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CLOSING OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Commencement Exercises Friday Evening at the Parmele.

ADDRESS OF W. J. BRYAN

Brief Mention of Those Constituting the Graduating Class.

The commencement exercises of the public schools held last Friday night broke all records for Plattsmouth in every respect. The attendance was far and away the largest ever turned out for such an occasion. The class was one of the largest if not the largest ever to appear on a public stage in this city. And it was not only one of the largest but it was one of the finest appearing class.

The invocation by Rev. A. A. Randall opened the exercises. Following this Miss Ethel F. Bentley gave an instrumental solo which served to show the rare talent of Miss Bentley as a musician. She has a technique which is finely developed and a talent for expression which the audience could not fail to appreciate. Miss Bentley is one of the graduates who will be heard of in the future.

Jo. E. Hall delivered the salutatory "By Their Works Ye Shall Know Them" and Miss Hall was never better. Always recognized as one of the most finished and polished speakers of the younger people of the city, Miss Hall sustained her reputation. Her address was one of unusual brilliancy and in itself amply repaid the large audience for their attendance. In addition it was a magnificent tribute to the work of the schools. The several teachers who have been instrumental in developing the rare talent of Miss Hall as well as Professor Gamble, deserve great credit for the splendid address which the young lady delivered. It was original, eloquent and finely delivered and Miss Hall surely established herself as an apt pupil and decidedly able young lady.

The valedictory was delivered by Miss Helen M. Jess, a young lady who has been heard of too seldom. Miss Jess acquitted herself in a manner which surprised the audience. She is a young lady of rare presence and her address was in every sense a masterpiece. She is another fine example of the work of the high schools, showing that ability and talent can and will develop under right conditions. Miss Jess on the occasion last Friday night showed that she is a young lady of much ability and very pleasing to the audience.

Miss Helen L. Kline greatly pleased the assemblage by a vocal solo which was designed to show the talent this young lady has as a singer. Miss Kline seems to be one of the coming singers of the city, having a voice of strength and very sweet toned. Miss Kline has natural musical talent which she has developed and which cannot fail to make itself manifest to any audience.

Prof. J. W. Gamble had the honor of presenting Hon. William Jennings Bryan to the audience, and he did so in well chosen and tactful languages. He paid the distinguished guest several high compliments and also congratulated the schools, the pupils and the audience upon their good fortune in securing so noted an orator and so upright man and Christian as Mr. Bryan for their orator.

Following Prof. Gamble, Hon. William Jennings Bryan delivered the address "The Price of a Soul"—a lecture of unusual strength and brilliancy. In this city Mr. Bryan is so well known that every man, woman and child calls him friend and Friday night the audience amply demonstrated that regardless of every consideration their hearts beat warm for him. His appearance upon the stage was the signal for an ovation and his address throughout was listened to with wrapt attention by all. As an appeal to the public to wake up and turn their attention more to public conditions and less to mere

money grabbing, the lecture was powerful and inspiring. Mr. Bryan got home to the facts and the plain unvarnished truths which he told met with a cordial reception from all. People who have wondered at Mr. Bryan's continued success as a public man should only hear his lectures and see how the man brings home to the mass of the people unpolished facts to understand. "The Price of a Soul" ranks and deserves to rank with his "Prince of Peace" a lecture which has swayed mankind for years and which will continue to do so until the end of time. "The Price of a Soul" is a splendid sermon upon the mere worthlessness of accumulating money regardless of how it is gotten and losing the soul in the getting. That the lecture did a power of good in uplifting the morals of the people and in shaping the development of the minds of the younger ones in the audience cannot be doubted. Mr. Bryan's address was frequently interrupted by applause and at the close the ovation which had greeted him upon his appearance was more than repeated. It was a great demonstration of love from the plain people for one who whom they have known for years to be their friend—for the one whom political visitations has not cast down nor taken from their hearts, for the greatest living American and the true friend of the people.

Following Mr. Bryan, Mr. J. M. Roberts presented the several members of the graduating class with their diplomas in a brief speech full of much sound advice and well chosen sentences after which Dr. J. T. Baird pronounced the benediction. The entire occasion was one long to be remembered in local annals and the high standard of education displayed by the members of the class reflects much credit upon Superintendent Gamble and the several teachers in the schools whose painstaking work made itself manifest in every way throughout the entertainment. The management of the commencement is another thing to be commended, every detail of the affair being carefully looked after.

The Journal is pleased to print herewith a brief sketch of the several members of the class, the data being kindly furnished by members of the class:

Clarence L. Beal.

