

The M. A. C. RECORD.

MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

VOL. 10.

LANSING, MICHIGAN, TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1905.

No. 38

ATHLETICS.

The M. A. C. track team has held four dual meets as follows: M. A. C. 62, Albion 30, M. A. C. 66, Olivet 50, M. A. C. 75, Notre Dame 56, M. A. C. 84, Armour Institute 39. Also the M. I. A. A. state meet was won 69½ to 65½ for the field. In track events the total number of points for M. A. C. is 306½ to 240½ for opponents. Out of 16 point winners we will lose Kratz and Burrell by graduation.

McKenna won the batting medal for the baseball season just closed, his percentage being 371. Burk is second at 356 and Canfield third at 301.

Boyle has the best fielding average, his percentage standing 974.

Canfield is first in the infield with a percentage of 950.

In sixteen games McKenna stole 27 bases out of 28 attempts and made 20 runs.

In extra bases Canfield leads with five doubles and three triples.

Nies pitched eleven games and won eight. Shaffer pitched in six games and lost one.

On the ball team M. A. C. will lose Burk, Wilcox and Gunnison by graduation.

Mr. Hitchcock, one of the M. I. A. A. judges and an old College man, who has not missed a Field Day for 17 years, is quoted as saying that the meet on June 2 and 3 was the very best in points of attendance order and general good feeling which he had ever attended.

The foot ball prospects are very bright for the coming season, though we shall miss Kratz, Bell and Hahn.

Following is the foot ball schedule as arranged for the fall term, subject to approval:

- Sept. 30, Flint at M. A. C.
- Oct. 7, Notre Dame at Notre Dame.
- Oct. 14, All Freshmen U. of M. at M. A. C.
- Oct. 21, Olivet at M. A. C.
- Oct. 23, Hillsdale at Hillsdale.
- Oct. 28, DePauw at M. A. C.
- Nov. 4, Kalamazoo at Kalamazoo.
- Nov. 11, Albion at M. A. C.
- Nov. 18, Northwestern at Chicago.
- Nov. 25, Alma at Alma.
- Nov. 30, Ohio Northern University at Ada.

QUESTION SUBMITTED TO YPSILANTI FOR THE DEBATE OF 1906.

The following question has been submitted to the Normal College for the debate of the coming year. All who are interested are requested to make a study of the question during the summer: "Resolved, that the Primary Election Law, finally passed by the Legislature of 1905, as a reform measure wisely and fairly meets the needs of the State of Michigan at the present time."

Quite a pleasant day yesterday. Did you see the sun shine?

COLLEGE APPROPRIATIONS \$209,000.

Four years ago the legislature passed an act granting to the College a one-tenth mill tax on the property of the state, but limited the amount in any one year to \$100,000. Two years ago no appropriations were made. This year the State Board of Agriculture asked for appropriations for several buildings. Soon after Wells Hall burned. Application was immediately made for funds with which to replace this dormitory. The legislature as a whole seemed very kindly disposed toward this institution, but notwithstanding this good feeling on the part of the general body, the College bills met very strong and persistent opposition in the ways and means committee of the house and in the finance committee of the senate. The appropriations were made, however, without a dissenting vote in either house on the final passage, and on the whole are such as to give satisfaction and encouragement to the friends of the institution.

The appropriations made are as follows: \$55,000 to replace Wells hall, \$20,000 for the live stock department, \$9,000 for the Upper Peninsula experiment station, \$10,000 for moving and building barns, and \$115,000 which will be used for building purposes. This makes a total of about \$209,000. The limit on the one-tenth mill fund was removed for two years. This will amount to between \$57,000 and \$58,000 each year, or a total of \$115,000 for the two years. This is the sum referred to above.

The College will be able, in addition to this amount, to save from \$35,000 to \$40,000 per annum on the \$100,000 fund which will be used for permanent improvements. This will make the total amount of money available for permanent improvements for the next two years about \$200,000 exclusive of the amount appropriated for the dormitory.

