DRAMATIC COURSE AT STATE UNIVERSITY IS ATTRACTING CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION

Term Extended to Three Years and Instruction Made Broader, so That Professionals Are Being Enrolled—The Equipment Said to Be of Best and Local Playwrights Have Advantage of Seeing Their Work Blossom.

Miss Helen Bracht, of Portland, Who is a Recent Star in Several Heavy Roles

Students in a Shakespearian Scene

Rosamond Shaw, of Pullman, Wash., Posing in a Recent Campus Play

Miss Martha Beer, of Eugene, as "Teressa," in the Cradle Song

George Colton, of Portland, and Evah Hadley, of Newberg, in "Pippa Passes"

A Co-ed Posing in a Shakespearian Play

BY HAROLD HAMSTREET.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Feb. 17.—(Special.)—Since the completion of Guild Hall, the "Little Theater" of the university, in the Fall of 1915, students in the courses of dramatic interpretation and production have been able to accomplish results equal to those of the larger universities of the West and Middle West. According to Professor A. F. Reddie, head of the dramatic department, the equipment is as good as any found on the Coast, due to the careful selection and maintenance by the students.

The courses as have been presented by Professor Reddie and Dr. E. S. Bates, now of the English department, have been broad enough to give especial training to major students of practically every department of the university curriculum. At the present time there are majors from 13 departments, not including those taking special work. This increase of interest in the study and presentation of the drama has made necessary within the last year an enlargement of the courses.

Course Is for Three Years.

A three-year course is now offered instead of two, as was formerly given. The first year's work consists of general preparation, including voice culture, gestures and character work. During this work scenes from familiar plays are given at each meeting, that the students may have experience in appearing on the stage.

The second year's course teaches the technique of the drama and its presentation with practical stage experience and the making of public speeches.

The third year is turned over to heavy productions of plays for the purpose of various college functions. Training of this nature has attracted to the university students who have had experience in other schools and in professional lines; Mrs. Rosalind Bates, of Eugene, who has worked with Paul Gilmore, of New York; Charles W. Prim, of Medford, from the "movies" in California, and Earl Fleischmann, of Eugene, who played with Professor Reddie on a Chautauqua circuit last season.

Students showing exceptional ability in playwriting have had the pleasure of seeing their own plays produced, many of them meeting with great success, such as those written by Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Sally Allen, of Eugene, and Miss Bess Colman, of Portland.

Last Spring, under the supervision of Dr. Bates and Professor Reddie, "The Taming of the Shrew" was presented by the students in one of the Portland theaters, meeting with such approval among drama enthusiasts that an invitation has been tendered Professor Reddie by the Portland Drama League to present a series of one-act plays in that city early in April. The plays booked for this work are: "Friend of Man," by J. F. Thorne; "Makers of Dreams," by Oliphant Down; "Pot of Gold," by Sally Allen, and the "Swan Song," by Tchekov.

High Quality Maintained.

During Summer school Dr. Bates produced three plays and in the Fall of 1916 four others were produced. Plays of the highest quality have been the standards of the department and such a policy has met with satisfaction. "Strong Heart," "The Doll's House," by Ibsen; "Hedda Gabler," by Ibsen, and the "Cradle Song" have made their appearance.

Productions during the coming semester have been placed in charge of Professor Reddie, who has recently completed an engagement with a lyceum course, and during his visits in the East gained many new suggestions for stage decoration and lighting. It is his aim to install these as the occasions present themselves, during the Spring.

Rehearsals on the presentation of "The Admirable Crichton," by Barrie, have started in the advances classes, the leading roles being taken by Alex Bowen, Portland; Helen Bracht, Eugene; Ernest Watkins, Bandon; Margaret Crosby Riddle and Charlotte Banfield, Portland.

Students in the dramatic interpretation classes will have the principal roles in the all-Oregon pageant which is to be presented Friday before commencement on Kincaid Field.

JUDGE M'BRIDE TELLS OF WAR DAYS IN WASHINGTON

Meeting and Association With Abraham Lincoln Related and Sidelights Thrown on Great Emancipator's Personality.