Clarence L. Beal is a native born Plattsmouth boy. A young man of many excellent qualities and a bright and intelligent mind, he has made himself a name for genuine ability. Mr. Beal has always been very fond of sports of all kinds being a football and baseball player of much worth. He has at times played baseball with several foreign teams and wherever he has played, he has been considered a star. This has in no way detracted from his abilities as a scholar and he graduates with high honors.

Ethel L. Bentley.

Miss Bentley was born in Pittsfield, Mass. among the beautiful Berkshire hills and she is a typical girl of the down east, being as handsome as that section has ever produced. She is one of the most popular of her class as well as one of the ablest. When but three years of age her parents moved to Hancock Mass., where her first education was received, she attending the country school at that place. Her earlier years in the country school were supplemented with a course at Pittsfield, later where her parents moved when she was twelve years of age. She graduated from the grammar school in that city in 1905 and attended high school for two years after which she

came to Dunbar, Neb. for a visit with relatives. In January, 1908, Miss Bentley entered the Plattsmouth schools in the junior class. Later she took a normal training course under Prof. J. W. Gamble. Miss Bentley departs about the middle of June for her former home at Pittsfield, Mass., where she expects to obtain a school and enter upon teaching. On her way home she will visit with relatives in Illinois, Michigan and Ohio. It is a matter of general regret that Miss Bentley does not remain in this community where she has made so many warm friends.

Marie Barbara Bookmeyer.

Miss Marie Barbara Bookmeyer is another of the class who proudly claims Plattsmouth as her home. Born in this city the young lady has spent all her life in sight of the Missouri river and amid the lofty bluffs which line its western shore. She is a product of which the city can well be proud, a young lady of rare talent and great ability. She has made for herself a reputation as a finished speaker and eloquist and has been an active member of the debating team of the high school. Miss Bookmeyer comes of a family in which musical talent has long been conspicuous, her sister, Miss Lillian Bookmeyer being a finished musician. Miss Marie Bookmeyer has inherited much of this talent and is now a musician of much ability. She will likely follow music as a profession.

Grace O. Dalton.

Miss Grace O. Dalton is the charming and accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Dalton of this city. Born at Villisca, Iowa, on Oct. 4, 1889, she received her first education at the kindergarten department of the Lincoln school at that city and moved to this city and Miss Dalton entered the Columbian school where she went through the grades and later entered the high school whose course she has just completed. Miss Dalton is a member of the Glee Club of the M. E. church and also a teacher in the primary department. She has not fully determined on what she will do in the future.

Marie K. Fitzgerald.

Miss Marie K. Fitzgerald was born in the city of Plattsmouth and like a number of other members of the class, she has lived here all her life. She is the handsome and accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fitzgerald and a young lady who has a host of friends. She was born in this city on August 16, 1890 and her first schooling was received at St. John's Academy in this city where she took her grammar course. She left this school in 1905 and entered the high school the following year, taking up the Latin course which she completed the past year. Miss Fitzgerald is one of the brightest minds in the class and stands among its foremost members.

Jo Elizabeth Hall.

Miss Jo Elizabeth Hall, daughter of Dr. Joseph H. and Jessie Wiles Hall, was born in this city on October 27, 1890, and has ever since lived here, being a universal favorite with all who know her. At the age of six years she first entered the public schools and completed her school course during May. Miss Hall has had the distinction of being a senior class president and as a sophomore she became a member of the girls debating team. Later, as a member of the junior and senior classes she became one of the leading members of the high school debating team. Miss Hall has marked talent as an elocutionist and orator and many of her addresses upon moot questions have shown distinct talent. As a member of the debating team she has visited a number of neighboring cities and invariably has come away with her share of the laurels. Miss Hall is one of the young women of Plattsmouth of whom all are proud.

John D. Heinrich.

John D. Heinrich is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Heinrich of this city. He is a bright and worthy man who is a native of the city, and who has lived here all his life. He has made himself an excellent record as a student being faithful and attentive to his studies. His education has been received in the local schools and he presents a fine example of the worth of the work of the local teachers. Mr. Heinrich is justly esteemed as a splendid specimen of Nebraska manhood.

Marie Helen Hiber.

