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WISCONSIN WINS.

Rollo L. Lyman, of Beloit, takes First Place in Inter-State Contest.

College enthusiasm broke loose with all its might and fury Friday evening at the twenty-sixth interstate oratorical contest, held in the Oliver. There it was when the events of many colleges reached their climax. Ten orators, the cream of ten states, contended for oratorical honors. Each representative was the winner of the state contest in which all or nearly all of the colleges of the state participated.

From the time when the audience began to arrive until the curtain went up, the theatre echoed and resounded with college yells. Most all the seats in the house were taken, and by the noise which came forth from the gallery it would seem that that part of the theater was more than filled. The Palladium, Union and Delian literary societies occupied front seats in the balcony. The Delta Upsilon fraternity sat in the front rows of the dress circle on the right. Phi Kappa Psi had



FRED B. HILL, PRESIDENT.

seats in the back rows of the parquet on the left, with the Phi Gamma Delta and the Alpha Theta Chi fraternities back of them in the dress circle. The Tarkio delegation of eighty-six occupied the front rows of the parquet. On their left were the Ohio delegates; back of them the Iowa enthusiasts.

The theater had been well decorated. Especially was the stage prettily arranged. The usual large seal of the university was suspended in the center in front of the stage. Stretching across to each one of the third tier of boxes were streamers of the university colors—scarlet and cream. Upon these and around the seal were ten flags, each bearing a large gold star, upon which was the name of one of the states represented in the contest. The Sigma Chi fraternity occupied a box of the first tier on the left. It was decorated with their colors—yellow and blue. The two boxes on the right in the second tier were decorated with the same colors, but occupied by the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. The other boxes were draped in scarlet and cream and occupied by Chancellor MacLean and his party, deans and professors of the University of Nebraska, by Governor Poynter and other friends of the home institution.

The enthusiasm of the supporters of the various contestants was intense at times and the yelling for this or that orator incessant, until the contest began. The University of Nebraska girls had a clear field for a short time until suddenly the Tarkio delegation, having up to this time kept its energy pent up, suddenly burst forth almost one hundred strong and with all the vigor of friendly rivalry seemed to drown out the representatives of the home university with their.

Rip bang! Hip, Ho! Get there, rain or snow! Set fire, Tarkio!

At last the curtain rolled up before a large and most intellectual, enthusiastic and sympathetic audience. Fred B. Hill, president of the association and of Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, presided, and in a pleasing manner announced each orator. After the invocation by Dr. H. O. Rowlands, the university male quartet, Messrs. Perkins, Sumner, Gillespie and Reed, sang "Oh, Who Will Over the Downs so Free." Chancellor MacLean welcomed the orators and delegates in a brief speech. Four hundred University of Nebraska students greeted the interstate association ten years ago. Today two thousand pay the homage to the sister states of the Trans-Mississippi valley. John A. Chamberlain of Danison university, Grandville, O., chose for his topic

"The Legislative Control of Cities." His thought bore upon municipal questions and was strongly argued. He was deliberate, seemingly cool and possessed an almost perfect enunciation. His delivery was such that one was unconscious of it and thus his thought was all the more brought home. Mr. Chamberlain appealed not for less nationalism, but for purer civic government. Ernest G. Toan of Carleton college, Northfield, Minnesota, spoke of "War as a Factor in Civilization." He maintained that war is a necessary factor in the onward advance of civilizing forces. With an easy delivery at first he gradually led up to an earnest style. He held the audience's close attention by his quiet but intensely imaginative pictures.

"Twentieth Century Politics" was the subject of the oration by S. M. Holladay of Simpson college, Indianola, Iowa. Municipal government is calling for men not to die for it, but to live for it. Mr. Holladay's delivery was powerful and free and although he hesitated somewhat, yet whatever oratorical ability he displayed seemed to have been attained gradually by experience and not by purposeful training.

In "The Dignity of Obedience" Mr. Charles M. Deardorff of the University of Denver showed how the safeguard of the nation must be uncompromising obedience to law, for all government is based on law and only under law can the rights of society exist. Law necessitates the exercise of reason and judgment, not passion. Mr. Deardorff possesses a resonant voice, a pleasing and harmonious delivery.

Miss Eugenia Getner, so popular to Lincoln audiences, sang "Hosanna," which called forth loud applause.

G. D. Talbot for the University of Nebraska delivered the oration, "William Lloyd Garrison," so well known to students of the home university. Mr. Talbot's marked characteristic is his incomparable coolness and his bold penetrating features give him a splendid stage appearance. He earnestly showed how Garrison was the power behind the throne in the struggle against slavery. Mr. Talbot was warmly greeted by his many admirers and when he had finished, a stormy applause which greeted his departure from the stage betokened a high place for him in the markings of the judges.

Rollo Lu Verne Lyman, '99, of Beloit college, Beloit, Wis., followed with "Altruism of American Expansion," being the first on the program to touch upon issues growing out of the late war. The thesis of his topic was the duty that we owe to ourselves, to the islands under our protection, and to the world. It was a most emotional discourse on altruistic principles. Strong climaxes marked his oration throughout and his delivery was peculiarly dramatic. As if a rock he stood on the platform and seemed to hurl his invectives at the audience. Mr. Lyman was long and loudly applauded and he bid fair to win the honors of the evening up to this time.

