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## Connecticut College News Vol. 12 No. 10

Connecticut College

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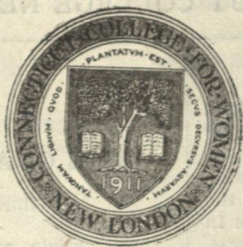
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## British Commoner Tells Of Labor Movement

On Tuesday, November 30th, a young graduate of Oxford, Kenneth Lindsay, of the Labor movement in England, invaded the campus, gave two lectures, and left many ideas to be considered.

The first lecture delivered to a group composed of the sociology and political science classes, was rather introductory to his address in the afternoon. He discussed and explained the poor law, especially which relic of the past is soon to come to an end.

In the afternoon he captivated the expectant audience by his first remark following Mr. Cobbledick's short introduction to a man already known. "Any decent chairman gives the lecturer a chance to think of his subject," he said, "Here I am pushed right into it."

Mr. Lindsay talked for an hour and a half on the causes for the labor movement in England. The economic condition is very serious there. The decrease in the demand for coal, the competition of other countries in exporting of manufactured articles, and the backward conditions of agriculture are all responsible for the labor movement.

The labor party has had a steady growth in the last thirty years, polling 702 votes then, and 5,500,000 now. The labor party is trying to turn the parliament into a workshop of democracy. Its great growth is due to the allegiance of various classes of people—the literary reformers, the trade unions, the non-conformists, and those university men with the new interest. Although America has no labor movement its various specific organization for social betterment correspond to branches of the English movement.

Mr. Lindsay made many vital points. His lecture was illuminated with stories of life in London, bits of English humor, and a real insight into the serious economic conditions there.

While at Oxford, Mr. Lindsay was president of the Oxford Union, on debating, cricket, and football teams, and was an Oxford "blue." He is in-

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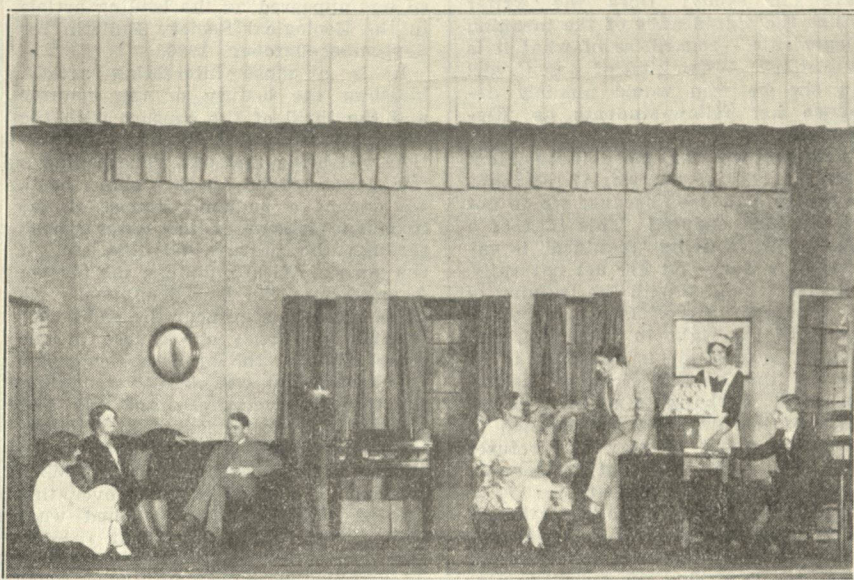
## RAPID EXIT FIRE RULES FOR GYMNASIUM

1. All people sitting at the right of the main entrance in the front pass out right fire escape.
2. All people sitting on the left and in the front, pass out the left fire escape.
3. All people sitting on the right, in back, pass out the main, front entrance.
4. All those sitting on left in back, pass down side exit.
5. All people in the balcony pass down stairs to basement and out of doors.

Please note that the rules for the back section are especially arranged so as to leave one side exit free for those in the balcony. In case the exit to which you were assigned is closed, pass out the nearest open exit.

R. BATTEY, Fire Chief.

## SCENE FROM "THE ROMANTIC AGE"



## EXHIBITION OF ART IN KNOWLTON HOUSE

The eighth annual exhibition of paintings was opened Thursday, December the second, at four o'clock in the afternoon, in the Knowlton House salon. The exhibition will be a private view of works in oils, water colors, and etchings, by Charles H. Woodbury, N. A., one of the most distinguished living American painters.

