

Spring 4-13-1909

# Maine Campus April 13 1909

Maine Campus Staff

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# THE MAINE CAMPUS

Vol. X

BANGOR, MAINE, APRIL 13, 1909

No. 21

## THE STATE UNIVERSITY IDEA



Every loyal and active friend of the University of Maine is habitually alert for the best interests of the institution, and habitually takes thought as to what he may do to promote its welfare and growth. In this service each, according to his ability and opportunities, does in his own way what he can. Some perhaps under-estimate the value of their efforts and influence and feel that they can accomplish little or nothing. However, in this, as in every good cause, there is need of the service of each and for each there is something to do.

Without considering the different possibilities of service open to the peculiar aptitudes and opportunities of different individuals, it may be well to inquire whether there is not some general attitude or policy in which all may join, and which may serve as a focus of effort. For a considerable time there has existed in the mind of the writer a growing conviction that there is such a policy, and that general co-operation in it would ultimately bring results such as would satisfy the University's most ardent supporters. This policy involves nothing more nor less than the dissemination of an idea, the idea of a state university.

Our state university is by the people and for the people and not until its function and its relation to the people are clearly apprehended by the inhabitants of the state can it hope for general and generous support. Indeed it may be questioned whether the one thing needful to make this institution strong and adequate and representative is not this: that we impress upon the minds and hearts of the people the idea

it is a state university, and that it is their state university. This, then, the dissemination of the state university idea, furnishes an essential focus of effort in which all friends of the university may join in noble, persistent service.

It is at once apparent that if we are to carry on this work intelligently and effectively we must first form in our own minds an adequate conception of the scope and function of a state university. What, then, is the scope and function of a state university in its relation to the people of the state?

The founding of the institutions in this country bearing the name of state universities was in most cases, as in case of the University of Maine, made possible by the federal land grant of 1862 approved by President Lincoln. This act provided for the establishment in each state of an institution in which the "leading object" should be "to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts." But it was expressly stated that this leading object should be "without excluding other scientific and classical studies," and that the general object of the instruction given was to promote the "liberal" as well as the "practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of life." The provisions of the act were liberal and comprehensive and it is clear that even though most of the institutions, begun as state colleges of agriculture and mechanic arts, have expanded into state universities they have not thereby necessarily departed from what some have styled the "original purpose" of the land grant act. As a matter of fact, judging



from the relative number of students in engineering in our state universities, the leading object is still to teach "branches related to the mechanic arts," and these institutions are doing everything in their power to persuade young men to avail themselves of the excellent facilities furnished for instruction in "branches related to agriculture."

But there is a further consideration. The people of the most of our great state have through their representatives in the state legislatures, seen fit to augment the provision made by the federal government, and to enlarge the scope of the institution founded under this provision. They have seen fit to expand the state colleges of agriculture and mechanic arts into state universities, and to provide by state appropriations additional funds to support the enlargement that they themselves have made. Although the leading object stated in the land grant act is still the leading object, it has been the will of the people to extend the scope of this act and to pay for the extension. In short, the people have deliberately seen fit to have state universities and to support them.

But what, we may next inquire, is the nature and function of the state universities that the people establish and support? What is the enlarged purpose that the people have in mind when they changed their state colleges of agriculture and mechanic arts into state universities? Perhaps the best way in which to answer this question is to observe what has actually been done where this change has been made. How are the state universities actually developing? What are they doing? To anyone who has only a general knowledge of state universities and their work, it is at once evident that the typical state university is providing as rapidly as possible for the young men and women of the state, at the least possible expense, higher education and adequate facilities in any branch of learning that these young men and women choose to pursue. At the least possible expense these institutions provide alike for the young people who wish to prepare themselves for agriculture, for the different lines of engineering, for law, for medicine, for teaching, or for scientific investigation. They

consider it their duty to provide for the young person who wishes to earn his bread by teaching Latin or conducting scientific investigation, as well as for the young person who wishes to earn his bread by the profession of mechanical or civil engineering. They do not provide schools of theology, because in this country there is no state church or religion, and consequently state aid is not extended to instruction in theology. The state universities, then, as they actually exist embody broad, liberal view of state educational function. They do not stop at providing instruction and training in any special class of subjects, or for any special class of students. They provide as rapidly as possible for the needs of all young people within the borders of the state.

