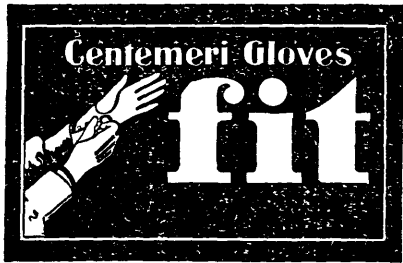


THE NORMAL MESSENGER

New Hatcom, Washington
Quarterly
March, 1900



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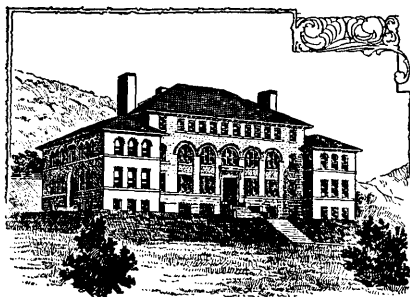
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THE NORMAL MESSENGER

MARCH, 1900

IN SUOMI LAND

BY IDA AGNES BAKER.

“Books are men of higher stature
And the only men that speak aloud for future times
to hear.”

THE constitutional struggle that little Finland is passing through just now, and the dignity with which she is conducting herself, recall to mind other remarkable facts concerning that people.

The little strip of mingled fens and lakes and meadows is one of the few countries that has produced an epic poem. The story of the life of this poem reads like a romance. Students had noticed that the Finnish peasantry knew a vast number of peculiar folk-songs, rhymes, and incantations. Several attempts had been made at collecting them, but it was not until the first of this century that scholars noticed a unity in the songs.

So many of the songs centered about three characters—Wainamoinen, Lemminkainen, and Ilmainen—that the idea occurred to Dr. Topelius and Dr. Lonnrot that the songs of these minstrels might be fragments of one long poem. The occasions for the exercise of perseverance and tact, and the many picturesque and dramatic incidents that happened during the restoration of this poem, would make an interesting volume.

Dr. Lonnrot, who had long been professor of Suomi language and literature in the University of Helingsfors, finally succeeded in fitting together the parts of this poem into its

original form. At its publication the Grimms and Max Muller received it with enthusiasm. "From the mouths of the aged," said Muller, "an epic has been collected equaling the Iliad in length and completeness. The Kalevala will claim its place as the fifth national epic of the world, side by side with the Ionian songs, the Mahabharats, the Shanameth, and the Nibelunge."

There is evidence in the songs themselves that the poem is very old. Some of the scholars believe that it was cotemporary with the Iliad. It is wonderful to think of it, lost, yet preserved, through the course of three civilizations; the fragments imprinted only upon the loving memories of a people who had no conception that they were singing parts of one of the world's epics. To the minstrels they were only the songs of their people, the stories of their dear Suomi Land.

Scholars recognize in the Kalevala a storehouse of information as well as a beautiful poem. They discover in these songs a complicated mythology, and, as any belief is a revelation of the people who hold it, they can form deductions that are hidden from the ordinary reader. They gather from between the lines flowers unseen by us.

However one does not need to be a philologist to enjoy the refreshing atmosphere of this song, the fragrant breath from the world's youth, to see the quaint pictures of primitive life, and to observe the customs and comprehend the ideals of this early people. At best steam can take us only to the Finland of today, but read your Kalevala in the shade of an ash tree, in sight of birchen boughs and twinkling aspen leaves, and you will take a trip back, past centuries of time, through old Suomi Land.

You are first impressed by the peculiarities of the power which transports you. When Longfellow had collected his Indian legends, odorous of the pinewood and ringing with

laughing water, he chose from among all the world's poems, for the expression of his "Hiawatha," the form of this Kalevala. The peculiar metre and odd trick of repetition are a mode of expression that fit well the simple thoughts of a primitive people, imbued with the mystery and friendliness of nature.

Even if the song of "Hiawatha" has accustomed the reader's ears to the quaint style of the Kalevala, he may yet be unable to enjoy these Finnish runes. He who never has longings for a life "under the greenwood tree," he who cares not to gossip with the birds and bees and beasts after the manner of their own mute watchfulness, who is never "midway to believe a tree among my fair progenitors," may as well pass the Kalevala by, for he will miss its chiefest charm; he cannot go to Suomi Land.

