

THE NORMAL
BADGER.

*Reader, I wish thee health,
wealth, happiness, and may kind
heaven thy year's industry bless.—
Poor Richard.*

RIVER FALLS, WIS.

THE NORMAL BADGER.

Published monthly during the school year by the Normal Literary Society.

VOL. 4.

RIVER FALLS, WIS., OCTOBER 1898.

No. 1.

Editorial.

The BADGER extends a greeting to its readers at this, the opening of the school year, wishing for each a successful year and trusting that each will have the welfare of the BADGER at heart to the extent that a contribution will be offered at the earliest opportunity, thus helping to keep the students, old and new, in closer touch with each other, cementing more strongly that bond which binds members of the same school in a union to which all feel a greater or lesser loyalty.

No great or important undertaking should be begun unless the end to be attained is plainly in view, hence even a newspaper should have a policy, clearly defined, to which it should adhere. Following this excellent precedent, this journal will devote itself to the best interests of the River Falls Normal School, "with malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right."

Many complaints are made that the BADGER is not interesting to those who have been out of the school two or three years. We admit that it is difficult to get news that will interest per-

sons who have not been connected with the school for that length of time. The problem is one which they themselves can solve better than any one else by sending us news items which would interest any readers of the BADGER, by writing up the points of interest you have visited in vacation and by sending us plans of work which have proven successful in the schoolroom.

If this last suggestion can be carried out the BADGER will not only be interesting to the former members of the school but to all others interested in school work.

Let us have more contributions from those who have gone out into the work.

The editor wishes to call the attention of its readers to the fact that this journal was first projected and published by the N. A. C., and was later sold to the literary society. Last year this journal was printed out of town, and the cost of printing and the transportation of material to and from Hammond was \$100 more than was received from subscriptions and advertising, which extra amount had to be paid by the Literary Society. As the BADGER paid expenses during the first and second years of its existence, when the printing was done by

the local press, we call the attention of our readers to these facts, in order that they may the more readily comprehend the financial situation, under which we begin the prosecution of the year's work. An itemized account of our financial condition will be published from time to time, but we want our friends to understand that we are financially embarrassed at the very outset, and that the success of the journal will depend to a larger extent than ever before on a prompt remittance for the year's subscription. A number of subscribers have reported to this office that more than one year's subscription has been paid by them. We regret that, while placing the utmost confidence in the word of these friends, credit for subscriptions which do not appear on the books of the BADGER, cannot be given, except a receipt for such subscription be presented.

We trust our friends will appreciate this and respond at once, in a substantial way, and further assist by making the BADGER, which is an open journal to all the Normal people, a medium for expressing Normal opinions. We want a substantial financial basis on which to work, and the voice of the people in the interest of the school.

Students interested in the Methodist Church of this place are sorry to learn that Rev. Balch is to go to St. Louis. Mr. Balch's labors here for the past

three years have endeared him to all who have been connected with his church. The new incumbent, Rev. Snodgrass, is known to many of the members of this church and will receive from them a hearty welcome.

FRIENDS of the BADGER:

As the BADGER enters its fourth year we wish, as editor and business manager, to give you all a hearty greeting—to the past subscribers, contributors and patrons of the BADGER, thanking them for their substantial aid; to those who have taken those parts upon them for the current year; to the members of the alumni and school, begging them to keep in touch with their alma mater; and every person interested in education at large or pedagogy in particular, inviting them to get in touch with our school through its representative paper, the BADGER; we give a hearty greeting.

For three years it has been the constant effort of the BADGER to send its message of intelligence, advice, and inspiration out among you. During the coming year no labor nor thought will be spared in the effort to enlarge and improve it. It will be an index of the best thoughts of the school and we invite all past members of the school to "touch elbows" with us that we may walk abreast.

