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THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

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RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA, MAY 31, 1907.

NUMBER 22

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

Fourteen Young Ladies and Young Gentlemen Receive Diplomas.

Nine boys and five girls constituted the class which graduated from the Red Cloud high school this week, as follows:

Julia Barbara Engels.
Lloyd George Hall.
Grace Ruth Frisbie.
Cora Ann Lockhart.
Paul Albert Johnston.
Florence Claire Potter.
Daniel Stickney Coombs.
Edith Anna Mohler.
Martha Lucretia Spracher.
James Robert Ferguson.
Grace Lee Shute.
Mabel Maud Pope.
Frank Earl Dickerson.
Zella Frances Taylor.

CLASS NIGHT EXERCISES.

Tuesday night was class night and the graduates, assisted by pupils from the other grades, presented Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream" to an audience that completely filled the opera house, many being turned away. Everything passed off nicely and the participants acquitted themselves in a manner that showed they had been carefully drilled in their respective parts.

One of the nicest features of the entertainment was the singing by the quartet from the High School Glee Club, with piano accompaniment by Miss Gertrude Blackledge. The vocal solo by little Bertha Palmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Palmer, and "The Fairies' Lullaby," sung by pupils from Miss Sherman's room and the music for which was written by Prof. Alvin Snapp, were both very pretty and were heartily enjoyed.

It would be an injustice to single out any individual members of the cast for special mention, and we will content ourselves with the statement that all deserve praise for the excellent manner in which they carried out their parts.

Miss Vernon Storey presided at the piano, except for the glee club quartet numbers.

GRADUATING EXERCISES.

Wednesday night was devoted to the graduating exercises, and again the opera house was filled to the limit of its capacity. The stage was beautifully decorated with palms and other plants and draped with the class color—dark red—and Nelson Fischer carnations, the class flower. Two banners, one bearing the class motto, "Labor Omnia Vincit," the other the words "Red Cloud '07," both made of carnations, were strung across the stage.

The first number on the program was a song, "Sweet and Low," by the High School Glee Club, composed of twelve boys from the high school under the direction of Miss Jessie Ducker. The boys were heartily enjoyed and responded with "Little Jack Horner," and again with "Trust Her Not."

The address of welcome was delivered by Miss Grace Shute, and was followed by a vocal trio, "The Lonely Rose," sung by Misses Florence Potter, Grace Frisbie and Cora Lockhart.

The class prophecy, delivered by Miss Mabel Pope, looked forward to a period some twenty years hence, and placed the members of the class of '07 in various high and honorable positions.

The next number was a piano solo by Miss Bernice Potter, a former member of the class, which showed the excellent musical training she has received at the State University.

"Influences" was the subject of James Ferguson's oration and he handled it in a manner that showed he had ideas of his own in the matter—particularly so (although they were erroneous) in regard to the conduct of newspapers.

Miss Zella Taylor's solo, "A May Morning," captivated the audience and she was compelled to respond to an encore.

Miss Macy Spracher delivered the class poem, introducing each member of the class with a neat little rhyme of the name.

Miss Jessie Ducker and Mr. G. S. Albright then sang Tosti's "Serenade" in a delightful manner.

"The Almighty Dollar" was the subject of Miss Julia Engels' oration. Miss Engels' delivery was far above that of most young ladies, and her composition showed that she had the correct idea of the actual value and use of the alleged "almighty dollar." Her oration also showed that she has become imbued with the "hog editor's" lofty ambitions for the future of Red Cloud.

The High School Glee sang "O Leave Me Not" as the last number on the program.

Owing to the sickness of Dr. R. F. Raines, president of the school board, the duty of presenting the diplomas devolved upon Superintendent Dudley, which he did in a very befitting manner, at the same time giving the graduates some wholesome advice which they will undoubtedly remember and profit by in the years to come.

GUIDE ROCK.

Our First Visit to That Town in Twenty-Two Years.

The editor of The Chief drove down to Guide Rock Monday afternoon. It will be twenty-two years next Fourth of July since we went down to Guide Rock with the "second nine" to play a game of base ball with the Guide Rock boys, and that was our last visit to the town. Among the members of the Red Cloud team at that time were Jim Blair, Allie Albright, Charley Garber, Charley Kaley, Charley Reagle, Lou Kenney, "Hank" Ludlow, Will West, and one or two others whom we do not just now recall. On the Guide Rock team were Ed and Lee Parker, Rolla Shugart, "Jimmie" Rich, and others whose names and faces have passed from our memory. The only one of the members of the Guide Rock team whom we met on our recent trip was Ed Parker, now postmaster there. S. B. Newmeyer, who was publishing The Signal at that time, was another of the old timers whom we met on our recent visit.

Guide Rock has grown from a village of a few straggling frame buildings to a thriving little city, with many handsome brick and cement business blocks, and the stores all seem to do a good business. They are putting in good walks all over the town, and the residences are up-to-date and substantial. Another nice thing about the town is that there are no saloons, and they seem to get along very well without them.