The collection is a representative one, and shows to advantage every side of this brilliant artist's work. It is an exhibition primarily for the students, opened every day from ten to four o'clock, for two weeks, and it is hoped that students will avail themselves this opportunity. Tea was served at four o'clock Thursday when the exhibition was formally opened.

## TWENTY-NINE "HOPS" TO-NIGHT

Hop is here! The first large social event of the class of 1929 has arrived. Sophomores and their guests, the Seniors with their escorts will attend the tea dance in the afternoon and the Hop in the evening both at Knowlton House. The entertainment and decoration committee have charge of the plans. They consist of Catherine Ranney, Helen Reynolds, Muriel Whitehead, Elizabeth McLaughlin, and Margaret Carns. The orchestra will be the Williams Purple Pirates.

The Freshmen, who have been chosen for waitresses are: Sara Drescher, Barbara Brown, Priscilla Brown, Constance Green, Helen Boyd, Jane Bertschy, Eleanor Marshall, Juliette Phillips, Katherine Fuller, Jannette Booth, Elizabeth Webster, and Helen Hayden.

Those who will act as chaperones are President and Mrs. Marshall, Dean Benedict, Dean Nye, and the honorary members of the Sophomore class, Dr. and Mrs. Erb, and Miss Leahy.

## FALL PLAY IS REVIEWED

Rarely have we seen so thoroughly charming an amateur dramatic performance as the presentation by the Dramatic Club of A. A. Milne's "The Romantic Age" on November 26 at Buckley Auditorium. The level of the production was distinctly above the usual attainment of the Club in the past, a fact which may fairly be attributed to the able coaching of Miss Isabel Wilder of Professor Baker's School at Yale. The precedent thus set for the employment of professional coaches for the big fall play may well be followed in the future, though coaching by students as assistants in the big play and as sole directors of small one-act plays is of value and interest, both to such students themselves and to the student body as a whole.

The cast was well chosen, and each member of it carried her part with credit; some even with distinction. We remember with particular pleasure the fussy, conventional, and matter-of-fact Mrs. Knowle, impersonated by Edna Somers; the lovely, though (in the words of dear Jane) "much too romantic" Melisande, otherwise known as Sandy, and charmingly played by Eleanor Wood; the almost painfully realistic idiocy of Ern (Edna Kelley); the quiet wisdom of the poetic and semi-philosophical peddler, Master Susan (Margaret Elliot); and, by no means least, the devastating charm of the irresistible hero, Gervase, (Dorothy Bayley) whose humor and whose rare combination of imagination and understanding with a whimsical sense of the ridiculous saved a situation that otherwise might have become too absurdly, though tensely, tragic. Elizabeth Gallup as Mr. Knowle, Katherine Foster as Jane, and Mary Jerman as Bobby, were convincing, though their parts demanded less difficult acting than those first mentioned.

The whole performance went off smoothly, and the cast captured in a truly delightful manner the spirit of

## Professor Tinker of Yale Speaks on Literature

Chauncey Brewster Tinker, Sterling Professor of English Literature at Yale University, spoke in the gymnasium on Saturday night, November 27, in the interests of the Sykes Memorial Fund, under the auspices of the Senior Class. His topic was "Hopes for Our Literature."

Our poetry of the day, as illustrated in the works of Amy Lowell, Robert Frost, Edwin Arlington Robinson, and Leonard Bacon, though abundant, is largely esoteric. It has not the universal appeal that underlies poetry which will be read by the people at large. Even those who do find pleasure in it, find it perhaps in the novelty rather than in the intrinsic worth of the pieces. For instance, when one has completely disentangled the meaning of Sandburg's work, one finds nothing left to enjoy, all the satisfaction lies in the solution of the puzzles it presents.

Much of our poetry is such an entanglement of suggested meanings, in the dextrous handling of which, its authors sometimes lose sight of the beauty and the depth of meaning that it is believed to be the aim of poetry to present to those less fortunate in seeing them. What our literature needs, therefore, is a reinfusion of the element of passion, human passion that forms a universally appealing subject to all readers.

