## THE NORMAL MESSENGER



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# The Normal Messenger 

## NEEDED-A REVIVAL IN POETRY IN COMMON SCHOOLS.

## H. J. Tromanhauser

The end of education is good citizenship. Good citizenship is rooted in human ideals; human ideals are to be found not in bugs, stones or grass, but in literature, and especially in that flower and fruit of literaturepoetry.

Not that science has not done its work admirably, but science has been monopolizing the field for two decades, at least. Science has inaugurated an era of sound investigations, it has exploded many fallacies, it has conferred many practical benefits, it has increased the general stock of sanity and common sense. For all these beneficences let us be glad.

But man is not fed by bread alone. The bread of science is rather dry crust for the spiritual nature and we have long since swung away from the error that man is intelligence and nothing more. We are gathering the fruit of that educational tenet. The prisons of every state have a large quota of college graduates, educated rascals, men whose education consisted merely of intellectual training. Their sensibilities and their will were neglected to say the least.
"Man does not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." By whom does the Eternal speak? Infinitely above all, He speaks through the poet whose mission is to interpret and to teach. The poet is an idealist first and fore-
most. He reveals truth, beauty and perfection, actual or potential. (Consciously or unconsciously) he is constantly chiseling ideals. An ideal is the north star for guidance. It is an everyday, working hypothesis by which we can measure our performances. History and biography of course furnish many examples of character which are nearly ideal, and powerful because of their reality, but the poet furnishes character which is not bound by any limitations of actuality. The poet is free to present man as he ought to be and can be. For example Schiller makes Mary Stuart not the sinning woman of history, but the human soul purified and spiritualized by suffering. He makes the Queen of Scots exactly what we would have her benot what she was. Goethe's Iphigenia, too is a figure which for nobility of character and for classic repose in awful trial is unsurpassed, not even among the Greeks themselves. Not that a schoolboy perhaps can fully appreciate such types, but can he not gaze, too, upon Mt. Baker on a clear day and feel an uplift inexplicable to him?

Poetry, music and drawing should be beyond dispute the great culture-studies in our schools. Though every child can not sing or draw, no child can escape the culture in poetry properly taught. Moreover, it can be had without money and without price.

There are many immediate external reasons for the need of the study of poetry in the common schools. In the first place, our whole nation is commercialized. We buy and sell; we truck and trade; we haggle and dicker. Even our children are commercialized. One of the sad tendencies of the times is the universal desire among children to make money. Go anywhere in the east and see little boys and girls setting up lemonade stands on any corner and crying their wares unblushingly while parents see no harm. Children in the great towns pluck even the
belated wild-flowers beside dusty suburban roads and offer them for "only a nickel" to the first passer-by. "Get money, get money" is the watchword. Thus the wings of innocency are trailed "in the mire of the mart." From infancy the boy learns to believe that success in life is a pile of money and a big house on the corner. What is the ideal in this sort of thing? That money is the chief end of man.

A second reason for the need of more poetry in schools is found in the quality of the average school readers. Many of them contain little else than inane effusions, diluted and pointless. All such twaddle is an insult to the intelligence of a boy or the good taste of a girl. Where was there ever a class of pupils who could not respond to the thrill in "Horatius at the Bridge," to the suspense in Lochiel's warning, to the sombre grandeur of Byron's "Waterloo" or to the sublimity in his "Apostrophe to the Ocean?" What class could not feel a response to Ossian's "Address to the Sun," to Portia's "Address to Shylock," to the Sleep-walking scene in Macbeth, or to the scene between Hubert and Prince Arthur in "King John?" Where is the little child who with loving teaching can not appreciate Longfellow's "Rainy Day" or Emerson's "Mountain and Squirrel" or Wordsworth's "We are Seven," his "Fidelity" or even his "Michael?" Where is the boy or girl who, with loving teaching, can not in some measure at least, appreciate "Thanatopsis," or Gray's "Elegy" or even Keats' "La Belle Dame sans Merci?" The perspicacity of children sometimes calls forth reverence. Recently in our school we had been studying Heine's Lorelei. After the story was fully developed and we were about to leave it, I asked a little girl what it meant to her. Her answer was such as to make me revere her then and for all time, for she replied, "I think the lady means temptation."