Excursion to Denver.

My next excursion to Denver and Boulder will be Tuesday, June 4 at 7 a. m. Come join this party. Will show you a good time and some of the nicest irrigated land you ever looked at within 15 to 20 miles of Denver and Boulder. You do not have to depend on the rainfall to get a big crop of wheat, alfalfa, sugar beets, all kinds of vegetables and fruit in abundance. This land can be purchased with a perpetual water right from \$55 to \$65 per acre, plowed and fenced. One tenth down, balance on easy terms. Remember the date, June 4. Fare for round trip \$13.45. J. P. HALE, the big dealer. This may be the last trip.

Birthday Surprise.

Grandma Carpenter was given a birthday party at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ada L. Koelme of Inavale, last Saturday, May 25, it being the 59th anniversary of her birth. Among the guests present were her son, Arthur S. Carpenter, and his wife, Beulah Harman Carpenter, from Columbus, O.; Mrs. Ella May Hummel and her two little children from Morland, Kan. Among the presents received was a handsome silk handkerchief from her seven-year-old granddaughter, Mabel Carpenter.

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OUR SOLDIER DEAD.

Memorial Sunday and Decoration Day Fittingly Observed.

Last Sunday was the day observed by the Grand Army of the Republic, Woman's Relief Corps and similar organizations as Memorial Sunday in honor of their comrades who have answered the last roll call. A union service was held at the opera house, which was filled to overflowing.

The service was opened with Scripture reading by Rev. A. A. Cressman, pastor of the Congregational church, who also invoked the Divine blessing. This was followed by a beautiful patriotic selection by the High School Glee Club, under the direction of Miss Jessie Ducker.

J. W. Warren then read President Lincoln's memorable address at the Gettysburg battlefield, which was followed by another splendid selection by the glee club.

Rev. Ward L. Austin, pastor of the M. E. church, delivered the memorial sermon. He paid high tribute to the living and dead heroes of the Union army, as well as to the rank and file of the Confederate army, whom he said he thought were fighting for what they believed to be right. Rev. Austin laid particular stress upon the fact that it was the treasonable acts of the Confederate leaders which he condemned, and not the men who sacrificed their lives in the defense of principles which they thought to be right. He thought the building of monuments to the Confederate leaders, solely because they were leaders in the rebellion, was an insult to the men who fought to preserve the Union. He took the ground that there was a greater war yet to be waged than that against the slavery of the black man—namely, the war against the white slavery of the saloon, which he said was a greater menace to civilization than negro slavery.

Rev. Austin held the closest attention of his hearers throughout his somewhat lengthy discourse.

DECORATION DAY.

Although Thursday was cloudy and rain threatened, one of the largest crowds ever seen at a Decoration day service in Red Cloud was present.

Owing to the threatening weather, the place of holding the speaking was transferred from the cemetery to the opera house.

At 1:30 the veterans and members of the Relief Corps, led by the Citizens' Concert Band, proceeded to the cemetery, where the usual program was carried out.

The service at the opera house was carried out with the exception of the flag drill by Miss Sherman's pupils,

which was omitted on account of the diphtheria scare.

The service was opened by the playing of "America" by the Citizens' Concert band. Rev. A. A. Cressman delivered the invocation, the High School Glee Club sang, and Misses Pearl McConkey and Cecil Johnston recited.

C. C. McConkey then read the list of fifty-five dead comrades who are buried in the Red Cloud cemetery, which was followed by another song by the glee club.

Rev. Father Fitzgerald, who was orator of the day, then gave a brief resume of the causes that led to the rebellion and reviewed the history of the war, after which Rev. Cressman pronounced the benediction and dismissed the audience.

The ranks of the veterans are thinning rapidly, seven of them having answered to the last roll call and been laid to rest in the Red Cloud cemetery since last Decoration day.

TAKEN TO HASTINGS.

Two Blue Hill Women Adjudged Insane and Sent to Asylum.

Sheriff Hedge, County Attorney L. H. Blackledge and District Clerk Geo. Hutchison went to Blue Hill Wednesday, where they were called to investigate a sad case of insanity. They found living in a dug-out in the north part of Blue Hill a woman named Hale and her two daughters, Maude and Belle, aged 25 and 18. The family were living in a condition of filth and squalor almost beyond belief. The dugout was reeking with filth and swarming with vermin. The two young women had completely lost their minds and were adjudged insane and taken to Hastings Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Hale, who was a woman of immoral character, was ordered to leave the town and the citizens subscribed \$15 and gave it to her to facilitate her departure. The parties had lived in Blue Hill for seventeen years, and the girls had always been considered more or less unbalanced mentally. These are the first patients sent from Webster county to Hastings under the new law.

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FOUND DEAD.

Aged Man Wonders Away From Home and Dies From Exposure.

