

# THE BATTALION

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## AN APPEAL.

Every person has some quality by virtue of which he may be reasoned with or appealed to. Some of these qualities are a sense of honesty, a love of fair play, and a regard for the rights of others. To those few of you who lack all of these, this appeal is especially written. Possibly your feeling of appreciation—however small it may be—or more likely your selfishness will cause you to heed this appeal. Those of you who are in the majority and to whom this editorial does not apply, can only regret that there are even a few men of such character here as to make an appeal like this almost necessary.

The facts are these:

Petty thievery is seriously handicapping the efforts of the Y. M. C. A. to provide for you the current periodicals and papers. Sunday, January 11, twenty-five magazines were stolen from the lobby. On the Sunday before the Christmas holidays fifteen American Magazines were put in the lobby of the Y. M. C. A. for the use of every one. The following Monday night three of them were left. You who think the theft of a small thing like a magazine does not amount to much have one of the first requirements of a sneak thief, namely, a distorted sense of right and wrong, and a cowardly spirit which leads you to steal where you are sure of not being detected and exposed to contempt. Not only magazines, but also dominoes are being stolen. Four of the seven seventy-five cent sets have been taken, and also three of the fifty cent sets, within the space of two weeks.

How do you expect the Y. M. C. A. to add to its equipment and increase its facilities for your pleasure when you show your gratitude by stealing? Such a condition prevents the "Y" from adding to its list of magazines any late novels or short stories or magazines of timely interest.

If you can't be honest at least be reasonable and intelligent enough to understand why you don't have more books and magazines to read and more games to play. If you hurt only yourselves—those of you to whom this editorial applies—the cause might be different, because if you haven't a spark of honesty in your system you aren't worth much anyway. Your filching, however, is working a hardship on others.

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES.

We have watched with a varying degree of disappointment the fewer and fewer seniors that take an active part in student activities each year, and being interested we asked a few questions here and there on the campus. The men of ability who under normal conditions should be the leaders in the many activities were questioned first.

With very few exceptions there seemed to be the same cause for their shirking part of their college life, and it was not as many think, a lack of interest in their College. Instead we find that many departments discourage their seniors from taking part in anything outside of scholastic work. Not only do some discourage it, but others take steps to see that it is not done. As a result of a rapid bit of investigation, only a few departments could be mentioned but we feel that it is better not to print their names. It would only broaden the gulf that we hope to span by enlightening the misinformed.

The policy of the various departments are shaped by the professors and it is to them that we must appeal. It is difficult for some to realize that scholastic studies do not represent a man's college work in its entirety. The student would become too narrow, for no one interest can claim a man and make him as he should be. Of course when we refer to student activities we mean some things besides athletics, such as the "Y" Cabinet, Longhorn, and Battalion. Who can say that they do not broaden a man's mind?

Our object is to start many to thinking and we hope that a few will take INITIATIVE and see that a few changes are made. It is merely a question of policy, but it means much to our College.

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T. K. LAWRENCE

Mr. Matthews has requested me to give my opinion as to the worth of the next Lyceum number, and I am very glad to do so.

The coming of "The Impresario," a little opera of Mozart's to the Campus on February 5, will give us an opportunity to hear some of the most beautiful music in the world. It is not heavy music, for the subject of the opera is comic. It is not full of clashes and discords like the music of Wagner and the other great composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. Mozart wrote his music when it was still the fashion to compose pure melody—a fashion which in the opinion of many of us, has never been improved upon by later changes, and "The Impresario" is pure, clear melodies weaving in and out of one another. They form a pattern of sound that is pleasant to listen to just as a rug or a tapestry woven of many threads in clear colors is pleasant to look at.

There is nothing in this opera to burden the intelligence, but it is a cherry little comedy beside being the vehicle for agreeable music. The singers are good, including two lady soloists of beauty and ability, and a baritone who was formerly at the Metropolitan.

Tickets will be on sale at the Y. M. C. A. at an early date at very moderate prices. If the readers of The Battalion fail to take advantage of this opportunity, the usual complaints about "nothing to go to in this hole" will lose a good deal of their point—if, indeed, they ever had any.

Yours sincerely,

THOMAS F. MAYO.

## LARGE ATTENDANCE AT CONVENTION OF SOCIAL SCIENTIST

The city of Chicago was a veritable Mecca for social scientists during the holiday season. Seven conventions met at the same time and in close proximity of each other; but in spite of the nearness, it was physically impossible to attend a very large portion of the sessions, for each convention had a very full program of its own. The College was represented by F. A. Buechel, who was primarily interested in the Farm Economics Association, but who also had a strong interest in the Statistical and Accounting Associations; and R. C. White, whose interests were mainly with the Sociology and Rural Church groups. The Farm Economic Association meeting was probably the best ever held. The theme that seemed to

run through the entire meeting was the desirability of an agricultural program, but no clear cut program was offered. There were many indications, however, that individuals and especially districts within the states were making progress with their programs covering limited areas. In all probability we shall see some notable advances in this direction during the years immediately ahead of us.

As I grow older, I simplify both my science and my religion. Books mean less to me; prayers mean less; potions, pills and drugs less, but peace, friendship, love and a life of usefulness mean more, infinitely more.—Silas Hubbard, M. D.

Be glad of life because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars—Henry Van Dyke.

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