Has the story meant any more than that since the days of the Odyssey?

Again, children need the aesthetic influence of poetry because of the ugliness of their daily surroundings. Go where they will, they can not escape filthy streets, inartistic or vulgar bill-boards, hideous advertisements, ragtime music (heaven save the mark!) and landscapes bestrewn with rusty tincans. Whether they like it or not, our boys and girls must hear more or less illiterate small-talk and back-yard gossip to say nothing of gross profanity. They must look at ugly, freakish architecture wherever they go. Many of them never see a beautiful statue or a master painting. And what an array of gaudy wares they must see in the shop windows of any town. Many of them are drawn into the low theatre by the glare and tinsel. Still others are doomed to constant association with persons of unlovely character or even of vicious habits.

Poetry furnishes our boys and girls with the ideal which measures the difference between what is and what might be.

Whoever acts, whoever utters honest thought, runs the risk of doing harm; but not to act and not to utter honest thought is not to be a man.-Spalding.

God knows that all sorts of gentlemen knock at the door; but whenever used in strictness, and with any emphasis, the name will be found to point at original energy. It describes a man standing in his own right. and working after untaught methods.-Emerson.

Teacher-How many of the scholars can remember the longest sentence they ever read?

Billy-Please mum, I can.
Teacher-What! Is there only one? Well, William, you can tell the rest of the scholars the"longest sentence you ever heard.

Billy-Imprisonment for life-Ex.

## $\stackrel{\text { THE }}{=}$ NORMAL MESSENGER

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VOL. II.
MARCH, 1901
No. 2
Sunshine and out-door sports have enlivened the social spirit.

Send your messages to The Normal Messenger; then read, and send it to relatives and friends.

A box has been placed in the library where students may deposit articles of personal, local, or general interest to the readers of the Messenger.

A few members of the faculty and the students are entering heartily into athletic sports. Who said teachers should not play with the children?

Some of the articles, so kindly contributed for this issue of the Messenger, were omitted because of the limited amount of space for publication.

Teachers make your "calling" sure. The State Legislature has decreed that your "election" (by any board) shall not be made sure until the first Monday in June.

The following from and exchange, was perhaps written in discouragement. However, it contains a spark or two of truth:

Latin.
"All people died who spoke it, All people died who wrote it, All people die who learn it, Blessed death, they surely earn it."

Although there has been a slight change in the Editorial staff, there will be no radical change in the political policy. And "since the multitude of men love to see things shapen and to talk and read of them as happening" we hope to receive the hearty co-operation of every student in keeping the Messenger on the list of the best school magazines.

Spring has come and the school year is drawing rapidly to a close. On some of these beautiful days why could not the students and faculty go on an excursion or a pienic? Our work so occupies our attention in and out of school, that when school days are gone and farewells are said, we shall recall these words beautifully sad, yet true:
"Ships that pass in the night, and speak each other in passing,
Only a signal shown and a distant voice in the darkness; So on the ocean of life we pass and speak one another, Only a look and a voice, then darkness again and a silence."

When we study science, a wonderful certainty is established. Soevident are the principles discovered, we grow confident; and yet, the whole scientific world is based and grounded on the "invisible"-atoms, gravitation, energy. If we as teachers are able only to educate children to a faith in these invisible principles of matter we have failed. Science discloses a world of order and grandeur, but the Kingdom of God is within. "If we would make him a man," says Spalding, in speaking of the child, "we must teach him to look and listen, to admire and revere, to think and will and love."

## FROM THE OFFICE.

The State Legislature, just recently adjourned, appropriated the sum of $\$ 99,604$ for the Whatcom State Normal School. The various items provided for are as follows: Maintenance (two years), $\$ 42,500$; science equipement, $\$ 1,500$; library, $\$ 1,000$; campus, $\$ 300$; completing present building, $\$ 1,000$; building annex, $\$ 40,000$; heating annex, $\$ 5$,000; furniture for annex, $\$ 2,000$; emergency appropriation, $\$ 4,150$; relief of citizens for completing rooms in present building, $\$ 1,654$. While the needs of the school are great, and larger maintenance and building appropriations were needed, the officers of the school are grateful for the appropriations received. The maintenance fund will not allow the desired increase in salaries for it will be necessary to add three new members to the faculty next fall. One of these will serve as assistant critic teacher; one as assistant science teacher and one as teacher of vocal music and history.

