the orchestra, sang "A Perfect Day," after the third course the guests rose and sang, with their loyal friends, the Freshmen, the Alma Mater. With the charm and grace which characterized such formal occasions, the guests were animated by the wit and nonsense of the "gifted few."

After the dinner, under the chaperonage of Prof. Numa Adams, the guests left for the last feature of the event. Arriving at the Professor's residence, they were cordially received by Mrs. Adams. During the evening, the party was devoted to amusements of different natures and between the games the "Fountain of Junior nectar" was the scene of action. After several delightfully spent hours every one went away exclaiming that it was truly the "end of a perfect day."

There were originality and taste in every detail of the occasion. The hospitality of Prof. and Mrs. Adams will long be remembered by all who were present. Enough cannot be said to express the appreciation of the young ladies to their hosts and to them I dedicate these lines:

Youth, oh thou vain and fleeting youth! Should I say vain? Nay, 'tis not so, Then, Muse, sing thy sweet song again.

Rejoice, for lo! the Fates decree Thou shouldst be gay; Then do not wait!

For we are here but for a day.

Come, feast and dance and pipethy lay, Yea, loudly sing! Life built her throne,

None else is fit, thou must be king!

—Nannie G. Board.

The Guests

I was asked who was at the party on that Friday evening a week ago; So I thought in this way I could easily say And let every inquirer know. There were Martin and Lyn, Gracie and Skin, Venie and Paul, so you see; When Stringy and Fat Began to tell jokes and chat Nan and Caine held company. Father Berry and Hawk, And Burke with much talk, Came with Cato, Ross, and Mazyck; Ben Dyett, and Regok With his beaver—no joke, And Brice with his hawk-tail unique.

If there's more that you'd know, You may certainly go To any of these who were there, For each one can tell And in detail quite well Of the happiness they did share.

—Ruth M. Mason

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Friday, March 16, 1917

EDITORIAL
The Howard Journal

The Howard University Journal appealed to the students, faculty, and alumni, in a recent issue, for support. To its surprise the appeal was in vain. Today the Journal is in an embarrassing position for finance. The cost for the Journal’s publication has increased, yet the Journal has not increased its subscription fee. Many of the students have received the benefit of the Journal for the price of $1.50 a year, but some of them have failed to live up to subscribed for the Journal in the early part of the school year, but have not paid their subscription. This is the result of indifference or carelessness on their part. The Journal staff has endeavored to publish a first class college paper. The Journal has been open to all that they might speak through it. Yet, with all this in the students’ favor, few of them have given real support to the welfare of the Journal.

The faculty and alumni have fallen short of the Journal’s expectation in giving their support. Some members of both the faculty and alumni have come forward and given steadfast support, while others have evaded discharging their duties to the Howard University Journal.

The Journal is the foremost paper of the University. It represents every one connected with Howard from the head of the Trustee Board down to the student of the lowest class. The alumni must recognize this fact; they can not escape it. Neither can any member of the faculty declare himself neutral.

The Howard University Journal appeals to every loyal Howard man and woman who can feel the sense of duty, who can revive a consciousness of Howard spirit, who can help, and be helped by his or her Alma Mater, for immediate support. If the alumni, faculty, and students desire to have the Journal continued, let them help it. If they wish to have it fail, their present silence and indifference will hasten such wish. But the Journal has faith in Howard men and women, and believes that after its many years of active life those true sons and daughters of Howard will not let it perish.

The Spirit

The Howard students exhibited true Howard spirit during the Semi-Centennial Celebration. They were at the service of the officers. They were ready to perform any function for the comfort and care of the guests.

It can not be said that the students were indifferent to any of the activities and meetings of the Sociological Conference. They were in regular attendance in large numbers at every meeting. Many of them have made good reports of the meetings to their different classes. This indicates how alert and attentive they were.

The students wish the faculty and Board of Trustees to know that they can always be depended upon to discharge the duties that are theirs, and to perform the functions that are placed upon them.

Our Orchestra

The Howard University Orchestra made a successful début at the Convention Hall during the Semi-Centennial Celebration. Let us give the members and the director of the orchestra our heartiest support and full encouragement. The bold attempt that they have made, and the strong determination that they have demonstrated with such marked success merit our best wishes and unlimited aid.

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That E. L. Booker is a friend to his fellow students can not be denied. Mr. Booker, through his business ability, arranged matters so well that more than one hundred Howard men were employed by the Union Station officials as waiters during the Inauguration period. These men received good pay. Some of them were employed as early as a week before the day for the Inaugural celebration. These men received the best treatment from their employers through Mr. Booker's skilled management. Perhaps some people may say this was Mr. Booker's duty. That we do not deny, but we do say that he showed the true spirit of a real man by discharging his duty so readily and well.

