

THE NORMAL BADGER.

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RIVER FALLS, WIS., MARCH 1899.

No. 6.

Editorial.

We would like very much to secure enough back copies of the Badger to replace the file burned in the old building. We need for this purpose all the copies of the first and second year's issues and the September number of last year. When the file is complete it will be bound and placed in the Normal library. Please send us any of these back numbers that you have on hand that you wish to devote to a good cause. They will be gratefully received.

We wish to explain to those exchanges which have criticised us for not having an exchange column, that we have not done so chiefly because the students and faculty of our school have furnished us with more matter than we can print even by abbreviating some very desirable articles.

We wish to express our pity for editors who are constantly clamoring for more copy and are then obliged to fill their columns with clippings and comments on "unique covers" and "arrangement of ads" which make their papers uninteresting, and is doubtless one cause for the poor support of their papers.

We receive a large number of exchanges which we very much appreciate and which show that there are bright wide awake workers in the schools from which they come. We wish them success.

We wonder why the Gramophone, of Black River Falls should criticize us for our general make up when the number in which the criticism is made contains no less than one hundred and forty ungrammatical sentences, misused and misspelled words, misuse, or rather lack of use of capitals and punctuation marks, etc. etc. The same number contained a considerable number of personals of the soft variety and a story of the same stamp. We wonder why this and some other exchanges should print personal items like those mentioned above, a sample of which we clip from the "Phoenix" of the Jamesville High School. "Nell, you must not run and leave Art in the cold just because you see Papa coming." Is not dignity a quality worth cultivating even in a high school paper? Does such a paper represent the school?

We regret to say that we have not room enough to print all the

copy we receive. We find it necessary to shorten many articles because of their length. We feel grateful to our contributors, who so willingly keep us supplied and hope that no one will feel offended because of articles shortened or left out.

We print for the benefit of members of the Literary Society the following extracts from a paper read before the Society.

"The first object of a Literary Society is to help every member to gain sufficient mastery of himself to be able to do what literary work is required of him, if not with pleasure and confidence, at least without fear and trembling.

In a good society every member feels that the honor and success of the society rests as much with him as any one. He is not only willing but anxious to take part. 'Blessed is he who helps make things go.'

We do not come here to be entertained. So far as those listening are concerned, a paper, essay, recitation or anything else that has done service in other places is just as good as any, but is that not keeping the letter and breaking the spirit of the law?

With all the pressure of school work, two weeks is a short time in which to prepare to stand before so many critics.

If there were not mistakes to correct there would be no need of a society.

New Richmond, Wis.

February 6, 1899.

To Manager and Editor of Badger:

I have just received a sample copy of the February issue of the "Normal Badger" and I consider it worthy of you, of the school and of the state.

If a suggestion is proper I would, as a member of the Alumni, suggest that a column be appropriated to the news concerning its members and perhaps helped along by contributions from them.

I read with interest news concerning their whereabouts and their movements, and others I think, do the same.

I have watched the growth of your paper from the start and am pleased to see it develop into a better arranged and more readable paper year by year.

Inclosed please find the price of one year's subscription.

Yours respectfully,

E. W. Waite.

In our October number we announced our desire to add an alumni column and invited members of the alumni to send in contributions which would be of interest to a brother alumnus.

We are glad to meet with like expressions from our subscribers and again ask them to kindly assist us in getting items for such a column.

MANAGER AND EDITOR.

Miss Ida Iverson was a visitor at the Normal last month.

Normal Students and Teachers can have their eyes examined



SCIENCE.



The New Hand Motor.

Notwithstanding the varied practical applications of electricity, its use for domestic purposes has been very limited. Europe seems to be taking the lead in applications to this new use. There has been put on its markets a new hand motor of from one-sixteenth to one-fourth horse power, which can be operated wherever electric light connections are available. This motor can be operated cheaply and is already quite extensively used in some of the home industries. This has led to the prediction that it will enable the tradesmen to successfully compete with great manufacturing concerns thus effecting the re-establishment of many home industries.