The new annex which will be added to the present building during the coming summer will conform in general appearance and style of architecture to the main structure. It will be located across the south end of the present building and while the two buildings will be connected by a passage way upon each floor the annex will be in every sense an independent building. The plans for the new structure provide that it shall be $102 \times 104$ feet in extreme dimensions. The basement and first floors will be devoted to the training school. These two floors will provide for this department five large school rooms, an illustrating room, ten recitation rooms, an office, a library, four teachers' rooms, four lunch rooms, and two toilet rooms besides a large play room. The second floor of the new building will contain in addition to two large recitation rooms and spacious corridors, an auditorium sixty-four feet square. This
auditorium will be constructed with an inclined floor, and will also contain a large circular gallery. The stage will be $24 \times 36$ feet in size and the entire room will seat 1000 people.

A plain but substantial gymnasium will be constructed in the rear of the present building and will also be connected with the main hall by a closed passage way. The unfinished rooms in the present building will be completed and devoted to normal school work The two buildings when completed will contain a total of seventy two rooms and will provide very complete and commodious quarters for normal school work.

During the past two years the school has labored under very unfavorable conditions, and it will be a source of great satisfaction alike to trustees, faculty and students to have the school properly equipped for successful work.

## THE TRAINING SCHOOL.

The present outlook for the Training School is most gratifying. There are as many pupils in attendance as can be well accommodated and the eight grades are each represented by a fine class of girls and boys. The enthusiastic and helpful spirit shown by the pupils is a marked characteristic of the school. The enrollment for the year, thus far, has been one hundred and eight against seventy-nine last year. The grammar department has twenty-seven classes and twenty-six pupil teachers; the intermediate department twenty-four classes and nineteen pupil teachers, and the primary department fourteen classes and ten pupil teachers. Seventy-two observers are engaged in writing up the work which is being done in the several class rooms, much to their edification and the uplifting of the work generally.

A German Testament is to be awarded to the best reader of German in the grammar department at the close of the spring quarter. Several pupils have been in close and friendly contest for some weeks past. The strong argument for beginning languages early with children is the facile purity of their pronunciation. This has been re-demonstrated by the introduction of German into the Training School. A society having for its object the promotation of purer English and the annihilation of slang has recently sprung into existence in the intermediate department. This society has chosen officers who decide in case of dispute, and fix and collect fines. The funds thus raised are to be used in decorating the class rooms. The grades from the first to the fifth have one lesson a week in constructive work. They have already made portfolios, boxes, rafai mats, baskets, and are preparing to do simple chip carving.

When the primary department gave up its name, "Four Leaf Clover" to the intermediates, it was nameless but not for long. Not to be outdone by the Chilics or Kulshans they chose the Indian name "Snock-will-witt," which means "Guardian Angel." It was doubly applicable as one of their number had been given this name by the Lummi Indians when a baby. We hope the "Snock-will-witt" will be ever with us. The society have given up their literary program for Friday and are to have a soap-bubble party instead.

The spring quarter has seen the best practice teaching of the year. Some excellent work has been done especially in science, history and geography. The observation work of the spring quarter also has been without a doubt the best of the year.

Pupils who during the year have been moved up by special promotion are in most cases leading their new classes.

A recent investigation of the professional reading done by the teachers in training re-
veals the fact that there exists a genuine desire on their part to attain breadth of view and that esprit de corps without which teaching degencrates into a mere trade.

The training class deserve much credit for their efforts toward language culture in their classes. Marked improvement in language power has been the result. Special topics in science, history and geography have been regularly assigned to each pupil in the intermediate and grammar departments; these topics have been instrumental in fostering not only ability to use better English, but also to train pupils to use reference books independently and intelligently.

