BACCALAUREATE ADDRESS

Splendid Address by Rev. Olin S. Baker to High School Grad-

nates Sunday Night

Members of the graduating class, I congratulate you that thus far you have run well. But as yet you are only on the threshold of life, and your education just begun.

This is, as it should be, a proud moment in your life. But the joy of this hour should only constrain you to push on to the completion of a task co well started. To this end I will speak tonight with the hope of inspiring you to go on to greater conquests.

I shall not speak to you tonight as I would to a class of college graduates, but shall address myself to the theme I deem most needful to the hour, The Value of College Education.

In the 16th Chapter, and 16th verse of a portion of a certain old and much venerated book we find these words, "How much better it is to get wisdom than gold," which I use as a basis of my remarks.

'Your money or your brains," said a highwayman one dark night to a young man of my acquaintance in a large city. It was purely a question of money or brains. He had none of either to spare. But like most of us under the same circumstances, wisely decided not to part with the latter and handed over his money.

Every young person has to face a similar question. Money or brains; which shall it be? Many have chosen the former, only to find out when too late to change, that they haven't very much of either. Others choosing the latter, in time discover they have a liberal supply of both. Money can not make brains, but brains can make money; therefore get brains.

The greatest mistake a young person can make, mark, I say the greatest; the supreme mistake is to fail in laying the foundation for a true. strong character, by securing a deep Christian experience in their young life. For failure here means to fall short of your highest success in any department of life. The next great mistake is to fail in acquiring the best possible education.

There never was a time when education was such a necessity, when educated men and women were in such demand. There are so many problems to be solved. Problems economic and political; problems of law and theology; problems of such vital interest to our national life that we must, absolutely must, have men of knowledge to keep our old "ship of state" off the rocks. Men of education framed our constitution, and organized our republican form of government, and educated men only are able to uphold it and increase its efficiency.

The world has made tremendous strides during the last half century in every department of life. But in none, more than along educational lines. Never before were there such strong reasons, such compelling incentives, such alluring inducements,

Class of 1915, Alliance High School

Nell Keeler

Nellie Wright

Izetta Renswold

Donald Graham

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Hazel Sheldon



Beulah Reeves

Lottie Owens

Mary Patterson

Ruth Sturgeon

Birdene Woods

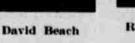
Charles Spacht



Roy Armstrong









Harvey Worley James Graham



Adah Hill

Elting Bennett



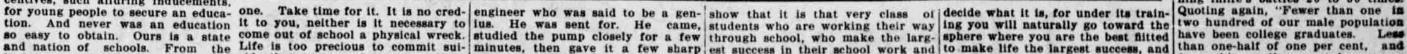
Orville Davenport Charles Hannan



Ralph Johnson



Bernard Holsten Mae Brandt



President Woodrow Wilson, while president of Princeton, tried the same thing in a different way, that is, breaking up the big classes into smaller ones by multiplying the number of teachers. All this is practically a return to the smaller college, such as nearly every state has. The late President Harper of Chicago University advocated the same idea. The small college of high grade is the ideal in the minds of our best thinkers, for the reason that the closer the student can come to the teacher the more his rich, full life will enrich the unfolding life of the student and the more the student absorbs the college culture of the teacher the more valuable will be his contribution to the world. And the small college presents the best opportunity for such intimate contract. Finish the curriculum of the smaller institution, then specialize in the great university. Again, the kind of college is of

vital importance to the student. With all due respect for state institutions, the denominational school is far better calculated to round out in symmetrical proportion one's education. Why? Because a Christian college does more than educate the mind. It