We furthermore desire to add greater value and interest to the BADGER by having an "Alumni

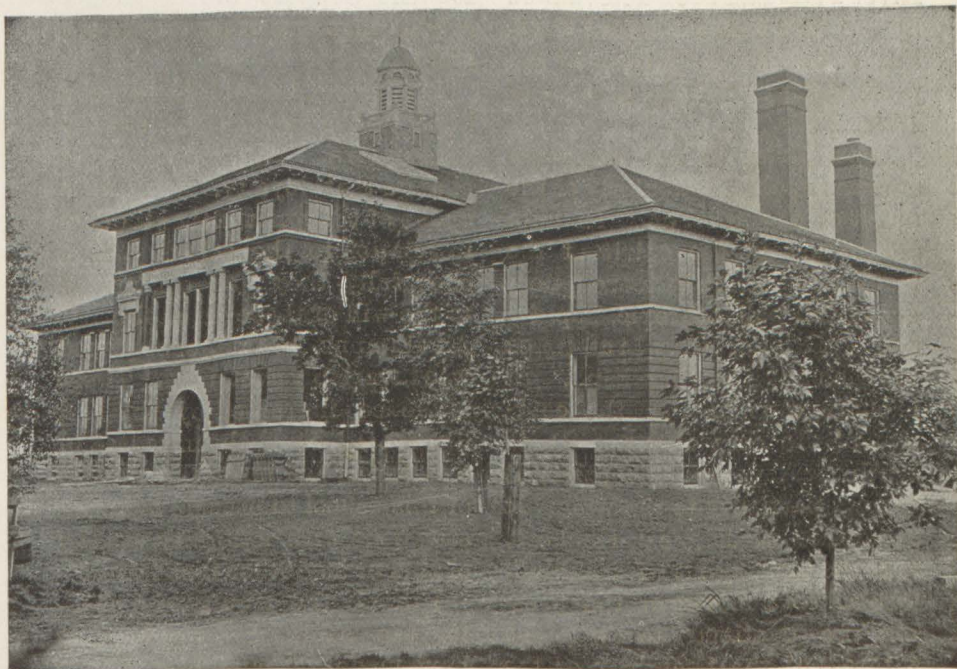
column," to which we invite the attention and contributions of each alumnus.

The Literary Society, Athletic Club, Y. W. C. A. and Y. M. C. A. will each have space in its columns. In short we wish to make the BADGER such as will be sought by High School students as well as Normal School students, and read from many a table.

As the editor and business

manager of the BADGER are members of the school, it is very inconvenient to arrange themselves in school at the beginning of the school year and also get out the first number of the BADGER in reasonable time. It has therefore been decided to have no September number but to add a July number to each volume, making ten numbers as before.

Please notice the subscription blank enclosed in sample copies.



THE NEW NORMAL SCHOOL BUILDING.

The New Normal Building.

Tuesday, Sept. 20, was gala day at the Normal. It was the day set for the dedication of the

new building. For days previous, preparations were being made for this memorable event. The decorations were simple, the Normal colors draped in arch-

Normal Students and Teachers can have their eyes examined

es through the hallways, but were particularly appropriate to the occasion. In the forenoon, recitations progressed as usual and visitors came and went through the building.

The dedicatory exercises were held at two o'clock in the afternoon in the assembly room. Pres. Thompson in his opening address spoke of the conditions which existed after the burning of the old building and how the reestablishment of the school at River Falls had been determined by the energetic actions of Pres. Parker and Regent Lord and the prompt support of the citizens of River Falls.

Pres. Brier in his inaugural address spoke particularly of the spirit of the teacher. In substance he said the spirit of the teacher is keen in its perception, broad and philanthropic, hopeful and optimistic, ready at all times to reach out a helping hand. It is courageous, having the courage of its convictions. It is truth telling, not deceptive, it throws partiality to the wind. It is typified in all great teachers, it is the best spirit of mankind. The school children of the present are destined to sway the interest of the first half of the next century. The teacher of the present shall determine how that interest shall be swayed. He should determine it in such a way that our children's children shall rise up and call us blessed.

Following him were Supt.

