

THE POLYGRAM

Vol. 11. No. 168

Thursday, March 15, 1917

TO THE STUDENT BODY OF THE
CENTRAL POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL.

I was asked by Captain Hodges of the track squad to make a few remarks at assembly this morning. It was with much regret that I had to refuse his request, inasmuch as my duties elsewhere preclude the possibility of my being present with you at this time. However, I have hastily written out a few lines which Mr. Hodges as promised to read, or have read to you. I shall try to be as brief as possible.

I have been greatly impressed in the past few days, with a most seeming lack of school spirit amongst you. I am at quite a loss to arrive at a reason for it. By natural environment and resources you have all that could be asked for to develop this most important phase of school life. - I mean school spirit. Your natural environment much resembles that of Stanford University, upon which campus has been developed a college spirit which has become widely famous. Most particularly is this true with regard to the athletic department of that institution.

Athletics, more and more, are becoming a fixed part of scholastic and collegiate curriculum. And why not? Man's life should be three sided in development - I am speaking of the moral, the mental, and the physical. No man can hope to become a star in athletics without developing his intelligence, nor can a man do his best intellectually if he neglects his physical development. The student who makes athletics his major - neglecting his studies and intellectuality, is making just as much of a mistake as his classmate who

becomes a pinch-featured and a puny legged "grind." Brain and brawn should work hand in hand. Then, both being properly applied, a nobler system of morality is bound to ensue.

The conscientious athlete knows that he cannot hope to succeed through habits of dissipation. No student, who has not attained man's growth and development, should think of smoking a cigarette or of indulging to excess in alcoholic stimulant. The conscientious athlete will naturally abstain from these habits.

Competitive athletics develop qualities of manhood which can be obtained by no other means. Likewise, does school spirit develop ideas of patriotism and self-sacrifice which are all important in the building of character.

Not all schools, many of them larger than your own, have the natural advantages for training that you have here. Oakland, San Jose, Berkeley and Palo Alto high schools are situated from one to three miles from their training grounds. But each one of these schools has attained an admirable standard of school spirit, and each has developed track teams capable of making a fine showing in any meet in the country. Not because they have been possessed of any better material than you have at hand here; but because each young man has tried to do his part for his school and incidentally for his own up-building.

I have heard remarks upon the campus from many of you such as: "I know I can't do anything," or "I haven't the time," or "It's too much work." Such remarks are unworthy. No young man, who has not tried, knows what he can do until

(Continued Page 3.)

THE POLYGRAM.
WEEKLY.

PUBLISHED BY THE Students of the
California Polytechnic School,
San Luis Obispo, California.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.
John J. Brown, '18.

P. J. Martinsen, '18. Associate Editor.
Helene VanGorden, '17. Society.
Alta Truelove, '17. School Notes.
Guy Baldwin, '17. School Notes.
Bartlett Russell, '18. Athletics.
Rush Taber, '20. Josh Ed.

Price Per Copy. 5 Cents
Price Per Year. \$1.00

HAMMER PLUS.

Knocking is second nature with most of us. We learn to knock as naturally as we walk, and with much less effort; nor are we respecters of place and person. The hammer is a good weapon, too, as far as it goes, but it should never be used alone. All of which is apropos of the attitude in regard to the Polygram.

Some feel that the Polygram has, in a sense, failed to live up to the expectations of those who worked hard that it might become a success. If you haven't felt it yourself, you have no doubt become imbued with the idea from some one else. We have all talked it over, some with a what's-it-to-me attitude and others with a sincere desire to find a solution to the problem. Destructive criticism alone breeds only dissatisfaction. We little realize the harm it does to tear down a structure unless we have something better to put in its place.

As we all know, the Polygram staff as a whole are very new at the work and if they are natural born newspaper people it has not

as yet had time to develop. Nor will it develop under present conditions. Just as an athlete does better work when he hears the cheers of encouragement from his fellow students, so will the editors be able to produce a much better and more interesting paper if a boost is given once in awhile. How little we realize that a hammer is just as effective in tearing down a structure as it was in erecting it in the first place.

You are asked to give suggestions as to how the Polygram may be improved, these suggestions to appear in next week's issue.

This call is issued in good faith and should be received in like manner.

PERSONALS.

C. P. S. must surely be a topic of much conversation among the California State Officials this winter judging from the number of visitors we have had from Sacramento.

This week, the State Purchasing Agent, W. G. McMillan and one of his assistants, J. F. Misphey spent a day in checking up necessary supplies for Poly.

It is with sincere regret, that we bid 'Skinny' Sebastian good-bye. We have all heard the old saying 'laugh and grow fat.' Skinny had the happy faculty of keeping us all jolly. However, underneath his frivolity was a lot of good sound sense and his place in the debating team cannot be filled. We trust he will be with us again this fall.