A delegation of nine Seattle teachers visited us recently. We were all glad to see them and sincerely wish them to "come again." We are also glad to have the Fairhaven and Whatcom teachers visit us, because they meet us sympathetically, as fellow workers toward the same good ends.

## LITERARY SOCIETIES.

## AURORA SOCIETY.

The Aurora Society programs are a "howling" success. Frequently outside talent has added to the interest of the programs. Prof. Warren very kindly gave us a violin selection, which was greatly appreciated by the Auroras and visiting members of the school. Mrs. Nehr favored us with a vocal solo, which was received with keen interest.

Probably the most delightful session spent, was the afternoon when the American Indian program was given. The society room was tastefully decorated with pictures, and Indian relics. In one corner of the room was an Indian wigwam, made of skins of animals. After a truly instructive program, the members seated themselves in true Indian fashion and were served with succotash.

The new offieers are: President, Miss Kellogg; Vice-Pres., Miss Gruber; Sec., Miss Newall.

The Society is always glad to receive its friends. Come and see us.

Kulsifan society.
Don't miss the Kulshan's treat.
The Kulshans will give their open meeting Friday evening, April 26. The prominent feature of the entertainment will be the rendering of the play "One must Marry," which has been translated from the German by a member of the Kulshans. The play deals with the trials and triumphs of two students home from college. It is highly fascinating throughout its seven acts. Preceding the play, and between its acts, there will be several musical selections. This is to be the literary event of the school year, and the society extends to the students, the faculty, and their friends everywhere a most cordial, special invitation.

THE UTOPIAN SOCIETY.
The Utopian Society is still the "ideal" even if our seniors have left us. A few weeks ago, we lost the following seniors from our society: Misses Gertrude Bell, Pearl Galliher, Anna Iverson, Carrie Wilmore. The following program was rendered in honor of them:

| Song-"Happy Days Gone By -------.------.- Society |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Class Prophecy of Seniors--..------------Eva Comegys |  |
| A Senior's Soliloquy | a Oliver |
| \% |  |
| Recitation --..-- -- | Miss Bourgett |
| eniors Farewell to Soc | Miss Galliher |
| arewell to the Senio | Miss Casady |

The societies have been furnishing programs for assembly, and one of the most unique and interesting was the one given by the Utopian Society. After an instrumental duet by Misses Pillman and Bourgett, the "Utopian Orchestra" made it first appearance in public. With Miss Bourgett, a perfect Paderewski as the pianist, and Miss Bell,
leader, surpassed only by Sousa himself the following selections were rendered in "thrilling" manner:
Part I-Two Step.-.-................... "Whistling Rufus" Part II-Waltz-.-.-.-.--.-................"Zenda Waltzes"
First Violin, May Pillman; second violin, Maude Casaday; Triangle, Jessie Shockey; Horn, Effie Moultray; Tambourine, Grace Powers; Mouth Organ, Clara Downey; Snare Drum, Ethel Chamberiain; Banjo, Blanche Charon; ist Guitar, Grace Mansfield; 2nd Guitar, Verona Millican; ist Mandolin, Joe Murray; 2nd Mandolin, Bessie Boyer; Comb, Maude Page.

The Orchestra is now ready to fill all engagements, but it is feared that our services will be so widely solicited that we will be unable to perform.

## ALCOTT SOCIETY.

Bellingham, Washington, April 6, 2000.
This morning some workmen while repairing the campus of the old, historical Normal School, found hidden in the trunk of a large fir tree, a roll of manuscript, old, and yellow with age. It proved to be a valuable document; for these words, after a careful scrutiny became legible through the dust and mould of a hundred years.
"Whatcom, Washington, March 22, 1901.
The Alcotts are as busy and prosperous as ever. By their earnest and hard work the society is fast growing in popularity and membership. Much time and study is given to Parliamentary Drill; the improvement in debating is very noticeable. Interesting programs have been rendered, in which special authors and subjects were studied. Many plans are being made for the decoration of the club room, and the members hope soon to have a bulletin board. Miss I. A. Baker, the much loved critic of the society has been obliged to resign for a short time, but her sister, Miss Jeanette Baker has assumed her duties and the work still prospers. There are no drones among the Alcotts. All work together for the upbuilding and good of the society."

