The County Club Idea.

The county club is not a new institution in the life of the university. Hence, these clubs have been organized, officers elected, a picture taken for the Garnet and Black, and the club has then ceased to function.

The Harry, Florence, Anderson and Marion County student clubs have recently embarked upon a program of work which indicates a field of endeavor and usefulness all of the counties represented in the university should emulate. These clubs meet once a month with a regular program consisting in a study of some phase of the economic and social life of their respective counties.

After each of these meetings an account of the results of the study is sent to the home county newspapers. Also, any honors received by a home county student are given mention. The editor of one of these papers said recently that he had rather have such an item of news than to have the results of a presidential election; for live views of local interest is the only reason for the existence of a county paper.

Such notices as these in the local papers serve to keep alive a county interest in the life of the university. Moreover, the county clubs vitalize the community of interest which follows—countrymen and towns- men naturally possess. A reciprocal relationship is established; the county influences react upon the students from that county, and the university through the students react upon the life of the county. A warmer relationship with and these last few minutes, and a closer understanding of each other is established in a way that means a greater mutual helpfulness.

A further end of these county clubs is to perfect economic and social surveys of the various counties in the State. When the club has worked sufficiently, it will be published as a bulletin from the university.

Much good is to be expected from this work, and it will undoubtedly serve to further relate the university to the life of the State.

An Excellent Debate.

Correspondent Comments on Contest Between High School Teams.

The final debate in the contests among the high schools of the State was one of the best of the sort that many of us have heard. It would be done credit to young men and women from the upper classes of many a college. While the decision was by no means uncertain, the judges would undoubtedly agree that the affirmative as well as the negative was worthy of praise.

The weakest work in this debate, as in most others, was in the rebuttals. In fact, it is a question whether each side was not stronger before its rebuttal speeches than after. In rebuttal the speakers were relying upon their extemporaneous gifts, for they had evidently planned nothing here in advance, whereas in their main speeches they were depending solely upon memory.

This weakness was due also to a mistaken idea of what constitutes a rebuttal. John C. Calhoun and Daniel Webster would never have dreamed of trying in four minutes to reply to five or six different arguments, some petty and others unanswerable. The ideal rebuttal concerns itself rather with the one outstanding contention of the other side, and closes as a rule by showing how the speaker’s own argument renders the opponent’s position untenable.

By careful team-work the two speakers on a side agree to give themselves to the two outstanding contentions of the opposition. As in football, each man takes care of one opponent, unless ordered to take care of some one else. It should be an open secret that where debaters memorize their main speeches, they memorize at least a portion of their rebuttal. Many a debate hinges on this last few minutes, and a wise speaker leaves as little as possible to chance.

Debating is pre-eminently the gentleman’s game, and now it is becoming the lady’s game. Personally I thought that one of the speakers from Newberry treated his fair opponent in a way which was scarcely worthy of the highest chivalry, but others were not so impressed, and I may have been mistaken. All will agree that wit and humor have their place in public debate, and the speaker from Spartanburg showed that she was able to hold her own.

In common with all others who heard this debate, I congratulated these contestants, as well as those who trained them. I hope soon to see these promising young folks winning debates for Carolina. I trust that a copy of these lines will go to the high schools in Spartanburg and in Newberry, for certain unfortunate words of my own may have marred what should otherwise have been a perfect day.

Yours for Carolina, Andrew W. Blackwood.

Wise or Otherwise.

Ask Buchanan for the swimming pool schedule at Coker College.

Sifford (at Coker banquet): “Take your finger out of my soup.”

She: “It isn’t hot.”

Dr. Morse (viewing disorderly R. O. T. C.): “Some people say there is no faith in the world, but there must be enormous quantities of faith, hope and charity if they expect to make anything out of these animals.”

We hear a great deal about “spelling reform” nowadays. We don’t think “reform” is very hard to spell.

If a man fell in a barrel of whiskey and drowned we would say he died in good spirits.

Never put off until tomorrow those whom you can do today.

Can you remember the time when a man could get so drunk that mosquitoes bit him dead of delirium tremens?

Prof. Olson: “What does deficit mean?”

Red Webb: “A deficit is what you’ve got when you haven’t as much as you had just nothing.”

He: “I bet you a kiss I steal a kiss from you.”

She: “I bet you two kisses you can’t.”

“Faint heart never won fair lady.” We wonder if there isn’t many a man who wishes he hadn’t been so courageous.

Miss Pallow: “Are your salted peanuts fresh?”

Burnette: “No, salted.”

Whenever a woman asks your advice, always find out what she intends to do, then advise her to do it.

That evangelist said, “Rum has sent more men to the grave than bullets.” He may be right, but the most of us would rather take our chances with rum.

Mark this: A pretty girl is one who can always get a seat on a crowded street car.

It’s not how you get your money, but how you spend it that interests people nowadays.

Brockington (speaking to high school audience): I owe my success in college to one thing alone—pluck. Just take that for your motto. Pluck, pluck, pluck.

High School Boy: “Yes, sir, but please tell us how and whom did you pluck?”

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