While many buildings are needed badly at once, yet the outlook is certainly encouraging, and on the whole very satisfactory.

All hats off to the legislature.

CHILDREN'S DAY.

Children's day in Sunday school is always a happy event, and that held at the school house Sunday afternoon was no exception. The recitations and songs by the children were thoroughly enjoyed, and all were glad to have Mr. Minty present. His five-minute talk was appreciated by the children and older ones as well. Following is a program:

- Song, "Welcome," school.
- Responsive reading.
- Prayer.
- Recitation, "Welcome," Rebecca Collingwood.
- Greeting, by Ruth Saltmarsh and Gertrude Babcock.
- Song, "Nature's Chorus," Mr. Sackett's class.

Recitation, "Too Big," Lemoyne Snyder.

Recitation, "Wanted," Howard Gibson.

Song, "The Little Birds Have Come Again," primary class.

Recitation, "The Father's Care," Hazel Putnam.

Song, "Voices Sweet," class and school.

Recitation, "If all the Flowers were Roses," intermediate grade.

Recitation, "June," Alice Baker.

Song, "The Dewdrop's Blessing," intermediate grade.

Recitation, "True Giving," Edgar Anderson.

Offering.

Recitation, "The Reason Why," Laura Collingwood.

Recitation, Spoken in German, Victor Marquardt.

Recitation, "What I'd Like to Be," four children.

Exercise by primary department.

Recitation, "The Father's Care," K. Vedder.

Recitation, "The Cricket's Song," Gertrude Babcock.

Cradle-Roll Exercise.

Address by Rev. W. A. Minty.

Report of secretary and treasurer.

Song, "Hallelujah to the Lord," school.

Benediction.

STUDENTS' RECITAL.

Those who attended the Recital in the Women's Building Saturday evening were given a rare treat in the program rendered by the School of Music. The whole program showed careful work on the part of Miss Freyhofer and her students and the School of Music is to be congratulated on its success. The last number the "Overture to Tannhauser" on two pianos, by Miss Freyhofer, Mr. Perry, Miss Mack and Miss Northrup, was especially appreciated by the audience.

NOTICE.

At the recent meeting of the State Board of Agriculture the subscription price of the M. A. C. RECORD was made fifty cents per year to all alike, the provision being continued, however, that the paper be sent to the parents of student subscribers. This change will take effect at the beginning of the next school year, so that after that time there will be no further ten-cent subscriptions.

This action was taken for the reason that the original purpose of the ten-cent subscription, to-wit: to interest prospective students seems no longer to be subserved by the arrangement.

The Columbian Literary Society has elected the following officers for the fall term of 1905: President, L. J. Smith; vice president, T. F. McNally; secretary, H. A. Orvis; treasurer, E. C. Krehl; marshal, W. D. Frazer; RECORD editor, R. H. Gilbert; secretary of records, H. H. Barnett.

ALUMNI.

With '93.

J. M. Aldrich, who was a student at M. A. C. in '89-'90, is professor of zoology and entomologist at the experiment station at Moscow, Idaho, which position he has held for several years.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of W. S. Palmer, 02, to Miss Alice Elizabeth Hoffman on Wednesday, June 7, at Kalkaska, Mich. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer will be at home after July 1st at Kalkaska, where Mr. Palmer is engaged in fruit raising. The RECORD extends congratulations.

Quite a number of books have been taken from the library which have not yet been returned, and the librarian would be very glad to have students, instructors, and members of the faculty look carefully through their private libraries for such books and return same at once. Books have recently been returned which have been out more than a year, and it is very much desired that all books be in before the close of this term.

The Olympic Society appropriated the last meeting of the school year to the initiation of members taken in during the year. Following the initiation refreshments were served. At the business meeting the following officers were elected for the fall term of 1905: Pres., Scott Armstrong; Vice Pres., L. B. Hitchcock; Sec., W. H. Small; Treas., G. S. Valentine; Record Editor, I. E. Parsons.