Miss Marie Helen Hiber was born on August 14 1891, in this city where her entire life has been spent. Her education commenced when she was but five years of age, she entering the second ward school, Miss Marie Svoboda being her first teacher. Miss Hiber was promoted to the second grade at the Central building where she attended school until the ninth grade was reached when she entered the high school. Miss Hiber took the science, history, language and mathematics and normal training courses. Miss Hiber has just finished her education and graduates with high honors. She is one of the most handsome and accomplished young ladies of the class and one deservedly popular with all. It is her expectation to enter upon teaching school and later she intends to take a course at the state normal school.

Helen Jess.

Miss Helen Jess is another of the fine products of Plattsmouth, having been born in this city. All her life has been spent upon the beautiful hills of the city and her education has been received in the public schools of the city. Entering the Columbian school she completed the courses of that building and later entered the high school finishing her schooling there. Miss Jess is one of the popular girls of her class, a refined and handsome young lady and one whose many fine qualities of mind have endeared her to all.

Miss Jess graduated with the class honors, receiving the highest markings of any member of the class. This distinction carried with it a free scholarship at any college in the state and Miss Jess will later determine which she will attend.

Nettie M. Jirousek.

Miss Nettie M. Jirousek was born on Dec. 27, 1891, in Plattsmouth and like many of her schoolmates she has spent all her life here. Like them also she has made herself highly esteemed for her knowledge and learning coupled with great natural talent. Miss Jirousek received all her education in the public schools with the exception of one year which she spent in Chicago. Having a natural talent for the study of languages, Miss Jirousek has made that a specialty and has spent four years on Latin and two on grammar. She expects to follow language teaching as a profession.

Ida Marian Johnson.

Miss Ida Marian Johnson is yet another of the class who was born in this city. She first saw the light on April 14, 1890 and all her life has been spent in this city. Proudly she looks back on her high school career, but even now though the goal is reached she regrets that the happy High School days never again will return. She is glad to say that her education was received in the Plattsmouth schools. Miss Johnson specialized in Latin and will probably follow Latin teaching as a profession.

Jennie Esther Johnson.

Miss Jennie Esther Johnson is still one more Plattsmouth girl to graduate Friday night, she having been born in this city on April 22, 1891. Miss Johnson's education was received in the local schools she entering the fifth ward schools when yet a child and attended there three years. She later entered the fourth grade at the Columbian schools and took the three following grades in the Central building, the eighth and ninth grades were taken at Lincoln and the remainder of her education was completed in this city. Miss Johnson who is one of the most handsome and accomplished member of the class, is not decided upon what she will do nor what special vocation she will follow.

Mabel Vera Kiser.

Miss Mabel Vera Kiser was born near the town of Mynard on a farm and is another product of the local schools, having received her education in this city. Miss Kiser is deservedly popular with her schoolmates and the general public who are fortunate enough to know her and her manifold talents. At the age of fourteen Miss Kiser entered the High school and has just completed the course. Her favorite studies were German, Latin and science in all of which branches she has developed great proficiency. She has not yet determined on what course she will pursue in the future.

Helen Louise Kline.

Miss Helen Louise Kline is also a Plattsmouth born girl, having lived here for the first few years of her life after which she moved to Superior, Wis. entering the kindergarten department of the public schools. Later Miss Kline entered the Wisconsin State Normal school after reaching the Fifth grade, continuing until her return to this city where she received her high school education. She took up the German course of study and was a member of the normal training department under the supervision of Superintendent Gamble. Miss Kline is an able musician and has much ability in that line, being a singer of fine voice and rare ability.

Anna Marie Kopla.

Miss Anna Marie Kopla was born on June 19, 1891 in this city. For one year she lived at Sheridan, Wyo., where her parents then resided. Later they returned to this city and at the age of five years she entered the second ward school, Miss Mann being her first teacher. After one year in the ward school she entered the Central building where she attended up to the ninth grade. Later she took a four year course at the High School taking the mathematical, language, science, history and normal training courses. Miss Kopla is a refined and cultured young lady of marked ability and she intends to take up teaching for several years going to Chicago or Kansas City to study art later.

Ethel Madeline Leyda.

Miss Ethel Madeline Leyda is another of the large class who was born in this city, her birth having taken place on Nov. 1, 1889. Miss Leyda started to school at the age of six years, entering the Columbian school and attending there for six years. Later she was transferred to the Central building where she remained for one year when she was promoted to the high school where she remained until graduation. Miss Leyda is one of the brightest members of the class, a young lady of talent and refinement and a real credit to the educational facilities of the city.

Muriel M. Mullis.