That the people of the different states approve of this broad policy of higher education by the state is clearly and conclusively shown by the increasingly generous appropriations made for the state universities where this policy is most extensively carried out. In fact it is shown that, although most of these states institutions have at first had to struggle to gain the recognition and support of the people, just as soon as the people come to grasp the larger idea of the scope and function of the state university and to see its relation to the people of the State, to see it as the crown of the public school system, they respond generously to its needs and take a loyal and patriotic pride in its success and development.

If this state university idea as it is exhibited in a large number of the states of our union is right, if it is the duty of the state to provide its inhabitants an institution of higher education in all important branches of learning, and if the propagation and spreading of this idea is essential to the successful development of an institution such as ours, the next thing for us to consider is how we may make the state university idea prevail in our own State. At present the idea does not prevail; and because it does not prevail is, in the mind of the writer, the chief reason why this institution has been so meagerly supported by the State. Perhaps, though, our dissemination of this idea will take care of itself if we sufficiently realize its importance, if we are sufficiently imbued with it, if we believe in it,

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heart and soul; and until we believe in it heart and soul there is small profit in talking of methods of spreading it. But it would seem that by independent consideration and by joint discussion, the real greatness and nobility of the state university idea would take such hold upon the minds and hearts of all the friends of our beloved University, that they without exception would join shoulder to shoulder in a long, persistent and indefatigable campaign looking toward such an ultimate triumph of the state university idea as would result in an institution that would stand as a fitting representative of the educational ideals and the loyal and generous patriotism of the people of the great state of Maine.

*Extract from a Message sent by Governor Charles S. Deneen to the Illinois Legislature, Jan. 9, 1907.*

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

"The attention of the Legislature is called to the work and needs of our State University. The people of Illinois take pride in the growth of this institution and in the attention its remarkable advancement in attendance and efficiency has attracted throughout the nation. It is the desire of all citizens who have the interests of our educational system at heart, that the university of the commonwealth should take the same high place among the universities of the United States that Illinois occupies in the sisterhood of states. This institution, the crown of our educational system, should be maintained at a standard which will offer to the children of the State the finest facilities for education in every department of learning and in the various professions. Aside from the exceptional cases of students, who, in the pursuit of studies in the languages and history literature and arts, seek the foreign centers which, in some branches of these studies, offer facilities to be found nowhere else, there is no reason why any of the youth of our State should leave its borders to obtain the most advanced education. As an enlightened community, placing a high value upon its educational institutions, our people will not be satisfied with any lower degree of excellence in its highest institution of learning\* \* \* The advantageous

extension and improvement of this important work will call for an increased appropriation. The Board of Trustees of the University has given the subject careful consideration, and will present to you its recommendations. I commend them to you as worthy of your most earnest attention.

#### UNIVERSITY APPROPRIATION

The Legislature of Maine passed a resolve in favor of the University which provided for an annual appropriation for two years of \$80,000 for maintenance and \$75,000 for a dormitory, but the bill was vetoed by Gov. Fernald. Finally a compromise was agreed upon in which the University will receive \$10,000 for four years, on condition that out of state students in the engineering departments be charged a tuition of \$100 and that no new departments be instituted here during that time. This will not hinder the asking of an increased appropriation in 1911.

#### FOOTBALL PRACTICE

As soon as Alumni Field is in good shape, Captain H. J. Cook, will issue a call for spring football practice. The men on the 'varsity squad will report, excepting those who are out for track and baseball and all others who contemplate trying for a position next fall will be asked to come out.

Coach Schildmiller has sent word that he wishes considerable practice on the forward pass, kicking and catching the ball and signal work. Practice in falling on the ball and tackling will be tried and later some scrimmage work will be done.

This idea is a new one at Maine, but it has met with success in many other institutions and results here will be watched with interest.

Dean Stevens was on a trip last week in which he visited several preparatory schools.

Prof. Chase gave his first lecture in a series of four on Roman Law last Wednesday.



## THE MAINE CAMPUS

Published Tuesday of each week during the college year by the students of the University of Maine

11 State St., Bangor, Me.

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Entered at Bangor, Maine, Post-Office as Second-Class Matter.

Terms: \$2.00 per year, on or before Nov. 1st; single copies 10 cents.

All business communications should be addressed to the Business Manager.

Back numbers will be furnished all those desiring them upon application to the Manager.

Contributions from undergraduates and alumni are earnestly solicited. They should be addressed to the Managing Editor.

