

CHANCELLOR KIRKLAND

ON HAZING, ETC.

Chancellor Kirkland has been delivering an interesting series of talks during the past week in chapel. On Tuesday he spoke to the new men in the University and dwelt at length on the question of loneliness, or, in other words, "homesickness." He assured them that this was a natural result of a change of environment, and that it only required self-mastery to overcome this peculiar disease, which has its origin in the tender heart of new men.

He also spoke of the temptations which must be overcome during a college course, saying that only by the faithful performance of each duty was a college career made a successful one.

Wednesday Dr. Kirkland spoke on the much discussed subject of hazing. He prefaced his remarks by saying that he was in a position to know the feeling of the sophomores and upper classmen toward the verdant freshmen. He assured them, however, if it was any consolation to know it, that the freshmen had no right to go over the campus with such a lordly self-assuming air as though they expected the University to salam to them as they passed. Recognizing the extreme freshness of some, he felt that he owed it to the student body to state clearly the position of the faculty.

For the past few years public sentiment has been decidedly against hazing, owing to the numerous episodes in which it has resulted disastrously. It has been so strong that Congress passed a law forbidding hazing in the National Military Academy.

Each year after consultation with the student leaders he had won a majority to his cause, but last year, even in November, open warfare broke out between the two classes. The faculty investigated the affair promptly, and after mature deliberation decided that the pledge system was the only available one, by and through which the desired results could be obtained.

The Chancellor appealed to all the students of the University to get into the spirit of the pledge and try to keep down class rivalry, feeling sure, as he said, that there would be no trouble here, for students from other institutions may break their pledge, but students imbued with the Vanderbilt spirit will always keep it sacred.