IF ONE had been watching the crowd gathered about the Overland stage at The Dalles, in the Fall of 1862, one might have seen two men enter the lumbering vehicle and take their seats for the long ride to Boise. The older of the two was Benjamin F. Harding, lately appointed Senator from Oregon to take the place of General E. D. Baker, killed the year before at the battle of Ball's Bluff. The younger man, just turned 30, dark-eyed, dark-haired, and his wide felt hat giving him the picturesque look of a poet, was John R. McBride, the new Congressman. These two gentlemen were on their way to Washington to enter the Congress of Abraham Lincoln. Such a journey even in that day was one not to be lightly considered. Indeed, so great were the hazards and hardships of a route that lay through the gorges of the Rocky Mountains and frequently through regions infested by hostile Indians that the parting between the young man and his family in the old home in Yamhill County had all the solemnity of a last farewell.

In the younger man's case, at least, there was certainly consistency in his entrance into a legislative body the majority of whose members were Republicans and the policies those of a Republican administration. Six years previously, at the age of 24, he had served as secretary of a meeting held in Yamhill County to organize the Republican party in Oregon, and in the following year he had been elected to the convention called to frame the constitution of Oregon—the only straight Republican elected to that body. Throughout the campaign preceding Oregon's admission into the Union, the burning issue of which was whether it should be a free or a slave state, the young man had voiced his unalterable opposition to the institution of slavery in this frontier country. His admiration for the new President had begun with the reading of Lincoln's remarkable series of speeches made in Illinois in the campaign of 1858. He has himself said: "I was charmed with his perfect knowledge of the slavery question and his irresistible logic and profoundly impressed by his wonderful power of statement and the evident sincerity of the man. His addresses lacked the finished rhetoric of Seward and Sumner or the thrilling sentences of Senator Baker, but they conquered the intellect and forced conviction on the mind."

Meeting With Lincoln Told.

Upon leaving Oregon Judge McBride had taken with him a letter of introduction to President Lincoln from Dr. A. G. Henry, of Olympia, known to residents of the Oregon country of the '60s as one of Lincoln's most intimate friends. Of his first meeting with the great President, soon after his arrival in Washington, Judge McBride has said:

"Soon after my arrival in Washington I called upon President Lincoln. I was introduced by Senator Nesmith, who was on the most harmonious terms with the administration, and as I bore a personal letter from Dr. A. G. Henry, a life-long friend, at whose home in Springfield Mr. Lincoln lived when first married, I was received with the heartiest expressions of good will.

"Lincoln's geniality, simplicity, and strong plain sense impressed me at once. He was in his office in a long dressing gown and slippers, and acted with as much freedom from restraint as if he had been in a lawyer's office in a country town in Oregon. 'What a great big-hearted man he is,' he remarked when he had read Dr. Henry's letter commending me to his favor. 'Dr. Henry is one of the best men I have ever known. He sometimes commits an error of judgment, but I never knew him to be guilty of a falsehood or of an act beneath a gentleman. He is the soul of truth and honor.' He then related a number of stories of the days when he and Baker and Henry ran the politics of Sangamon County, and entertained us with reminiscences of his old friend. We spent an hour in the call, and I felt at its close that I had become acquainted with him. There was no want of that which inspires respect. There was a frankness and cordiality of manner that put all embarrassment aside and made me feel completely at ease in his presence. When he turned the conversation to graver subjects his manner became that of a thoughtful and earnest man and all flippancy was dismissed. He discussed public affairs with perfect freedom and left no one in doubt as to his purpose.

Slave Plan Broached.

"Learning that I was a Missourian by birth, he immediately presented a proposition favoring an appropriation by Congress to pay the owners of slaves for their property and free the latter and cleanse the state, as he expressed it, of the 'poison of slavery.' He stood up before a large map of Missouri, pointed out its navigable rivers, its deposits of coal and iron, enumerating briefly its natural resources, and added: 'In the variety of its resources and natural advantages Missouri is the greatest state in the Union today. Slavery has been its curse and it must be made free. Buy the slaves and end it.'

"The message which Lincoln sent to Congress a few days afterwards was largely devoted to this proposition. It did not meet with favor in that body and the institution of slavery was trampled out of existence in Missouri by the tread of armies, which left it dead everywhere under the flag."