Emery, Pres. Salisbury of the Whitewater Normal, E. D. Coe, Ex-Pres. of the Board, and Pres. Parker.

Mr. Parker spoke first of the offering made by Mrs. Mary Ann Guy for the establishment of a manual training department in this school. He then spoke of the hearty support that the people of River Falls have always given the Normal School, stating that River Falls had, in proportion to its population, done more for the support of the model grades than any other city in the state.

The people, he said, have been loyal to the school for twenty three years. Nothing can ever change that loyalty. He then spoke of the spirit of the students in relation to the school. How cheerfully they had conformed to the will of those in authority. An alumnus, he said, once placed was invariably sustained. Those influences ingrained by this and like faculties and the impulses of this school had made the alumni of this school to preside over institutions with a dignity worthy of this or any other institution.

I thank the faculty, he said, for the sacrifices which they have made. I have been proud of my place. If I have defaulted, it has been a fault of the intellect and not of the heart. God bless you! When he had finished there were tears in his own eyes and in the eyes of many of the listeners. His faithful work during

the best years of his life had evidently found for him a place in the hearts of the people. Many hearts responded to his "God bless you!" and the pent up feelings of the audience were given vent to in a storm of applause.

Following Mr. Parker were Hon. N. P. Haugen, Rev. Balch, Mr. Ross of Superior, Judge Weld and Mr. Fruit.

The themes which seemed to be common to the visitors speaking was the hearty support of the townspeople and the energetic action and hopeful attitude of Ex-pres. Parker and Regent Lord. The local speakers modestly ignored their own efforts and paid tribute to their representatives only.

The new building was pronounced by the board to be one of the most conveniently arranged and best constructed buildings in the state. This, they said, was partly due to the contractor, Mr. Bonnett, who, to releem his contract, gave a large sum of money from his own pocket to complete the building.

The enthusiasm of the students made itself manifest at the close in the usual Normal yell followed by three cheers for the Regents, three for Mr. Parker, and three for Mr. Brier.

In the evening, a reception was given in the gymnasium to Pres. Brier, Ex-pres. Parker, and the Regents.

A large concourse of people gathered to greet the people to

whom we are particularly indebted for the prosperity of our school.

The greetings over, refreshments were served in Miss Shultes's room. The tables were prettily decorated with the Normal colors and a bow of red and white was given to each as a memento of the occasion. Then when the evening had been spent in pleasant conversation, the party dispersed.

The shock which came to River Falls Normal school people through the resignation of Pres. W. D. Parker, whose stern, sympathetic justice has made for him a shrine in the breast of every student who had sat under his authority, was relieved by the news that a stranger was not to sit in his place. Not only is the new President, W. J. Brier, no stranger, but he is a man who has long been identified with the school, who has for a longer time been identified with school work, who has been honored by the N. W. W. T. A., by the State association, and by the N. E. A. A man who has through years of institute work made many struggles with pedagogical problems see, as it were, scales falling from their eyes, and made them lovers of the teaching profession, feeling that this man had penetrated the truths of his most noble calling. It will not astonish the friends of the new president of the State Normal School at River Falls, if students

should soon fill to overflowing the new building, which is large, and well equipped with all the modern apparatus which will contribute to the expected success of the school.

Resolutions.

WHEREAS,—death has removed from the activities of mortal life our friend and fellow student, Harry L. Currier, and

WHEREAS,—the sad event occurred in a foreign land, under tropical skies, and amid the distressing circumstances of war, and,

WHEREAS,—the example of his ambitious, energetic, and noble life will be an inspiring and stimulating memory to us forever, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,—that we, the faculty and students of the River Falls Normal School, herein express our admiration for his manly character, our pride in his achievements and our affection for him as a friend and a fellow student, and,

BE IT RESOLVED,—that we herein extend our tender sympathy to his mother and father and sisters and brother and other relatives in their bereavement and do assure them that we sorrow with them in their loss and mourn with them that the brave young life so full of promise of success to himself and comfort to others has thus early finished its earthly career, and,

BE IT RESOLVED,—that we offer our consolation in the re-

minder that his life was sacrificed in the cause of his country and that though we are deprived of the companionship of his noble soul, we are sustained by the belief that he has gone on to the enjoyment of a higher life and more blessed opportunities than the dearest affections of earth could bestow, and,

BE IT RESOLVED,—that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family and that they be published in the local papers, in the BADGER, in the Ariel, and in the Minneapolis Journal.

