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Editorial

Easter

This is the season of the year when Nature is awakening from her long winter sleep to deck the earth once more in the gay colors of spring; when that lonely morning silence to which we have "listened" throughout the cold season begins to be broken by the joyous music of returning feathered songsters; when from swamp and marshland is heard at evening that myriad voiced chorus which, while it sings a lullaby to the setting sun, calls forth the Queen of Night to rule over a sleeping world; when from the barnyard come the first weak cries of the young things which have come forth to add the completing touch to the rejuvenated spring landscape, and to fill to the brim Mother Nature's cup of happiness in this season of the world's annual rebirth.

How in keeping with the eternal fitness of things that the glorious feast of Easter should come at such a time! In harmony with the prevailing spirit of superabundant joy that pervades the very atmosphere, the Church puts

off her mourning and dons her festal robes to celebrate her greatest feast in commemoration of the spiritual rebirth that took place when the glorified body of our crucified Saviour arose from the tomb and shed its effulgence of grace over a sin-darkened world. The Light of Truth broke through the dark clouds that obscured men's minds, dispersed the shadows of doubt and uncertainty, and, by the full force of its resplendent rays, tore asunder the icy chains of sin and death that obstructed the river of human life, and hindered it from reaching its ultimate end in the sea of Everlasting Life. It was then that the springtime of the Christian world began, while the triumphal song of angels and men resounded down through the ages and was echoed back from the very portals of Eternity: "Allelujah! Allelujah! Resurrexit, sicut dixit!"

Extra-Mural Sport

The merits and demerits of extra-mural sport is a topic that seems to be engaging the attention of many institutions of learning lately. In the hope of starting something in the way of a general discussion on the pros and cons of this large factor in present day college life, we are giving a few of our own views on the subject. The topic was suggested to us by an impromptu debate held here a short time ago on this very subject. It may appear to some a superfluity to add that extra-mural sport received the enthusiastic support of the student body as a whole, but the very fact that there were a few who supported the negative would seem to point out that, contrary to general student opinion, the question *is* debatable.

The most cogent arguments advanced by the pros were to the effect that extra-mural sport is the most productive form of advertising that a college can have; that, without the incentive held out for a chance to "make the team" in one sport or another, inter-mural sports would lose their chief interest, with the result that college life would present a very gloomy aspect indeed. The antis laid stress on the primary motives for attending college, placing over against the claims of their opponents the great loss of time incident on trips, holidays, etc, the tremendous nervous strain undergone by the competitor in outside games, and especially the danger, (a danger too often realized) of sport taking the major part in the daily

life of many students, while the chief purpose of their entering college is relegated to the background and forgotten.

Personally, we are in favor of extra-mural sport so long as it is kept in its proper place,—a secondary place—and not made the chief object of one's endeavours. We believe that to banish it is to kill a college by strangulation. As long as the average young man (who constitutes the major element of the student body of our colleges)—as long as the average young man is what he is—a rational animal—just so long will our colleges have to find an outlet for the animal vigor and competitive instinct that are a part of his nature. Extra-mural competition seems to fill the bill better than anything lese; besides, it unites the otherwise secluded student with the outside world. Most of the time he spends within the walls of his college. There is always danger of monotony, that great enemy of enthusiasm and energy, a danger, too, of the student becoming narrow and stilted in his outlook, of his adopting an attitude of self sufficiency and aloofness, which are *not* natural to a social being such as man is. As to the nervous strain complained of, real life is a succession of trials more severe than those encountered on the athletic field. What better opportunity could be offered for the practise of self-mastery and the development of self-reliance?

The very thought of a college without extra-mural sports makes us shudder. In these days of prohibition, the mere mention of a new restriction frightens us, so that we immediately launch a counter campaign against what is perhaps only an imaginary foe. Our fears, therefore, at mention of the possibility of the death of interscholastic athletic competition may be but the chimera of a too easily aroused imagination. Be that as it may, now that we have got the matter off our chest, we feel relieved.

Red and White extends to all its Advertisers, Contributors, Subscribers, and to the Faculty and Students of St. Dunstan's sincere wishes for a joyous Easter.

A good law without execution is like an unperformed promise.—*Taylor*.