**STUDENTS' OPINIONS**

**The Class Rush**

The yearly increase of enthusiasm fostered by the Class Rush has been truly remarkable. It reached its climax in the fall of 1916, when the disorders, which seemed inherent in the sport, reached such proportion that the authorities of the departments included no more than the loss of valuable time by the students preparatory to the occasion, this alone would be sufficient to condemn the Rush. When the students return from their summer vacation, with their minds rested from study, but more or less rusty, they should devote the first few weeks of the fall term to serious study to master the important principles upon which their work for the first semester is based. But a successful Rush demands that these first weeks shall be devoted to earnest preparation to win the first great contest of the year. Consequently, each year has witnessed a number of failures in some subject because the students played a time when common sense should have forced them to work.

However, loss of time is not the only objectionable result of the class Rush; for of even more importance than this, is the disturbance about the campus and around the buildings while enthusiasm for the Rush is being fostered. At any hour of the night, young men of one class may be heard romping through the dormitory in search of members of the opposing class. During recitation hours, classes are often interrupted by disorders on the part of crowds of students about the campus. Let the authorities undertake to restore order, and they will find that they need the assistance of a police force to do so. It is worth while to note that these young men are not naturally lacking in respect for authority, for upon returning to their normal state, they voluntarily apologize, giving as the cause of their misconduct, the over-powering influence of youthful enthusiasm.

Why, then, should we tolerate a form of contest that will place our beloved institution at the mercy of two groups, each of a hundred or more organized students, who have lost self-control and assumed the state of hostile mobs? Since the Rush is responsible for an unjustifiable amount of lost time; since it causes the prospective participants to disturb the peace and quiet of others in both their study and their recitation hours; and since it renders the participants liable to acts of insubordination, it should be condemned, not only by the authorities of the University, but also by a unanimous vote of the student body.


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General Mass Meeting

Illustrated again and again the great influence of Howard University both upon the race and the nation; and hushed his audience as he justified this greatest of all Negro institutions, located as she is at the very heart of the nation.

The fourth speaker was greeted with protracted applause and cheers, and "Prexy" Thirkield, former President of the University, now Bishop of the M. E. Church, began a most eloquent address on the topic from the Point of View of the Kingdom of God. The Bishop gave a historical development of the departments, citing the number of graduates from each, and declared that the exaltation, the upbuilding of man, to be the greatest work of any institution, race or nation. "The wave," he continued, "may be defeated, but the tide of humanity with God behind it is bound to win. Howard stands for intellectual opportunity, civic freedom, and trained leadership." Dr. Thirkield urged the sons of Howard to prove themselves worthy of their heritage through a life of service and self-sacrifice. The meeting closed with the benediction by the Rev. D. E. Wiseman, Theology '84.

It was a great occasion fraught with the achievements of the past, and aspirations for the future. The audience left with a spirit of loyalty and resolution to make the next half century of our Alma Mater greater, grander, nobler.

### Historical Mass Meeting

First Congregational Church Friday 8 p.m.

A meeting to commemorate the Birth of the University and the Signing of the Charter, May 2th, 1867.

"In order to celebrate fittingly the exact birthday of the University, March 2, 1867, it was decided to hold the special memorial meeting in the auditorium in which very many of the separate professional departments had their graduating exercises up to the time when they were all combined into one University Commencement on the campus. Most of the doctors and lawyers of former days received their diplomas in this church. Some of the inaugural ceremonies were likewise held here. A special interest attaches to the building therefore." Thus read the announcement, and it was truly interesting as the review showed. Remarks by Mr. John A. Coles, former Secretary of the University, Professor Richard T. Greener, ExDean of the Law School, and Chief Justice Peelle, President of the Board of Trustees, were followed by the stirring address of Dr. W. A. Sinclair, Trustee, Col. '81, and Justice Geo. W. Alkinson, Trustee, Law '91. These two took as their subjects, "A Look Backward and Forward" and "Howard University's Mission," respectively. So well did they cover the field that President Newman who was scheduled to speak omitted his address, for as he said, "Everything that could be said of Howard University was touched upon" by these two distinguished graduates. The work of Professor Tibbs and the Glee Club deserves special praise, and went far to make the occasion impressive. Dr. Clark, former Dean of the School of Theology, gave the benediction which closed one of the most eventful meetings in all the Celebration.

### The Alumni Rally

Rankin Memorial Chapel Saturday, 2 p.m.