Quite a number of College people visited the wood-working room of the Women's Building on Saturday of last week, where was displayed samples of the work done not only for the term, but for the whole year. Considerable time during the first year is given up to drawing of objects which are to be made, and to some of the more simple exercises in wood work. Samples were shown of work done during the year and each explained by Mrs. Haner, who is in charge of this department. Much interest is being taken in this phase of the women's course.

At the Eunomian Literary Society Saturday evening during the social hour the tables were drawn together and a spread of ice cream and cake was enjoyed. This was followed by toasts in honor of the senior members of the society, President-elect Locke acting as toastmaster. Mr. Locke called upon representatives of each class in the society, beginning with the sub-freshmen. Those who spoke were Mr. Ellwood, Mr. Turner, Mr. E. P. Robinson, Pres. Boomsliter and Mr. Owen. Mr. Hurst, who was present as a guest, was called upon for a few words and responded in his usual cheery way. The evening was very much enjoyed and will be long remembered by those who are soon to finish their work.

THE M. A. C. RECORD.

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY DURING THE
COLLEGE YEAR BY THE
MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

B. A. FAUNCE, MANAGING EDITOR.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

PAULINA RAVEN, '05.

EDITH HUTCHINS, '06.

CALLA KRETEL, '07.

H. L. GLAZIER, '07.

G. C. DUDLEY, '07.

T. H. McHATTON, '07.

OIE STEPHENSON, '07.

B. B. CLISE, '07.

O. I. GREGG, '07.

BERENCE MAYNARD, Sp.

Subscription, . . . 50 cents per year.
Remit by P. O. Money Order, Draft or Registered Letter. Do not send stamps.

Address all subscriptions and advertising matter to the College Secretary, Agricultural College, Mich. Address all contributions to the Managing Editor.

Business Office with Lawrence & Van Buren Printing Co., 122 Ottawa St. E., Lansing, Mich. Entered as second-class mail matter, Lansing, Mich.

This paper is occasionally sent to non subscribers. Such persons need have no hesitation about taking the paper from the post-office, for no charge will be made for it. The only way, however, to secure the paper regularly is to subscribe.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1905.

AS THIS is the last issue of the RECORD before the commencement number, it is very much desired that all seniors and others who are subscribers who do not return to M. A. C. next year, leave addresses with Miss Earle in the Secretary's office *this week* in order to receive the first copy promptly in September. Quite a number of students will very likely leave college before the commencement number is issued, and it will be necessary for such to leave correct address in order to receive this number promptly.

STATE BOARD MEETING.

The State Board of Agriculture met at the Capitol, June 7, at 5:00 o'clock. The following members were present: President Monroe and Messrs. Graham, Wallace, Buskirk, Marston, President Snyder and Sec. Brown.

At this meeting it was decided to direct Prof. Bogue to examine the salt spring lands belonging to the College and report their condition in full to the Board.

The new dormitory will be built upon the site formerly occupied by Wells Hall.

The resignation of Major Kell was accepted as was also that of Miss St. John.

The Board will meet again on June 28, in the College Board rooms.

SENIOR ENGINEERING SOCIETY.

The meeting of the society held on June 7 was the final one for the school year of 1904-1905.

The following officers for the ensuing year were elected: W. J. Kingscott, president; A. Markham, vice-president; G. W. Hebblewhite, secretary and treasurer; H. L. Francis, RECORD editor; W. J. Kingscott, W. E. Wilson, H. H. Barnett, executive committee.

After the election of officers the evening was spent in talks by various members and discussions of these talks. Mr. E. J. Gunnison spoke on the methods of "Tunneling." O. Burk gave an interesting discussion of his thesis work, "The Storage Battery." Following this was a discription of "a self-regulat-

ing device for measuring lake levels," by W. Strong. The president of the society, R. C. Fowler, gave a very interesting and well written oration on the "Factor of Progress." E. A. Wilcox gave an interesting talk on "Salt Production in Michigan." The "Simplex Concrete Pile" was the subject of C. A. Stimpson's talk, and the "Telephone Switchboard" was sketched and explained by C. W. Stringer. F. L. Johnston gave a discussion of the merits of the gas engine for central station service.

