At an open meeting of the Mathematics Club, Monday evening, January 16th, Dr. Cernh read a paper on "The History of Numbers." The statements were illustrated on the blackboard, and by charts so that the complete presentation was clear to all. The speaker traced in a general way the origin of the idea of number from primitive times; the application of numbers: the development of arithmetic; and finally, by means of mechanical devices such as the abacus, the quadrant, and the slide rule, and by means of the use of the number symbols, and finally the place of arithmetic and numbers in education.

Beginning with the primitive representation of number by the fingers, he illustrated the successive stages of representation by pictures (chirographs), as the Egyptians, by the Indians, by the Babylonians, by the Greeks, by the letters of the alphabet; in early China, the Sumerians, and finally by the Arabic numerals, which is the present day system, having fully developed and with the zero symbol. The speakers were reminded that the value of our present numerals does not depend upon the fact that ten is the base, but upon the place idea, which required the introduction of the zero. The symbol of the Chinese and of the Hindus in the part of Asia were mentioned as interesting contributions.

In discussing the mathematical position, the fact was stressed that the original number symbols were for recording, and that it does not follow that a good number system must be a system in which the letter is to be used in carrying out the operations as well as a symbol of the meaning of the number. From the invention of the first Hindu-Arabic numerals was traced by reference to the great men such as Gerbert, Leonardo of Pisa, Napier, and others that contributed most to the progress. A number of arithmetical examples of the various eras were showing the ancient origin of many of our famous problems, as well as the fact that "humming" mathematics is not a strictly modern novelty.

In the closing part of the talk the place of Arithmetic in American education was briefly mentioned. "It was the first of the college to depart from classical purity and admit Arithmetic for entrance in 1745, and it was not until after 1855 that Harvard fell in line. In 1815 the school record shows that only 16 pupils in the schools of New England were graduated beyond division into "the rule of three.""

To a weird Egyptian tune, written by Julia Warner, the masoret, a Sphinx, and the Sophomores and Juniors finished singing their class song. It was a very enthusiastic college get-together, each class playing to trying the others. Everyone was excited, and will and class spirit and never have the classes sang with more "pep." One portion of the school is still not aware that the Sophomore and Juniors were to be rivals for the possession of the precious Sphinx. Before all dispersed, the class president explained why the Sphinx had been chosen and what it stood for:-wisdom and steadfastness.

**VALENTINE PARTY FOR ENDOWMENT FUND.**

A surprise is coming to you who are not members of the Secretarial Department League, during whose presidency the Secretarial Department will hold its Valentine Party for the Endowment Fund. There are to be many alluring attractions, one of which is to be a most interesting Post Office. Novelist galore will sure care you to the attractiveness decorated rooms of this department and underline where you can order yourself away without having first had a cup of delicious tea which is to be served while waiting without having first had a cup of delicious tea which is to be served without having first had a cup of delicious tea which is to be served without having first had a cup of delicious tea which is to be served.

**SERVICE LEAGUE JOINS I.C.S.A.**

The second regular Service League meeting for the year was held Wednesday evening, January 18. The Treasurer announced the new order of business adopted by the League. (You may write to Ruth Wells for the blank before you can buy anything and charge it to the League.)

Mary Langenbarber announced the coming of the Hampton Quartet on February 4 and Miss Tomway's talk on March 2. It was voted that the League should join the Intercollegiate Community Service Association. Agnes Leasby gave a report of the association's conference which she and Mildred Duncan had attended in Boston.

An informal vote showed that the members of the League would like the custom of sending girls as entertainers to institutions in the vicinity.

It was voted to charge a fine of 25 cents for absence from a regular Service League meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7.45.

**FRESHMAN REPORTERS Elected.**

At a regular meeting of The News five temporary reporters from the Freshman class were chosen. From these three will be chosen at the end of the year for Sophomore reporters. They are:

- **DOROTHY GRISWOLD**
- **PRISCILLA DRURY**
- **GRAACE WARDEE LONEY**
- **ANNE PARKS McCOMBS**

**THE SYKES MEMORIAL CONCERT.**

The concert given in memory of Dr. Frederick Henry Sykess was reviewed as the first of the class of '23, was attended by a large and enthusiastic audience. A program of compositions by Dr. Louis A. Coerne, who was associated in the first years of the college with Dr. Sykes, was presented, and the opportunity of honoring his memory in this novel way was so highly appreciated by those present who applauded the numbers so well rendered by the pianists.

Probably few were aware of the fact that all but two of the compositions were written within a recent period of a few years; nevertheless, the profound inspiration and sustained flights of Dr. Coerne's creative genius in composition must have been apparent to all.

ANALYSIS.

