

At last we have a strong bond of sympathy with Omaha. We are both tailenders in the base ball leagues. Hurrah for Omaha, she needs it. Superior extends consolations and we tearfully accept. But we really feel like blubbing.

How proud one is to win a prize. Those who witnessed the little folks at commencement the other night receive their prizes could not but feel that it was an important period in the lives of the youngsters. The stimulus excited in the giving of these prizes has done much toward increasing the efficiency of our public schools and it will continue to exercise a beneficial influence for years to come.

More than passing notice should be given to the display of the work performed by the students of the manual training class. There is a strong demand for practical education and this year's work demonstrates that our public schools are capable of giving practical instruction and that it is appreciated by the boys. They are able to not only manufacture useful articles but also to make working drawings of them before beginning the work. This course will also hold in school many who would otherwise drop out.

Bernard McNeny firmly established his position as one of the leading criminal lawyers of the state by the masterly manner in which he conducted the defense of young Hedendorf and secured his acquittal. It is reported that after the delivery of his four hour address to the jury there was not a dry eye in the court room. The jury was out but a short time and the verdict is generally commended by those who know the circumstances. Mr. McNeny is rising rapidly in his chosen profession and is being recognized as an attorney of resource and ability. This last achievement of his will convince the people of this state that he has the proper qualifications necessary to successfully conduct the office of Attorney-General.

People are accustomed to talk of crimes as a terrible thing and say that the son has fallen dreadfully when he has not fallen at all. He was raised that way. Right herein this county, some fathers and mothers are educating their children in the requirements of first class devils. Of course they do not mean to do so but they are none the less. Boys are let run wild, are let carous on the streets until after midnight and are never put to work. It is as natural for the idle boy to go to the bad as it is for them to live. The influence is that way. Instead of the pure God hallowed atmosphere of home, many boys are let breathe the unwholesome air of a crowd of smokers and listen to the oaths sworn more often than prayers are offered at home. Parents are responsible for their boys and should surround them with attractive home influences. Train a boy to go in good company and he will go there; let him go wild and his associates will be anything but good.

We could not help but notice with what enthusiasm and pleasure the people of our city greeted the only speaker of the class at Commencement. While the lecture delivered by Richard Metcalf was highly appreciated we would have been better pleased to have heard from more of the class. We have more interest in those of our number than we do of some stranger however eloquent he may be and we believe that it is the sentiment of the majority of our people that commencement night should be taken up entirely by the class finishing the course.

Objection has been made to hearing so many on a single night but that could be easily arranged so that all members of the class could deliver orations. For instance class night could consist of the Salutatory, Class History, Class Prophecy, Class Poem, Vaedictory, etc., and commencement night the delivery of orations by the remainder of the class, the awarding of prizes and diplomas. This arrangement would be much more satisfactory to the patrons of the district and would be of more benefit to the students themselves. No matter how well a play is presented it does not contribute much to the intellectual powers or attainment of students, while on the other hand the writing, preparation, the committing and delivery of an oration develops unknown talents and adds something to the intellectual attainment which will remain with the student the remainder of his life.

We trust that the board of education will pass an order requiring all graduates to deliver orations and conduct all the exercises at commencement time.

The Odd Fellows lodge for this city are seriously contemplating the erection of a handsome Temple to take the place of their present hall. Many of the brotherhood advocate building the lower floor so that it can be used for an opera house and auditorium. We understand that the measure will be brought up at the regular meeting next Monday night. For some time this lodge has felt the need of larger quarters and a new building is fast becoming a necessity. This is another indication of our city's growth.

Why not effect an organization of our business, fraternity and men of capitol. The idea is to keep the present interest of our town at high tide and awaken new enterprises that will add to its growth and prosperity. This is a move in the right direction and the only way such a thing can be effected. We already see what new and live enterprises will do for us. There are many live industries, especially in the East, that the seeking western locations, and if we were properly organized in to a "Business Men's Association," these enterprises might be looked into, and if found meritorious, sufficient inducement given for them to locate in our borders. This is what will give growth and prosperity, new life and new interest, make our town the place she was destined to be, the first, the best, the most notable of all the places round about her. Now the presentation of this subject is not for mere effect, but for a purpose: for the consideration of every business man of our town, to awaken you out of slumber and arouse you up to thinking on this subject with speedy action in view.

