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# LUTHER COLLEGE

"A COLLEGE FOR MEN"

*"Learning is not All of College Life"*

DECORAH, IOWA

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*Main Building, Luther College.*

## *Life at Luther College.*

You may have heard the motto "College life is more than college learning." That is, that the associations and activities at college outside of the school room are more important than the work of the school room itself. There is much truth in this, but it hardly does full justice to a college. The college is primarily a place of study and investigation. And yet, the influence of college life is of immeasurable importance and should concern every prospective student.

For college life, as well as life in general, may be on a high level or on a low one, may be good or bad. And college life always helps to make habits of living, habits that later in life will make or mar one's success.

Luther College is a school which assures the student the best surroundings while pursuing his studies. It is the aim of the college to make the life of the institution reflect the Christian principles on which the school was founded, and to this end the discipline is administered as effectively, though charitably as possible. There is

an effort on the part of the faculty to see to it that the school work can be carried on with only the necessary interruptions. However, the discipline is by no means so severe as to deprive the students of the diversions within the limits set by the Christian home. Luther College is a school to which parents may entrust their boys without misgivings.

Moreover, life at Luther College is of a kind into which the average boy will enter with enthusiasm. There is an intense democracy which governs all relations between the students themselves and between the students and the faculty. "Snobbishness" is the last thing which a Luther man wishes to be guilty of toward a new student. That every new man must be given a fair chance to make good is unwritten student law. In addition to this, the student body is not so large but that every man may know every one of his fellow students intimately.

Luther College is not co-educational. On the general subject of co-education, it is interesting to notice that the three best known American schools, Harvard, Yale, and Princeton, are all schools for boys. The result at Luther is that the life at the college is a life particularly for boys. Boys, who spend their formative period there, grow to manhood in an environment which is constructed for them in particular. Coming from a Christian home, a boy meets others with similar training and interests and with them becomes a member of the Luther family. And any Luther man will say that meeting another Luther man means meeting a true brother.



*Campus Scene*

## *Literary and Social Activities.*

Life at Luther College serves the literary and social interests of the students.

Literary societies are maintained by the students and are a large item in the college life. Irving was organized in 1884 and has now a standing of thirty-six years. Amphictyonic celebrates its thirtieth anniversary this year, having been organized in 1890. Membership in societies is, of course, voluntary, but the interest in their work is so general, that a student seldom fails to become a member of one of them. Each society holds twenty weekly meetings during the school year. At each meeting a program consisting of literary and musical numbers or of debates between individual members is given.



*Amphictyonic Public Program Stage.*

The work of the year is rounded off by a public entertainment in which each society tries to exhibit its best work. The popularity of these public entertainments is testified to by the large audiences which are always present.

A Debating Association is maintained as an adjunct to the literary societies. Society members debate in their own society for the society team. These teams meet in a final debate for the college team. The college team is under the control of the Debating Association, which arranges meets with other schools. Due to the extended influenza quarantine this year it was necessary to cancel the debating schedule, but better conditions are hoped for next year.

The Oratorical Association is not connected with the literary societies excepting in an incidental way. Out of the forty or more orations usually handed in for the contest, the six or seven best orations are picked out by two sets of judges. These orations are delivered in public competition for the first prize of \$25, which is offered annually by the Luther College Club of Southern Wisconsin. Second and third prizes are secured from other sources. The winner

in the local contest is the school's representative in the divisional contest. The state contest among the winners in the two divisional contest was held at Luther this year. The Luther College Club of Southern Wisconsin also offers a prize of \$25 for the best oration in the Norwegian language. A contest in competition for this prize has been held annually excepting last year, when no contests were held on account of the interference of the S. A. T. C. with the regular school routine.

"Muspelheim" is the reading club to which all students are eligible for membership. A directory is elected which consults with the Librarian, so that the magazines obtained by each shall not conflict. Altogether, about one hundred and fifteen magazines are regularly received at the College, besides daily papers from Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Madison, and Des Moines. These are kept in the club room in Loyalty Hall and in the reading room in the Library.

The city of Decorah has a large and well appointed opera house where there is an opportunity to hear good concerts and be entertained in other ways. The College has maintained a Lyceum Course the last two years, providing entertainment of a wholesome and instructive nature. Lectures at the College by prominent graduates serve to vary the daily routine.



*Club Room in Loyalty Hall.*

"College Chips" is a student publication issued monthly during the school year. Contributions are made by the students and alumni. Comments by the editors of exchange publications are proof of the high standard to which "Chips" adheres.

The social life of the students is centered in the dormitories. Study rooms are occupied by two or three together. Sleeping rooms are separate and accommodate three or more each.

