

NEW DEPARTURE IN SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Indoor Base Ball Team Is Promised—Orators Chosen—Annual Auction—Grid- iron Games End.

For the past three weeks a large number of candidates for the indoor baseball team have been putting in some good hard practice at Y. M. C. A. hall and the outlook for a fast nine is considered very good.

The team is a new departure in school athletics and the success of the nine will determine whether or not it will be made a permanent feature.

Up to the present time no games have been scheduled, although negotiations are pending with the Freimuth and Company A nines, both of which are fast. With those two teams and the high school men, and probably one or two Superior nines, a small league might be organized at the head of the lakes. Such a combination would be prolific of good playing and amusement, and could, no doubt, under good management be made to pay well.

Nearly all of the aspirants for places on the nine are members of the high school outdoor baseball nine, and as such they should be able to work up swift team-playing in a short time. Among those now out for practice are Peterson, short stop, Potter, catcher, Cummings, the school's speedy pitcher and Berg, who was "sub" on last years outdoor nine.

The management is awaiting the decision of the Armory board in the matter of securing the hall both for practice and contests, and after that is settled expects to find no trouble in scheduling a number of interesting games. A great many more candidates will put in an appearance after a place is rented in which to practice.

* * * Orators Are Chosen.

Monday afternoon the winners of the preliminary contest in the Senior oratoricals participated in the final exhibition before the assembled school. The speaker, considering that they had never done any work of that kind before, did remarkably well, and to them and Mr. Thomas, under whose direction they have been for some time, much well deserved praise is given.

Sumner Smith spoke on "Japan's Future," and handled this interesting subject logically and well. He reviewed the past history of the Island Empire, called attention to its position among the powers of the day, and mapped out a plausible and highly probable future for the little nation which has of late years made phenomenal strides towards the leadership of the East.

Following him came Miss Grace Duncan, who spoke entertainingly and instructively on "College Education for Women." Arthur Ringsred delivered a semi-biographical account of the great reformer, John Wyckliffe.

Miss Mondschnine spoke on the subject of "America," and evoked great applause by her clever mastering of the broad and comprehensive theme.

Mr. Louis Zalk had for his oration "History's Warning to America." His sentiments showed deep study on the subject and his delivery was very effective. He used many well known similes and metaphores, with cleverness and effectiveness.

Miss Ethel Forsyth had undoubtedly the best work of the day in her well delivered theme "Mary, Queen of Scots," and general satisfaction was evident when it was announced that, together with Sumner Smith, she had carried off the honors, with her touching account of the triumphs and trials of the lovable Scottish queen martyr.

* * * The Annual Auction.

To an onlooker the scene presented at the annual auction must have been a highly interesting one, for this unique feature of the school's Thanksgiving week was even more exciting and bewildering this year than ever before. There was a vim and dash about the buying that cleared the table of its weight of bundles in short order after the bidders once got warmed up to the occasion.

Auctioneer Custance was at his best, and to his skillful management much of the credit is due.

From one o'clock until two, the bidding was mostly done by individuals, but after that time the syndicates began to show their strength, and that person's purse was long who purchased any collection of fudge and waste paper after the trusts entered the ring. All the classes pooled some money and heroically tried to outbid each other, and numerous cliques and factions also conspired to make life strenuous for the auctioneer.

The proceeds from the sale, amounting to \$68.16, were divided between St. Luke's hospital, in which the school is to have a room, and charity. Fifty dollars went to the former, and with the remaining money, turkeys were purchased and delivered to the poor on Thanksgiving morn.

* * * A Poor Exhibition.

Thanksgiving afternoon saw the last football contest of the season in Duluth. The high school boys met the Alumni eleven in what promised to be a long drawn gridiron battle, but it proved to be a very tame and uninteresting affair, although the score would tend to mislead one.

The Alumni hunted up nearly every available player in the city, and their line-up was a strong one indeed. The school missed several of its best players sadly, but those who were in the exhibition did well, despite the fact that no practice had been held since the Superior Normal game.

The wearers of the red-and-white ran up six points against the five secured by the "old grads," thus bringing the total season's score up to 78 against their opponents 27, a creditable showing.

The team work of the '01 eleven has been excellent this year but the defeat by the Minneapolis central high school people seemed to take all the spirit out of the players.

Next year the school will send out an eleven that will, from present indications, place the institution at the head of the list in the Northwest. Nearly every man of the present team will return to school, and will be out on the gridiron ready to hold his place.

Among those who will not return are Ed. Congdon, half-back, Oliver Olson, tackle, and possibly Captain Mallet. The loss of these men will be keenly felt, but several good men promise well in the vacant positions.