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The Xaverian News
Cincinnati, Ohio

A paper published by the students and devoted to the interests of St. Xavier College of Commerce and Journalism.

Vol. II February-1917 No. 6

Tribute to Mr. Laurie J. Blakely from Rev. F. Heiermann, S. J.

When Mr. Laurie J. Blakely, our dear friend and professor, passed away, I could not help admiring his staunch character, his vast learning and correct judgment in all questions of the day. It was only after my arrival in Cincinnati that I became acquainted with Mr. Blakely. I could not help admiring his staunch character, his vast learning and correct judgment on all questions of the day. It was thought desirable to have him connected with the College. The St. Xavier College of Commerce, Accountancy and Finance was established in 1911. In 1912 the college of Journalism was added, and Mr. Blakely was put in charge of the new department. The course in Journalism was to be an alternate for accounting; and the degree-work was to include the entire program of ethics, economics and business law of the College of Commerce. The faculty agreed with Mr. Blakely in his opinion that the professional journalist, and, in fact, all those who want to be practically acquainted with the work of this profession, must be thoroughly informed on correct principles of economics, law and the facts of history, both political and social, domestic and foreign. If the profession should wield its influence for the real and highest interests of mankind.

Of this ideal Mr. Blakely was convinced. To hold up such an ideal in theory and practice before the students Mr. Blakely was fully equipped. With his vast experience as a newspaper writer in several large cities, connected by the ties of friendship with prominent editors, he obtained a mastery of a clear forceful and convincing style, which made his thoughts and principles stand out in bold relief and carry conviction to the minds of the readers. Mild irony, wit and humor entered his literary composition and lectures as welcome and spicy ingredients. Much of what he wrote was of permanent value and deserves to be published. A series of lectures on literature and education delivered at the summer school of the Sisters of Charity at Cedar Grove, Cincinnati, was published for private circulation in 1915.

No one who has ever come in contact with Mr. Blakely could forget him. On the students he has deeply impressed his sterling character. He was affable, winning, always ready for a chat, but in that rare gem degerated into gossip, it was soon interwoven with some important question or problem of the day. He hated sham and saw through it at once. In his emotional nature his heart would often bubble over and sparks of righteous indignation would fly from the involi on which selfish schemes were harnessed by his logic, consistency and sincerity. His views on present-day affairs were illuminated by the light of history, literature and the principles of American government, branches which he mastered so thoroughly and brilliantly. To be in his class was to be stimulated, to be aroused to mental activity, to get at the truth, to take an active interest in public welfare. To listen to him at the Social League meetings, as we listened on that memorable Friday evening, or at banquets, was to be delighted and amused, and to find some valuable gems of advice and wisdom that would be treasured by his audience.

Mr. Blakely looked upon journalism as a great and noble profession, burdened with high responsibilities but a power in the realm of truth, making for clear thinking and clean living. In this high ideal Mr. Blakely set the example not only for those who wished to enter upon the profession of journalism. His endeavor was of a wider range. His efforts were directed toward shaping the views and honest convictions of the readers of the newspapers, the product of the newspaper men and to train, as far as lay in his power, a wide circle of newspaper men and to train, as far as lay in his power, a wide circle of readers that would read with kind but not uncritical eyes.

Mr. Blakely's character had something of the courteous, gentle, but independent and uncompromising chivalry of old. He was a knight without fear and reproach. The source of his emotional nature his heart would often bubble over and sparks of righteous indignation would fly from the involi on which selfish schemes were harnessed by his logic, consistency and sincerity. His views on present-day affairs were illuminated by the light of history, literature and the principles of American government, branches which he mastered so thoroughly and brilliantly. To be in his class was to be stimulated, to be aroused to mental activity, to get at the truth, to take an active interest in public welfare. To listen to him at the Social League meetings, as we listened on that memorable Friday evening, or at banquets, was to be delighted and amused, and to find some valuable gems of advice and wisdom that would be treasured by his audience.

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because he was true to his religion and to his God. He respected the views and convictions of others, and his large circle of friends honored him for the seriousness of his convictions. He was a man, honest and just.

His desire was to do good on a much larger scale than was possible in his position. His success may not always have been marked by glorious laurels before the world. But his life was a blessing to his family, and is a sweet memory and inspiration for all who knew him. His good deeds are written in the Book of Life. His great ideals, his many convictions, his glowing love and kind affection will always be remembered by his admiring students, his co-workers of the faculty, and especially by the writer, who revered and loved him. He was one of the sincerest friends and an enthusiastic and self-sacrificing supporter of St. Xavier College.

