

## Lewis Institute Mandolin Club



THE Lewis Institute Mandolin Club was first organized in the spring of 1899, with a membership of eight players, under the general management of Frank Price. During the following year the club was drilled into fairly good form by different leaders, one of them being Ira Owen, now leader of the Cornell Mandolin Club. In the spring of 1900 the organization was fortunate enough to secure as director Signor Salvatore Tomaso, under whose skillful training the club attained a very high reputation, not only in the Institute, but outside, satisfactorily filling several engagements. So far as the writer can remember, the club first appeared in public on Washington's Birthday, 1900. The year 1900-01 was a very successful year, the membership running up to fourteen or fifteen and the club giving many creditable performances.

At the close of the year 1900-01, the organization was practically dissolved, all the members leaving the school, some going into business and others taking up collegiate work. No meetings were held during the year 1901-02, and it was not until the fall of 1902 that rehearsals were again resumed. Nearly eight weeks passed before the club of 1902-03 got its start. Great difficulty was experienced in obtaining a leader suitable for the club. Mr. J. B. Corbett, of the American Conservatory of Music, was finally secured as director. Under his management the work progressed very rapidly, and it was not long before the club was able to organize, the officers being elected as follows: Ralph Shoemaker, President; Mildred Wiggins, Secretary; Orlin Wahl, Librarian. The membership soon exceeded that of any previous year. The club of 1902-03 has been very popular, and has succeeded in filling its engagements in a manner creditable to the Institute.

The present membership of the club is as follows: Misses Isabel and Louise Kilner, Mildred Wiggins and Messrs. Robert Baum, Wm. Fitzgerald, Alfred Hermann, Byron Nelson, Ralph Shoemaker, Ray Stewart and Orlin Wahl.

J. RALPH SHOEMAKER.