Under the name of "Alinit" a German manufacturer has put on the market a brownish yellow powder which, it is claimed, will make the production of cereals possible independent of the richness of the soil in nitrogen. The seed is soaked in a solution of the powder. This has been used for four years by the inventor. He claims that "Alinit" in some cases caused an increase of 35 per cent in the product of cereals.

Artificial Silk.

Artificial silk is a product of chemistry. The fibre is extremely fine and lustrous, and is to imitate real silk. There are several methods of production known. The most satisfactory process is this: Cotton waste is dissolved in the chemical compound, copper oxide of ammonia and the solution pumped through fine tubes. The delicate threads are passed through dilute acid and a fine fiber is the result.

At Blue Hill Observatory August 26, 1898, Mr. Clayton and Mr. Ferguson dispatched a tandem of kites into the air until the highest one reached an altitude of 12,124 feet above sea level, 277 feet higher than any kite has heretofore reached.—
Current History.

Iron wire when submerged in a bath of liquefied air loses all perceptible resistance to an electric current. By means of but two battery cells, a current was effected through 2000 miles of wire thus treated.

In basket ball. "Mr. K., are you red or white?"

Mr. K. "Yes'm."

LITERARY.

McHenry, Miss.,
Jan. 30, 1899.

Dear Normalites:—

As I have been requested to give you a little "Southern sunshine" to brighten up your cold, wintry days, I will endeavor to send you a few rays. But I wish that you could be here to enjoy them with me. Think of having roses in the garden every month in the year! The bright, sunshiny days are as warm as a northern May day. Yes, some days (about noon) are as "rare as a day in June."

This is a "very cold winter." I have seen a little ice about as thick as a window-pane a few times, so flowers are not as plentiful as usual at this time of year I am told. Yesterday I found some violets, and a few days ago saw a peach tree in bloom. To those of you who have never seen peach blossoms, let me say that they very much resemble the apple blossom in form, but are of a deep pink color. The tree has no leaves at this time of year so the effect is simply a pink mass.

The holly and the mistletoe grow here in the woods. I have had the pleasure of gathering the holly, but have not yet seen the mistletoe growing. The holly is a small tree, about fifteen

feet in height, and grows in an uncultivated state. It is, however, successfully transplanted into gardens. The tree is frequently used here for a "Christmas tree." The mistletoe, as you must know, is a parasite; but I have not yet learned on what tree it lives down here.

The whole southern part of Mississippi is one great forest of pine. This is the long-leaved, yellow pine. The needles are about a foot in length, and some of the largest trees are about four feet in diameter at the base and seventy-five feet high. This pine is harder and tougher than the white pine of the north. It is more like the oak in both texture and color. From this we get turpentine, and this industry is carried on quite extensively throughout the pineries. Of course, in such a region as this, the only industries are "turpentine" and lumbering. Every town is a thorough saw-mill town, and the railroads do an immense business in hauling logs and lumber.

To you who are bicycle enthusiasts let me say: Get your wheels out again, and come south. Bicycles are used here throughout the year—more in winter than in summer. Not all the roads are good for bicycl-

ing, but some are fine. Riding through the woods here seems like riding in a park. We can ride for hours in the shade. Over head are trees as green, and a sky as blue as any ever seen up north. After a heavy rain, one need not wait a week before riding again, as the roads are of sandy soil, and in a few hours we can take another "spin" on the wheel.

Christmas in the sunny south-land differs somewhat from Christmas in the north. In many respects it is celebrated in the same manner. For Christmas eve, the conventional Christmas tree is hung with presents; a program consisting of songs, recitations, etc. is prepared and at the close of the exercises the gifts are distributed. But Santa Claus, instead of being muffled up in furs, wears pantaloons and waistcoat of flag cloth, a mask and a slouch hat. His costume may not seem to you so very incongruous when I tell you that the windows and doors are open the entire evening. On Christmas eve and Christmas night, fireworks are displayed. This seems to have no connection with the regular celebration; but the boys fire off Roman candles, sky-rockets, etc. on the streets or at home and the fathers amuse the little ones at home in the same manner.