When I look at the impressive and attractive figure of this beloved friend as exhibited in the Commercial Tribune, which he served until his strength failed him, I see shining forth from his nature features a mind busy indeed with the affairs of this world, but never aloft above more human aspirations. He seems to me to deserve as a beautiful and fitting inscription the praise bestowed on the "just man" in the Book of Rocks: "His will is in the law of God. No shot he has a tree which is planted on the running waters and which shall bring forth fruit in due season, and his leaf shall not fall off, and whatever he shall do shall prosper."

University of Detroit, Detroit, Mich., February 9, 1917.

THIRD YEAR LAW

Upon the advent of a new professor the students hold an informal court during races. It is a trial by jury in a courtroom without a judge, and the Professor can not speak in his own defense.

And so in the course of their judicial procedures a verdict has been rendered on Alfred T. Geisler, Professor of Bailments and Carriers. He has been found guilty of possessing a sense of humor and depriving the class of whatever dryness the subject might possess per se.

There are some classes that, in the eyes of the students, stand out from the rest in point of interest. "Transportation," or "Bailments," promises to be another.

Without wishing to appear uncharitable we would say that Al was out the night before last Law class. He got up shamelessly before the whole class and told us that "bailments are obligatory on the warehorse." That's all right, Al, but how did you know?

WILL H. CURTIN.

THE XAVERIAN NEWS

THE SOCIAL LEAGUE RECEPTION

The annual reception of the Social League was held at the Columbian Hall, Walnut Hills, on Tuesday evening, February 5. The affair was a success, both socially and financially. The attendance was large, more than 160 couples being present. A very interesting program had been prepared by the committee in charge, and it is evident that the students and their friends had a very enjoyable evening.

YOUR NEWSPAPER IN THE MAKING

Interesting Phases of the Stupendous Task of Producing the Daily To Be Discussed at St. Xavier

The big American newspaper in the making, with especial attention to the stupendous task of gathering day by day, the material for its varied departments, the editing of this budget and, eventually, placing it in the paper in such wise as to appeal, will constitute the subject for discussion with the classes in writing for profit at St. Xavier's for the next two or three weeks.

Felix J. Koch, the traveling newspaper and magazine correspondent, who has just succeeded the late Laurie J. Blakey in the chair of journalism there, has extended the scope of what was herebefore the course in journalism only to one which should take up all phases of writing for profit: and, quite as often, the writing for pleasure as well.

The initial lecture of the course was given over to a summary of the field. The course in Advertising and Salesmanship, is now traveling for the United States Rubber Co., as Joseph Schmidt, of the Mabley & Carew Co., gave a helpful address on "How Advertising Helps Salesmanship," Oscar M. Brooker, who was President of the class of 1915-16, was cordially invited, and his talk on "Art As An Aid to Advertising and Selling" was illustrated with stories from life and some of the choicest works of the Barnes-Crosby Co. in half-tone, hue and color.

Joe J. Bump, an alumnus of the 1915-16 class in Advertising and Salesmanship, was called to Florida on business and sent greetings for St. Xavier from Jacksonville.

BOWLING PARTY

The idea expressed in the proverb, "All study, no play, makes Jack a dull boy" is becoming a sort of second nature to the boys of the third year.

A bowling party was on the bill of Saturday evening, January 27. An enjoyable time was had by all, and the enthusiasm and excitement of the boys bid fair to call for "some more of the same."

Prof. Theo. Geisler graced the evening with his jolly presence, and for the time being became one of us.

B. A. HITTNER.
The gifted Halahan, who said that Kentucky lost much by not locking the Major and Blakely in a room and having a stenographer take down their chat of old times and deeds in Kentucky.

Mr. Blakely was master of his tongue. He wrote with the exquisitely simplicity of Addison and the tenderness of Dickens. His mind was a storehouse of knowledge. He could quote pages from all the "Tales of Two Cities." In early life he was a warm friend of Mark Twain.

When Everett J. Appleton edited the Young People's Supplement of the Commercial-Tribune, Mr. Blakely contributed a series of stories, which should be put in permanent form, so charmingly true were they of child life. Not only had he at his finger tips the quaint lore of Kentucky, but he was equally familiar with Indian legends, Blackbeard stories, and many times told tales over campfires.

Mr. Blakely built that delightful little fancy, "The Curse of Mahiliong." What the celebrated Dr. Johnson said of Goldsmith may be said of Mr. Blakely: "He touched nothing, which he did not adorn."

He had the heart of a poet and the tenderness of a woman. He gave of the best that was in him, and in the saving, giving of all power he lost in the fight. It was during the last cold days of November and December, a many-voiced song filled out in chords and choirs—his familiar bag of "copy" held in his hand—his soft voice well over his shock of snowy hair. He picked the little fellow up and "sot him across," as the Cumberland folk would express it.

Pity such a man could not have been lifted out of the sordid, crushing strife of the fight. It was during the last cold days of November and December.