The Senior Engineering Society is a comparatively new organization and it is sincerely hoped that it will continue to survive and be a source of good to the engineering students.

F. L. J.

Y. M. C. A.

"Optimism" was the topic discussed at last Thursday's meeting. The meeting was conducted by Messrs. Boomsliiter, Barnett and L. J. Smith. We were fortunate enough to have with us Rev. Frank Barnett, '77, of Greeley, Colorado, who gave an earnest, inspiring ten minutes' talk on his old college days at M. A. C., and on the value of Christianity to a college man.

Rev. Mr. Minty delivered the Sunday morning sermon. He talked of the wisdom shown in the creation of both daylight and darkness in that men were spurred to greater work because of the approaching darkness. He exhorted all to work while the light of God's love was upon them, because of the fear of the darkness of unbelief which follows a lack of true service.

The Sunday evening service was an earnest, impressive one. It was conducted by students. Miss Raven and Messrs Fowler and Ford, of the out-going class, addressing the meeting. They gave much earnest advice to us who remain, and brought out many new, valuable thoughts. Mr. Hurst followed with an impressive talk on the value of the broad, clean Christian college man to his college, and was followed by Mr. Carl Smith. It was one of the most helpful meetings of the year.

There will be no union meeting Sunday evening. The last Y. M. C. A. meeting will be held in the association room Thursday evening. Mr. Ford will conduct this service and every man is invited to this farewell meeting.

The association will be represented at Lakeside by Messrs. Fisk, Hurst, L. J. Smith, J. G. Cavanagh, O. K. White, Westerman, and Towner, and at Geneva by A. L. Darbee and A. R. Wilcox.

RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, our Heavenly Father has called from this life Mr. William A. Hopson, father of Walter A. Hopson, our esteemed and beloved brother, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walter A. Hopson being a member of the Hesperian Society and an esteemed and sincere worker, be it

Resolved, that we, as members of the Hesperian Society, extend our heartfelt sympathy to him at this hour of bereavement, and be it

Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to Mr. Walter A. Hopson, and a copy published in the M. A. C. RECORD.

WALTER H. BIDWELL,
Com. on Resolutions.

Messrs. Ford and Hunt have an interesting thesis on "Effect of Fineness on Tensile Strength of Portland Cement." The object of the experiment was to investigate the tensile strength of Portland cement briquettes, both neat and 3 to 1, by varying the degree of fineness of the cement.

The experiment was carried on in the cement testing laboratory of the College with the apparatus at hand for such work. Four samples of cement, purchased in the open market, were sifted through sieves of varying fineness, and briquettes made both from the sifted and unsifted cement. A total of 240 briquettes were made which included both the neat and 3 to 1 (3 parts sand to 1 of cement) samples. The cement, sand and water were thoroughly mixed for one minute and placed in the mould where they were covered with wet cloths and were allowed to harden for 24 hours. They were then given a test number and immersed in water, where they were allowed to remain until the time of testing. Neat tests were made at the end of 24 hours, 7 days and 28 days. In making tests the load was applied at the rate of 550 pounds per minute. For the neat tests two briquettes from each grade of fineness were broken and the average of the results taken. For the 3 to 1 tests three briquettes were used. Tables are given showing results obtained.

In the neat tests cement No. 1 shows the largest tensile strength in the case of cement sifted through a No. 80 sieve. In No. 2 the cement sifted through No. 80 sieve gave the greatest strength for the one day test, while the unsifted had the greatest tensile strength in the 7 day and 28 day test and grew weaker the finer the cement. Cement No. 3 gave the largest result in the 1 day and 28 day tests in the case of cement sifted through the No. 200 sieve, while in the 7 day test there was not much difference in the results obtained from the different grades of fineness. Cement No. 4 shows the greatest strength in the case of cement sifted through No. 50 sieve and the strength decreases as the fineness increases.

In the 3 to 1 tests the difference in strength was more marked in the 7 day than in the 28 day tests, and it is possible that if tests were made for longer periods the difference would not be noticeable.