Among the first duties Judge McBride was called up to undertake was the recommendation of a Pacific Coast man for Justice of the Supreme Court. The Oregon Senators were favorable to the appointment of Judge R. P. Boise, of the Oregon Supreme Court. Though throughout his life a warm friend and admirer of this able jurist, Judge McBride confesses to a desire to indorse the appointment of Stephen J. Field, Justice of the Supreme Court of California. His published opinions had gained for him a high place in public esteem as well as the admiration of the Western bar. The President had expressed his solicitude to secure the ablest and strongest man for the position and requested Judge McBride's co-operation in discovering him. His anxiety was heightened by the fact that the California Senators were both Democrats and one of them had recently been betraying a tendency to ally himself with the opposition to the Administration. They were not, therefore, fully trusted by the President.

Field's Name Presented.

Says Judge McBride: "On the day that the Senate had been convened to confirm appointments, in March, 1863, the California Senators and myself called upon the President and with the approval of our absent colleagues, who had finally united on him, presented the name of Judge Field. Mr. Lincoln was unusually grave in his conversation, expressing his anxiety to secure the best ability and at the same time have a man free from the dangerous leanings towards those political heresies which had, as he said, led logically to the existing rebellion. He made no direct answer to our request, but said he would determine the matter the next day. After the others had retired I was requested to remain to discuss with the President and Dr. Henry, who had just arrived from Washington Territory, another matter of interest to that locality. At the close of that interview Mr. Lincoln remarked to Dr. Henry that he had been considering the matter of appointing a Justice of the Supreme Court and had about made up his mind. He said he had consulted various Pacific Coast officials and would now like to know if he (Dr. Henry) could give him any help. The doctor replied that he was not a lawyer, but that if his friend, nodding toward me, had made a recommendation, he would indorse it. 'Very well,' said Lincoln, 'McBride has asked the appointment of Judge Field. His name will go to the Senate tomorrow'; and it did."

Judge McBride elsewhere speaks of the feeling of uncertainty that prevailed in Washington just before the battle of Gettysburg and with what joy the news was received that the rebels had been repulsed.

Celebration Not Enthusiastic.

"The death of General Reynolds on the first day of the battle was a sad omen," says Judge McBride. "There was a celebration of the Fourth of July held in the White House grounds. It was not enthusiastic, for we knew that the fate of the Nation was then probably trembling in the balance. I had not seen Mr. Lincoln's face express more intense anxiety than during the preceding two days. A platform had been erected, around which a crowd of probably 2000 or 3000 people assembled. L. E. Chittenden was the reader of the Declaration of Independence and Hiram Walbridge, of New York, delivered an oration. He was an impressive speaker and made an impassioned address full of devotion to the Union, and created intense enthusiasm. While he was speaking the President, who, with his family, was seated on the balcony of the White House, a short distance away, rose suddenly from his chair and, waving his hand, signified that he had a message for the audience. General Walbridge closed his address and was taking his seat when the messenger from the President placed a paper in his hand. It proved to be a telegram from General Meade announcing the end of the battle, the retreat of Lee and congratulating the President on the victory of the Union armies. There was at first a feeling too deep for noisy demonstration. Men who suddenly found themselves unable to utter a word shed tears of gratitude. When, however, three cheers were called for, the shout that burst forth was difficult to stop. The crowd cheered the President, where he stood grasping the balcony railing, and his little son at his side wildly waved a small flag to express the joy that was around him."

McBride Returns to Idaho.

At the end of his term as Congressman Judge McBride, at the suggestion of the delegate from Idaho, decided to re-enter the practice of law in Idaho, then in the height of its placer mining prosperity. As the position of Chief Justice was at that time vacant and as it was conveyed to him that the holding of this position would serve to establish him in the community before resuming his profession, he accepted.