Such annual affairs as the Freshman-Sophomore and Junior-Senior receptions, society banquets, and the social meetings of the Luther College Sunday Association are held in the gymnasium and in Loyalty Hall. The people of Decorah are cordially hospitable



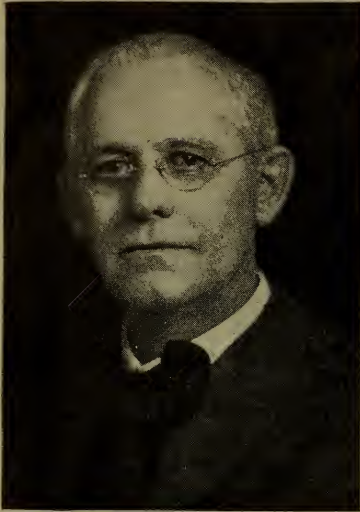
to the college students and the connecting links between them are numerous.

Last, but not least, of the organizations which make life pleasant at the College is the Boarding Club. Officers of the Club are elected by the members from among their own number. Election is held each spring. Those elected have complete charge of all matters pertaining to the board during their term of office. A report is made to the members of the club each month. Board is furnished at absolute cost. Loyalty Hall, which was erected in 1916 as a dining hall, is the property of the Boarding Club and furnishes excellent quarters for this important organization.



*Interior of Loyalty Hall.*

## *Musical Activities.*



*Professor Carlo A. Sperati.*

Luther College has been particularly fortunate in the way in which it has been able to serve the musical interests of her students.

The Luther College Musical Union was organized in 1895 by Professor Haldor Hanson, at that time the musical director of the College. In 1905 Professor Carlo A. Sperati was called to be the musical director and since then all things musical have had a steady growth. Professor Sperati's work has always been of that conscientious character which goes out to make things happen instead of waiting for them to happen of themselves. As a result, the Musical Union has grown from small beginnings to be the most prosperous organization at the College. It now owns a complete set of high grade instruments numbering upwards of 130 separate pieces, valued at \$10,000. Besides these there are a number of string instruments and a large library consisting of standard music. The Musical Union has as its immediate object the installation of a pipe organ in the College Chapel in memory of Olaf Angelo Sperati, son of Professor Sperati. The Musical Union set itself this object



*The Concert Band at t*

as a voluntary tribute to the memory of its most talented member.

Professor Sperati's efforts have not been confined to assembling a collection of instruments. In a musical way the band has been most successful under his leadership. In 1906, after being in charge only one year, and again in 1911 he was able to make successful tours to the Pacific coast. In 1914, when the Norwegian people celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of their constitution, the band was invited to visit Norway during the festivities and play at the exposition. Loyal support of friends at home made this possible, and accordingly the tour was undertaken. Concerts on the way over were given in the Auditorium in St. Paul, Orchestra Hall in Chicago, Grey's Armory in Cleveland, and in the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Newspaper criticisms were on all occasions most gratifying to the director and his young musicians. In Norway, the whole country was taken by storm. On all sides were praise and hospitality for the American visitors. Every place to which the band came put on its festal array for the occasion. So successful was the tour in a financial way that every member was given a week's vacation in Norway and a trip was taken across the continent through Copenhagen, Wittenberg, Wartburg, Berlin, Cologne, Liege, Paris, London, and from there to the port of Southampton.

The return trip through the states followed much the same route as before, excepting that Boston was made the farthest east point and Fargo the west.

The next year the band was invited by the management of the Panama-Pacific Exposition to play during the fair at San Francisco. In spite of the long trip of the year before, a contract was made and the engagement filled. The band went out by way of Salt Lake City and returned by a northern route after playing in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, and the Puget Sound cities.



*Panama-Pacific Exposition*

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*The Concert Band at the Panama-Pacific Exposition*



No tour was made during the following year. However, in 1917 two engagements were filled: the first in June for the Union meeting of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, and the second for the quadricentennial of the Reformation celebration in Milwaukee.

During 1919 three trips were made. In May the band was present at the National Convention of the Young Peoples' League and Choral Union at Red Wing and in the fall at the Saint Ansgar Circuit Young Peoples' League Convention at Mason City. So pleased were the people of Mason City with the band that they asked for a return engagement within two weeks of the first in connection with the Soldiers' and Sailors' Homecoming of Cerro Gordo County. A more extensive trip had been planned for the winter of 1919, but the management was forced to postpone its plans on account of the coal shortage and the subsequent influenza epidemic. This tour will be made in June of 1920, when the band will play for the National Convention and Concert of the Choral Union of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America in the Armory in Minneapolis.