An apparatus for making tests of the consistency as well as the use of single molds, would probably have added to the value of the results.

E. R. Bennett, '02, of Storrs, Conn., expects to be at M. A. C. for commencement.

O. J. Dean, '03, was a College visitor Sunday. Mr. Dean is draughting for the Trussed Concrete Steel Co. of Detroit.

Scott Armstrong '06m, has been elected captain of the baseball team for another season. Mr. Armstrong has played short stop on the team for three years.

The senior agriculturals, who elected landscape gardening, have been receiving instruction in drawing under Mr. Newman. They have enjoyed this work very much, and as their work shows, have been greatly helped in the line of landscape architecture.

At the M. I. A. A. field day the receipts were \$2032 and the ex-

penses about \$800. The net receipts are divided among the various college associations according to the number of students. M. A. C. receives nearly \$450, which is about one-third more than the amount received last year.

The Eunomian Literary Society elected the following officers for next fall term: President, T. F. Locke; Vice President, W. K. Hough; Secretary, L. B. Westerman; Treasurer, A. L. Darbee; Record Editor, R. A. Turner; Warden, H. C. Bucknell, and Marshal, E. J. Wilcox.

Canoeing seems to be rather unsafe on Red Cedar. Several have tried it during the high water and were compelled to get out and walk, two of whom on Wednesday night of last week were treed for some time, but their cries for help were heard and they were taken down without loss of life on either side.

One-day farmers' institutes will be held in Alcona county as follows: Glenne on June 27; Killmaster, June 28; Haynes Tp., June 29, and Caledonia Tp., June 30. P. B. Reynolds is state speaker for these meetings. Other institutes will be held during the month of August.

A very interesting and instructive bulletin has been issued by the department of agriculture entitled, "The Primer of Agriculture." It is issued in two volumes, neatly bound and very nicely written. It is printed on enameled paper and there are a number of very fine pictures illustrating the subject. The work is published by Mr. Gifford Pinchot, chief forester bureau of forestry, and may be had upon application.

Rev. Frank Barnett, with '77, pastor of the Baptist church in Greeley, Colorado, is visiting his son Howard H. Barnett, a junior in the mechanical department. Mr. Barnett was pastor of a church in Pontiac for seven years and was in Utah for twelve years. He notes great changes in old M. A. C. and a wonderful improvement along all lines. With all his travel Mr. Barnett has never seen a campus to compare with our own, but after so many years absence but very few faces are familiar.

"M. I. A. A. had perfect weather for its field day at M. A. C. What sport! What a glorious heritage is youth! Pity the person who lacks the appreciation of pure college athletics and games. The beautiful surroundings at the M. A. C., the joyous, hilarious cheering, vivacious, bright looking students, the model June days, the fine track and field events and a capital base ball game, with thousands of happy spectators made a moving picture that warmed the cockles of one's heart and made him glad to be alive right now."—*Moderator Topics*.

The Ero Alphan Party in the Armory was a very enjoyable affair. The Armory was prettily decorated with the society colors, and Baker's Orchestra, of Lansing, furnished excellent music. All the senior girls from the other societies were invited to participate in this, their final party of the year, and all left feeling that the evening had been a very pleasant one. The patrons of the evening were Prof. and Mrs. Vedder and Director and Mrs. Brewer. Among the guests from outside were Miss Cooper, of Fowlerville and Miss Lehman, of Williamston.

A Few Seasonable Necessities.....

Screen Doors
Screen Windows
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ABOUT THE CAMPUS.

C. A. Willson, '06, entertained
his mother and sister last week.

L. M. Spencer, '06, is confined
to the hospital with blood poisoning.

Mr. C. D. Sterling, '05, enter-
tained his mother and sister Sunday.

Miss Lilian Anderson of Detroit
is spending the week with college
friends.

L. T. Clark, '04, has a position
with Park, Davis & Co. for the
coming year.

Miss Linkletter, of Benzonia is
visiting her brother F. D. Link-
letter for a few days.