In speaking of his last interview with President Lincoln, Judge McBride has said: "I left Washington for New York to take the steamer via Panama on the 19th of March, 1865. Two days before my departure I was invited to dine with the President and his family. There were present on this occasion John W. Forney, editor of Forney's Press; Abram Wakeman, postmaster of New York, and Dr. Henry and myself. The President was in excellent spirits and was most entertaining. The first letters of the inimitable Nasby had just been published, dated from "Wingate Four Corners," and Mr. Lincoln had read them with delight. He repeated the substance of the argument made by Nasby, urging the white folks of Wingate to rise in defense of the Caucasian race from the threatened black invasion. Its grim satire appealed to him strongly.

"We rose from the table at 7 o'clock and Forney and Wakeman took their leave. Dr. Henry and I were invited by the President to accompany him and his family to Ford's Theater for the evening. We accepted and were seated in the box in which he was to meet his tragic end so soon after. At the end of the performance I was put down at my door in Thirteenth street and bade the President and family goodbye for the last time. On the way from the theater Mr. Lincoln informed me that he had that day signed my commission as Chief Justice of Idaho and then added kindly: 'If you shall prove to be as efficient in that post as you have been as Congressman, I shall not be disappointed.' I remember still my reply: 'If I am not a better judge I shall disappoint myself.' With his kind wishes for myself and my safe journey, I saw this greatest of Americans for the last time."

BAKER TO GREET KNIGHTS

Two Hundred Visitors Expected From Cities of Three States.

BAKER, Or., Feb. 17.—(Special.)—More than 200 visiting and local members, including the class of initiates, are expected to be present at the Knights of Columbus convention in Baker tomorrow. Visitors from the Walla Walla, Portland, La Grande and Boise camps will be present, according to Father A. Loeser, assistant pastor at the St. Francis Cathedral, and will be entertained during their stay in Baker by Baker Council, No. 849. Delegations of Baker people will meet the visitors at the depot Saturday night and Sunday morning.

The initiation ceremonies will begin in the Eagles' Hall folowing and during lunch, when it is expected 25 initiates will receive the rites.

On Sunday morning at 10 o'clock the knights and neophytes will march to the cathedral to attend 10:30 o'clock mass, at which Father Murphy, pastor of the cathedral, will give an address.

A banquet is scheduled to be given by the ladies of the Altar Society at the Woodmen's Hall at 7 o'clock Sunday evening, and here also Father Murphy will give the opening address.

UNIQUE PROGRAMME IS ARRANGED FOR WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Community Department of Monday Musical Club, Mrs. J. E. Bonbright, Chairman, Assisted by Mrs. Percy W. Lewis, President, Who Claims Honor for Portland of Originating "the Progressive Community Sing."

Mrs. Frank E. Deem. —Grove

Mrs. Jane Burns Albert

Miss Gertrude Hoeber. —Davies

Madame Lucie Valair. —Bushnell

Miss Eloise Anita Hall

AN inspiration for a decidedly novel celebration of Washington's birthday takes place at leading theaters in this city Thursday night, and has been arranged by the community department of the Monday Musical Club, Mrs. J. E. Bonbright, chairman. She is assisted ably by Mrs. Percy W. Lewis, president of the club, who claims for the club and for Portland the honor of originating "the Progressive Community Sing."

This unique event means a 15-minute programme to be given at six different theaters. The audiences will sing the national airs selected, and the final programme will be given in the court of the Portland Hotel. The evening will close with a reception for singers and other musicians in the parlors of the Portland Hotel, where punch will be served by the management and the social committee of the Monday Musical Club, the latter consisting of: Chairman, Mrs. Joseph Coulsen Hare; vice-chairman, Mrs. Peter Marsden and Mrs. John Toft, Mrs. Rodney I. Herrick, Mrs. Charles S. Campbell, Mrs. E. L. Pettis, Mrs. E. E. Peterson, Mrs. J. C. Corbin, Mrs. Clifford C. Stout, Mrs. W. O. Feenaughty, Mrs. J. W. Saddler, Mrs. W. B. Hare, Mrs. Lillian Conser, Mrs. Henry Waldo Coe and Mrs. Lillian M. Ikle.

The object of the community department of this club is to encourage singing by the people, especially on patriotic occasions.