Miss Edith Shaw rendered a piano solo which was heartily applauded.

The Tarkio delegation loudly greeted their representative, Dudley H. Ferrell, of Tarkio college, Missouri, who spoke on Retributive Justice. Justice maintains the balance of human affairs. His delivery was polished and dramatic, showing much training. Mr. Ferrell closed with a splendid climax.

A. C. Northrop of Kansas Wesleyan university, Salina, Kan., orated on "The Changing Policy of the United States." Mr. Northrop maintained that the policy of the United States must run in channels different from and more progressive than those to which it has been accustomed in past years. In closing Mr. Northrop quoted from Kipling's "Take Up the White Man's Burden." His delivery was stern and bold.

The university quartet here varied the program by singing "In Absence," by Buck.

Mr. Harry G. Harward, the native born Australian, of Eureka college, Eureka, Ill., eulogized "The Grand Old Man." Around a few great lives have grown the world's political and social progress. Of such men was Gladstone, whose guiding star was not political expediency but the welfare of the people. Mr. Harward earnestly grove home the thoughts which he presented, and notwithstanding the lateness of the hour he held the audience's attention.

The Delta Upsilon fraternity of the home institution warmly welcomed the appearance of the member of their national order, George E. Farrar of De Pauw university, Greencastle, Ind. He spoke on "The Coming King"—love. Mr. Farrar's delivery

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WINNING ORATION.

The Altruism of American Expansion, by R. L. Lyman, Marked First.

Two phases of national policy have ever contended for supremacy in the history of the United States—conservatism and liberalism. In every problem upon the correct solution of which has depended national life, the mature judgment of our citizens has been actuated by a rational liberalism. Twice before, at least, when fears of inexpediency and failures had yielded to the promptings of a clarifying civic conscience, the United States has taken her stand squarely on the side of enlarged national ideals. In 1776, when it was a question of national liberty, and again in 1861, when it was a question of national integrity, our fathers dared to enter upon an untried public policy. And now, in 1899, we are brought face to face with another problem of national responsibility, which shall be the crucial test of our loyalty to the principles of our genesis, because it concerns not only the nation's welfare, but also the destiny of the world.

The impending problem involves a seeming departure from our republican traditions. Unforeseen events have placed the Spanish possessions of two hemispheres at our disposal. Blinded to their own interests by centuries of bondage to ignorance and despotism, the islanders are as yet uneducated in the principles of self government. On America rests the obligation to determine the future of eleven millions of nature's disadvantaged children. This problem complicates our relations not only with uncivilized peoples, but also with the powers of Europe. Austria has attempted to revive the Holy Alliance. England looks upon us with approval. The Philippines are at the very gates of China, into whose borders the hosts of Russia are about to pour, perchance to defy the world in the orient. The power of southern Europe is waning. England, Russia, Germany and America are to be the potent forces of the future. The energy that shall determine the destiny of untold ages is potential in the last two years of the nineteenth century. These other nations, each with a well defined national policy are crowding upon the threshold of the twentieth century to direct the outflow of that world energy in a new era. Wisdom, courage, unsought opportunity, loyalty to democracy, faith in an overrul-



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ing Providence, compel America to decide now, once and forever, whether she is to remain in splendid isolation, or is to assume her place among the enlightened powers of the earth, in the very battle front of the struggle of civilization.

The critical position in which the United States finds herself today seems to have been foreshadowed by her whole history. In a single century the sovereignty won in the revolution has spread over an expanse of territory fully five times as large as the original thirteen states. Louisiana, Florida, Texas, Alaska, Hawaii, have been added to our national domain. Expansion is no new principle in our national life, but territorial expansion, compared with the extension of national ideas, is mere grossness. At Runnymede the Magna Charta wrong from King John the rights of the people; at Naseby it inspired Cromwell and his Ironsides. But old England was too narrow to hold the yet unformed American spirit. The temper there kindled in liberty loving hearts crossed the Atlantic to New England. But for this holy passion bleak New England was too small. Outward and onward that spirit swept; across the Delaware with Washington, down the Mississippi

with Farragut, out upon the Pacific with Dewey—mighty waters carrying on the advance of American spirit, resistless in its struggle for oppressed humanity. Expansion! It must be! The precedent is imperative! America must obey the immutable law of growth, which is a nation's response to a God-appointed destiny.

Whenever an occasion arises for a change in national policy, America looks to her Constitution. In the closing years of the last century an assembly of men, apparently insignificant, yet epoch-making in its accomplishments, planned America's future. Among them were men who looked beyond the Alleghenies and held prophetic views of the nation's greatness. In the veins of these statesmen still throbbeth the restless growing impulse of the revolution. They realized that America would never tolerate bondage to any finished achievement; they knew that she would ever be consistent in her devotion to the laws of human advancement, whatever the cost. Washington and Jefferson and Hamilton were too wise to ask thirteen independent colonies to yield their sovereignty to an inflexible master. They knew that they must frame a constitution whose meaning should be understood in wider, fuller significance, as the nation grew in political competency. The principles of the constitution, as interpreted by John Marshall and his successors, bring out with increasing clearness this formative as well as restrictive animus, which was placed in it by far-seeing statesmen. The constitution is not a bastle in which one generation has been confined by its predecessors. It is the light in which each generation has solved and must solve its own problems. The greatest glory of the charter of our government is that it does not cast gloom upon our national statecraft, but illuminates the deliberations of our statesmen in a crisis like this.