does more than educate the mind. It seeks to cultivate the moral and spiritual nature as well. Mental ed-ucation minus moral and spiritual education makes a one-sided charac-ter. The atmosphere of a college is a real force; it compasses the stud-ent and influences him according to its intensity and his susceptibility and through him the world he touch-es. The secular spirit of some schools have well nigh crushed out all spiritual motives and high ideals. all spiritual motives and high ideals. Mentality may count for most in this life, possibly, but if there be lacking that fine moral quality, the result of moral and spiritual education, no man can hope to achieve the highest permanent success in any sphere of life. The value of a college education is seen in the fact that lege education is seen in the fact that more and more college men are tak-ing the lead. Quoting from that popular magazine "Who's Who in America," we find eight of the nine chief justices of the supreme court of the United States are college men, and seven are from denominational colleges. Eighteen of the then twen-ty-six presidents of the United States were college men and sixteen from denominational schools. Eighteen of the twenty-six masters in American letters are college bred and seventeen are from denominational schools, and two-thirds of the college graduates in congress at that time were from denominational colleges." These are figures well worthy of thought when selecting your school. It is a well known fact that the laboring man receives the lowest wages because he does not have to think. Some one else thinks for him and he is ruled by another's mind. It is no easy thing to think clearly and act wisely. But reason, imagination and the will may all be cultivated and the college is the place for their development.

The man or woman who takes time to complete a college course becomes the master of his own mind and hence, the master of other minds and multiplies his chances for winning inlife's battles 20 to 30 times.

state of perfection every year.

When the older members of this congregation were young people, schools were not so plentiful; high able health coming to the years of maturity without a liberal education. Indeed, it is little short of disgrace. But hundreds of young people have no higher ambition than to finish the in a hurry about; to get rich and to lege has many avenues of self help grades or high school, and some parents are willing to let them stop ble. It is right to accumulate wealth there. We believe the law of our if done honestly. But the best founland should compel every young, dation for wealth is an education, healthy person to receive at least a Marriage is ordained of God and

high school education for their own honorable; every true man and womgood, for the best interest of society, an contemplates it. But get an eduthe state and nation, and if not finan- cation first. The haste to be rich cially able to do so, the state should and the haste to marry has marred help them.

Every young person should keep ness. Finish your education, young before them three goals, and never man, young woman. Get ready to rest satisfied until they were touch- live, and money will come easier and First, graduation from the high married life will be the happier.

Second, graduation from Have you an ambition for riches, school. some good college. Third, two years would you occupy a prominent posior more of special work in some tion in life, would you be of the great university at home or abroad. greatest usefulness to your felow-Ten years or more of schooling after man? Educate yourself. Knowledge the eighth grade ought to put one is power, ignorance is weakness. through it all by the time they are knowledge is wealth, ignorance is twenty-five or thirty, at least, even poverty, knowledge is ease, ignorthough they worked their way ance is toil.

through school, and they would be A Brooklyn manufacturer saw the then only a young person. But em- value of knowledge recently in the inently fitted to step at once into a wording of a bill. In one of his lucrative position, or to intelligently great factories the hot water pump enter the vocation of their choice. failed to work. His engineer could The error of most young people is in not remedy the trouble. A machinthinking they are old at twenty-five. ist was sent for. He bothered with They are only grown children then. it for half a day and gave it up-Finish your education if it does take said the machinery man to stop the fac-you till you are thirty or more. apart. That meant to stop the fac-Beware of a short cut in your edu-tory, a long and expensive delay. Pastor First Methodist Episcopal Church, Alliance, Nebr.

Alta Phillips

Irma Lotspeich

Glenn Mounts

Alforetta La Mon

grade institutions a rarity, and a col-lege education an expensive luxury. But there is little excuse for the young person of today with reason-God makes an oak he takes a hun- years ago. Today, the student will-

many a life and narrowed its useful-

dred years, but when he makes a ing to help himself may find plenty squash he takes but six months." of chances to work his way through of chances to work his way through Two things many young people are school. Every well established col-

get married. Both are commenda- for men and women, and the record



That which is worth doing is worth it, smiled and paid it at once. It Teaching habits of industry, econedoing well. A student once asked the presi-dent of Oberlin college if there was not a shorter course of study there and refinement of educated and the drawing out power of the col-uate if power already there, and to read: "For fixing the pump, 50 cents, my and independence and bringing for knowing how, \$25." Said the the student in contact with the cul-in. The drawing out power of the col-uate, and to political life the college graduate has been 120 to 1 against the non-grad-uate, and more striking still are the

Helen Hewett

that the majority of our great men way through college.