Of course you will expect me to write something about the

southern people. So far, my opportunities to "study" them have been very limited. About one half of the people at this place are northerners—nearly all from Michigan. It is often called a Michigan settlement.

Of course the "colored people" are found everywhere. I have not yet learned how large a part of the population they make up, but think that they form about one-fourth of it. I intend to make quite a study of the negroes when opportunity presents itself and may write you again on that subject. On my trip down here I noticed that throughout the south there are separate waiting rooms and cars, separate desks at postoffices and telegraph offices for blacks and whites. At first I "stood up" for the negro thinking that he was abused. But I was told that if I should remain in the south one year, I would not have half as much patience with them as have southerners, who are accustomed to him. So I have promised to "hold my peace" until I can judge from observation.

As I am aware that my letter is getting rather "lengthy," will close with best wishes for your success in your school work.

Most sincerely yours,

ANNA SWANSON.

The weather which we had last month was a hint to the science students as to the meaning of absolute zero.

C. F. Heinrich, First-class Grocery; Teas, Coffees and Fruit.

A party of forty one Normalites started for Wales. As some of them were very much afraid of the high tide they waited for low water and then envoking the higher powers to be with them and unfurling the ensign of the free, they started on the good ship Pauline. Everything was O. K. the first day but on the second day they met with a great misfortune. One of the cogs to a large wheel broke. One of the two Daniels on board said, "that cog shall be fixed" and straightway set about to weld two pieces of iron together. In the evening they met with misfortune number two. They found that their stock of coal was slowly diminishing so they began using wood worth ten dollars a cord.

The girls delighted in being on deck. Their faces became brown, their white dresses soiled and the wind kept their hair in a tously condition. One day they saw a large ice berg. "That is not a wee berg" said one of the party. "It looks like glass," said another.

The boys frightened the girls by relating stories of watery biers and other moony tales. They were met by a hale old fellow who bore the title of Earl. One of the party wanted to see the Prince and another asked if Wales had a King but the Earl led them to the museum where they saw a beautiful display of

lamps surrounded by what they took to be wick. They also saw some sheeny silks which looked like web, it was so delicately woven.

The earl gave them some salt fish but most of the party declared they had eaten salter which made the earl gnash his teeth and say "Great Scott."

They went for a walk o'er the mead and as they walked along one of the girls, in trying to dodge a couple of mules, fell down. A miller came rushing to the rescue and helped her into a baker shop near by. While in here one of the girls said she saw a rat. "P—rat nothing," said a boy. "Well I rejoice if it isn't," said the girl.

They resumed their walk down a broad lane and saw a cow. One of the girls climbed over two stiles in order to pet it.

By this time they were very tired so they sat down beneath a balsam tree to rest. When they went to the hotel they were conducted to their rooms by a colored porter.

Can you find the names of this jolly party?—ANN NONYMOUS.

Married.

MOERKE—SIMS—At Colby, Wis., Feb. 1, 1899, Miss Mary Sims of Colby to Adolph Moerke of Stevens Point.

The BADGER extends congratulations and good wishes to the young couple. They will make their home in Stevens Point.

Y. W. C. A.

Leaders for the Month of March.

March 7.—Missionary meeting.
Eleanor Burnett.

March 14.—Sunshine in religion.
Miss Olds.

March 21.—The secret of strong
lives. Prof. Adrian.

March 28.—Moral life not sufficient.
Stephen Bewick.

Have you kept all of the resolutions which appeared in this column in January? Have you kept *any* of them? If not, adopt them now. It is not too late.

Rev. Rottmann, who has been assisting Rev. Bewick in a series of meetings, gave an excellent talk on "Character," at the meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 14. It was largely attended by the students and greatly appreciated.