The inclemency of the weather did not prevent the loyal sons of the White and Blue from reassembling from all sections of the country, and the alumni meeting was opened amidst a blaze of songs and yells that brought back the "old days" to the old grads. The address of welcome was delivered by President Shelby J. Davidson of the general association, Col. '93. The "gym" was again appealed for in an impressive and direct manner. The Honorable John C. Asbury, Law '85, addressed the body on "The

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Mr. Asbury is at present Assistant Corporation Counsel in the city of Philadelphia. His address was learned, interesting and will be remembered as a most admirable appeal to Howard men to do service for their race and nation. 

The Rev. George Frazier Miller of Brooklyn, Col. '88, followed the famous Washington soloist, Dr. C. Summer Wormly, Dental, 1900, whose delightful singing won encores and repeated applause. Dr. Miller's subject: "The Alumni, An Effective Force in University Effort," will be remembered by every undergraduate. His plea for a closer working, a better understanding, a team work between faculty and students received open commendation which it justly merited. In this meeting, as elsewhere, the unifying effort of Messrs. Pelham and Davidson was evident. Numerous telegrams and donations were sent by local associations. The work of the Richmond, Va., branch was especially noteworthy, and sets a good example for other associations. The entire meeting was most gratifying and foreshadows a glorious "Home coming" in June.

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Trustees' Reception
Rankin Memorial Chapel Saturday 8 p.m.

This occasion, delightful and eventful, was an appropriate close to the exercises of the semi-centennial. It was in reality a symposium of university representatives expressing the spirit of education. Regrets were read by Dr. Newman from President Meserve of Shaw, and President Hovery of Virginia Union. President Rendall told of the intervening strands between Lincoln and Howard, and mentioned many pleasant experiences with General Howard. Presidents Scarborough of Wilberforce, Ware of Atlanta, Young of Tallahassee, Mr. Aery of Hampton and Mr. Work of Tuskegee, all expressed the highest appreciation for the work of Howard University and showed the great relationship among the great chain of institutions all stretching to the same end. It was significant that of the institutions represented, General Howard was connected with each in one capacity or another—either having helped to found them or having served as Trustee. Resolutions from the Sociological Conference supplemented the great hopes expressed by the University representatives for the future of Howard University.

Trustees' Luncheon
Following the reception in the chapel, the trustees entertained the audience in Spaulding Hall, and proved themselves veritable hosts. This luncheon, served by caterer Taylor of Baltimore, was not only a credit to the hosts, but may well be regarded as a distinct accomplishment of the Negro in the field of domestic science. All the good things, and the abundance of them, made one forget the high cost of anything. And where the old grads left off, the under-grads began, and the reader may guess the result. An exchange of courtesies and meeting of distinguished guests closed the occasion which was pleasant and hospitable.

The Vesper Service.

The Semi-Centennial Celebration was brought to a fitting close on March 4th by an inspiring and helpful Vesper Service at 4 p.m. At this time Rev. Cornelius Patton, son of Dr. Patton, who was president of the institution from 1877 to 1890, delivered the address.

Choosing the first few verses of the 12th chapter of the epistle to the Hebrews, Rev. Patton gave us thoughts of inspiration for the present and an exhortation for the future. He spoke in part as follows:

"The founding of Howard University represents the highest kind of patriotism, for it represents the kind of patriotism that seeks to do the largest good to the greatest number. The significant features of its

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They would be counted among the noble witnesses watching others run the race in the future. But above all things they must recognize the leadership of Jesus Christ, as He is the hope in this present day world of antagonism and hatred. Thus inspired with the faith, patience, and godliness of its founders the present workers need have no fear for the future of their institution.”

The solo “I Know That My Redeemer Liveth” by Miss Evans, and “Hear Thou, My Prayer” by Miss Hughes and the choir contributed greatly to the uplifting influence of the service.

Campus Dots
By J. C. Owl

She has gone home—Pete.

What Penn destroys Loui will rebuild.

Even Professors can’t fool students about marks.

For sale: A theme, written in my sleep—Goodloe.

When are two objects or persons incongruous? Example: Brooks and Jennie.

James Stratton has severed diplomatic relations with Miner Hall. He only passes by it now.

One student in Chemistry told the Professor on examination that H₂O was whiskey, and he didn’t use it in any form.

Maxie was a real policeman on Inauguration day. He should have been a member of the mounted force for his own comfort.

After Bill Lofton had worked one day during the Inauguration his feet became so sore that he walked like our good friend, Maxie Jackson.

Merrell Curtis burnt his new suit in the chemical laboratory in an attempt to make a solution similar to that used by Dr. Lebelle and Mr. Hyde.