Committee } CHAS. J. WENTZ,
ALICE H. SHULTES,
LOUISE COGGESHALL.

President Albee.

George I. Albee, president of the Oshkosh State Normal School, died at his post on the 4, instant after an illness of several months.

Mr. Albee was an alumnus of Michigan University; had taught and supervised successfully in New York and at Kenosha and Racine before assuming the Oshkosh presidency in 1871. He was by native quality and training an educator—one who plans wisely, persuades gently but persistently, and labors intelligently and incessantly while seeming to wait patiently for results. Students, teachers, and citizens within the state and beyond its limits will feel a personal loss in Mr. Albee's death.

The Oshkosh Normal School of 1871-98 is his monument that will, through the thousands who loved him bear his ideals and his just judgments to ever widening fields. A wife and three children survive him.



SCIENCE.



Mica Mines.

While there is, of course, a certain amount of hard work about it, mining for mica is among the pleasantest sorts of mining in the world. The expert examines the vein of quartz which is supposed to contain mica. The top is removed, and soon they come to crumbling masses of mica, in powder, and strips, and scraps, but very evidently the outer guard of the treasure within. Then, if necessary, a little blasting is done. When the loose mass is cleared away the glittering quartz shows up from the bottom of the pit. The larger the sheet of mica, the more valuable, and with this in mind the miner brushes and coaxes away all of the dust, dirt and particles that may conceal it. If he can find a block nine or ten inches wide and three or four inches thick, in good condition, he knows that it is worth a great many dollars. He has to take the chances of quality, however, because the blocks are not split open at the mines, as, if this is done, the lustrous surface is likely to become scratched, and the outside sheet will be wasted. The owner of a mica mine has a valuable possession, and one

which he is quite likely to appreciate. As a rule, mica comes to the shops in thick sheets. When the purchaser calls for it, the dealer, with a sharp knife, splits off the amount required.

Value of the Weather Bureau.

In a recent lecture, Professor Willis L. Moore, chief of the United States Weather Bureau, stated that many industries are largely controlled by local weather predictions.

He instanced, among others, the raisin interest in California. In some districts the entire business is regulated by the reports from the local distributing centre. In fact, nearly all the larger vineyards are in telephonic communication with the nearest forecasting station, so anxious are they to anticipate the predictions which appear at stated, and often belated, times. He said further, that on the plains of Colorado and Montana the cattlemen place implicit confidence in the predictions of the weather bureau, and on the first warning of an approaching storm the cattle are herded. This application alone saves thousands of dollars annually. The prediction of storms on the great lakes has been especially time-

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

ly and accurate, so much so that loss of life and destruction of property have been reduced to a small percentage of its former amount.—Current History.

Farming in Olden Times.

The Romans were the first people to practise plowing between the rows of wheat, as we do between corn. The idea was suggested in a singular manner. A warlike tribe, having ravished a section of land at the base of the Alps, undertook to destroy the growing crops by plowing them up, but instead it was found that the rows accidentally hilled were twice as large as those that were not. The harrow or hoe used by the Chinese farmer is of the rudest construction. The plow is usually drawn by women of the lowest classes. Two hundred and fifty years ago, when the corn, stolen from the Indians by our Puritan ancestors, was planted in the sand of Cape Cod, the only instrument used was a ponderous and ill-shapen Dutch hoe, which required a strong man to handle it at all. Our first processes were not much in advance of those of the barbarians of central Europe; today, we number several hundred tools, from the most delicate to the splendid specimen of the combined reaper and thresher, which cuts, threshes, winnows and bags grain at the rate of hundreds of bushels per day.