"Analyze, analysis, college is, and often our speculation in American schools and to a certain extent, the girl was right. We certainly do spend a substantial amount of time on analyzing sentences and chemical substances. In examining the meaning of the unsung hero or that which is to be analyzed, more or less is our effort and in that, in speculating about some things we think of other. There are, however, a certain objects or conditions which we do not analyze or speculate about — those unless we are asleep or persons. Gazing at a unicycle we do not examine our feelings, carefully to discover whether or not we consider this color beautiful. We simply accept the glory of it and delight in it unquestioningly."

Yet very often we are prone to speculate about and to analyze the characteristics of these persons in whom we are supposed to rebuke great faith in our friends. Edward P. Egleston.

"This is not the act and its motive, and on that small word and its meaning until the personal security of the unsuspecting individual and that we were afraid like a butterfly's wing under a microscope. Presently we find that in assuming this role of scientific analysis, we have forgotten the observance of friendship. We have grown cold and critical, and we sat asked and calculatedly at friends and at our friends — but the charm is gone."

In our speculation and analysis we have rejected reality and have been playing with mere ideas, and since friends are among the 'realized' things in the world, we believe we have rejected them. A College may be a place for analysis but 'Analysis of Friends and Its Consequences' is not required in the curriculum.

PRONOUNCE "THAMES" LIKE "JAMES," SAYS U. S. COAST SURVEY. Concluded from page 1, column 3.

Washington comes the word that this is incorrect and should be pronounced 'Temz' then there is no other alternative but to climb over to the other side of the fence.

Very truly yours,

7 AIger Place, New London.

Mr. Edward P. Egleston,
Aiger Place, New London, Conn.

Sir — In your letter of December 1st, I take pleasure in advice as follows:

The name "Thames" is applied to three rivers: one in England, one in Ireland and one in Connecticut. The proper pronunciation of the Thames River is spelled 'Temz;' that in Connecticut is pronounced exactly as spelled, as though rhyming with James. This usage is sanctioned by Webster's International Dictionary and Lipschutz's Gazetteer.

As the names of the Thames Club and Thames Street were no doubt derived from that of the local river, their pronunciation may properly conform to local usage. If the former President of Connecticut College had in mind the river Thames of England or Canada it would be his privilege to use the pronunciation prevalent in those localities.

Trusting that you will advise me whenever I can be of service to you, I am,

Very truly yours,

R. S. Patton,
Acting Director.

SPANISH PLAY in PROGRESS.

Rehearsals have been started for the Spanish Club play, "Zaragota," which was presented March 25. The interest is being shown by the Spanish students, and the play promises to be a treat. Mrs. Gloria Hollister


definitions of honor and the rather general opposition to what are regarded as petty rules.

Trinity — This college has recently joined the ranks of those who have participated in raising money for the aid of distressed European college students. Anna Cherkovskiy, 1918, writes from Topka, Kansas, where she is teaching in the 1918 High School connected with Washburn College, and also at the College. "I am teaching thirteen hours this year but the salary of my classes makes up for fifteen hours of work. I am using one of my beginning classes, I have fifty-eight students, forty-eight of whom are boys. I enjoy my work thoroughly, however. You will probably be surprised to learn that I am taking three hours of law, I hope to take more next semester if I have the time."

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CURRENT EVENTS.
Prime Minister Lloyd George looks to the Geneva conference to carry the world another stage forward in the paths of peace and recuperation after the war if the United States will attend and help to complete the good work done by the Washington conference. In his speech January 21st, at Central Hall, Westminster, he told all nations to attend in a spirit of peace. The conference to be held March of this year is an economic international gathering of all the nations of the world, including Germany and Russia. The United States has as yet made no definite statement that she will send representatives.

The Irish situation took an unexpected turn on Saturday, January 21st, with the announcement that Michael Collins, head of the Irish Provisional Government, and Sir James Craig, Premier of Ulster, had arrived at a mutual agreement which holds out the promise of a peaceful settlement between the North and the South of Ireland. Under the treaty between Ireland and England on December 6th, Ulster had the option of joining the Irish Free State whose status was fixed by that agreement or of remaining in her position of the present time, fixed under the Act of Parliament of 1914.

The world mourns at the death of Pope Benedict XV. L. M. 22.

Smith—There is to be a change in the educational system of the college next year, which will provide special opportunities for students of outstanding scholarship. The plan is that students who have a grade of B or higher at the end of their Sophomore year shall be permitted to be candidates for Honors in a major with a 75. Each candidate will be excused from class attendance and course examinations during the last two years and will pursue her own course of study under the direction of the department. During the last semester of her Senior year, the student will prepare a long paper. At the end of the year she will undertake an examination covering the whole course of study.