There are some evidences of this new development in isolated cases of short poems. Some of them are not on a very high level of poetic expression appearing in the columns of the news-

(Continued on page 3, column 3)

## COLLEGE OBSERVATORY IS NOW COMPLETED

The small white building beyond the tennis courts, which has been the cause of so many recent conjectures, is the new astronomical observatory. It contains a new five-inch telescope, of refractor type and petiddier make, which is equatorially mounted. It is equipped with electric clock-work which makes it move at the same rate the heavens move, so that the object is always in the center of the field, without the necessity for continual adjustment. The building is patterned after the structures which house many valuable instruments at Harvard. The roof is separated into two sections, one or both of which can be moved by a chain arrangement, so that the roof is open to the sky.

The observatory will be used in connection with the astronomy classes. The instrument is well-adapted to the work for which it is intended, and will be turned over to the students to be used freely. It has a good lens and is of a type which can be easily handled.

The observatory fills a practical need, and will prove of great value for the observation work of the astronomy classes.

light-hearted good fun, sentiment, and whimsy that pervades the play. We have to thank the Dramatic Club for a most creditable and diverting evening's entertainment.



## Connecticut College News

ESTABLISHED 1916

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### THE CULTURAL AIM

The arrival of a young Englishman upon the campus brought new thought to our minds. Not only did the main points of his addresses arouse discussion on campus, but also the points which he implied but did not emphasize. One of the most interesting ideas which he brought out was the comparison of the English and American college and universities. "The English universities have excellency," he said, using the idea of Meiklejohn, "and the American universities have democracy." Our universities are open to the crowds, almost every young person of any ability will be accepted. Universal higher education is recognized. Approximately one from each hundred young people in America go to college, one from each thousand do so in England. Mr. Lindsay complimented us on our democratic system but he also intimated that our college do not reach the high standards of culture.

Such a problem should be considered by American colleges to-day. By giving education to all, have we lost culture? By creating better economic conditions have we so lost ourselves that we shall never reach the intellectual and cultural levels of England's universities?

It has been argued that our educational system, a one-class system aiming to educate all, cannot produce the same result as can the English two-class system of elimination. Certainly, they have fewer students to work with but America should meet the test. She should produce from her highest type of student an equally high-class result.

Stewart Paton, in his book, "Signs of Sanity" says, "No wonder that foreigners consider us superficial since our educational system is arranged to call into activity only our conscious system of adjustment with no leisure for the deeper, subconscious process to develop." Perhaps this is the answer to the problem. Whatever it is, there must be some solution. It is a shady compliment for Americans to say that American colleges cannot possibly produce human beings comparable to the

### FREE SPEECH

[The Editors of the *News* do not hold themselves responsible for the opinions expressed in this column.]

Dear Editor: Why the unreasonable avalanche of criticism against the Seniors this year? That little poem in last week's *News* was the last straw, and we feel things should be shown in true light.

Granted,—we Seniors are not perfect, we have our faults—perhaps a few serious ones, but surely we are not as bad as some would paint us. Why we have even been called "Degenerate" in study! Does the writer realize the significance of the meaning "Degenerate"—regardless of what it is applied to? What kind of a C. C. girl can she be who would publicly denounce her fellow-students as "Degenerate?"

And are we any more inconsistent than the rest of the world? Perhaps we are so slandered because we do not act dignified enough! This idea of a Senior always being "dignified" is entirely overdone—let her act naturally, and in accordance with the training of her four years here. Is she to be deprived of the right to joke, fool, and cut-up because she is supposed to be the top limb on this glorious "Learning tree." Perhaps as a result of her years of learning she has learned to value the spirit of play and refuses (and rightly so) to accept the sorrows of this world until necessary!

And still further we are "dissatisfied"—on what grounds? Perhaps our young friend has interpreted our eagerness to peek over the other side of the fence, after college, in the light of a dissatisfaction with conditions here. How can she justify her right to criticize a Senior's attitude until she herself has lived here four years, found herself changing in attitude and outlook on life, for she will change that much—we can guarantee! And until then may we request her to refrain from her hypocritical "Here's to the Seniors" and devote her time to more successfully understanding human nature.

—A Real Senior.