The Concert Band is, of course, the main musical interest of the College. It is, however, by no means the only one. Professor Sperati conducts, under his personal supervision, both a Second Band and a Beginners' Band, so that there is opportunity for those who have no knowledge of music to start at the beginning and receive expert coaching, with the intention that they shall fit themselves for Concert Band work. Practically all Concert Band material is worked up from these two organizations.

Professor Sperati also conducts the Luther College Orchestra as a separate organization, and, leading to it, the Beginners' Orchestra. For those who wish to study the violin, opportunity is given by Mrs. Alma Cutler Brown, who gives regular classes at the College. Mrs. Brown is a graduate of the Iowa State Teachers' College and was for two years a student at the Royal Conservatory at Berlin. Special piano instructions is given by Miss Katherine Hustvedt of Decorah.

For those interested in singing there is the Luther College Chorus, which meets regularly under Professor Sperati. There are also choirs in each of the two Lutheran churches in the city, which draw heavily on the College for their bass and tenor sections. Professor Sperati is in charge of one of these choirs, and Doctor Norlie directs the other.

As a part of the regular school curriculum, courses in the History of Music and Music Theory are offered in both the College and Preparatory Departments.

An organization, not directly connected with the College, but owing its existence to the Musical Union is the Decorah Choral Union. A large number of the College boys belong to the Choral

Union each year, together with a much larger number of the city people. The Choral Union has, as its object, the rendition of some standard oratorio or choral work. The concerts are always warmly received, and, under Professor Sperati's leadership, furnish excellent training in choral singing. The last concert, Haydn's "The Creation," was given in March, 1920.



*From the Norway Tour. Professor Preus and Prime Minister Michelsen*

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## *Athletics.*

Colleges for boys, in nearly all instances, rank high in competitive athletics. Harvard, Yale, Princeton, West Point and Notre Dame are notable examples.

Life at Luther College lends itself readily to athletic activities. The spirit of the school encourages participation in sports as far as is consistent with good scholarship.

The school is justly proud of the record it has established for clean and successful athletics during the past thirty years in which intercollegiate games have been played.

The base ball and foot ball fields, the basket ball halls, tennis courts, the track, the gymnastic apparatus make each a special appeal to the student to come out and try for membership on the teams that from season to season seek to uphold the athletic traditions of the school.

Base ball, foot ball, basket ball and tennis teams are maintained by both the College and Preparatory departments of the school. Track athletics and gymnastic teams by the College department only.

The two departments have separate playing fields and basket ball floors.

A physical director, together with competent assistants in the

various forms of athletics supported, supervises the training of the men.

Sufficient coaching talent is provided to give each playing field the necessary skilled supervision.

Luther College has established athletic relations with a great number of the well known colleges in the West. From time to time games have been scheduled with the following institutions: Wisconsin University, Ripon, Marquette, Campion, La Crosse Normal, State University of Iowa, Grinnell, Cornell, Ames, Drake, Coe, Upper Iowa, University of Dubuque, Dubuque Collegé, Morning-side, Highland Park, State Teachers, Iowa Wesleyan, Leander Clark, Lenox, Wartburg, State University of Minnesota, St. Olaf, Minnesota Agricultural College, Carleton, Hamline, St. Thomas, Concordia, Macalester, Gustavus Adolphus, St. John, St. Mary, Winona Normal, Shattuck, University of Nebraska, University of North Dakota, and North Dakota Agricultural College.



*Gymnasium, Luther College.*

### **Base Ball.**

While base ball has been played at Luther since the very early days of the school, the first intercollegiate games date from the year 1891. The season of 1893, which was unbroken by defeat, established a reputation for the school in this branch that has since that time been upheld with remarkable success. The *Outing Magazine* for May, 1901, after mentioning the ball teams of Illinois, Northwestern, Chicago, Michigan, Beloit, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Notre Dame, contains the following: "Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, whose record for pure class athletics is enviable, has one of the best ball nines in the West."

What was said at that time applies equally as well today.



The record of games won and lost with the following representative colleges is as follows:

Luther 6; Minnesota 3, and 2 tie games.

Luther 1; Wisconsin 1.

Luther 3; Nebraska 3.

Luther 6; Iowa 7.

Luther 23; St. Olaf 9, and 1 tie game.

Luther 11; Carleton 3, and 1 tie game.

Luther 17; Upper Iowa 14.

Luther 9; Grinnell 4.

Luther 4; Cornell 4.

Luther 3, Dubuque College 2.

Total number of games played 184; Luther won 110, lost 70 and tied 4.

In the spring of 1919 the Luther team won nine out of eleven games played. Prospects for the spring of 1920 seem bright with seven veteran players out as candidates for the team. At the present writing two of the most important games have been played, both resulting in victories for Luther.