Miss Margaret Kohler is here from San Miguel visiting with her sister, Isla Kohler.

TO THE STUDENT BODY OF THE
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL.
(Continued from Page 1.)

he does thoroughly and conscientiously try. I have in mind a young man at the University of Southern California, when I coached the track team of that institution some years ago. It was the first time they had had a track coach there, and I was having much the same trouble getting men out that I am having here. Among those whom I had been persuading to get out upon the track, was a tall, blond-haired young man, who appeared to have more ambition to become a "queener" than to win points for his school. Finally he signed up for the broad jump and came out with the squad, wearing spiked shoes for the first time. To my knowledge he never, during his career, touched a broad-jump take-off. But, six months later, at St. Louis, Mo., at the World's Fair, he won the American Y. M. C. A. championship in the 100 yards in 10 seconds flat. One year later at Portland, Oregon, he won the world's championship for the same distance in 9-4/5 seconds. You probably have heard of him, his name is Charles Parsons. In 1906 at the University of Washington, I had 9 freshmen on the varsity squad, and at least four of these men had never had previous track experience. This team was beaten only by the famous veteran varsity of the University of Oregon, captained by the famous Dan Kelly.

It is not through any idea of financial gain that I have accepted the offer to coach your athletes. I take sincere pleasure in trying to benefit athletic conditions where interest is shown. The California Polytechnic School is capable of winning all track championships in Central California. But it means

work. The school owes it to you to help you to do this, and each and every one of you owe it to the school to do your best to further the cause. Not by shiftless and hap-hazard essay, but by real honest-to-goodness effort.

Every boy in school ought to appear at least three after-noon a week upon the track, clad properly in suit and spikes- ready to do as the coach tells him, and to try to pl. the California Polytechnic School at the standard where she belongs in this branch of noble sports.

I ~~am~~ sincerely regret that I am unable to be present at this assembly, but I trust that from this hour forth school spirit in the California Polytechnic School will rise from the ashes, like the phoenix of old- rise and soar to heights yet unattained. I thank you.

Signed.

Winnie Cutter.

ASSEMBLY LAST WEEK.

The regular assembly of last week, which was in charge of the Household Arts department, was a rare treat indeed.

After the regular announcement Mr. Pratt, a noted tenor of Oakland, was introduced. He sang four selections and was most enthusiastically applauded by the students. Mrs. Shoop then gave some readings. She showed good judgment in her selections in that they appealed to the students as well as to the older members of the audience.

Mrs. Carlyle of Berkeley was then introduced and he caused a round of merriment with his mimicry of an aspiring young actress and a magician. His comic song still echoes through the halls. The Reg. Mr. Kirchner was accompanist at the piano.

PERSONALS.

Much merriment was caused by Miss McElvaney's sudden appearance last Sunday after-noon at Vespers. But few people knew of her expected arrival and all gave her a most royal welcome. She will be with Miss Hill until the first of July.

Herman Hodges spent the week end with his parents in Lompoc.

Miss Charlotte Perner will leave in a few days to begin teaching school near Poso. She will have a new building to accommodate she and her pupils. Best wishes are extended to her in her new vocation.

SCHOOL NOTES.

The Junior and Senior classes have combined in an endeavor to give a play of much merit and at the same time not to let it interfere with their studies. The names of those eligible to take part have been posted on the bulletin board in the Administration Building.

The Girls' Band must have a secret up their sleeves, else they would not be striving so very strenuously in learning so many new and difficult selections.

A party consisting of Misses Sarah Bushnell and Ada Forbes, and Messrs. Brooks, Greenmyer, Erickson and Andrews visited the Atascadero Printing Co. last Saturday. The object of the visit was to make inquiries regarding the feasibility of having the 1917 Journal printed there.

"Get out for Track?" We hear this on all sides now. Take heed, boys, the girls are going in for it too.

Mac and Olander used to be a source of much entertainment to their fellow students during the noon hour with their wrestling, and other acrobatic stunts. But alas, the boys must hunt other amusements now for Olander wears his civilian clothes and is much interested in teaching the girls how to play ball and Mac is kept busy showing Olander the art of ball playing.

SOCIETY.

Language fails in our effort to describe the wonderful success of the Freshman party of last Friday night. The decorating committee showed much originality and willingness to work in the scheme by which they transformed our much used and much abused Dining Hall into a veritable bower of springtime with a pretty combination of pussy willows, cherry blossoms and pink butterflies. Although there were more guests present than they had expected, the Freshmen were undaunted by this unlooked for attendance seeing that everyone had a "good time." The music was furnished by Englander's ~~xxxxx~~ orchestra.