When I think of Helen Keller, that young girl, blind and deaf and dumb, in possession of all their faculties, a toil unwearied till you reach it." effort

A college training helps one to de- element. The teacher cannot come cide his vocation. Many wonder in touch with the student. what to do or be. God has an or- Charles Francis Adams is the inder in every life, and every life is stigator of the movement favoring intended for some certain work, and the division of the University into

the drill of the college will help you smaller educational establishments.

and hatton of schools. From the life is too precious to commit sur-little white school house of the rural district, to high schools, coleges and universities of the cities. Schools ev-erywhere, with the best of teachers and equipments, reaching a higher state of power halfs, reaching a higher state of power heigh access is not to solor work and district, to high schools, coleges and universities of the cities. Schools ev-erywhere, with the best of teachers and equipments, reaching a higher state of power shop, and the least state of power into you, but to develop the brains you, but to draw out the latent power already there, and the latent power already there, and to and so on, all of which shows that in latent power already there, and to and so on, all of which shows that in

> tellects are the controlling spirits, they also show that as positions inany needy and worthy student, mon- it becomes more valuable as it is ey without interest every year while used. A bar of iron which in its crease in honor, power and responsiin school, requiring no payments or rough state is worth only \$5 is worth interest for two or three years after \$13 made into horseshoes, but made bility, the percent of graduates fil-the curriculum is finished and the into needles is worth \$300. Make ing them increase in a decided rastudent has had time to earn it. The it into pen-knife blades and it is tio. illustrations abound to show the

> young person who wants an educa- worth \$3,000, but work it over and tion today can have it. But it de-pends upon how much he wants it. watches and it is valued at \$250,000. Where there is a will there is a The more you work it the more valuway. The two great requisites for able it is. The iron has to go through you be, Fred, when you are grown?" an education are health and will a great process of hammering and asked the foreman. power. I know certain young peo- rolling and pounding and polishing, ple who started to college without so if you would be educated men and No," said the foreman, "you were money enough to pay their tuition, women and of great value to the made for something better. Get an mastered their course and came out world, you must go through a long with money ahead. Statistics show process of study and training." The iron does not go through half so and women of today worked their much to be made into horseshoes as

be a horseshoe or a watch spring yet. and who is still blind and deaf, who whichever you choose. In the lannot only learned to talk and to artic- guage of another, "Young people ulate distinctly, but mastered the you may become anything in life common branches and then the en- you conceive possible to you, protire colege course, distancing many vided you aim at the one thing and

woman of whom her college is just- The question has been asked. ly proud. When I think of her, I which is to be preferred, the small marvel that any young person in or large college? Our best thinkers possession of all his senses and in of today say the small college. For health should hesitate to make the the great schools like great corporations tend to eliminate the personal

boss," promptly replied Fred, "No. education, my boy." That was a new idea to Fred, but it sent him to

colege, and today, instead of being a much to be made into horseshoes as section boss at \$45 per month he di-into delicate watch springs, but of rects a hundred ...en at \$150 a how much less value is it. You can month, and is only a young man as

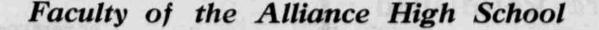
value of a college education. A boy

of ten years stood watching a section boss and his gang of men. "What will

Two young ladies of poor families entered college. They boarded themselves, wore plain clothing but made their mark in scholarship. Today, one of them is principal of a ward school in a large city, owns valuable real estate and is a woman of wide influence in that city. The other is a dealer in real estate, wealthy, and to use her own language, "I do not have to marry for a living."

Two young men, graduates of a high school, chose the same vocation. There was only three months difference in their ages. The older was a better business man, a more

(Concluded on page 8)





V. R. PATE School Superintend-



History



ISABELLE GABUS EVA SHERDEMAN English, Normal training Latin, German



GEORGIA CANFIELD Domestic Arts, Physical Culture



BERTHA WILSON Phonography, Bookkeep- Manual Training, Agriing culture



WILMER O. LEWIS Mathematics, Science Athletic Coach