The Kalevala transports us with it into God's great chambers, "on the blue black of the ocean," where "the air is crystal-pillared," to "purple-colored headlands" "on the heath among the fir trees" "under the snow-robed firs and aspens."

The hero, Ilmarinen, is borne to the north-land on the storm wind, "on the sledge path of the ether."

When Ahti's mother is hurrying the world over to find her reckless son, "paths arise and come to meet her."

Ilmarinen, the successful lover, to woo the Bride of Beauty, goes to the north-land in his sledge of magic:

Gold and silver-mounted harness,
Hazel birds that sing and flutter
On the courser's yoke and cross-bow,
Thrushes also sing and twitter
Merrily on hame and collar,
Seven blue-birds, seven cuckoos
Sing the wedding march in concord.

All through the poem man and nature are great friends. The titmouse warns Wainamoinen, in his first sowing, that

Osma's barley will not flourish
 If the forest be not leveled
 And the branches burned to ashes.

Kalevala people call their friends pet names.
 To them the bee is

Honey bee, thou tiny birdling,
 Lord of all the forest flowers,

and the squirrel

Snow-white squirrel, mountain jewel,
 Flower of the field and forest.

They make an agreement with Otso, the bear, calling him "honey-paw," and "fur-robed light-foot."

Any one who enjoys conversing with dumb creatures, who has learned to comprehend and answer their varied modes of speech, will discover a quaint humor in the joking of the maidens with the messenger hare. They were gathered in the bath-house, working each upon a birch broom, when the hare came to the doorway. At the sight of him they shouted:

Hie thee, Long-legs, or we'll roast thee!
 Hie thee, Big-eye, or we'll stew thee.

Injured innocence often swells the hearts of our dumb friends, and the messenger hare haughtily answers:

Think ye not I journey hither
 To be roasted in the skillet,
 Let fell Lempo fill your tables,
 I have come with evil tidings,
 Come to tell the cruel story
 Of the flight and death of Aino.

The philosophy that vegetation, the dumb creation, and man are but expressions, in varying degrees, of one divinity has a charm for those who love out-door life. There is the same charm in reading the songs of a people who leap to this height of thought through the imagination. They turn to trees and plants, the sun, moon, and stars, the insects and animals, for advice and help, with a simplicity that argues belief in their power and goodwill.

Now and then, in our times, a "Talking Oak" suggests the same thought in a setting

of modern life, but in the Kalevala this intimacy with nature has the natural setting of a primitive life that suits the simple idealizing.

We laugh with them at Lemmenkainen's chase of the Hisi reindeer. It ran through fens and forest, fields and court-yard, pent-house doors and gateway, turning over tubs of water. It threw the kettles from the fireplace and upset the dishes cooking, till the dogs barked, the children cried, the women roared with laughter, and the heroes shouted.

Lowell says:

I love to enter pleasure by a postern,
Not the broad popular gate that gulps the mob;
To find my theatres in roadside nooks,
Where men are actors and suspect it not.

It is with such feelings that we catch these glimpses into the life of those long-ago people. It is a busy, but withal a beautiful, life. The singers, who are workers themselves, see all their daily vocations through the irradiating lenses of poesy. To them the works of the Creator and their own occupations are equally noble.

The Bride of Beauty blesses her flocks as they start to pasture, and sings of their "robes as soft as ermine."

Wondrously beautiful are the maidens of the air and their sunset-tinted looms. The smith and his forge share the honors of Ukko, the creator. Even the work of Lylikki, the snow-shoe maker, is sung minutely and reverently.

When they catch the fire-fish, the work of the village net-maker is sung through every step, beginning with the planting of the flax.

They are filled with wonder and delight at their ability to make things. Their words evince that simple joy in production that is natural to children, to primitive peoples, to the noble-minded, and to the creator of all. It is the thread of divinity that binds man to the universal life.

In preparation for the wedding of Ilmarinen and the Bride of Beauty, one whole rune is devoted to the story of the first making of beer. The primitive manufacture begins where

Man of good luck sowed the barley.