These few facts about the Alcott Society of so long ago, are indeed a treasure. Many stories have been handed down through this generation from those who attended the old Normal School. Some ask if this is the same society that is read about in history. Yes, it is the same one of which the celebrated historian, R. B. Vaile has given such an interesting account. The descendents of those who belonged to that noble band of workers have reason to be proud of the records of their forefathers, or rather their foremothers.
the philomathian society.
The Philomathian Debating Club has made rapid progress this year in the way of orations, declamations, debates and parliamentary practice.

The club possesses a musical talent both vocal and instrumental.

It has a well organized octet, and is able to place before the public a quartet, that would reflect credit upon any institution.

It can boast of four seniors, Messrs. Thos. and Martin Korstad, from east of the mountains; H. C. Bowman of Lynden, and Geo. R. Bright of Port Angeles; and two juniors, Thos. Slattery and Thos. Monnett of Fairhaven, and Leonard Miller of Whatcom.

On February 15, the club rendered a well prepared program in the assembly hall, its best features being a declamatory contest and debate on the evils of compulsory education.

The club in taking up the study of parliamentary law, hopes to train its members so that when they are called upon in any ordinary meeting to preside, or to take part in debate they may be able to conduct themselves with credit, both to themselves and those about them.

THE CHILIC TRIBE.
During the past week groups of students have been seen gazing wonderingly at a frame recently placed in the hall, its Indian red mat gaudily decorated with warlike chiefs and other characteristics of the native tribe. The modest letters C-h-i-l-i-c, carefully placed
in the corner bring to all its followers vivid recollections of the afternoons spent in feasting and making merry in the sunshiny room of their beloved chief. Miss Myers, who has thus far guided them into profitable and pleasant hunting grounds.

Each Friday afternoon some prominent literary character is studied and thus far have appeared the names of Markham, Cooper, Field, Higginson, Teck.

Among its members may be found many celebrities, the president and secretary of the senate, five seniors, a star debater and declaimer, ladies' quartet and others of note.

Peace, progress and prosperity are characteristics of this tribe.
the y. W. C. a. society.
The Y. W. C. A. is still an active force among the Normal students.

The Association was much helped and encouraged by the visit of Mrs. Allen, of Portland, Or., general secretary of the Young Women's Christian Associations of the Pacific Coast. Mrs Allen is a true christian worker and the young women are always delighted when they know she is coming.

A reception for Mrs. Allen was given February 12, at the home of Mrs. Mathes. This meeting was both instructive and enjoyable. We spent a few pleasant hours together, making new plans and suggesting subjects to be considered by the association. Plans were made to send a delegate from the Normal to the annual convention held at Capitola, Cal.

A circle of Personal Workers was organized; the members of the circle make it their duty to give personal invitations to those who are not in the habit of attending the weekly meetings, and to get them interested in the Y. W. C. A. work. Mimeographed invitations were extended to each member of the school to attend a special meeting led by Miss F. Hays, March 12. Many responded to the invitations and an especially helpful meeting was enjoyed.

The monthly Sunday afternoon meetings are especially beneficial. April 14, the meeting will be held in the United Presbyterian church, Rev. Cox will give an address.

## Senior Class.

The Senior Class have for several weeks spent the period occupied by society work in class deliberation. Topics for discussion have not been wanting. It is a common thing to hear the cool headed president say, " Miss $\qquad$ - has the floor," as the other excited seniors take their seats the speaker proceeds.

All are eager to dispose of the class business as soon as possible in order that everything may at an early date be set right for commencement. The committee on class day arrangements have made their report and the various parts lave been fully discussed.

The class pins liave come at last. They are a beattiful fleur de lis of Roman gold with N. W. N. 'or in black enamel. They are perfect gems, and need only be seen to be admired. The most severe critic, if just, could not desist from favorable comment as they are worn on ties of the class colors.

On walking excursions the class have been looking about for a suitable cedar, the class tree, to be planted Arbor Day. The blooming of the margaret, the class flower, has also been anticipated.