Three colored women received doctor of philosophy degrees this year, one of them receiving a case law degree. The institutions which granted the degrees were Radcliffe College, University of Pennsylvania, and Chicago University. All three women graduated from Dunbar High School, Washington, D. C.—School Life.

People we can see along without:
The creature who goes about just before an exam shrieking, "I'm simply petrified! My dear! Do you know, I haven't crunched a book since Thanksgiving," and then comes off with an A or B.

Dear Sir,
I have to see my niece at that place they call C. C. agen. Everyday was about the same but a few things. It was windy and likely cold but the girls didn't seem to mind a bit. We ate in the place that is named after a river over in England or London or somewhere else like that, the confederacy —Miranda says, Say, Hi, do you remember them red and black pigs that old man Tavel just let ter bet and that we liked ter bet on which one would come out on top when they ate? Remember how they used ter step all over each other and run around squippin' when they didn't get fed when they wanted to? Wal I do and that's exactly the way they all yelled and rushed into the place they eat when the big girl what is head waitin' let down the topees. Why, Si, one girl stumbled and most fell and got stepped on because everyone was in such a hurry to get out and ate and them old pigs couldn't have made any more racket or noise than that gang of girls did when they got going. My land! I thought Judgment Day was coming to, I had not heard the trumpets. Now would hear a brass band in that place. We got through all right though and Miranda sends her first regards. I am well and all the animals are the same. I hope that you and family are ok.

With much sincere feeling, I am,

Hiram Jenks.
THE HISTORY CLUB STUDIES CITIZENSHIP.

At a meeting of the History Club on Monday evening, the study of the book "The Young Woman's Citizen" was begun. The club was divided into groups for special study of the book, one member of each group reading the discussion at each meeting. The club members also reviewed two books: "Training for Citizenship" by A. L. Staple, and "The Women in American History," by James O'Neil. A social hour followed the regular program which was both interesting and instructive to those present.

OH, GIVE US MORE!

Editor College News, Dear Ed: Rumor is rife that you are about to offer a handsome prize for the best poem on some subject of general interest to the College community. Believing the student body to be such a topic, I beg leave to submit the following:

McCarthy, Osmelus and Clay; Fitzgerald, McDannell and Gray; McCurry and Lawson; Portr, Porcaro and Clawson; O'Sullivan, Behe and Day.

Or to put it differently:

Ms. Dunn and Mr. Merry; McParlaid, Tracey and Peery, Mossby and Barkor, (Or Porter and Parker), Mulholland, J. Warner and Sperry, Years, hopefully. K.

P.S.: I could also furnish a heroine beginning:

The Boys stood on the Barnum Dock Whirly Hall, mid Bangs with Lebanese.

Alice Gardner '20, has recently accepted a position in the Brookline Public Library, where Miss Mary Davis, librarian at Connecticut College 1915-17, is also located.

Esther Winter, ex-'19, is now Mrs. A. L. Leven, and her address is care of the National Paper and Type Company, Alumado 89 Eie. Mexico. D. F. Mexico.

Freshman: "Why is that Senior like a tough ear of corn?"
Junior: "Because she's husky!"
Freshman: "No! Because she's hard to shock."

C.--I'm going to have a dry shampoo this afternoon.
H.--Want to use my liquid soap?
Freshman in Heated Argument.--It is going to rain just as hard today as it did tomorrow!
A.--I can't get into my locker this morning.
B.--You must have grown fat over night.

HOPE LESS COLUMN.

Dear Miss Hope Less:

As before, we are coming to mid-years. What shall we do in order to pass? Freshman Green.

As mid-years seems to mean a bridge I should say walk bravely across.

Dear Hope Less:

Why are Sphinxes silent? Sophie More.

Because they never speak.

Dear Hope:

I am madly in love but the object of my attentions does not see my charms. What shall I do? Heart Broken.

Find someone else to love. If the person you now love fails to see your charms it is probably because you have none.

Dear Less:

I have lost the book from my glossy. The Seniors will not let me have them open. What shall I do?

Junie Orr

Do not wear the glasses or else use a safety pin.

Dear Hope Less:

What does flank mean? Petified. Flunk means that a teacher has not been properly grateful to you for helping him in class.

I read "The Shell," of world renown, and lived to tell the tale. But when I read "The Fabrie Queen," my heart began to fail.

KISMET!

Me thinks--
I hear faint rumblings
And thundering of dragons
About to descend
On some poor captive maid.
Again
I see the darkened sky
Roiled to an ashen hue
Over hung with clouds
Prophecy of coming storm
Books
Are seen in throns
Descending like an army
Comparing, beseeching us,
Their knowledge still elusive
Mid years!

Our pens we grasp
And fortified with three hours sleep
March bravely forth
Unto our doom.

P. D. Q.

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