N. L. S. Notes.

The Literary Society begins its first quarter's work with the following officers;

President, Arthur Gunnison.

Vice Pres., Nicholas Schoeder.

Secretary, Alta Horth.

Fin. Sec'y., Wm. Tousley.

Treasurer, Chris Berg.

Usher, Wm. King.

Serg't at Arms, C. J. Wentz.

Board of Councillors, Walter Leonard, Miss Lowater.

Trustee, Ella Getchell.

The society has a larger number of members than usual and looks forward to a year of profitable work.

New students should lose no time in becoming connected with the society. The benefit derived from it's work is such as can not be derived from any other department of the school. Drill in parliamentary practice is an essential feature of its business meetings, while its literary programs give opportunity to take part in debate or other exercises tending to cultivate an unembarrassed appearance before an audience.

The expense is less than one dollar per year so that every member of the school can afford to be a member of this society. The society deserves as large a membership as the school itself. Can we not have it?

Miss Lulu Beers is teaching in the public schools of Cumberland.

C. F. Hienrich, First class Grocery, Teas, Coffees and Fruit.



LITERARY.

A Country School in Vermont.

In the picturesque little town of Mount Holly, among the Green Mountains, you may find the school-house. Old, weather-beaten, and dilapidated; it has braved alike, the storms of sixty long winters, and the destructiveness of vigorous boys and girls. Constructed on the old time plan of building school houses in those scattered settlements, it is small, low, and has no entry or dressing room. Nails driven into the walls, in convenient parts of the room, furnish a place for the hanging of wraps. Old fashioned windows admit the light at every side; but they are so high that the pupils, especially the younger ones, have much difficulty in recognizing passing teams or pedestrians. I suspect the philosophy of this was to insure strict attention to books. Nevertheless, the rattle of a wagon, or creak of a sled, was the signal for much neck-stretching; and this may, in some measure, account for the long neck, which the Vermont Yankee usually possesses.

Near the middle of the school room stands the old box stove, around which the children huddle on cold winter mornings to warm their benumbed hands and

feet and watch the fire gleaming through its cracked sides. Extending across the back part of the room is a raised platform and on it are three cumbersome desks, with a long bench back of them. The front part of the platform serves as seats for three more desks, which are nailed to the floor in front of the others. The younger pupils are seated on two long benches, one at each side of the room. On a high platform at the right, as you enter the school house, is the teacher's desk and high backed chair. All the desks are made like a deep, narrow, box, with one of the sides left off, and a shelf inserted about eight inches from the top, for the books and dinner-pail. Unpainted, unvarnished, and marred by the carving of rude letters and figures, by mischievous hands, when the teacher's eye was not upon them, these desks were not designed to inspire the youthful mind with æsthetic tastes.

Hanging from a spike in the wall, near the door, is what we used to call a blackboard. Only when the paint is partly worn off, can the crayon make a distinct mark. It was rarely used except when visitors happened in, and the teacher wished to show

the merits of the school. Then the brightest pupil was called up and given a long example to "cipher out," on the board.

As a rule the teacher was not a college graduate. Any person of good physique, and having the ability to cipher, read, write and spell well, might be reasonably sure of success (?).

From fifteen to twenty, robust fun-loving children usually attended this little school; and among them, many a noble, unselfish heart lay beneath awkward manners and uncoath dress. At the ringing of the bell, they came trooping in; the boys taking seats on one side of the room, the girls on the other.

There were no signals given to take books, but the older pupils lost no time in cleaning slates, hunting up or borrowing pencils, and, with the old arithmetics before them, proceeded to flounder through the intricacies of long "haystack" or "grindstone" examples. The younger boys began to con their reading lessons in audible whispers; while two or three urchins gathered at the teacher's side to learn the alphabet. These little ones were usually far more interested in the pretty pen-knife used for a pointer than in the letters, which they repeated day after day, until learned.