BANGOR CO-OPERATIVE PRINTING COMPANY

## EDITORIALS.

ON another page is printed an extract from that part of Governor Deneen's message to the Illinois legislature that deals with the University of Illinois. It is interesting to note the difference in the attitudes of the governors of Illinois and of Maine, as it will be remembered that in Governor Fernald's message to the last legislature there was no word regarding the State University. This is not intended as a criticism but simply as a statement of facts as to the attitudes of these two men and that of the people of the

state which they represent. It might be suggested, however, that, considering the welfare of all the people, the state of affairs in Illinois is the more desirable.



THE CAMPUS reprints in this issue the larger part of an article from THE CAMPUS of October 15th, 1904. This article, "The State University Idea," is upon a subject in which every student should be interested. It seems that this idea of a *state university* has of late somewhat faded into the background of the minds of the people of Maine and of the students here at the University. For this reason it has been considered advisable to print again this article calling attention to the fact that the University of Maine is for the people of the state and belongs to them. This is an idea that should be strongly impressed upon the mind of every student, and all who are interested in the University should read this article and give it their careful consideration.



THE Penobscot Valley Alumni Association voted at their last meeting to hold a meeting with the students of the University. Hosea Buck, the chairman of the committee chose last Friday evening, April ninth, as a suitable date and the meeting was held at the Penobscot Exchange. Proceedings opened with a supper at six o'clock to which a number of the students were invited and after this the evening was spent in discussing ways and means by which the athletic standing of the University may be improved.

It is well known that the strongest and most famous colleges are those which have the strongest alumni. The students at Maine have felt for a long time that their alumni have not shown a very great degree of interest in the University but recently signs of an awakening have been

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noticed and it is with a great deal of pleasure that the students have welcomed the co-operation of the Penobscot Valley Alumni Association. Our local alumni have a far greater chance to help us than those in an other part of the country. They are permitted, by reason of their nearness, to take a most active part, if they will, in matters pertaining to the University. They are better able to work with the students, than any other band of alumni. The awakening of this large body of men to active service for the University is in no wise a small gain for us and we greet it with a hearty welcome. Especially is it a good thing to hold meetings with the students for it is in these meetings that the alumni get the students' point of view and find out just where aid is needed.

We are congratulating ourselves that this new state of affairs has come to pass and we are looking for a great many good results to follow this meeting. It is to be hoped that many another will be held in the future.

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*"Resolved, That we, the members of the Eastern Maine Association of Theta Delta Chi, hereby express our high appreciation of Brother Carr's ability in his chosen field of service, of his loyalty and devotion to the fraternity, and of his active co-operation in the work of our association:*

*Resolved, That in his passing we have lost an esteemed friend and brother who will be greatly missed and tenderly cherished in remembrance.*

*Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our deceased brother, to The Shileld and to the local press and that the same be entered upon our records.*

M. C. Fernald, President,  
Asa M. Parker, Secretary.

## TRACK

With the disappearance of the snow and the coming of warm spring college men are talking of spring athletics and are running over the prospects of the various teams. Here at Maine the fellows are getting down earnestly to work and "Steve" has already had the track men out-doors on several pleasant days.

The outlook for a strong track team this year is very good. Maine is fortunate in having lost only two men by graduation last year, although these two, Meserve and Bean were sure point winners. The Junior class has furnished far more than its share of track material for the last two years and it seems quite certain that most of the best men this spring will be drawn from this and the sophomore class. Last year Maine won most of her points in the State meet with firsts with a comparatively small number of second and third places. This scattering of the stars among the different events is largely due to the wise policy of Coach Farrell and it is likely to show its effects this year. In most of the track events we have one star, who is sure to make a fine bid for first place. In the field events we were very weak last season and there are few men in sight who are likely to strengthen this important department.

The Maine squad will have the advantage of competing this year on Alumni Field. Manager Hall has been trying to negotiate for a dual meet here with Tufts but no agreement has been reached and it is doubtful if any arrangements can be made. The Maine Intercollegiate meet will be held May 15 and it promises to be a hard-fought one. We made a good bid for the meet at Brunswick last year and with some new men who look good for a few points, to keep pace with the development of new material in the other colleges, the fight will be close and exciting. The interclass meet will take place a week previous. The annual invitation meet for preparatory schools has been set for May 29. Although the management would like to have a dual meet with some college these dates will make the track season quite complete.

Frederick B. Knight, '09, of Limerick, is



captain of the team and is one of the strongest hurdlers in the state. Two years ago he won both hurdle events and he holds the college record in the low hurdles. Last year he was in poor condition and failed to figure in the results. It is expected, however, he will be in his oldtime form again this season and will make the hurdlers go some. He is pretty sure to be forced to his limit of speed, though by Smith, '11, who captured second places in both events at Bowdoin last year and who has been steadily improving since then. Another good hurdler who will be out this spring is Skofield, '10.