The refreshments carried out in the decorative color scheme of pink and green. The small cakes were made in the shape of the class pin, with the number '20 in the center; a number we shall long remember because of the good time the class of '20 gave us. Miss Hartzell, Miss Hill and Mr. Brooks were the chaperones.

WANTED TO KNOW

By the officers table "If they were seeing things Sunday morning as there seemed to be too many hashers?"

If someone will tell Helene "Why they couldn't have a barn dance?"

By the Freshman refreshment committee "What became of the sixth bottle of Fiz Water at their dance Friday night?"

By two upper classmen of the dormitory; "What made Holstead so nervous after the dance Friday evening?"

IN THE USUAL WAY.

On the south side of the Boys' Dormitory is a bench. Directly above this bench is a window. About 11:30 Friday night, or in other words, right after the Freshman party, a couple who were peacefully strolling along, spied the bench. They sat down. (Unwise thing to do.) Silence then prevailed. A head looked out of the upper window and saw - Well, they saw something which always happens in the usual way. A few minutes later. (Splash.) For further information, ask Scotty.

THE EVENING'S SCHEDULE

7:30 P. Study bell rings. All is well.
8:00 P. M. Two conspirators plot. The Plot - To steal oranges. Their confederates - Two girls.
8:00 P. M. They are off.
8:10 P. M. Some one follows.
The result. The oranges are fine.

The Shotgun- Bang! Bang!
And then- A wild rush for home. The victims. - Privates, Taber and Holstead.

The consequences - Ten demerits. But still there is the question- Who were the followers? It has been rumored that Lieut. Scarlett and Sergeant Russell can give a little light to the question.

LOOK OUT.

Look out!
Along the road there comes,
A noise that beats the roll of drums,
A funny sight beneath the sky
Look out!
Figge's car is passing by.
So old and battered that it shines,
Beside a Ford's artistic lines,
Look out!
Fast as a train it flies
It's sure some bus that's passing by,
It goes when it goes at all by freight.
Like the one horse shay from bottom to top its noisy and the bane of the blacksmith shop,
But when it comes, it comes like a shot,
It fairly freezes the people's blood,
When by them flashes Figge's tub,
But Mr. Figge thinks she's a bear,
It saves his shoes from wear and tear.

Look out!
Along the road there comes
A noise that beats the roll of drums,
A funny sight beneath the sky,
Look out!
It's Figgee passing by.
By "Maggie."
Apologies to Henry Holcomb Bennett.

JOSH DEPARTMENT.

Some Domestic Science Students

Fingerhut: "How about a piece of pie?"

Plaskett: "Nothing doing. You're 182 calories ahead of the list now."

Helene: "I have only one wish."

Ellen: "Oh Helene! Who is he?"

Jenny: "What would you say if you saw the 11 o'clock train coming down the track? -Here she comes?"

Stewart: "Not if it were a mail train."

Alfred Lieb: "I looked thro the key hole while Mabelle was entertaining Rossi last night."

Mr. Lieb: "What did you find out?"

Alfred Lieb: "The light."

Mr. Brooks: "Do you know Poe's 'Raven'?"

John: "Why no, what's the matter with him?"

Martin: "What makes you so fat, Homer?"

Homer: "I eat soldiers' food."

Martin: "Well?"

Homer: "It always goes to the front."

Russell: "There was a chap in here looking for you, Hartman."

Hartman: "Was he tall or short?"

Russell: "Both."

Hartman: "He was a tall chap, and he said he wanted to borrow five dollars."

Speaking of The Debate.

Wilkins: "I am afraid I am going to lose my temper when I make my speech."
Beaty: "Deliberately?"

Wilkins: "Yes. Some of the remarks I want to make will never be forgiven unless it can be claimed they were spoken in the heat of the debate."

Mr. Brown explaining infinity in Math. III class:-

"For example, take a dipper in one hand, and a bucket in the other. Dipping nothing into the bucket, how long will it take to fill the bucket?"

A FEW REQUESTS.

Nix would like very much to know; "If Miss Forbes has finished the experiment in the chemistry lab - How to mix a Love's Extract?"

Several people would like to know; "why Perry and Scotty were so happy at the Freshman dance Friday night and also if they enjoyed their last dance?"

Captain Hodges would like to know "Why Holstead and Taber don't show up for track in the after-noon instead of at night? They both jumped the gun last Thursday night."

Jack Leonard would like to know "Who put the soda water bottle in his bed last Saturday night after he had retired?"

Scotty would like to know; "since when have they installed a shower at the south end of the dormitory?"