The responsibility of a threefold duty rests upon us today—duty to ourselves, to the islands under our protection, and to the world. Consider America's duty to herself. Many thoughtful men are asking how a nation with a beam in her own eye can hope to pluck the mote from the eyes of uncivilized peoples. They point to our mistreatment of the Indians, to our civic corruption, unenforced laws, congested wealth, and rightly demand consideration of these home problems. But distress must not make us moral cowards. America needs toning up, she needs broader national activity. These newly opened opportunities for action will better prepare us to grapple with unsolved domestic problems. For, beneath the mighty waves of public opinion which have swept our land the last twelve months, there is felt the steady undercurrent of strength which comes from concerted action. The hearts of brave Americans once again beat together in a common cause. President McKinley is led to exclaim from a soul gladdened by national unity, "Reunited! write it across the skies!" Aye, and reunited are we in that impulse to nobler achievements which always permeates America when her brave men and strong do battle for God and humanity. We owe it to ourselves to be consistent with the principles of activity, which make for appreciation of our responsible position in the world. A cheerful fulfillment of social duties means renewed growth for a nation. Columbia's real problem is not, to keep the islands; it is, shall she assume responsibility or neglect opportunity.

Consider also our duty to the islands under our protection. The time has come when all peoples must be civilized. Independent savagery and bestiality have no inherent right upon this earth. Nakedness and illiteracy and laziness are outlawed; they can be allowed no place in the economy of the twentieth century. The islanders are entitled to something higher from America than the curse of brute independence and license. They are entitled to an adequate knowledge and capacity for self-government. But until this is attained, if America must keep her cannon shotted, who shall make that an excuse for deserting the natives to a fate worse than death at the hands of a would-be patron? Filibusters, attempting to exploit the childish islanders, represent not a universal demand for native government, but a demand for anarchy. America must restrain such adventurers with the hand of military power. There is no place in the principle of individual childishness for sentimentalism. The baser nature of the savage must be put

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DENVER IN 1900.

Place for Holding Next Contest Decided Upon. Election of Officers.

Last Friday afternoon the delegates to the interstate oratorical contest met in the chapel of the university. President Hill called the convention to order. Indiana and Wisconsin had no delegations. Committees on credentials, order of business, time and place of contest next year, resolutions, and constitution, were appointed by the president. Jackson of Missouri asked to have section 1, article 5, of the constitution interpreted and it was discussed at some length. Gilberston of Illinois asked for an interpretation of section 4, article 6, answered satisfactorily. A motion was then made to request the audience not to give encores at the contest in the evening. This motion prevailed and the convention adjourned until 9:30 Saturday morning. Met again in the chapel. Committee on resolutions submitted a report thanking the university and citizens of Lincoln for the kind treatment and hospitality shown the dele-



J. A. MAGUIRE VICE PRES.

gates during their stay. The convention then proceeded to the election of officers for the coming year. J. R. Hopgood of Merietta, O., was elected president, Earl J. Cooley of Colorado college, vice president, and Herbert E. Blair of Park college, Mo., secretary and treasurer.

Article 5 of the constitution, which had caused trouble the previous session, was reported on by the committee and after much discussion was amended to the following, which has been found to be a very satisfactory way of choosing judges by several of the states:

Article 5. Section 1.—A list of 50 persons shall be proposed by the executive committee, six of whom shall act as judges of the next contest. Each state shall receive the proposed list at least eight weeks before the contest.

Section 2.—Same.

Section 3.—Any proposed judge shall be rejected upon the written protest of any state association within thirty days after his proposal. The validity of such protest to be decided upon by the executive committee.

Section 4.—If the required number of judges cannot be selected from above list a new list shall be submitted to each state association at least twenty days before the contest. Objections to this list shall reach the executive committee five days before the contest.

The remaining sections were not modified. The report of the committee on time and place was adopted and the next contest will be held on Thursday, May 3, at Denver, Colo.

The report of the auditing committee showed that this year's contest there being approximately \$350 clear above all expenses.

A vote of thanks and a thank offering of \$5 were tendered to Mr. Maguire because of the magnificent success which had attended the contest, due so largely to his management.

A motion to suggest to each state that it adopt state colors and yell was carried and the convention adjourned to meet again next year at Denver, Colo.

Mrs. Frank Woods, Kappa Theta alumnae chapter, Ethel Tukey and Helen Welch, Kappa chapter, left last Friday for Albion, Mich., to attend the national convention of Delta Gamma. They spent Sunday with Tau chapter at Iowa City and before returning will visit the chapter at Ann Arbor. The delegates to the national convention from Leland Stanford and Colorado state universities spent a few hours in Lincoln last Friday.