Editor's Note—Fortunately the *News'* interpretation of our contributor's poem is very different. What else could it be but a sarcastic explosion against all the past insults to seniority. In our contributor's mind, the whole affair has gone so far that it has now become a joke. Did it never occur to "A real Senior" that a poem with such an obvious title as "A Senior's Lament" must have been written by a member of the Senior class?

English without changing the whole system from the roots up. Mr. Lindsay pointed out our failing, but seemed to think it could be improved. Let us take the same attitude. Now that we have reached the goal of a very efficient education for all, let us make our aim refinement and culture.

### LITERARY CRITIC TO SPEAK NEXT TUESDAY

Possessing a passionate fondness for literature, a critically discerning mind, and a warm enthusiasm for the good things in literature, John Macy, who is to speak at Convocation, December seventh, on "Reading for Enjoyment" should prove a most interesting and diverting speaker. Mr. Macy is no coldly discerning critic, but rather one who is capable of communicating to others the warm enthusiasm he has himself felt. He speaks not from a lofty distance, but rather as a sharer of our common heritage of literary art.

Mr. Macy's reading has been so wide that Christopher Morley said of him "I wonder if there is any book you can mention that Jack Macy has not read." And yet his reading has been

## THE BOOK SHELF

### THE GUACHARO BIRD

Gloria Hollister

An article appeared in the *News* last spring telling of the experiences of Gloria Hollister '24 in British Guiana where she captured the first Guacharo or Oil Bird to be exhibited in captivity. This fall, Miss Hollister's own story of that part of her zoological expedition when the bird was captured has appeared as the leading article in the Zoological Society Bulletin for September-October, 1926.

It is a most interesting article, blending the beauty of the country and the thrill of the capture with the necessary zoological details. A quotation will bring this out, "Proceeding a few paces around another sharp bend, we caught a sudden glimpse of the luxuriant foliage of the outer world, through the narrow, slit-like end of the gorge. With a plunge, the stream dropped into the last deep pool. No nests could be seen near the end so we started to retrace our course to our companions at the head of the gorge. Our Indian boy was already struggling up the last waterfall, and we had started to buck the current. Suddenly a movement by the edge of the rapids attracted our attention. With a shout, I clapped my net over this moving object. Like crouched worshippers of Buddha, we bent speechless over a treasure! It was a lively young, half-feathered Quacharo Bird! . . . . An hour later the Matura pulled up anchor and was sailing out through the bocas tinged by a golden sunset."

Gloria Hollister a zoology major, and president of Student Government in 1924 has received, since her graduation, her M. A. in zoology at Columbia. She went on this interesting zoological adventure in South America; spent some of her European trip, this summer in study and conference in southern European universities, and is now studying photography at Columbia so that she may have that added advantage in her work.

The article is illustrated by many photographs of the country, and of her treasures. Any who are interested may find the article in the zoology laboratory.

### "TRAGEDEE"

Seven telegrams she sent,  
"Will you come to Hop?"  
Seven kind regrets received,  
"No cuts left, so cannot."

Her face was sad, aloud she cried,  
"No more men I know.  
Although I have a brand new dress,  
To Hop I cannot go!"

In vain she tried to find a man;  
And kind friends did their best.  
But day before the Hop arrived,  
And she was still distressed.

That eve came seven telegrams,  
"We have a holiday,  
Can make the seven-fifty-six."

Will be there right away."  
"What awful luck!" the maiden cried,  
My life's a tragedee!"

Insane, to Ocean Beach she went  
And jumped into the sea!

highly and critically selective. Mr. Macy has proved his critical genius by his sponsoring of little known men who have later been hailed by the literary world as great discoveries. He was one of the first to recognize the genius of Joseph Conrad. Mr. Macy's attraction as a lecturer lies chiefly in the fact that he is not merely an erudite critic, but also a diverting and entertaining speaker with a magnetic personality.