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THREE MENTAL DRAGONS:

"Fear," "Lack of Nerve" and "Being a Quitter" are the most terrifying mental dragons which block the road to success, and through right, change the average man into a spineless jellyfish. I say mental dragons because they are but the creations of a cowardly mind. Every man at some time in his career must meet and overcome them.

Through close observation I find that these "Mental Dragons" have existed and still exist in the classes of Ethics and Political Economy. I say "have existed" for many would not destroy them and have given up the right. I say "still exist" for some show an outward manifestation of yielding sooner or later to this alliance of mental dragons. How about you? Have you a sneaking feeling that the verdict of self-analysis would be "I am one of that mob" (some)? What are you going to do? Quit, like the rest, give up before you begin to fight? If so, do not surrender because these dragons are easily destroyed and the way to do it is by giving them a chance to show themselves and then beating them to death with the "Big Stick" of "Self-Confidence," making it right and left with "Courage and Perseverance."

Upon the complete annihilation of these monsters begin the course with a deep-rooted earnestness, a steadfast purpose, that will break no difficulty and know no stopping until you have finished that which you have set out to do. You are going to study hard and faithfully, in order that you may improve and develop within you the power to obtain from life something more than a mere existence. You are going after success in its bigger, broader sense. Realize, then, that the reward and advantages you gain will be in direct ratio to the time and effort you put forth. Every minute you devote to the task means depositing so much capital in the "Bank of Knowledge." The larger the capital, the greater the earning power; with no capital you are bankrupt. The immutable law of compensation makes it certain that you cannot obtain something for nothing. In conclusion do not slight anything in the course; every idea, every thought incorporated in the lessons is necessary for you. Your self-interest demands that you study everything carefully, earnestly. Skip nothing, forget nothing. The epigrammatic poet, Edward Young, says: "Think naught of trifles, though it small appear; Small sails the mountain, moments make the year. And Trifles Lost."

CLASS IN MODERN INDUSTRIALISM.

In these stirring days of almost-war, we of the United States should know how the country is prepared in a commercial way to supply our people with necessities and to meet the emergencies of time of war.

What about foreign trade and the wanted opportunities it presents to our manufacturers? What will be the conditions that we will have to meet, when the great world struggle is over? Will not the competition that Europe will present to our manufacturers of finished products make the road to a dividend paying condition very rough for them?

Such are a few of the vital questions that Mr. DuBrul answers in his lectures on "Modern Industrialism." The Professor was in New York Monday, February 5, so most of the class meandered over to St. John's Hall and witnessed the St. Xavier band, half-tune sallie Georgetown to that harmonizing melody. "We've got 40; Oh, You 21."

The next night was "the" dance, and the Goddess Terpsichore wreaked her vengeance on Duane. The fall of the Roman empire was not half so great.

WILL H. CURTIN.

ALUMNI ELECT NEW PRESIDENT

On Friday, February 2, the Alumni of St. Xavier College of Commerce and Journalism held their annual election. After a number of spirited campaign speeches by advocates of the Red and Blue tickets the following officers were elected: Francis Cloud, President; Ambrose Suhre, Vice-President; George Ganster, Secretary; Edward Ganster, Treasurer; Matthias Helz, Historian.

In his speech of acceptance the newly elected President pledged himself and his fellow officers to make of the Alumni Association a live-wire result-giving and effect-producing organization. The idealism and optimism which he infused into the members will be powerful factors in making his promises come true.

The suggestion of the Social League that both organizations have joint social meetings met with a hearty response and when put to a motion was unanimously adopted. Accordingly the first meeting of the Alumni Association will be on Friday, March 12, when the Social League will have its monthly meeting.

After the business meeting a buffet lunch was served.

Lots of things seem easy till you try to do them, especially examinations.

ARGUMENT AND PROOF.

Argument is reasoning offered to induce belief or convince the mind; it is that upon which proof is based.

Proof is the effect, or result, of evidence or argument which convinces the mind of the soundness of the proposition advanced.

Ralph Lippert in personal letter to McDonald.

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Next meeting of the Social League Friday, February 23, at 9 p.m. "Over the Highways of Alaska" will be the subject of an illustrated lecture by John B. Hardig. There will be music and refreshments will be served.

WILL H. CURTIN.

"That man has gone through 50 fortunes or more."

"Is that so? It does not seem possible, for I know he is not a spendthrift."

"He isn't. He is a certified public accountant."

JUST A SUGGESTION.

There is a gentleman in the second year class of Journalism who goes under the high sounding title of Mr. L. M. Heltz. He is now devoting his leisure moments to cultivating a brush on his upper lip. Owing to his high standing in the community we do not wish to say anything that would offend him, but merely to inform him that if he would cut off his budding facial adornment it would greatly enhance his beauty from an artistic viewpoint.

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