Hardly ever did more than three pupils in the school use the same series of text-books; indeed some of the books had

descended from the father to son for two or three generations. Although the classes were small they were numerous. All day the teacher was busy, directing stammering tongues to read and spell, guiding clumsy fingers to write, and striving to keep the pupils quiet and orderly. The first part of the day passed quickly, with scarcely a ripple on the surface of good behavior; but as time for dismissal drew nigh, duties became irksome, and mischief crept out to annoy the teacher. The recitations were frequently interrupted by the query, "Please may I go out?" or "May I get a drink?" Perhaps the small boy in long trousers was caught in the act of using his new jack-knife, and was punished by being made to share a little girl's seat. Or an older boy might have laughed aloud, and been made to stand in the corner, with his back to the school. Sometimes quite large girls had their ears pulled or boxed for lunching on apples or chewing spruce gum in school-time. These were only the lighter offenses and punishments. Generally, the teachers believed, that, "to spare the rod was to spoil the child;" and if the mutilated, black-birch tree, near the school-house could speak, it would testify to the truth of this.

The only limit of the play ground was to be within hearing of the bell. In winter it was a

high hill, conical in shape and so smooth and steep that it could not be ascended by following the slippery path made by the hand sleds.

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH.

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

STAFF OF EDITORS.

Editor-in-chief,.....	C. J. Wentz.
Literary,	Miss Getchell.
Locals,.....	{ Harry Pratt.
	{ Elsie Meade.
Science,.....	{ Walter Leonard.
	{ Arthur Gunnison.
Athletic.....	Lyman Weld.
Business Manager,.....	John Hale.

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Local.

John Andrews is principal of the school at Arbor Vitae.

Miss Lillian Prince is teaching in the O'Keefe district.

Miss Blanche Langdon has a position in North Menomonie.

Cimbra Daniels is attending a Kindergarten School in Minneapolis.

Emma M. Jenson is taking kindergarten work in Minneapolis.

The reception given to the new members of the school was given by the members of the Congregational, Baptist and Methodist churches in the Congregational church parlors.

Frank Webster is again on the road canvassing for the Standard Dictionary.

As far as is known the graduates of last year are distributed as follows: Frank Otis, principal at Wilson; Cora Chapman, Knapp; G. W. Swartz and Sever Saby, students in the State University; Geo. Works, Asst. at Hammond; Mae Eneroth, Cannon Falls, Minn.; Leona Delap, 2nd Asst. Rice Lake; Iva Cliff, Asst. at Whitehall; Byrde Ames, Osseo; Albert Farrington, canvassing; Elsie Fox, Durand; Hester Hulst, Glen Flora; Miss May Burnett, at home; Miss Ingersol, Katie Dennis, Osseo; Anna Dennis, Spooner; Miss Day, Grafton, N. D.; Ethel White, East Lincoln; Elizabeth Prince, Tomahawk; Mr. Mattson, Lund; Emma Roberts, Burkhardt; Miss McShane, St. Paul; Miss Julia Johnson, Chippewa County; Mrs. George Swartz, Weld district; Sadie A. McNalley, New Richmond.

During the vacation several members of the Alumni, finding the state of single blessedness wearisome, removed to the state of matrimony. These were G. W. Swartz to Miss Mamie Williams, Miss Marion Doppler to Mr. Sanderson of Baraboo, and Miss Christine Chidester to Mr. Jardine of Chippewa Falls. The BADGER extends the wish of a long life and prosperity to each of these couples and hopes that their new relations will not cause them to forget the ties that bind them to the Normal School.

Fred Thompson is principal at Knapp this year.

Andy Moynihan has resumed his work at Erin Prairie.

Miss Nellie Grey is teaching in the West Side School in Menomonie.

John Thompson of Ellsworth is principal of the Hammond High School.

Lulu Fortune is taking the Kindergarten course in the River Falls Normal.

Miss Josie Goodspeed has gone with her parents to make her home in Vermont.

Miss Kate Dennis goes to Spooner to resume her duties as teacher in the schools of that place.