Then the work progresses, the magic maiden calls for help from the "snow-white squirrel," the "golden-breasted martin," and the honey bee, and, when at last Osmotor, the beer-preparer, despairs because the beer "will not live within its vessels," robin red-breast, from the tree-top, advises him to put it into oaken vessels,

Into strong and willing barrels
Firmly bound with hoops of copper.

In reading the Kalevala one is reminded, by the expedition of Wainamoinen, Lemminkäinen, and Ilmainen to obtain the Sampo, of the Argonauts and the Golden Fleece.

Wainamoinen creates the harp, and the artless description of the effect of his music reminds one of Orpheus and his lute. Tuonela's dark death stream reminds us of the Styx. The triple-headed serpent guarding Pohyola's mansion from Ahti the reckless, suggests the tripple-headed Cerberus.

It is interesting to trace the similarities in the myths of the two races that were as completely separated by the space between them as though they had lived upon different planets. It is evident that at times the primitive mind is struggling to comprehend the mysteries of creation. The first runes are an attempt to picture the beginning of the universe, resulting in misty outlines that remind us of the broken duck eggs of the Orphic philosophy. No doubt students of folk-lore see deeper, hidden meanings to many of the stories, but the surface beauty and the lessons are so numerous that they charm the ordinary reader beyond the temptation of searching deeper.

It is necessary for individuals, in their study of the advanced governments and elegant living, to go back, in thought, to the youth of the race; live in a cabin; look for art in the color of the clouds and sunsets, in the form of the gnarled tree-trunks and upheaved rocks; for music in the sounding torrent and whispering leaves; drink from tin dippers, sleep on the ground, and eat food seasoned with smoke. If you cannot realize all this, if you cannot hear God's messages in the oak grove or from fissures in the rock, from the titmouse or the aspen, go to the poems of these first people, and see how close to the handiwork of God they lived, how unconsciously they read His lessons and were one with Him and His manifestations.

Epics are like nature. They are fierce, heaven-piercing mountain ranges, or broad, life-giving prairies, or vast forests, enclosing mystical lights and shadows, friendly blossoms, weird glens, and raging torrents. There are sunny nooks and wild dells in the Kalevala forest, and there are hill slopes of pretty flowers to be gathered. But woe betide us if we bring them into the modern drawing-room! Our wealth is vanished. They are youth, and only those of us who have remembered the visions of youth, whose eyes are still unsealed to the wonders of nature, whose ears are yet attuned to the harmonies of life—only those who go to Suomi Land.

PHYSICS OUTLINE

All work in the Normal school is conducted largely upon the laboratory plan, and it is the purpose of the editors to give from time to time outlines of the work done in the various departments, and we take pleasure in quoting from Mr. F. W. Eply's Physics notebook for this issue:

"In addition to the usual text-book work, somewhat the following laboratory work has been done by the students, working with du-

plicate apparatus: Practice in measurements of various sorts such as length of a straight line, volumes of cube and sphere, diameter of wires by means of screw calipers. Density: Weight of a unit volume. Specific gravity of various solids, such as sulphur, quartz, paraffine. Specific gravity of liquids by weighing and balancing columns. Specific gravity of air. The laws of fluid pressure. Boyle's law, pumps, the hydrostatic press. Law of the lever and the principle of moments.

The parallelogram of forces. Determination of coefficient of friction. Laws of the pendulum.

In light, the law of inverse square. Determination of intensity of light by means of Rumford's and Bunsen's photometer's. Determination of position of image in plane mirror. Focal length and position of image of concave and convex mirrors. Index of refraction for plate glass, focal length of lenses. Relation of object distance to image distance. Shape and size of real and virtual images formed by a lens.

Determination tenacity of various kinds of wire and effect of annealing. Modulus of elasticity. Determination of laws of elasticity and tension for bars. Comparison of masses by acceleratory test. Elastic and inelastic collision.

Testing a mercury thermometer. Determination of the coefficient of linear expansion of a brass rod. Specific heat of shot.

Determination of the length of a sound wave. Determination of lines of force near a bar magnet. Study of a single fluid galvanic cell. Lines of force about a galvanoscope. Resistance of wires by substitution: cross-section and multiple arc. Measurement of resistance with Wheatstone bridge, etc.