Walter Cochrane, '08, of Pontiac
received a visit from his parents a
few days the past week.

Mrs. J. E. Bartlett, of Jackson,
Mich., was visiting her brother, W.
B. Allen, '07, last week.

Dr. Marshall was called to New
York state the past week on account
of the illness of a relative.

Nearly 5½ inches of water fell
in 14 hours on the night of June 5,
which was the heaviest rain in years.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Loew were
called to Allegan county Sunday on
account of the serious illness of Mr.
Loew's father.

The new strawberry patch set
out by Mr. Craig is looking fine and
the old one gives promise of some
fine fruit soon.

Born, May 26th, to Mr. and Mrs.
Fred Woodworth, Caseville, Mich.,
Elizabeth, a seven and one-half
pound daughter.

F. K. Brainard, '03, of Detroit,
was among those who took advan-
tage of the excursion Sunday to see
M. A. C. at her best.

The Commencement address will
be given by Hon. Charles E. Town-
send, of Jackson, Mich., at 10 a. m.
Wednesday, June 21.

Miss Gilchrist has been quite ill
for several days, but is now some-
what improved. She was taken to
the hospital Saturday.

Judging from the noise about the
campus one is led to believe that the
seniors are having a glorious wind-
up of the season's work.

Students are beginning to pack
up and get ready for the long vaca-
tion. We trust that all may have a
pleasant and profitable time.

Miss Lena Qualley, instructor in
art, Hillsdale college, and Miss Nel-
lie Brown, of the Hillsdale city
schools, were guests of Mrs. F. L.
Gaskins during the field day sports.

It is somewhat fortunate that
Field Day was not postponed for
one week. The river rose until the
water covered the athletic bridge
and the field was a sea of muddy
water.

Sororian officers fall term 1905:
Pres. Calla Krentel, Vice-Pres. Zae
Northrop, Sec. Fannie Beal, Treas.
Louise Hesse, RECORD Editor,
Grace Warner, Marshal, Ruth Car-
rel.

LOST.—A small gold watch with
braided hair link chain attached.
Was first missed Sunday evening.
Finder will please leave at secre-

tary's office and receive suitable re-
ward.

Miss Bertha Marshall, of Alma,
has been appointed to the position
in the office of the farm department
made vacant by the resignation of
Miss Kerr. She begins her work
June 15.

The recent flood swept away a
portion of the ice house, causing the
summer supply to drop into the
water. People are now wondering
where the cool stuff is coming from
this season.

Mr. M. Armstrong, a carpenter
who was working on Mrs. Whit-
more's house near the College, fell
from the building Saturday and dis-
located his hip. He was taken to
the city hospital.

The baccalaureate sermon will be
delivered in the Armory Sunday
June 18, at 3:30 p. m., by Rev. W.
B. Jennings, D. D., of Detroit,
Mich. Subject, "Pleasure, Its Lim-
itations and Costs."

Last week was the time set apart
for the assignment of rooms for the
coming year. It is said that some
who appeared at the door Wednes-
day morning had remained there
during the night in order to secure
a good room, and were satisfied with
the waiting.

Feronian Society elected the fol-
lowing officers for the fall term,
1905: President, May Louise Reed,
vice president, Flo Case; secretary,
Josephine Maveety; treasurer,
Lovina Merrick; marshal, Julia
Ellsworth; RECORD editor, Caro-
line Lawrence.

The Ero Alphan Society has
elected the following officers for the
fall term, 1905: President, Edith
Hutchins; vice president, Mary
Bray; secretary, Leta Hyde;
treasurer, Myrta Severance; mar-
shal, May Quick; RECORD editor,
Florence Gilbert.

The M. A. C. Foresters met at
their usual place last Tuesday even-
ing, June 6. After a general re-
view of the work done by foresters,
in which all took part, the follow-
ing officers were elected for the
coming fall term: Chief Forester,
A. N. Robson; Assistant Chief
Forester, W. A. Hopson; Chief of
Records and Accounts, C. H. Goetz;
Chief Forest Ranger, F. Bohn.