### Foot Ball.

Intercollegiate foot ball was first played at Luther in 1892. In 1897 at the request of the Board of Control intercollegiate foot ball was discontinued.

In 1919 foot ball was resumed. Coach Walter Jewell was secured as coach and in spite of the fact that the game was new to nearly every one of the players a creditable beginning was made.

The possibilities for the future were apparent when it was found that the average weight of the eleven was 181 pounds.

The coming school year will see practically a veteran team on the field.

At the present writing spring foot ball practice is being taken by a large squad of candidates.



*Foot Ball Team, 1919—20.*

## Basket Ball.

Basket ball teams have been maintained since the school year 1904—05.

Due to the great interest taken in the game, strong College and Preparatory teams have been developed nearly every year. While in the Tri-State Conference the basket ball championship was won by Luther in 1917.

Luther's basket ball record with the following nine representative colleges is as follows:

Luther 15; Upper Iowa 5.

Luther 14; St. Olaf 10.

Luther 0; Iowa University 3.

Luther 6; Gustav Adolphus 3.

Luther 1; Carleton 7.

Luther 1; Morningside 0.

Luther 8; Lenox 0.

Luther 1; Ripon 0.

Luther 3; Coe 0.

Total games played with colleges 123; won 81, lost 42.

## Track.

Track athletics was first introduced in 1901. Intercollegiate meets were held for a number of years and then discontinued.

In the spring of 1920 over fifty candidates came out for track work. Several meets have been arranged for, and representatives of the school have been entered in the Tri-State meet to be held in Fargo, North Dakota, and the Drake meet in Des Moines.

Track athletics should have a bright future at Luther. Every encouragement will be given to bring this about.

## Tennis.

The season of 1919 was very successful in tennis. Luther won seven out of eight meets participated in and lost one other through default on account of rain.

The fact that no member of the 1919 team was lost through graduation should insure a strong team for 1920.

Luther has been fortunate in developing creditable tennis, having in recent years held the Iowa state championship in doubles two years, in singles three years, and the Minnesota championship in doubles one year.

## Turning.

The first gymnastic meet participated in by Luther took place in 1909 when first place was awarded her in the Iowa State meet.

Including the year 1909 teams have been sent to six state meets. First place has been won four times and second place two times.

State meets have not been held since 1917, but indications are that they will soon be resumed.

Gymnastic teams have, however, been maintained at Luther since 1917. This fact should insure a representative team when state meets are again held.

## L. Association.

An association known as the L. Association has as its members students who have been awarded the college letter for participation in a stated number of intercollegiate contests.

### Athletic Coaches.

Announcement is made that beginning with the school year 1920—21, a physical director will have general supervision of all athletics.

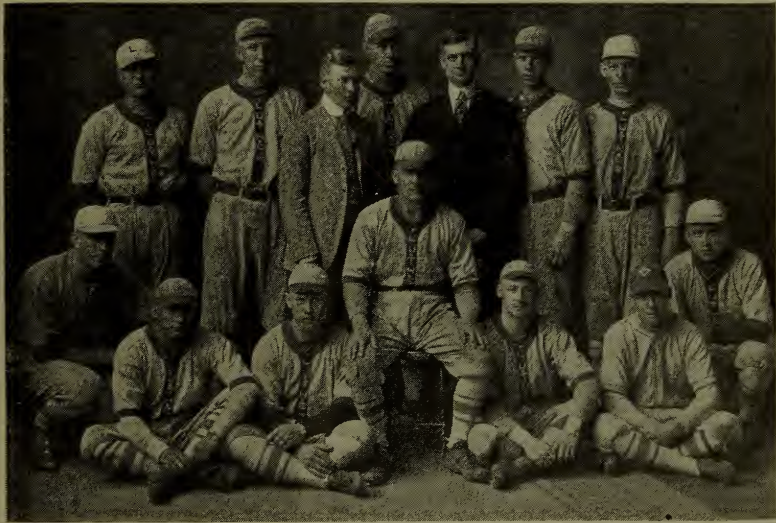
Mr. Oscar M. Solem, Minnesota 1913, has been appointed foot ball coach for the fall of 1920.

Mr. Arthur Laudell, formerly a pitcher with the Detroit Americans, has for several years been serving as coach in base ball.

Mr. Alvin Natvig, Luther 1918, served as basket ball coach during the past year.

Mr. Walter Jewell, Iowa 1918, had charge of foot ball in the fall of 1919.

In the Preparatory department Prof. Orlando Qually, Luther 1918, has coached the foot ball and basket ball teams, and Prof. Sigurd Reque, Luther 1903, the base ball team.



*Base Ball Team, 1918—19.*

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