In all this work each student has kept a note-book, embodying the object of each experiment, its method, computations and the conclusions reached.

THE NORMAL MESSENGER

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THE NEW WHATCOM STATE NORMAL SCHOOL
NEW WHATCOM, WASH.

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MARIE AMES - - - - Alcott
EMMA ROWLEY - - - - Kulshan
PEARL LEE - - - - Aurora
JESSIE SHOCKEY - - - - First Year

FACULTY COMMITTEE

CATHERINE MONTGOMERY, ROBERT B. VAILE, AVADANA MILLETT
J. N. SELBY, Business Manager

VOL. I.

MARCH, 1900

No. 2

The poem in this issue was selected by permission, from Mr. Teck's latest volume, "Under Western Skies."

The boys of the several societies have come to the conclusion that they are capable of taking care of themselves, and have consequently, formed a literary club of their own. Considerable stir and debate among the young ladies has been caused by this strange move and many comments both for and against the boys have been made. But in spite of entreaty, scorn or sarcastic remarks, the boys remain obdurate and have handed in their resignations as members of the several societies, and henceforth will form a non-coeducational organization. Success to them.

The popularity of the MESSENGER is attested by the fact that before the first issue had been in circulation two weeks, the business manager had received 485 bona fide subscribers. Of these, 173 were from the normal students.

The second term of the present school year opened Monday morning, February 5th. At this time thirty new classes were organized,

and more than twenty old classes were continued from last term. Twenty-three new students were enrolled, making the present enrollment 260. The address for the occasion by Miss Montgomery was a rare treat, and was much enjoyed by a crowded room full of students and friends.

The Board of Trustees of the New Whatcom State Normal School deserve the commendation of the public in general for the active and personal interest each member has shown in the welfare of the institution. They have not only held their regular monthly meetings in the normal building, but have made several official visits, as a board, and have thoroughly inspected the actual workings of the institution. They have done even more. They have manfully responded when called upon by the students for speeches.

Among the many hard working people in the Normal School few are more faithful to their trust than our efficient janitor, John A. McBride.

Patience is indeed a virtue, and nowhere in the school is it better exemplified than in our librarian, who answers hundreds of questions pleasantly every day.

WHATCOM COUNTY INSTITUTE

The Whatcom county teachers' institute will be held during the week beginning March 19th. County Superintendent R. S. Simpson has taken great pains in preparing the program, and many rare treats are promised. Among the instructors are J. H. Miller, Lincoln, Nebraska; President F. P. Graves, State University; State Superintendent F. J. Brown; President E. A. Bryan, Agricultural College; Principal W. E. Wilson, Ellensburg; Principal W. B. Turner, Cheney; Superintendent E. E. White, of New Whatcom, and Superintendent W. J. Hughes, Fairhaven.

An interesting and valuable art exhibit will be displayed by Miss Avadana Millett of the State Normal School, and Miss Nellie Sheldon of the city schools, on Monday evening of institute week. Other evening entertainments are also provided.

ON BELLINGHAM BAY

FRANK CARLETON TECK

When Vesper stars with jewel wings
The stole of Night array,
The moon her shimmering reflex flings
Athwart the trail of day.
Her white face glows with spectral pride,
As if the dewey eve
Had brought some cynthian victory-tide
Her splendors to retrieve.

A noble peace enfolds the scene—
A splash of silver spray,
A phosphorous rush and and sport of sheen,
A lone wild bird's last lay,
And then a low sweet lullaby
Of brooks and lyre-like rills—
The while that radiant face on high
Illumes a world of ills!