### "HER SON'S WIFE"

Dorothy Canfield Fisher

"Dids" with dirty hands and a pink silk dress, poor little "Dids," her own grandchild, needing care—that was what Mrs. Bascomb saw, and that was what drove her back to her home, which the slatternly Lottie, her son's wife, had made unbearable for her. The story of how Mrs. Bascomb sacrificed herself and her pride in order to give the little girl the upbringing that she needed; and put up with the shiftless Lottie in order to make a home for her son, Ralph Bascomb, is the main theme of "Her Son's Wife," Dorothy Canfield Fisher's latest novel. It deals with the problem of the relationship between a mother and her daughter-in-law, and the attitude of her son toward them both. Mrs. Fisher's sage common-sense and keen insight into human nature have given us an excellent treatment of the subject. She gives us no arguments, but through the medium of her characters, she appeals to our sense of justice and is able to move us to what we feel are the heights of righteous indignation, as far as Mrs. Bascomb's position in her own house is concerned. Our disgust for beautiful, vulgar Lottie melts into a kind of pity when we realize that she never had a chance. We feel that Ralph's helplessness is due to his being a victim of circumstances. Mrs. Bascomb never ceases to be admirable, although at times she seems to be almost superhuman in her capacity to teach school all day and then return home to a day's housework and dishes, a whining Lottie who never lifts her finger, and a discouraged Ralph. In the face of little "Dids" she found her courage, for there the eyes of her long-departed husband looked out at her and gave her strength.

The sequence of the plot shifts several times, with resulting confusion. Otherwise the book is masterfully written and is a delight of Mrs. Fisher's admirers. It is worth every minute of its reading and is unquestionably one of the books of the current year.

### WE HAVE A TEST ON HAZLITT

Hazlitt was a mighty man,  
In darin—bold and free.  
His life, alas, was one short span,  
Because he loved his tea.

Through Hazlitt's fifty years of life,  
He loved three women well.  
But they contrived to stir up strife—  
They made his life a hell.

O, Hazlitt was a man of vim  
Who spoke his mind right clear;  
And all the world was damned by him—  
At that he had no peer.

He loved his turnips and his cake.  
A simple life he led.  
And now we suffer for his sake.  
Long after he is dead.

When Hazlitt came to his last day,  
And said good-bye to strife,  
He felt that he had cause to say  
"I've had a happy life!"

And we, who on this fatal day  
Must suffer torture grim,  
Have cause to wish (though shock it may)  
The same might come to him.

O, Hazlitt was a man right brave,  
In chorus answer we,  
But how we wish some errant knave  
Had put poison in his tea!



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## ALUMNAE NOTES

Class of 1926

Dorothy Andrews is stock control clerk in Sage Allen and Company, Hartford.

Barbara Bell and Frances Greene are clerks in the New London Savings Bank.

Eleanor Bond is in the Aetna Life Insurance Company of Hartford.

Dorothy Brooks is running the Fire-side Gift Shop in Northampton.

Mildred Dornan is in the book department of John Wanamaker's, N. Y.

Lorraine Ferris is a secretary on the staff of Scribner's magazine, N. Y.

Jean Gillette is a proof reader on the Illinois State Journal, Springfield, Ill.

Elizabeth Platt is executive secretary of the Girl Scouts in Newark, N. J.

Amy Wakefield is doing statistical work in the Thompson Spa, Boston.

## "PHILOSOPHY OF DRESS" IN MANIKIN EXHIBIT

On Friday, November 26th, and Saturday, November 27th, an art exhibition by Bonwitt Teller & Company of New York, was held in Room 22, New London Hall. During the past year they have been conducting a series of educational lectures in the schools and colleges of the east. The exhibition consists of thirty-six manikins and is entitled the "Philosophy of Dress." Its purpose is to show how the fashions of to-day are influenced by those of yesterday. They were grouped not chronologically but ethnologically to show the turning points of costume history.

There are two fundamental types of costume—the tailored among the skin-cutters of the north, and the draped among the weavers of the south. There is perhaps a third type which is a combination of the two. Practically all modern dress belongs to this composite group. Most people think of tailored clothes—that is, clothes that are cut and fitted to the figure—as being extremely modern, but history shows that among the earliest peoples, especially those who dressed in skins, clothes were tailored. Of course when the people who used tailored clothing came into contact with those who used draped costumes, these were bound to be a mixture. In some isolated tribes it is found that they are wearing exactly the same type of garment that their ancestors wore hundreds and hundreds of years ago.

It can easily be seen how the dress of a people reflects their mode of life.

## PROFESSOR TUCKER OF YALE SPEAKS ON LITERATURE

(Concluded from page 1, column 4)

paper; but wherever they may be, if they express a renewed interest in the depths of human feeling they present a hopeful sign in the outlook for our literature.