In the 100 yard dash there is Pond, '11, who made a record as a sprinter at Hebron and last year easily won his race in the State meet. Atwood, upon whom Bowdoin stakes her hopes for the dashes, was unable to run last year but a neck and neck struggle is looked for in the coming meet between him and Pond. There will be plenty of candidates for this distance but, besides Pond, Tartre, '12, and Waite, '11, look to be about the fastest.

In the next distance, the 220 yard dash, Maine will have some good men, including Cook, '10, who took second place last year, and Torrey, '09, who will probably be seen in this or the quarter-mile race.

In the 440-yard dash, Maine will be represented by the veteran Littlefield, '10, whom all her supporters will eagerly back for that race, which he won in splendid fashion last spring. Among other candidates for the quarter are Walker, '11, Chadbourne, '10, Blanchard, '11, and Schrupff, '12.

Another old standby will be in the half-mile run again and that is Fortier, '10, who is a very good runner at any distance. It is not unlikely that he will start in some of the other events. The man who ran a close second to Fortier, Bean graduated last June, but there are other speed men out to fill his place.

The mile will have Hicks, '10, and Snow, '10, who won second and third places respectively last year at Bowdoin. Both should be in better form this spring than they were a year ago.

As usual there are not many candidates for

the two-mile run, but in Dyer, '10, and Whitney, '11, Maine has two good runners.

In turning to the field events, Maine finds that in some she is weaker and in others stronger than she was last year. On the whole, though, she will be represented by a better squad than for several years. In the weights an exceptionally good hammer thrower has appeared in Joyce, '12. He has been prominent in the preparatory school meets and, while he will be against some excellent competitors, it will be a disappointment to friends of Maine if he does not make good. He is also a shot-putter. Other men who will be prominent candidates in the hammer-throw are Bearce, '11, Black, '09, and Gardner, '10, Ray, '10, who was unable to compete last year, will probably be Maine's best man with the shot. There are several other good men in this event, including Farwell, '09, McHale, '11, and Bearce, '11. Waldron, '11, who captured first place in the discus event last year, is practicing hard and he will be seconded by Strout, '11.

Although Maine's superb high-jumper, Meserve, will not be on the field this spring, there will not be a lack of first class jumpers, as Phillips, '11, Scott, '11, and Smith, '11, displayed fine form in the indoor meet. In the broad jump there will be Higgins, '09, who was a good second in the State meet last year, Smith, '10, and Cook, '11.

Maine will be somewhat weaker in the pole vault, as Winters, '10, is about the only man who has been vaulting well indoors.

No Maine man will look forward to Maine's winning the intercollegiate meet with ease, but prospects are brighter than they were last year and they will be no lack of hard work in preparation for the championship day.

#### BASEBALL

Coach Noonan is fast whipping the baseball team into shape for the first game with Colby at Waterville on April 19th. The men have been practising out of doors back of Coburn Hall and on the Kappa Sigma lawn for the past week, and have shown steady improvement. While the men were still in the cage the coach cut the

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squad down from forty to about twenty-five, at present there are about that number out. McHale and Ryan are showing their old time speed, and Royal, Murphy and Reed are also doing good work in the box. Richardson and Smith are the only candidates for catcher, but between them they cover the plate in good shape. Cobb and Hersey are fighting it out for third, Higgins, Coombs and Fellows for short, Parsons, Cleaves and French for second. "Spike" Mayo has first base pretty much to himself. There are a number of good outfielders on the squad, and practically every position on the team is being hotly contested for by two or more men, which is as it should be.

If this competition keeps up it will do more than any other thing to develop a fast team. The man who goes out and make a better man hustle for his position, even if he doesn't make the team himself does as much for the college as if he played a star game on the 'varsity.

## LOCALS

The members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity held a dancing party at their house Saturday evening, April third.

James G. Scales has entered college for the remainder of the year.

Charles E. Stickney was in Dover and Dexter the middle of the week in the interests of the Dramatic Club.

The Junior class has appointed a committee to look into the advisability of a Junior smoker.

Rev. Franklin Hamilton of Washington, D. C., Chancellor of Washington University was the speaker at vesper services last Sunday.

Prof. Dwight Porter, head of the hydraulic engineering department at M. I. T. gave two lectures to the senior and junior civils last Thursday on "The Disposal of Sewerage in and around Boston" and "The Water supply of Boston."

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