A SPECIAL RATE OF 25c. A YEAR

Beginning with this issue is made to all teachers and prospective students receiving this number of the MESSENGER. This is little more than actual cost, and is done to enlarge the MESSENGER's sphere of usefulness by keeping in closer touch with the Normal School those most interested in its purposes and success. It is confidently expected that many teachers and young people will avail themselves of this opportunity of helping to maintain among the students, patrons and friends of the school a magazine which will not only serve as a medium of thought between pupils and their friends, but foster the *professional spirit* among those who are to become teachers. Address,

J. N. SELBY,
Business Manager.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

The Utopian Literary Society has shown by public demonstration the benefit to be derived from faith in the ideal. The Chillick Tribe has proved with equal clearness that "Sahali! Sahali!" has power to inspire. The Normal School public is now awaiting the fulfillment of its confident expectations that mines of precious metals will be discovered in "Kulshan;" that the auroral flashes which have already been seen to play about the southeast corner of the building are but the first indications of a beautiful "dawn" and that many ardent literary aspirants under the gentle influence of their patron saint, Miss Alcott, are pursuing on the "flowerless path" which they have mapped out for themselves, a real road to fame. No dates have yet been made public for entertainments by the Auroras and Kulshans, but we feel sure that such pleasure is in store for the waiting public.

AURORA SOCIETY.

Some members of this society have been asked why Aurora was chosen as its name. The reason is quite obvious to anyone acquainted with the members of this society. The young leaders, among whom are four of the nine seniors, have such a magnetic influence; that their rays of light permeate the whole school. The name is simply symbolic of what we hope to attain.

The officers elected for this term are as follows: President, Miss Sue Randall; Vice-President, Miss Lilian Miller; Secretary, Miss Ethelyn Luce; Treasurer, Miss Jessie Havens; Sergeant-at-Arms, Miss Vivian Frasier. The literary programs are under the supervision of the Misses Louise Peden, Maude Drake and Louise Dorrer.

The critic is appointed monthly by the faculty critic, Prof. J. T. Forrest.

ACORN SOCIETY

The Acorn Society held their regular meetings during the past month, everyone with the exception of a very few taking their part on the program.

The progress of the society has been wonderful, the members have all improved in their work, and are able to take their parts on the programs with less difficulty than a month ago.

The committee on decorations, with a few suggestions from Miss Rogers, have beautified our room very much with ferns, cedar and suitable pictures.

Dr. Mathes is well pleased with the work being done—especially the music and debates.

ALCOTT SOCIETY

A delightful entertainment was furnished by the Alcotts Friday evening, February 16th. The flag drill and the musical numbers were particularly pleasing. The pupils from the Model School in costumes of "ye olden time" gave the "Mistletoe Bough" in pantomime.

CHILLICK TRIBE

The Chillick tribe has been on the war path, altho' paint and feathers were dispensed with, yet the war spirit was there nevertheless.

The cause of it all is this: The braves have assembled themselves together and announced their intentions of withdrawing from the tribe. A touching and pathetic farewell address was read at the last council meeting which was intended to touch the heart and cause the tears to flow. But only contempt mingled with pity sat upon the stern brows of the listeners. Contempt and pity for the braves who didn't know what was best for them. Action was taken upon their resignation and it was accepted by a large majority.

But the hearts of the Chillicks are hard, and when the aliens tired of their self-imposed exile, return and seek admission to the tent

which they have voluntarily left, they shall not be admitted. They shall be turned away to seek new camping grounds and new tribes.

KULSHAN KLUB

The present Klub officers are: President, Dot Wallace; Vice-President, Mary Bird; Secretary, Myrtle Trott; Treasurer, Sara Peden; Sergeant-at-Arms, Emma Rowley; Critics, Prof. F. W. Epley, Miss Elsie McAllister.

One of their late programs, a nonsense afternoon, which was greatly appreciated, was as follows:

Quotations from Mother Goose	
Short paper on the life of Mother	
Goose.....	Emma Rowley
Recitation—Riley.....	Dot Wallace
Pen Picture.....	Sara Peden
Debate—Question Unknown.	
Affirmative.....	Myrtle Trott
Negative.....	Theo. Myer
Medley.....	Lottie Butler
Original Poem—Side-lights on the	
Normal.....	Earl Woody
Continuation of Boer War with	
Map.....	Mary Bird
Recitation—Mother Goose.....	Nellie Rogers
Kulshan Krater.....	Editor

All society meetings take place in the science room, where there is always an air of profound wisdom. This, in a way, affects the character of their literary programs, which have always been more or less mysterious.

The emblem of the Klub is the Roman Lamp, which coincides with the surroundings of the Klub room.