The class motto, "Eilucation is the chief defense of nations," was chosen from a long list.

Last but not least of the class paraphernalia comes the yell.

Choco yoc wa closh wa wa,
Choco yoc wa rah! rah! rah!
Clatawa nanitch closh tilicum
Whatcom Normal, igoi.
When this is given by the 29 seniors an Easterner would think that the Indians had broken out.

At a recent meeting investigation was made and an ideal senior was found to be 23 years old, five feet five and three-fourths inches tall, weight $I_{3} 8$ pounds, modest, handsome and highly intellectual.

The seniors were extended an invitation to meet at the home of Miss Gertrude Bell, 595 High St., March 22, 2 p. m. At the appointed time the spacians parlors were filled by the merry crowd. Miss Bell proved herself a genial hostess. Refreshments were served after which all retired to the porch to practise the yell, the pleasant weather and sight of the water front created a desire for a ramble. In a few minutes the water front was reached in Indian file, the class passed up the gang plank of a large sailing vessel. A sailor showed them about to all parts of interest. It was particularly interesting to see how the dishes were arranged and kept in place. After a snap shot at the schooner the homeward journey was begun, each one feeling that the afternoon had been well spent.

## Junior Class.

The Junior Class consists of thirty-four members, twenty two of whom, live outside of Whatcom county, twenty are graduates of four-year high schools, and eight are experienced teachers. The average age of the class is twenty years.

Several members of the class will receive five-year certificates in June, but the majority will return and finish next year.

The class was recently organized, and the following officers were elected: President, Grace Powers; Secretary, Grace Huntoon; Treasurer, Garnet Kendall. Committtes have been appointed to select a class color and a class yell.

As a class, they are a progressive people in our school and their basket-ball team can compete with any on the Sound.

## ATHLETICS.

THE WAI,KING CLUB.
On Friday afternoon about forty of the members of the Walking Club congregated on the Normal steps, with another health and pleasure trip in view. The afternoon was propitious and augured a pleasant walk. Indulging in merry laughter and conversation, we swittly left the Normal grounds and wend od our way down High street. As we passed down the street, on our right

Lo! Mt. Baker prints the distant sky, And o'r its airy top faint clouds were driven
So softly blending that the cheated eye Forgets, or which is earth or which is heaven.
At the foot of the hill we left High street, and then following Lake street, we soon left the town behind us and were in the woods, enjoying the pure bracing air. Along the plank road we trooped, a happy carefree crowd, with Miss Myers bringing up the rear. Anon snatches of song were heard, as if the jubilant spirits of the "Walkers" must find vent in some way.

Two wood paths were explored, with the hope of finding some of nature's hidden treasures, but emptyhanded we returned to the road. We soon came to a bridge spanning a swiftly flowing creek, leaning over the railing of the bridge, on either side, we watched the clear water as it gurgled and foamed over the logs and wood in the stream, and admired the beauty of the dark green ferns along its sides.

Across the bridge two roads met, then the question was to take, or not to take, which one of them? After some deliberation we decided to take the one leading to the left. After following it for a few minutes, we emerged on the car line at the Cemetery-God's acre. On the car line we rested for a few minutes, then continued our walk up the car line a short distance, then turning to our left, we followed the new road down to the falls, and stauding by the railing, near the foot of the hill, we gazed enraptured at the enchanting scene before us.

The creek flows quietly around a curve in its banks, then leaps over a rocky precipice in cascades and foam to the level below, tossing spray over the surrounding rocks which are papered with green moss and lichens. One never tires of watching how the green water changes to white foam spray as it seethes over the rock and breaks on the logs and rocks below the fall. Standing by the falls and watching the eager, impetuous speed of the water while listening to its thunder, one looks into its depths and thinks, thinks deep solemn thoughts. Anon we crossed the stream over the little rustic bridge and climbed up the steps on the other side of the falls so as to see it in all its varied aspects. From this point another but smaller fall is to be seen farther up the stream.

Standing by the stream, we sang "America" but natures voice was stronger than our combined effort. One of spring's earliest messengers, a trillium, was found by the falls.

