

extreme, a quarterly would usually represent the researches of graduates, and a monthly the rhetorical exercises of the senior classes. A college which can keep alive a paper at all can, with rare exceptions, maintain a fortnightly or a weekly.

When it comes to a choice between these two, the local conditions assume decisive importance. Sometimes a weekly is a bisected fortnightly, but in comparing them here I shall take it for granted that the number of pages is virtually the same in both cases, and that therefore the weekly represents a double share of labour. Considering merely the intrinsic difficulties, five hundred students should not stagger under the load of a good weekly newspaper. Five hundred men once roused will do far more than a thousand whose average attitude towards the enterprise is one of apathy. Thus, Bowdoin, a comparatively small college, has long enjoyed the honourable fame of publishing a better paper than many of her larger rivals in the United States can show. The advantages of a weekly paper are manifest. It furnishes college news while the events are still fresh in mind; it gives frequent proof of its existence (a matter of more consequence than one might think at first glance), and it employs a larger number of contributors, thus extending the paper's sphere of usefulness as a foundling hospital for the wit and sentiment of young writers.

But a tolerable fortnightly is better than a poor weekly. "He draweth out the thread of his verbosity finer than the staple of his argument" may be said of many an editor, and without the least spirit of fault-finding either. When once the mistaken policy of running a weekly with too little fuel has been accepted, the editor must, naturally, live up to his agreement with the subscribers. Until those whom he represents give him a new commission he can only do his best (like Montcalm or Cervera) with the material at hand. My own opinion, if I may venture to state it, is that while the college paper remains in the experimental stage (i.e., until its complete success seems assured) its ambitions should be limited to a fortnightly issue. The editor can then reject poorer contributions with an independence which becomes impossible when he is driven to the wall for "copy." However modest the pretensions of a college paper may be in point of bulk, it should set itself a certain standard of excellence, and never permit a spirit of rivalry with other colleges to lead it beyond what it can do well.

I shall conclude these notes with a reference to the important subject of contents. What range of topics should be covered by university students in their own peculiar "organ?" Occasionally it happens that when the undergraduates feel a grievance their laments, complaints and attacks find vent in correspondence or editorials. Thus more than once the administration has been attacked, or the quality of instruction in a given department has been criticized. But fortunately the staple of a college paper is neither complaint nor diatribe, for harmonious routine is the rule and times of crisis are the exception. Students seldom demand representation on the governing board, but they not infrequently think that they should have it. Forgetting their inexperience, the constant transformation of their ranks and their enthusiasm for special causes, in the remembrance of the undoubted interests which they have at stake, they—once in a long while—