The colors of the Klub are white, blue and pink.

The membership consists of students from all classes in school, of which some are good reciters, some debaters, while others have considerable musical talent.

UTOPIAN SOCIETY

"Dispatch, Sir."

"Very well, put it on my desk."

"But it is a 'rush' message and the messenger boy is waiting for an answer."

"Well I wonder what it is that requires such a speedy reply; give it to me. 'Reserve space for Utopian Society report.' Indeed I will; there is always space for that report, and when it does not arrive I feel as though something were missing from the paper. I was talking to one of the members the other day, and if you would like to hear what she had to say just come back after taking this reply to the boy. Ah! back so soon? I never knew you to hurry so; you must have heard of the Utopians before and are anxious to hear more. Well, to begin with, the society is going about its work in a methodical manner that is sure to be a success. Each month has its special work that is dealt with each week. Last month was devoted to stars, Alaska and a humorous program. The program on stars was very interesting; it consisted of essays, recitations, and readings. Alaska, the next in order, was probably the best program ever rendered in the society. The main features were, a discussion on the boundary line by Miss Clark, Miss Taylor and Miss Morrison. There was also a very good paper by Mr. Hovies on the gold discoveries. Next came the humorous program that was given over to Mother Goose. On this day roll call was answered by Mother Goose rhymes, and there were recitations, songs, essays, stories and impersonations. Next week will be devoted to the Transvaal question, and then will come a Kipling afternoon. Of course you heard about the candy sale the society had and the success it was? Miss McRae, of Everett, a member of the senior class, has joined the ranks of the Utopians. Oh! must you go? What, twenty pages of MS. to copy? Well, good-bye."

"Good-bye."

YOUNG MEN'S DEBATING SOCIETY.

On Washington's birthday the young men of the Normal School took steps to organize a literary society, in which particular attention would be paid to practice in parliamentary procedure, debating, and discussions. They first resigned from their respective societies, with appropriate ceremonies, many of them giving up high offices. Mr. Vaile had been chosen by the faculty to be their critic, so they met in Room 4 and effected a temporary organization. At the next regular meeting a constitution was adopted and officers for the first term were elected as follows: Theo. Myers, Pres.; Thos. Monnett, Vice-Pres.; Geo. C. Blonden, Sec.; S. C. Bonner, Treas.; A. J. Peak, Frank Moore, and Max Blonden, Executive Committee.

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TRAFFIC MANAGER

The enthusiasm evinced thus far has been great and augurs well for the future of the society. Plans are being laid for the public entertainment that the society is to give about April 6th. It promises to be the best and the most enjoyable of the many fine programs that have been given during the year.

Mr. Bowman, a student in chemistry, has become so well versed in that subject that he asserts a heated tube will serve as a curling iron.

The drawing class have lately taken up the study of the "dear" and find it very interesting.

For 25 cents in postage stamps any teacher or prospective student can have the **NORMAL MESSENGER** for one year. Address, J. N. Selby, Business Manager.

FROM THE OFFICE

Supt. F. M. Cowperthwaite, of Vancouver, B. C., will deliver a lecture at the Normal School, Friday evening, March 30th, next.

Last week an order was placed for about 200 more volumes for the library. This makes a total of 1000 volumes purchased

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since last September. In addition to the above order, the school has closed a contract which secures for the library a complete set of Bancroft's Pacific Coast Histories—thirty-nine volumes, bound in leather, at a cost of only a trifle over one dollar a volume.

The records show that at present there are 60 students studying rhetoric; 91, English grammar; 110 literature; 54, general history; 44, latin; 42, book-keeping; 32, chemistry; 30, advanced psychology; 90, school economy, 124, arithmetic; 146, drawing; 140, vocal music; 40, methods in geography and nature study. There are 62 in the training class. There are also many other smaller classes, in addition to those above mentioned.

Sixty of our students have had experience as teachers in public schools. One student

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has taught one hundred and fifty months, and more than twenty-five have each taught ten months or more; thirty-six students are graduates of accredited high schools, and six have diplomas from academies; two are college graduates; twenty-four have attended some other normal school; more than eighty have held teachers' certificates; seventy-six of the students are over twenty years of age; thirty-six of the first year students are over eighteen years of age; the average of the entire student body is two months less than twenty years.