The next question to be asked is about the long poems. Are there any sustained poetical efforts that contain this necessary element? One remarkable piece has appeared, the sonnet-sequence of Dr. William Ellery Leonard entitled "Two Lives." It is a tale of the maniacal suicide of Dr. Leonard's wife, for which he himself was held to be somewhat implicated. Unpleasant indeed, but the passionate expression of a man who must find some outlet for the overwhelming emotions within himself.

The poem is criticised as a distasteful exposure of private, domestic tragedy, that should rather be hidden than thrust before the public in poetical form. However its lack of restraint may offend some readers, it is a remarkable work and the only one which has thus far appeared on the horizon of our literature that seems to mark the beginning of a new era, in which passion and beauty shall once more be the guiding lights of composition, and poetry shall become a truly popular art.

For instance in the old court costumes we have evidence of the love of splendor and show that characterized those times in the array of jewels, metal cloths, and bright colored velvets. Love of beauty, the will towards ornament, the desire for individual expression is inseparable from human nature in its lowest as in its highest form.

The manikins were very exquisitely, and exactly dressed. They had been copied from old prints and museum pieces. The figure of Queen Elizabeth was one of the most elaborate. She was dressed in red velvet and gold cloth, with a great train of the metal cloth. All the details were quite perfect on every figure. The eyes were especially expressive of the period that the manikin was supposed to represent. The hands, too, had been so arranged as to be typical of the particular type that the period had produced. Each bit of lace and ornament was an exact reproduction of the original. It was, on the whole, an extremely worth while and beneficial exhibition.

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## COLLEGE THANKSGIVING IS ESPECIALLY GAY

It seemed incredible to 500 or more college girls who had counted the months, the weeks, then the days, and then the hours that on the morrow the sun would shine on the day of days—Thanksgiving. There could be no mistake in counting this time because no one could fail to sense the excitement and anticipation which prevailed the entire campus. From Wednesday noon till six o'clock, taxis plied their trade

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from New London Hall to the station, each with its group of girls homeward bound.

After dinner it could truthfully be said that practically every girl who remained at college boarded a town car for the various theaters.

Thursday morning while the majority availed themselves of a good morning's sleep, a few ambitious ones went hiking in order to gain an appetite for the feast at one o'clock.

At ten many of the Faculty, the girls and their guests attended the Thanksgiving service at the "gym."

Thames Hall was in gala attire when the girls and their guests arrived for the feast. The tables were pulled together and looked bright and gay with their center pieces of grapes, oranges, bright red apples, grapefruit, and plump cheery pumpkins. The Faculty and their families presided over most of the tables, joining in the fun and songs as heartily as any of the girls. The dinner was complete from the huge browned turkeys "with all the fixings" to the cranberry sauce, and warm mince and pumpkin pies. Each table vied with the others in singing, but the prize for originality should go to Dr. Laurence and his singing and dancing troupe. The carving prize for non-professionals should go to Marian Lamson.

In the evening everyone went to Knowlton House for an evening of dancing and good time. At the intermission refreshments of coffee, grape-nut ice cream and macaroons were served in Knowlton dining room. Dur-

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ing the evening, Marie Leverone '29, gave several piano selections, Betty Webster and Helen Oakley '30, danced and Katherine Whitely '28, did some clogging.

During the latter part of the evening groups of girls just back from the Thanksgiving at home, joined the party. The party broke up at a late hour with everyone agreeing they had had as fine time as they would have if they had gone home.

### BRITISH COMMONER TELLS OF LABOR MOVEMENT

(Concluded from page 1, column 1)

terested in sociological and political progress in England, and to further that end, has become one of the workers in Toynbee Hall, the first settlement house in London. He has been twice put up for Parliament by Oxford, and defeated, but is in local politics, in that he is the representative of the most crowded sections of London,—Stepney.

### CALENDAR

Saturday, December 4—Sophomore Hop.

Sunday, December 5—Reverend Charles Spalding at Vespers.

Sunday, December 5—Discussion group at 7 in Branford.

Monday, December 6—Art Exhibition in Knowlton continues.

Monday, December 6—Representative here for train reservations.

Tuesday, December 7—John Macy at Convocation.

Saturday, December 11—Glee Club Concert.

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