All too soon we were obliged to return home. This tine we followed the foot-path which winds down the western side of the creek. Along the stream we wended our way, up and down declivities as wild and varied as those of far famed Switzerland, and under trees whose leafy branches intertwined o'erhead, catching now and then, a glimpse of the stream as it tumbled over its rocky bed. On the way back members of the party lagged behind -presumably gathering ferns and green leaves-possibly because they were weary. In the evening as the mills were whistling we reached the car track, just in time to
see one of nature's lovely studies in color. The sun was setting, just before us was the dark green of the woods, farther off were the purple and gray lights and shadows falling in misty splender over the town and bay, while beyond it, in the sky flamed the brilliant orange of the setting sun. forming a most gorgeous background.

Here at the bridge, we rested until the rear guard of our party came up. Then leaving the over weary ones to return home on the car, the rest of the party started on, some in their eagerness to reach home-or supper-running races. As we entered the town with the senior's yellow pennon floating in the breeze as our color bearer carried it along, a man on a passing train saluted it, and we "saw-dust" fly. In the gathering dusk we trooped through the town, a happy hut somewhat tired crowd of "Walkers," for we had walked about seven miles. At the corner of Elk and Holly, after exchanging "good nights," each meuber hied himself home.
base ball.
The base ball situation at the Normal is rather discouraging owing to the lack of any place on which to practice, the game will probably be abandoned for the most part, and the boys will turn their attention to other forms of athletics.

## FENCING.

Fencing is an interesting part of the athletic sports, in this, the , aim is to acquire self-control. Swords and foils are used. Quite a number of young men and young women are in the chub, and are taking great interest in the saber practice. Even the young ladies have no masks, their only protection being the skillful use of their blade. All are eager to become as adept as their leader, Professor J. T. Forrest, and as self-possessed.

Although fencing in reality originated among the ancients, the principles of the art are of great value in perfecting the individuals physical self-control.

ROWING CLUB.
The rowing section of the physical exercise scheme inangurated by Miss Hays took its initiative step on Saturday afternoon, March 23. A party of seventeen went out to Lake Whatcom on the electric car leaving at 2 o'clock and spent the afternoon on the water. Four boats were secured, and by landing once on the way up the east shore of the lake, opportunity was offered to all to secure some experience in rowing. About two miles from the starting point the party landed, built a camp fire and ate a picnic lunch. On the way back they rowed around the foot of the lake and enjoyed the beautiful sunset from the water. Similar expeditions are being planned for every other Saturday provided the weather is fair.

## BASKET-BALI.

Two enthusiastic basket-ball sections have been organized. One is just beginning, while the other has been practicing about a month and has developed some expert players. This section is made up largely of Juniors, which will make it possible to organize a strong team in the Senior class next fall. The young ladies playing are Misses Charon, Pillman, Bourgett, Bird, Smith, Hilton, Huntoon, Powers, Mansfield and Murray. Misses C. Robinson, N. Sapp, Jameson, Haines, Warburton, Belford, Hauptly, Pierce, Treutle, Freeman, Perkins, Reid, Kennedy, Williams, and L. Robinson are playing in the beginning section.

The modified rules are used. This makes the game for women differ from that of the young men in two particulars. The field is divided into thirds and players are required to stay within their own limits, thus decreasing the danger of over-exertion, and no one is
allowed to snatch or bat the ball from an oppenents hand, a time limit being substituted.

The teams play twice each week at $3: 15$ playing about 30 minutes with three or four rest periods. Two sections will be organized by the young men this week.

## GENERAL ITEMS.

Mr. Vm. Stephenson was compelled to go home owing to a severe illness.

Mr. Fdward Lonkey has gone home to assist his father with the spring work.

Mr. Guy Taylor has accepted a position in the Whatcom Postoffice, yet he carries a part of the Normal work.

Miss Elsie McAllister has left school but will return next fall. She is now teaching at Beach, Jummi island.

Mr. Charles Johnson's parents have moved to West Plains, Mo., but Charles will stay till school closes in June.

The musical entertainment given by the musical department under the leadership of Miss Baker was a grand success.