Mr. J. C. Green, with '01, and
bride called on Mr. Green's college
friends Saturday of last week, while
on their way to Vassar, where they
will visit the former's old home.
Mr. Green is employed in the bridge
construction division of civil engi-
neering department of the Chicago,
Rock Island & Pacific. In this
same work are employed G. E.
Simmons, '94, and I. L. Simmons,
'97.

It is difficult to state as yet the
extent of the damage resulting from
the recent flood. Quite an area of
the forage crops north of the river
were still covered yesterday and
much of this planting will be a total
loss. Corn and other spring crops
are not doing well on account of the
continued cool weather since the
rains. It will also take considerable
time and money to place the botanic
garden in condition again.

THE ISTHMIAN CANAL.

Probably nothing, with the possible exception of the war in the East, occupies more universal attention and interest today, than does the Panama Canal question. It is said to be the most important piece of public work ever undertaken by any government; and this is true not only on account of the benefit to the commerce of the world, but also because of the great obstacles to be overcome, and the triumph for engineering which its completion will mean. The Suez Canal was of great importance commercially, but it was an almost level cut through sand, while the Isthmus of Panama is somewhat mountainous, the soil in places is treacherous, and the climate is much less favorable for such an undertaking than at Suez.

The idea of constructing a ship canal across the Isthmus of Panama is by no means a new one, and was not original with the United States. As soon as people were convinced that no natural passage existed which would shorten the route from Western Europe to Eastern Asia, the expediency of constructing such a waterway across the Isthmus was investigated; and as early as 1551, three possible routes had been considered, viz.—by way of Tehuantepec, Nicaragua, or Panama. Spain even went so far as to authorize the construction of such a canal by the Panama route, but her power had already commenced to decay, and she was unable to carry out the plan.

Since that time several companies have been organized for the purpose of constructing such a canal, and a great deal of exploring has been done, but very few have ever commenced actual work on the canal, and never before have there been as good prospects as now, that the canal would become a reality.

The United States first showed an interest in the question by a resolution passed by the Senate in 1835 and a similar one passed by the House four years later, asking the President to enter into negotiations with other governments with respect to such a canal. In pursuance of these resolutions a treaty was negotiated with New Granada now Colombia.

At this time, traffic was not so great as to demand the immediate construction of the canal, but the discovery of gold in California caused such a tide of emigration to the Pacific coast, that some mode of travel across the Isthmus became imperative. As a temporary solution of the question, the Panama railway was built, but it was readily recognized that this was not a final settlement, and that the canal must come sooner or later.

Just at this time, however, the Pacific railroads were being built; the civil war soon followed, and our energies were turned away from the canal problem for some time. About 1870 investigations began to be made again, along both the Panama and Nicaragua routes; but the most moderate estimates of the cost of constructing a canal by either route were so high as to discourage the undertaking, until the brilliant success of the Suez Canal under De Lesseps made it seem possible that another such triumph might be gained at Panama with even greater financial gains.

A French company was organized in 1878, with De Lesseps at the head, for purpose of constructing a Panama canal. But their surveys were incomplete, their estimates insufficient, and their plans based on the success of the Suez canal without making suitable allowance for the different conditions. The work was begun, and continued for five years. When the cut in Culebra mountain was undertaken, the clay began to slide, thus demonstrating the futility of the attempt. The company collapsed, having already spent \$300,000,000, with the work not more than one-third done. This company was revived in 1895, under the title of the New Panama Canal Company, and added considerable work to that already accomplished.

When this company abandoned the project, the United States tried to negotiate with Columbia, either to rent or buy the Canal Zone, but all our offers were rejected. The people of Panama were very much disappointed, as they desired the canal, and, having other grievances, they revolted in November, 1903. Columbia made no resistance, and the United States recognized the independence of Panama.

A treaty was soon negotiated with the new republic, by which the United States guarantees and agrees to maintain the independence of Panama. In return the United States is given as absolute control over the Canal Zone, as

though it were the actual sovereign. The canal and its entrances are declared forever neutral and free, except for certain tolls to be charged by the United States.

