The Gamecock

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Columbia, S. C., March 9, 1912.

"Rock Hill is a Good Town."

The slogan, "Rock Hill is a good town," is certainly typical of the city which it represents. The University of South Carolina-Davidson debate was held in Rock Hill last Monday evening, and the welcome accorded the speakers and supporters of the two institutions so impressed the various Carolina men who were in attendance that the campus has been alive all week with Rock Hill talk.

It is a pleasure to be greeted with such enthusiasm and genuine hospitality as was the case Monday evening. The gates of the city were thrown open and every one from the mayor down made it his personal duty to see that every one had a good time—and they succeeded.

We hope that the generous invitation of John T. Rodley, mayor of Rock Hill, that the debate be held there annually will be accepted. The University debating council has acted favorably on the invitation and if Davidson also does, the debate will become an annual contest with Rock Hill as the meeting place.

We wish to thank Rock Hill, her citizens, her mayor and her college—Winthrop—for the delightfully entertainment afforded the men of Carolina and the men of Davidson. But "Rock Hill is a good town" and such treatment was to be expected.

Basket Ball.

The basket ball season of 1912 is over. The teams had a splendid showing, and as many of the men return next year, prospects are extremely bright. The team has by its splendid playing aroused up interest in a game which before this season has been a dead issue at the University.

Basket ball is good sport. It is not a "sissy" game, as many would think from the name "sissy ball," which was at one time attached to it, but is a rough and tumble affair which is bound to grow in favor each year.

We are glad to see the interest the men of Carolina have taken in basketball this season and hope that it will increase during each succeeding year.

The Time to Start.

Every student of the University of South Carolina rejoices when one of its athletic teams wins a contest; every Carolina man feels good-cast if the team lose. Too often, however, such feeling is only evanescent, producing no result.

In most cases, a student "takes it out" in reprising at fate or the lack of the game or the dearth of good players. Seldom does it happen that after a bad season the athletes of the student body or those who could become athletes change their minds and come out for the team.

This would seem to be the proper procedure, little though it is followed. There are two ways to get a good team, baseball or football. One way is to hire it; that is all right for professional clubs, but a college is a different thing. The other way, and the only way acceptable to the traditions of the University, is to recruit from the student body without previous selection.

This recruiting must be voluntary; there is no athletic press gang. The call for volunteers, then, must sound loud in the ears of the prospective athletes. They must answer if the University is to send out good teams.

This is a personal duty, as well as a community obligations. The mass of the students must support the team, with physical effort as well as moral sustenance, or it can not maintain a high standard.

That a man make the team is not necessary. Let him do his best; if he does help give the other fellow to acquire skill he has done something for his college and for himself.

For his college, he has assisted in preparing the men who are to represent it on the field. For himself, he has trained a body and a spirit that must do actual battle for him.

Therefore, let the call be to such as are not unheeded from participation by an excess of work; let the call be: "Come out for the team!"

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