Miss Ruby Smith has left the Normal intending to take charge of a school in a few weeks near Spokane. She will return next fall.

Miss Ida Baker, our teacher of vocal music, has been compelled to ask for a leave of absence until next fall, on account of serious eye trouble.

Mr. John and Miss Annie Sunmers have been obliged to discontinue their work at the Normal for the present, but expect to return next fall.

Mr. Claude Jeffrey has been unable to attend school regularly on account of the serious illness of his mother, but we are glad to hear she is recovering.

Miss Ethel Austin has been removed from the Sisters' Hospital to her home where she is slowly recovering from a severe attack of pneumonia.

Of the mid-year elementary graduates, Miss Pearl Smith is teaching at Ferndale; Miss Edith Case at Chuckanut; Miss Claire Comstock at San de Fuca; Miss Louise Baker in the city schools of Port Townsend; and Miss Anna Klockstead is at home recupering before taking charge of her school.

The result of the preliminary debates is as follows: Philomathian vs. Alcott. Judges, County Superintendent Simpson, Miss Lees and Mrs. Eldridge. Kulshan vs. Utopian. Judges, Professor Hughes, Mrs. Simpson and Rev. Evans. Mr. Thomas Korstad of the Philomathian and Miss Mary Bird of the Kulshan being the winners.

Miss Montgomery, our primary critic teacher, entertained the senior class one Friday afternoon recenty. One enjoyable feature of the entertainment was the novel manner of reporting on "Richard Carvel," one of the books which the seniors have been reading. Refreshments were served, and after a social afternoon, the merry crowd departed.

Miss Thompson has resigned her position as Normal librarian to join the teaching corps of Seattle. She has been connected with the Normal from its opening and was a favorite with students and teachers. On the evening she left, a large crowd of students assembled at the Whatcom dock and accompanied her as far as Fairhaven. While all regretted Miss Thompson's departure, the school gave Mrs. Clothier a hearty welcome. She is now well settled in her work and knows most of the student's names and faces.


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GENERAL ITEMS-CONTINUED.
Remember the Kulshan Giganticum.
Mr. Guy Nicholas is working in Fairhaven.
Mr. E. Wilson is working for the Gas Co. in this city.

The combined weight of the senior class is over two tons.

Mr. W. F. Post was home about two weeks on a business trip.

Miss Stella Garls of Burlingtou was a visitor at the Normal recently.

The class in solid geometry will finish their subject the first week in April.

Rumor has it that one of the Normal girls has left school to form a conjugal alliance.

Basket-ball has received a great deal of attention lately among the girls especially. Two teams have been organized and practices are held twice a week. We expect to hear from them soon.

In this delightful spring weather the students who reside in Fairhaven enjoy the view of Mt. Baker and the surrounding hills in passing to and from the Normal over the new side walk. This is one of the most delightful walks on Bellingham Bay.

Among the names of those who passed the last teachers' examination we noticed the following Normalites: J. H. Dunn, Ruby Gough, Alice Jenkins, Mary O'Loughlin, Gertrude A. Peak, Carrie E. Robinson, Alice Smith, A. G. Stinson, Ruby E. Smith, Elizabeth Trunkey, N. E. Van Curen, Olivia Warriner, Clara Warriner, W, R. Nichol.

L-e-g spells "limb" to one of the seniors.
Motto of a Geometry Senior-"For all practical purpose."

It is rumored that one of the boys of the review year is badly in love-with himself.

Mr. Johnson is not at all selfish or he would take an entire homestead; as it is he is satisfied with a Lane.

For new styles in aprons, go to the laboratory and take note, especially of Prof. Eply's, the very "latest" out (of the kitchen).

Teacher in Physics-"Of what can you think that has the 'warmest' color in the spectrum ?"

Pupil-"Those yellow ties worn by the juniors."
Dave-"'Ruth will you please bring me a glass of water?"
(Ruth bringing in a pail of water) "Here is a drink for you Dave."

Dave-" Why did you bring so much, I asked for a glass full?"

Ruth-"Oh! I thought you needed more, Ollie says you are the dryest stick she ever saw."

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