THE SENIOR CLASS

The first senior class of the N. W. S. N. S. numbers nine members, and the attainments of the class are most gratifying. The average age of the members is twenty-four years, and their average experience in teaching is twenty-six months. Miss Margaret Clarke has spent two years at the Racine, Wis., High School, one year at the Racine Academy, one year at the Everett, Wash., High School, and one year in the State University. Miss Florence Grif-

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fith is a graduate of the New Whatcom High School, and spent last year at the State University. Miss Minta Adams Morgan is a graduate of Hillsdale College, Michigan. Miss Emma Mythaler is a graduate of the Waterloo High School, Iowa; has pursued the State Reading Circle work for three years, has attended several summer schools, holds a first grade certificate and is a teacher of wide experience. Miss Pauline Jacobs has taught in the county schools for several terms and has spent three years at the Ellensburg State Normal School. Miss Clara Norman has attended the Parkland Academy one and one-half years, and the Ellensburg State Normal School two and one-half years. Miss Ruth Pratt has completed a course of study in the State University, through the sophomore year, and Miss Kate Schutt is a classical graduate of Cornell University, New York. Miss Hattie Thompson has attended the Puget Sound University several years and is a teacher of wide experience. The work of the entire class in the training department is of a high order.

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THE FIRST YEAR CLASS

Every institution of higher education is proud of its entering class, and the New Whatcom State Normal is no exception to this rule. It is with this class that the school can do its first complete work, and it has been a source of much satisfaction to the faculty that no less than ninety-eight students have enrolled in this first year. The personnel of the class is also desirable. Of the number twenty-nine are over eighteen years of age. Six are experienced teachers. More than eighty per cent. of the class expect to complete a course of study in the institution. There are twenty-one from New Whatcom, fifteen from Skagit county, and thirty-two outside of Whatcom and Skagit counties. On account of there being so many in this class, they were divided into three divisions: A, B and C. The course they are taking this term includes algebra, grammar, physiology, drawing and vocal music, reading, orthography and physical culture.

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GENERAL ITEMS

One of the most interesting features of last month was the loan exhibition of decorative design which was given in the assembly hall Jan. 30. An informal musical program was rendered and the students and their many friends thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. As this was the first exhibit of its kind ever brought to the Pacific coast, it was worthy of much attention. It came from a group of Boston artists in decorative design whose excellent work has in the past few years raised American work to a much higher plane than formerly. This same collection was exhibited in Boston last spring and attracted wide attention as being the best work of its kind yet produced in America. The work covered the entire range of historic ornament, Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek, Roman, Mohammedan, Byzantine, and Renaissance. It included designs for almost every imaginable purpose—iron-work, brass, wood-carving, stained glass, ceramics, textiles, wall-papers, book covers, book plates, etc. As nearly all of the work was in water colors, it made an especially attractive display, which any one could enjoy, however uncultivated in art. To those who took a deeper interest it

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afforded an opportunity for study such as has never before been offered here. The artist of greatest note whose work was represented was Miss Amy Sacker. She is a pupil and disciple of C. Howard Walker, who has for some years been lecturer on the history of ornament at the Mass. Institute of Technology, and is the greatest American authority on this subject. Applied design and decorative work is a branch of art that has been attracting much attention in England and America during the last few years, and we are glad to have had an opportunity to see some of the best.

At the general assembly hour, Friday morning, January 26th, Frederick Warde, the popular actor, gave the school and some of its friends a most delightful lecture on the subject "Shakespeare." The talk lasted an hour and thirty minutes, but seemed scarcely one third as long.

Miss Emma Yule, superintendent of the schools of Everett, Washington, read her delightful and interesting paper on "Early Expeditions of Exploration in the West" before an audience that more than filled the assembly hall, on the evening of January 19th. In the course of her paper, Miss Yule traced the early history of the western portion of the continent, touching upon the salient points with considerable detail. The speaker closed with a forcible and convincing plea for the study of local history. The Normal school felt very grateful for such an agreeable contribution to its life and activity, and evinced its great interest in many ways.