The body of S. J. Wheeler, the aged man who wandered away from Bladen over a week ago, was found on the farm of W. H. Thomas, southwest of Red Cloud, Monday evening about 6 o'clock, by Mrs. Lora Whitaker, daughter of Mr. Thomas. The body was stark naked and was lying face downward, in the peach orchard at the south end of the old Elias Goble place, which is now a part of the Thomas farm.

Coroner Hall was immediately notified, as was also C. E. Hicks of Bladen, son-in-law of the dead man. Mr. Hicks and Mr. Root, cashier of the bank at Bladen, came to Red Cloud late in the evening and it was decided to hold an inquest Tuesday morning, which was done. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict that the deceased had come to his death from exposure.

Mr. Wheeler left his home in Bladen a week ago last Tuesday, after having drawn a small amount of money from the bank. It seems that he wanted to go out to Hitchcock county and buy some land, and as his plan was objected to by his relatives he became angry and started to walk to Red Cloud. He was seen at various places along the road, and the last place he was seen alive was at the home of Jack Wisecarver, about three miles west of Red Cloud, where he stopped to get a drink of water Thursday afternoon.

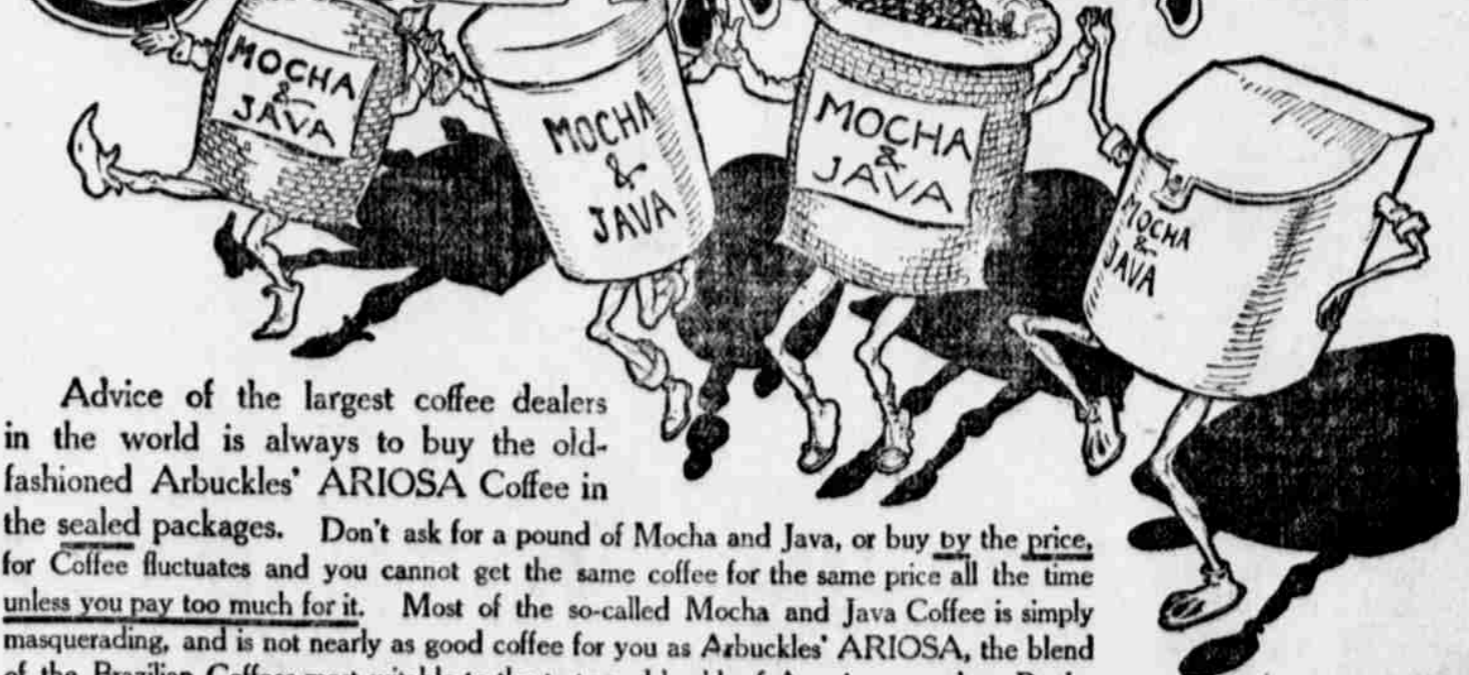
When he left home Mr. Wheeler had a small amount of money and a silver watch. When his body was discovered he was absolutely naked. His shoes were lying near by, but no trace of the rest of his clothing has yet been found. It is supposed that his mind became unhinged and that he took off his clothing and hid it somewhere in the vicinity, and he had apparently crawled and walked quite a distance naked and in his bare feet.

Mr. Wheeler was about 84 years old and leaves an aged wife and one daughter, Mrs. C. E. Hicks of Bladen, to mourn his death. The body was taken to Bladen, where funeral services were held at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

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