The Literary Society will give a lecture course this year. The details of the course will be arranged later.

The alumni of this school residing in Madison have presented a Venus de Milo to the school. It is pronounced a very perfect model of the original Venus and is a beautiful piece of work.

The older students miss, this year, the familiar face of Miss C. J. Caldwell.

Miss Caldwell had been connected with the school since its first organization, and by her interest in each student and devotion to her calling, won the approbation of all who knew her. The good wishes of many go with her to her home in Ohio.

Geo. Works is a frequent visitor in town.

Miss Bessie Lusk is teaching in Shell Lake.

Miss Mamie Simms is teaching in Wausau.

Miss Minnie Coggeshall is in Wausau this year.

Miss Nealie Lusk has a position in Milwaukee.

Miss Clara Lien is engaged to teach at Washburn.

Miss Jessie Hunt is teaching in Chippewa Co.

Wanted by the Seniors. More reverence from the Juniors.

Jason Downer continues his work in Beldenville this year.

Miss Emily Parsons returns to her former position at Bayfield.

Misses Lettie Hunt and Mabel Wood have positions in Chippewa Falls.

The meetings of the Literary Society are held in the music room.

Miss Josie Johnson and Johanna Iverson are teaching in Rice Lake.

Miss Emma Jenson is taking the kindergarten course in the Minn. University.

W. F. Lusk returns to his former position at Humbird. Miss Edna Littlefield has a position in the same school.

The members of the Senior Class, with a few of their friends, spent a very pleasant afternoon picnicing in the glen.

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

Miss Grace Lusk teaches near Eau Claire.

Prof. D. E. Cameron is filling temporarily the vacant place in the Normal Faculty until a permanent selection can be made.

Y. W. C. A.

"The harvest is passed and the summer is ended," and again we assembled for our Tuesday afternoon prayer meeting. While regretting the absence of many of our former co-laborers, we rejoice that so large a number of new students has already signified a desire to work with us this year.

Miss Ella Getchell led our first meeting, taking for her topic, the thought presented by President Erie, the first morning of school, "I shall not pass this way again." An earnest plea was made for making the best possible use of time and opportunities.

If we grasp the full meaning of the thought, making it a part of our lives, we may feel assured that our Association work will not be a failure this year.

Mrs. Thatcher added greatly to the interest of the meeting by her rendering of the beautiful solo, "Just for to-day."

LEADERS FOR OCTOBER.

- Oct. 4. Right use of time.
Mr. Hale.
Oct. 11. Address by the State.
Secretary.
Oct. 18. Missions in China.
Mrs. Tozer.
Oct. 25. Christian Perfection.
Mr. Gunnison.

Remember—

You are cordially invited to attend the Tuesday afternoon prayer meetings.

Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Christians are appointed ambassadors for Christ.

Ability is the measure of responsibility.