The Utopian Literary Club recently held a very successful candy sale in the art room of the building. The proceeds were devoted to the fund, which the society thus originated, for decorating the interior of the drawing room, the office and the recitation rooms. Each member of the society contributed a fixed quota of candy, and a chosen committee waited upon the students and others who flocked into the room. The orchestra from the model school discoursed sweet strains of music during the sale. The net proceeds amounted to more than sixteen dollars.

On Saturday, January 27th, Capt. J. W. Tarte and family, with a few of their friends,

took the Normal faculty out for an excursion on the bay in their delightful little steamer, the "Oriole." The day was warm and pleasant; a landing was made in Glen Cove, on Lummi Island; a delightful lunch was spread upon the beach, and all in all it was one of those occasions never to be forgotten. Surely Capt. Tarte and family have the hearty thanks of the faculty for such a pleasant winter picnic. The excursion was given in honor of Miss Ella, who is a student in the Normal school.

THE NORMAL GATE

The following poem was found tacked upon the gate to the Normal campus one morning:

"Pray open it softly
And close it with care—
For its eternal banging
Would make a saint swear.

So handle it gently,
Or you'll hear complaints,
For they who live opposite—
They are not saints!"

THE PULLMAN BOYS

BY A STUDENT.

Those Pullman boys from Pullman town
Have been traveling 'round the Sound,
They came to Whatcom one fine day
And for a while the town was gay.
They walked the streets, held high their heads,
And every thing seemed painted red.
We liked their songs, that college air
Likewise, the way they combed their hair.
And when the season glides around
We hope they will again be found
Traveling up and down the Sound,
Those Pullman boys, from Pullman town.

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NOTES

Miss Margaret Kenealy has accepted a school at Geneva, Whatcom county, for the spring.

Miss Elsie Gifford, after spending three months in review work, begins teaching near Deming.

The Four Leaf Clover Club has chosen pink and green for colors and now want a "yell."

Miss Myrtle McConnell, after spending five months in the Normal school, has accepted a position as teacher in Lewis county.

Prof. J. T. Forrest has been ill for the past few weeks. He is much missed in the Normal and we hope for his speedy recovery.

Y. W. C. A. has this quarter been making a study of Proverbs. The weekly devotional meetings are a source of much spiritual good to all who attend.

The circles which have been organized for the purpose of doing more individual work are meeting regularly. The study of the life of David has been taken up by one of these circles under the supervision of Miss Myrtle Springer.

Miss Minta Morgan, Miss Margaret Clarke, and the students from Everett, entertained Miss Emma Yule on Saturday evening, January 20th, at the home of Miss Morgan. The faculty was included among the invited guests.

During the illness of Miss Rogers her room in the Model school was left almost entirely in the hands of the training class. Everything went along nicely, but a care-worn expression settled down upon the faces of some of the young ladies, and it was noticed that they seldom smiled.

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Miss Fouts (describing bugs) "Sheath wings, mouth parts for biting and sucking, and they live mostly upon human beings."

The opening address of the second term was delivered by Miss Catherine Montgomery of the training school. The address was greatly enjoyed by all present.

Miss Avadana Millett recently delivered a lecture to the training class on school sports. Considerable enthusiasm was aroused over the suggestion to form a boating club as soon as the warm weather begins.

Dr. Mathes delivered a very instructive and interesting talk to the students of the training class on the subject: "Applying for Positions," on Friday afternoon, Feb. 16.

Supt. W. J. Hughes of Fairhaven, on Thursday afternoon, Feb. 22, gave a most helpful talk to the training class upon the subject, "Training vs. Teaching."

Principal E. T. Mathes delivered a lecture at Chehalis January 11th, also at Lynden February 16th.

On Saturday evening, March 3rd, an informal reception to the students was given in the Normal building. The hours were from seven to ten o'clock, and almost every student in the school was present. The three hours were very pleasantly spent in games, contests and conversation.

The W. A. C. Glee Club gave a most delightful concert at the Bellingham Opera house under the auspices of the Normal school, Feb. 12th. The large audience present are unanimous in their praises for the boys. They are not only good entertainers but they are genial gentlemen.

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