The following committee is asked to receive the names of all members of choir or club choruses who wish to participate in this patriotic celebration: Mrs. L. T. Newton, Main 7602; Mrs. Philip Blumauer, Broadway 4080; Mrs. E. M. Baker, Woodlawn 2202; Mrs. Richard Mulholland, Tabor 5833; Miss Elizabeth Johnson, Tabor 616; Mrs. W. A. Viggers, Main 4794.

The singers are asked to assemble at the Portland Hotel Thursday night at 6 o'clock and to familiarize themselves with the first verse and the chorus of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," which will be used as a processional at each of the theaters and will be rehearsed at the 6 o'clock assembly.

The processional will be followed by a two-minute patriotic appeal by one of the speakers, who, in closing, will request the audience to rise and sing "America" and "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean," the words of which will be thrown on the screen, wherever practicable.

The words of "America":

My country! 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died!
Land of the Pilgrims' pride!
From every mountain side,
Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee—
Land of the noble free—
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills,
Like that above!

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees,
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break—
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God! to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
Great God, our King!

The words of "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean":

Oh, Columbia! the gem of the ocean,
The home of the brave and the free,
The shrine of each patriot's devotion,
A world offers homage to thee!
Thy mandates make heroes assemble,
When Liberty's form stands in view;
Thy banners make tyranny tremble,
When borne by the red, white and blue!

When war winged its wide desolation,
And threatened the land to deform,
The ark then of freedom's foundation,
Columbia, sode safe thro' the storm:
With the garlands of victry around her,
When so proudly she bore her brave crew,
With her flag proudly floating before her,
The boast of the red, white and blue!

The program closes with "The Star-Spangled Banner," sung by one of the selected soloists, and the audience is asked in each case to join in the chorus.

WASHINGTON DAY CELEBRATION BY MONDAY MUSICAL CLUB.

Schedule for the Celebration of Washington's Birthday, February 22.

Portland Hotel—General assembly of singers, 6 P. M.
Strand—Rev. W. W. Youngson, speaker; Miss Gertrude Hoeber, singer; 7 P. M.
Pantages—Rev. A. A. Morrison, Ph. D., speaker; Mrs. Frank E. Deem, singer; 9:30 P. M.
Baker—George L. Baker, speaker; Miss Eloise Anita Hall, singer; 7:45 P. M.
Lyric—Judge Gantenbein, speaker; Lyric Theater Singers; 8:30 P. M.
Hippodrome—Frank Branch Riley, speaker; Mrs. Jane Burns Albert, singer; 9 P. M.
Heilig—Rev. A. A. Morrison, Ph. D., speaker; Ad Club Quartet, singers; 10 P. M.
Portland Hotel—Rev. Luther R. Dyott, D. D., speaker; Madame Lucie Valair, singer; 10:30 P. M.
Reception for singers and other musicians in the parlors of the Portland Hotel. Jacob Kanzler, master of ceremonies.

Buzzard Has Champion in Senator Lane.

Appropriation of $500 Is Asked of Congress to End "Unfair" Treatment of Scavengers at Washington.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 17.—The lowly buzzard has found a champion at last in Senator Harry Lane, of Oregon. The Senate the other day was discussing the District of Columbia Appropriation bill when Senator Lane proposed, in all seriousness, an amendment appropriating $500 to buy "punk" sticks to burn in the National Zoological Garden in the suburbs of Washington, and moved the adoption of this amendment as a necessary measure to prevent the extermination of buzzards which come to make their abode in the environs of the National Capital. In pressing this amendment, Senator Lane said:

"If you will go to that park at this time of the day, or a little earlier, you will find all the buzzards from Virginia and Delaware, and I assume clear down to Florida, roosting in the trees, and all transient buzzards in their travels between the southern part of this country and the North Pole, stop off and congregate there to roost and enjoy its fragrance. They do that for the reason that the odor arising from the captive animals' houses smells so good to them that they by hundreds and hundreds roost there and in an ecstacy of delight inhale it all night and get up in the morning much refreshed, I have no doubt. Then they strike out across the sky in great circles, hunting for something more substantial, though not so odorous, to eat and sometimes get it and sometimes they do not. Then, although miles away, they get a whiff of the park and back they come with the fixed conviction that surely there must be something where the indications are so strong, either that or they use it as a kind of bracer, as some do who take a cocktail before dinner, intoxicated with the fragrance and elated with the hope of getting something to eat before they go to roost.