A. H. Lord,

LIVERY,

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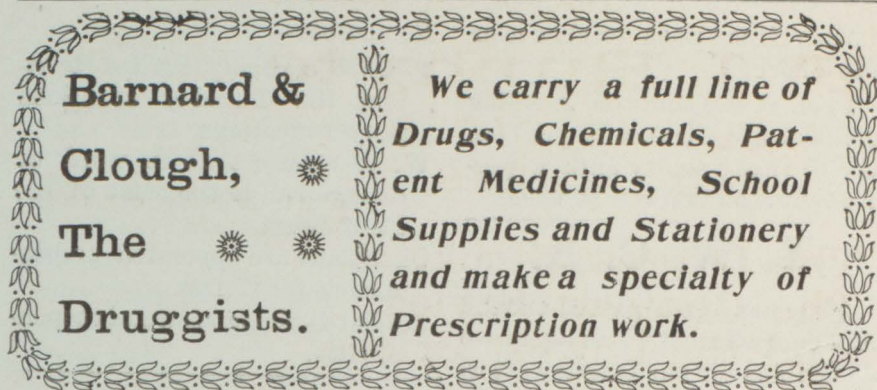
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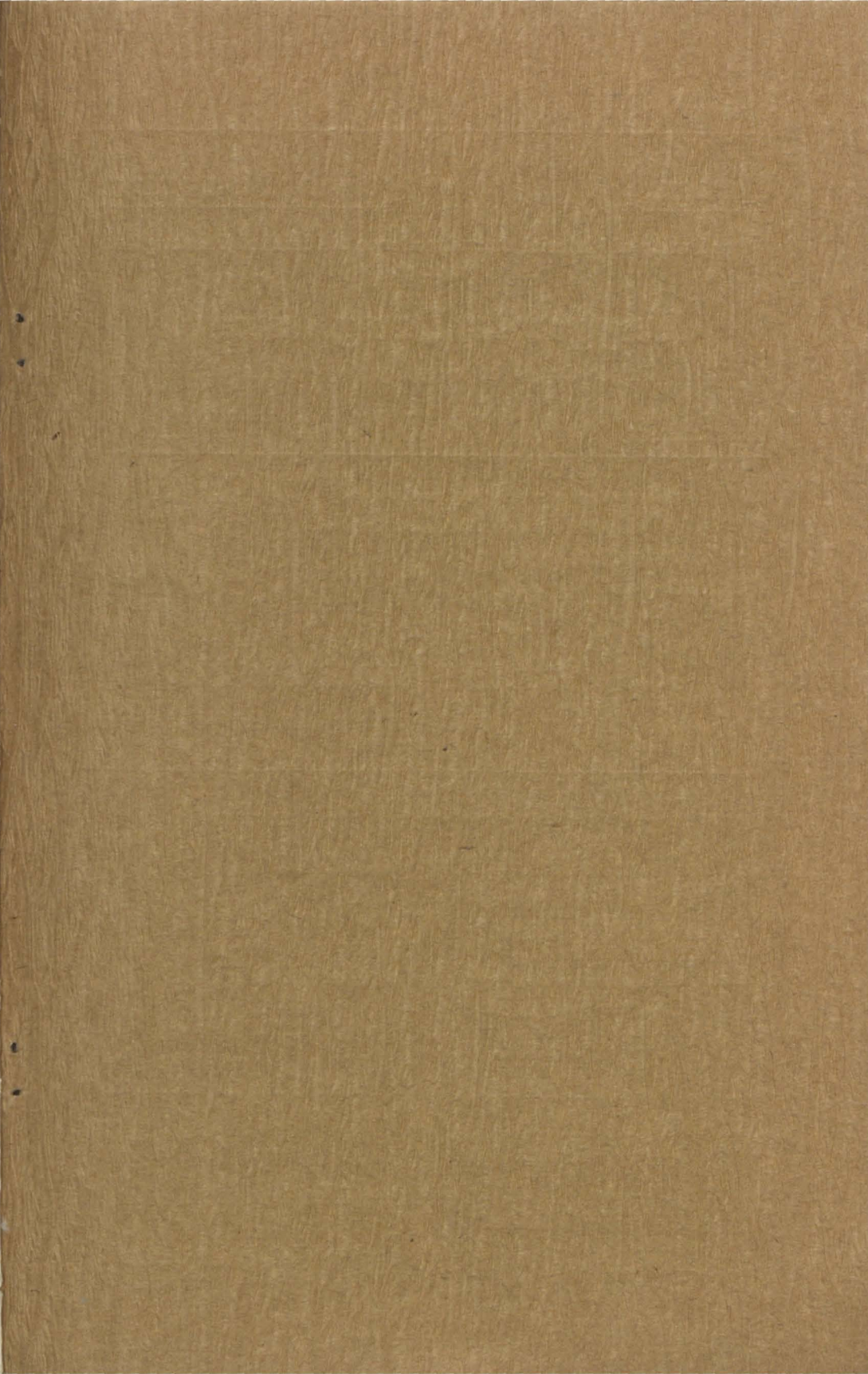
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