Miss Muriel M. Mullis was born in this city on January 28, 1891 and makes one of the large class of native born girls to obtain her education in the local schools. Miss Mullis first entered the schools at the age of five years, entering the second ward school under Miss Marie Svoboda. Later she was promoted to the Central building where she attended to the ninth grade when she entered the high school where she has attended for the past four years, taking courses in the science, language, mathematics and literature. Miss Mullis is deservedly ranked as one of the brightest and most apt pupils in the schools and in addition has so many excellent qualities that she is a popular favorite.

Ellen Campbell Pollock.

Miss Ellen Campbell Pollock is the handsome and refined daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Pollock, a young lady of much talent and worth and one of the brightest minds in a class of bright intellects. Miss Pollock is also a Plattsmouth girl and has received her education in this city. A steady and faithful student, she graduates this year with high honors.

Alice Evelyn Root.

Miss Alice Evelyn Root was born May 9, 1892 in this city where she has lived all her life. Miss Root entered the public schools of this city at the age of five years, entering the second ward school. Her first teacher was Miss Wright. After two years in the ward schools she was transferred to the Central building and remained there to the ninth grade, later completing the high school course. She has taken the mathematical, science, language and literature courses. It is Miss Root's intention to enter the state university this fall for a course. Miss Root is the daughter of Judge and Mrs. J. L. Root, a young lady of much ability and talent and one of the brightest and most intelligent members of her class.

Will H. Shopp.

Will H. Shopp who graduated Friday night is a talent Nebraskan and one who has made himself well known in the school as a faithful and earnest worker. Mr. Shopp has taken a number of the courses in the

curriculum and in all he has shown with much credit to himself and his teachers. He is one of the young men of whom every teacher can be proud and who is a credit to the schools.

Carl E. Smith.

Carl E. Smith is a Nebraskan who has been living in this city all his life and who has received his education here. Mr. Smith is a young man of more than ordinary ability and is bright and energetic and able and his course in the schools has been marked by success from the start. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Baxter Smith of this city.

Clarence V. Staats.

Clarence V. Staats is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George K. Staats of this city. Like most of the class he was born in this city and has lived here all his life. He has received his education in the local schools and throughout his entire course, he has met with pronounced success. Mr. Staats is justly regarded as one of the best and brightest of the young men of the class.

Wilhelmina Margaret Thierolf.

Miss Wilhelmina Margaret Thierolf, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Thierolf, was born in Plattsmouth during the month of October, 1890. She received her education in the public schools of this city, graduating on Friday night. Miss Thierolf expects to go away for a course in the different arts and to devote her talents to music for which she has an aptitude. Miss Thierolf is one of the brightest and best students in the schools and has acquitted herself marvelously well during her course of study.

Clara Helen Wohlfarth.

Miss Clara Helen Wohlfarth was born in Plattsmouth on March 9, 1890 and entered the public schools at the age of seven years, Miss Hemple being her first teacher. She attended the first ward school for three years, the next five years being spent in the Central building, she entered the high school in 1905. The courses which she took were mathematics, language, science and literature. Miss Wohlfarth expects to continue her education with a view to becoming a teacher. She is a young lady of much talent and doubtless will be a successful teacher. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Wohlfarth of this city.

In connection with the closing of the school term, a pleasant feature was a breakfast indulged in early Saturday morning by the faculty of the high school. Rising at 5:30 in the morning, the several members of the school faculty, walked down to the Burlington bridge where the breakfast was prepared. It was a delightful and entertaining diversion and one highly enjoyed by all present. The members returned before the day had become very warm.

Burned With Powder.

Lewis Kear was the victim of an unfortunate circumstance which happened last Monday. Lewis was at the stone quarry and aside from the fact that he had one of his pants pockets full of powder, we are not aware just how the accident happened, but he had started a fire and in some manner a spark got next to the powder in his pocket. The powder got out of his pocket but it burned his limbs and a large place on his abdomen. The skin came off in large patches and he suffered a great deal but for all that he walked to town and had Dr. Butler dress the burns, and the latter reports them as quite bad.—Weeping Water Republican.

Plenty of Fish.

Councilman John Wesley Bookmeyer and W. M. Gravett returned last evening from Watson, Mo., where they went with the expectation of catching all the fish in the world. They came near realizing their ambition according to their story, landing a magnificent supply of various kinds and keeping busy during all the time they were gone. Mr. Bookmeyer says that they landed a total of over one hundred croppies in the morning before they left there which is going some. The gentlemen were highly pleased with their trip and vote Watson a great place to enjoy an outing and secure a good supply of real fish.

Herman Pankonin, a prominent business man and good citizen of Leaville, was in the city today on business.