One of the pleasant events of the past month for members of the Y. W. C. A. was the visit of Miss Teal, State Sec'y of that organization. A meeting of the members was held at the home of Miss Pearl Scott on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 5, and instruction was given the various departments in regard to their work, which is being acted upon. Noon-day prayer meetings are now being held in Pres. Brier's recitation room with good attendance.

An unusually large number of students attended the meeting of January 12th. The topic was, Patience: how to get it and why. Many helpful thoughts were expressed by those present. Miss Shultes quoted that beautiful passage, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth on thee." She said this verse shows the best way to obtain patience and keep it.

KINDERGARTEN.

The Mother's Meeting in the kindergarten room, Feb. 17, was well attended, there being thirty-five ladies present aside from those belonging to the school. After a Bumble Bee song by Mrs. Thatcher, Mrs. Wadsworth took charge of the meeting. The topic was discipline in home and school.

Mrs. Wadsworth gave a short talk in which she said, "Many present had only theories to offer as to the management of children in the home, but a woman without theories is not so good a mother as she should be. There was much interest manifested and many experiences given. All agreed that home and school discipline were very different. The question, "Are children born pure?" was discussed with considerable warmth. The majority agreed that children are born with certain

tendencies to good or evil the same as some are born with tendencies to consumption and much depends upon the circumstances to develop these tendencies. Many things were accounted for by heredity. One lady very pertinently said we are too fond of excusing our shortcomings by saying they are inherited.

Miss Shultes cautioned along the line of breaking the child's will saying, "It is the last thing that should be broken." Many interesting facts were given by different ladies. It was decided that there is no panacea that will suit all cases but as many devices must be used as there are different dispositions to deal with. The hour was too short for the interested mothers.

After two school songs the meeting adjourned to meet again in three or four weeks.

The miscellaneous arrangement of the following articles is due to our having reserved this space for the kindergarten department which after all, failed to put in copy on time.

State Superintendent Harvey has introduced a bill in the legislature providing for a better supervision of the common schools. This bill provides for the appointment of County Superintendents or "district inspectors" as they are to be called, by a committee composed

of the Institute Conductors of the Normal Schools, the State Board of Examiners and the Professor of Pedagogy of the State University.

The qualifications of the "district inspectors" are to be the same as for County Superintendents while the inspection districts will consist of compact, contiguous territory, bounded by town lines.

This bill will effectually remove the appointment of this officer from political circles which has been a long desired reform. It will place a great power in the hands of a few men yet the fact that these men are not directly interested in politics and are responsible to no party for their actions will permit them to act from nonpartisan motives and only for the best interests of the schools of the state.

This bill should receive the support of all persons interested in the betterment of the common schools.

Prof. Adrian lectured in Ellsworth a few days ago on "A Day in Congress." He is winning a considerable reputation in this and neighboring communities as a very entertaining speaker.

We regret very much the brevity of our Kindergarten department for this month.

Asst. Prin. Works was a St. Paul visitor Wednesday.—Hammond News.

C. F. Heinrich, First-class Grocery, Teas, Coffees and Fruit.

Basket ball play has been somewhat interfered with, the ball being out of repair. The fourth year team has been unable to play this term because of the Geology recitation being placed after school. This has resulted in a team composed of the Seniors not reciting in Geology assisted by players from the Juniors. This team is known as the Consolidated. The score for February is as follows.

	Games Played.	Won.	Lost.	Per cent.
Freshmen,	12	10	2	.833
Sophomore,	12	5	7	.417
Consolidated,	2	1	1	.500

MARRIED—In this city, at the residence of the bride's mother, Miss Elsie Fox and Mr. John McMahon, both of this city.—Pepin County Courier.

Miss Fox was well known by those who attended school here last year, and these together with the BADGER extend the best of wishes to the young couple.

A little three year old girl who became tired of watching the exercises in the gymnasium, said "Come, mamma, let's go and see the good people." A case for the psychology class.

A three cornered debate, gold vs. silver vs. bimetalism, is being worked up in the Economics class.