As soon as this treaty was signed, a Canal Commission was appointed, given almost supreme control over the Canal Zone, and directed to construct the canal in the best possible manner, and in the least possible time. The French interests on the Isthmus were purchased at a cost of \$40,000,000, for which we obtained the Panama Railroad, the excavation already accomplished by the French, and the great mass of machinery left strewn across the Isthmus. The worth of the last two is still somewhat doubtful, as it is not known just how much of either can be used.

The labor and engineering problems which confront us are serious. The collapse of the French company left a large number of people out of employment, and too poor to leave. They have become so out of the habit of working that they give much trouble, and are not at all satisfactory. The climate is unhealthy, and often proves fatal to those not accustomed to it. The sanitary conditions are bad, but much is being done to improve them.

When the commission arrived on the Isthmus they began to examine the old French plans, but found them incomplete in many respects. They were unable to determine until further surveys were made whether to attempt a sea level canal or not. Since these surveys were made, it has been decided to construct the canal with a summit level of 85 or 90 feet, and several locks.

The treacherous clay of the Culebra Divide, which checked the French company is difficult to manage, but recent borings and surveys prove that the cut can be made, if it is done scientifically, and with the best modern machinery.

The matter of regulating the upper Chagres River is one of the difficulties to be overcome. This river is higher than the level of the canal, and, in many places, flows parallel to it, and is subject to sudden and violent floods. The plan for regulating it is by diversions of its course, and by dams sufficient to hold the water back.

The Canal when finished will be forty-six miles long, forty feet deep, and with a bottom width of two hundred feet. The Atlantic terminus will be Mindi at the head of Limon Bay, about two miles from Colon. The Pacific terminus will be not far from the city of Panama.

It is still too early to be able to know the outcome of the present undertaking; but from the able men who have it in charge, and the scientific and business-like way in which the situation is being dealt with, we feel safe in believing that at least the dream of a waterway connecting the two great oceans, is near its realization. ALIDA ALEXANDER, Sororian Society.

Following is a report of the weather conditions for the month of May as shown by the meteorological observer's record.

Date	Temperature max. min.	Amount of Rainfall	Prevailing Wind. Direction.	Remarks
			7 a.m. 7 p.m.	
1	47 38	---	N. E. S.	Heavy frost
2	72 42	---	S. E. S. W.	---
3	82 61	---	S. W. S. W.	---
4	82 49	.22	N. E. S. W.	Thun'r st'rm
5	71 59	---	S. W. W.	---
6	64 48	.54	S. E. N. W.	---
7	62 42	---	W. W.	---
8	62 48	---	S. W. N. W.	---
9	52 32	---	N. W. E.	Frost
10	49 41	.92	E. E.	---
11	62 50	---	W. W.	Thunder
12	62 54	.79	W. W.	---
13	71 46	---	W. S. W.	---
14	80 57	.25	S. W. W.	---
15	68 50	.06	S. W. S. W.	---
16	68 50	.45	S. W. S. W.	Hail
17	64 46	---	S. S. W.	---
18	58 44	.62	W. W.	---
19	66 45	---	W. W.	---
20	64 44	---	N. N.	---
21	71 39	---	N. N. E.	---
22	66 50	.18	N. E. N. E.	---
23	68 46	---	N. E. N. E.	---
24	72 43	---	S. S. W.	---
25	78 56	---	S. N. W.	---
26	62 41	.89	N. N. W.	---
27	71 39	---	N. E. N. W.	---
28	75 52	---	N. W. N. W.	---
29	60 54	---	N. N.	---
30	65 50	.25	N. N.	---
31	72 44	---	E. N.	---

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A. A. Fisk, who has been employed by H. E. Weed, '89, landscape architect of Chicago, since the beginning of the spring term, has returned for commencement.

The work on the Pine lake road does not seem to move along very swiftly. Am afraid we shall have to go to Pine lake on the steam road the Fourth of July for that picnic.