

Literary Societies

Elizabeth Burkhardt, '12.

One of the most important aims of any school is to foster the study of literature and give practice in public speaking.

Literary societies aid in acquiring proficiency along these lines. This school, recognizing this fact, has as a part of its regular course literary societies for juniors and freshmen and a public speaking class for seniors.

In order to make it possible for each student to appear on the program a number of times throughout the year, two literary societies the Adelpic and the Agricultural, were formed. On registering, pupils are allowed to choose which they shall enter, but if they have no preference they are assigned to one by a faculty committee.

The arranging of the programs and the conducting of the meetings are largely in the hands of the students, though a large bulk of the work fell upon Miss Franklin and Mr. McCall, faculty supervisors of the Adelpic and Agricultural societies, respectively. The undergraduates owe them a debt of gratitude for the labor and time which they expended.

The work done was along various lines. The idea of variety, thus giving everyone an opportunity to find something to his taste, was always kept in mind.

The strength and character of the work is shown by the following program at one of the joint meetings.

These literary societies met every Monday evening from 7:00 to 8:30.

The public speaking class for seniors met only twice a week and was in charge of Mr. McCall.

The nature of the work is indicated by the name of the class.

Debating Club.

The Debating Club, which met every Thursday night, was not under direct faculty supervision. The membership was limited to invitation, and at its meetings members only were allowed. At these meetings, popular and pertinent questions were debated.

It is an illustration of what is possible along the line of self organization and discipline when students are interested.

Joint Literary Program.

Song by Societies.

Recitation—"Boots."

Piano Solo.

Dialogue—"On the Door-step".

Piano Solo.

Essay—"Small Fruit Raising."

Debate—Resolved: "That the Guernsey is a better dairy cow for this locality than the Holstein."

Song by the Societies.

Debating Club Program.

Song by the School—"Isle of Beauty."

Stump Speech—"Cooking."

Recitation—"The Vagrant."

Essay—"Home Life on the Farm."

Stump Speech—"Sewing."

Recitation—Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

Song—"Dear College Chum."

Debate—Resolved: That consolidated schools would be of more benefit in Minnesota than the common district schools.

Song by the school.