Frank Cook, El' 92, visited the Normal last month. Frank has been teaching for some years in Washington State and looks as if the climate out there has agreed with him.

One of the pictures presented to the school by the alumni has been received and hung. It is a picture of Christ among the Doctors, and has been hung in the assembly room near the door to the President's office.

We wonder why the Athletic Dickens' evening has not materialized.

We print this month two letters from absent Normalites. Will others please write us for next issue?

The next number of the BADGER will be edited by the ladies.

An unknown musician visited our school a few days ago who proved to be an excellent performer on the violin.

Walter Leonard has again been chosen Secretary of the Pierce County Teachers' Association.

David Swarts, teacher in No. 10, Rock Elm, was up Saturday and made us a pleasant call.—Spring Valley Sun.

Miss Josie Johnson of Rice Lake visited us a few days ago.

The Geology department has received a fine collection of hand specimens from Washington.

Miss Vera Christensen of Baldwin is among those recently enrolled in the school.

The article in the Literary department describing the trip to Wales contains the names of forty one students of the school. Who are they? Anyone sending us a correct list and fifty cents will be rewarded by a year's subscription to the BADGER.

Entered at the Postoffice at River Falls, Wis every month as second class matter.

STAFF OF EDITORS.

Editor-in-chief,.....C. J. Wentz.
Literary,.....Alta Horth.
Kindergarten,.....Pauline Coggeshall.
Locals,.....{ Harry Pratt.
 { Elsen Meade.
Science,.....{ Walter Leonard.
 { Arthur Gunnison.
Athletic,.....Lyman Weld.
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River Falls, Wis.

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Focal.

Miss Ovedia Johnson El. '92 is in school again.

Mrs. Dr. Radcliff has taken up work in school.

Miss Alpha Chidester is teaching near Spring Valley.

Hortense Salter has resumed her duties in this school.

Frank Lauber has been out of school on account of the grip.

Mrs. Mary Playter was a visitor at the Normal last month.

Miss Ella Getchell has left school. She is to make her home in Dakota.

Miss Orizaba Boorman has returned home on account of a serious illness.

The Young Men's and Young Ladies' Glee Clubs have rendered some very pleasing selections in opening exercises.

Among those who have successfully grappled with the grippe are May Purves, Mabel Langdon and Miss Mead.

The pictures and statuary for the ornamentation of the several rooms is beginning to appear. A more full description of these will be given in a later issue.

The inter Normal oratorical contest takes place at Stevens Point, March, 17. The Literary Society of this school failed, however, to send a contestant, because sufficient data concerning rules, time, etc. were lacking. They have made arrangements, however, for sending a delegate.

Rhetoricals were begun last month. One entire period each week is now devoted to these exercises instead of one rhetorical each morning as formerly. A different period is taken each week, so that the time used in rhetorical exercises is taken from all of the recitation periods instead of only the first.

The Literary Society has elected the following officers for the present term. Pres. W. F.

Dr. J. N. Kirk, Office on Main St., open day and night.

Tousley; V. Pres., Maud Irle; Sec., Olive Nash; Fin. Sec., Roscoe Hill; Treas., Walter Scott; Usher, Walter Leonard; Serg't at Arms, Frank Nash; 1st mem. board of coun., Frank Otis; 2nd mem. board of coun., Margaret Anderson. Much enthusiasm was expressed at the meeting, each of the officers elected responded by an appropriate speech and everyone went away happy and satisfied.

In the chemical laboratory.—Mr. A——, scrubbing his section of the table:

"Miss B, don't you want a job of cleaning house?"

Miss B, shyly covering her face with her apron;

"O, Mr. A! This is so sudden!"

In the Chemistry class.
Prof.—What are some of the other uses of Arsenic?

Miss K, starting suddenly:
Ladies take it for their complexion (a general smile.)

Prof.—Which is used in this case, As or As O₃? —(a pause)—

Miss K (volunteering): It is As O₃. (A general laugh.) (Inference?)

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