"It is not a fair way to treat scavenger birds or stray and unsuspecting birds; it is a kind of hence game which they are put up against, and should be stopped.

"So I offer an amendment here for an appropriation of $500 with which to buy Chinese "joss" or "punk" sticks to burn in front of the cages and menageries to dilute and modify the air about the park, so that these God-fearing birds may get a chance to go about their business of making an honest living without being deluded and flimflammed into thinking they have struck a bonanza, and also that pleasure seekers may make a tour of it without having to suffer nausea while doing so."

Senator Lane's amendment was defeated on a "point of order" raised by Senator Smith, of Maryland, in charge of the bill.

Home Nursing Course Started.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Feb. 17.—(Special.)—A course in home nursing, with particular emphasis on first aid and emergencies, has been established by the department of physical education for women at O. A. C. A large number have elected the course, as all girls preparing for civil service examinations for play ground work are required to take it. The prerequisites for this work are physiology and either anatomy or bacteriology.

NATIVE OF IRELAND DIES AT DAYTON, AGED 77.

Mrs. J. H. Horgan.

DAYTON, Or., Feb. 17.—(Special.)—Mrs. J. H. Horgan passed away at the home of her daughter near Dayton, Or., February 5. Mrs. Horgan was born in Tralee, Ireland, June 24, 1839. She came to America at an early age and lived in New York City for a number of years. She was married to Michael T. Horgan, a soldier of the Union Army, in 1864. Shortly afterwards she and Mr. Horgan emigrated to Arizona, living there three years, and thence to the Willamette Valley. Mr. Horgan died 18 years ago.

Mrs. Horgan is survived by five children—Thomas Horgan, Emily Horgan and Mrs. P. G. Wandrey, of Portland; Edwin Horgan, of Corvallis and Mrs. O. J. Shirley, of Dayton, Or.

Asotin Chief Laufer Loafs Not in Race.

To Catch Train, Official Cares Not for Speed Laws, but Keeps Promise to Friend and Willingly Pays $1 Fine and Buys Cigars.

LEWISTON, Idaho, Feb. 17.—(Special.)—Charles A. Laufer, Chief of Police of Asotin, Wash., guaranteed one of his friends that he would take him to Lewiston in time to catch the outgoing noon train, but as his auto arrived at the station the train departed.

Undaunted, Chief Laufer opened the throttle, exceeding the city speed limits about 30 miles an hour. Patrolman Eugene Gasser saw a streak go by and turned his car in pursuit. The race was hot and furious for three miles. Mr. Laufer arrived at Gurney station, just in time to catch the passenger train. Chief Laufer was taken back to court. The judge imposed a fine of $10, and in the same breath reduced it to $1.

The chief paid the fine, distributed the cigars around the courtroom, and chugged homeward at five miles an hour.

MILWAUKIE HIGH SCHOOL.

BY DOROTHY S. WISSINGER.

The boys of the High School have joined the Girls' Glee Club, thus forming a mixed chorus. A meeting was held recently and officers elected were: Florence Grasle, president; Doris Nash, treasurer, and Gilbert Morgan, secretary. Practice is held every Tuesday at the ninth period, under the direction of Mrs. C. E. Greta. Dorothy Wissinger is the accompanist.

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A candy sale was held Friday in the assembly hall during the first, sixth and eighth periods. Two booths were erected under the direction of Miss Donna Smith and Dorothy Wissinger. Proceeds will go to the student body athletic funds.

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In order to induce the "freshies" and few upper classmen to join the student body, letters have been awarded to those who are members. They are made in form of a shield, the maroon forming the background, with the gold M for the emblem. The new treasurer, Clyde Davis, is receiving fine results since the new system has been started.

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A Spanish class has been organized, under the direction of two teachers, Professor Goetz and Miss Minturn. This means nine periods a day instead of eight, the regular schedule. The extra session will be held from 2:40 to 3:20, and at the present time the entire school is enthusiastic over the new subject.

A state-owned paper mill is being advocated in Minnesota.