For Value Received We Promise to Pay

Though we have looked forward to this event for several years, though we have thought of it with hope and eagerness; there is a sense of regret we had not expected. Brightness and festivity flow uppermost; yet, just as a faint minor strain underlies the song, I think especially to the graduates, a tinge of vague, indefinite sadness clusters about Commencement and what it signifies.

It signifies the close of the first real epoch of our lives—our school-life. The ties are being severed tonight which have bound us together as fellow-students for twelve long years. It is the beginning of responsibilities when each and everyone of us is expected to take his own place in the world on his own footing, and fight his own battles. In a word, Commencement is the end of the old life, and the beginning of the new.

As we drop the curtain upon the past, as we pause at the threshold of the future which lies before us with all its opportunities and possibilities and challenges us to do our best, surely there could be no time more appropriate to express gratitude and appreciation for what has been done for us in the past. We are not forgetful of the fact that you, the people of Red Cloud, have made this night possible for us. By your time, money, and effort you have purchased for us the privileges of an education, thereby giving us the means to earn our own livelihood, equipping us to cope more successfully with life's problems.

And so it is, we are entering our new and greater tasks with a heavy debt before us, and the question is—Are we going to pay back? Are we going to "make good?"

But the value of an education can not be measured in dollars and cents. Can the cultural and intellectual development gained during the four years in High School be determined? One of the chief aims of school life is to develop good, honest, broad character. For how much cash would you sell your character? Can it be purchased by money? By no means. Some debts are lowered and cheapened by payment in cash and this is one of them. Since you have in a measure made us what we are, let us rather give a part of our lives thereby giving in proportion to value received. As we have received an education, let us assist in giving others one. Let us help them, as much as we are able by sympathy, by encouragement, by material assistance, to make the most of their opportunities. Instead of the question "What doth it profit me?" let it be, "What can I do for my fellow-man?" and this I think is the greatest, the most far reaching life of all—a life of service.

It seems to me in this twentieth century rush and scramble for the almighty dollar, for fame or whatever the aim may be, we have set the pace too fast, and in such an existence we have failed to appreciate and pass on what has been given to us, we have failed to pay for value received. And for this life of service, what will be the reward? It will be the satisfaction of knowing that those who believed in us have not been disappointed, that their confidence has not been misplaced. The satisfaction of knowing that we have paid fully with interest doubled and trebled. We shall be able to face the world with a clean record knowing that we are fully worthy of its confidence and trust. We shall have employed all our faculties to the very best purpose, we shall have lived

the noblest and the most useful lives possible. It has been well said— "We live in deeds, not years—in thoughts, not breaths. In feelings, not in figures on a dial; We should count time by heart-throbs. He most lives who thinks the most,— feels the noblest,— acts the best." We, then, the class of 1910, pledge ourselves to go forth to our duty resolved to play the part of the scholar and the man. Whether it be tomorrow, a year, or a life-time, "for value received we promise to pay."

The Town Croaker.

In every town you find some men who always croak and growl; their chief amusement seems to be to snarl and whine and howl. Of course they do not prosper well—such people seldom do—and so they strive to make themselves and all their neighbors blue. If strangers come these men endeavor to get them off alone, and while they speak in doleful tones, tell them how the town is dead and passed away, and hasn't any enterprise that half begins to pay; how real estate is very low and taxes very high, and every improvement scheme is sure to wane and die. The good book says a day will come when all must pass away and swope for wings and golden harps this tenement of clay, the earth will burn with fervent heat, the sun go out in gloom, and every living, breathing thing shall find a real tomb. When that time comes the croaker who drives against his town—and tries to drive good men away, and breaks their efforts down—will be declared a victim for a special dose of flame—ten thousand years and he will be roasting just the same. Meantime the energetic man who labors for his town, always works to build it up instead of tearing down, will ride from earth to heaven in a Pullman palace car, and will dwell in peace forever where the first-class angels are.

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 Sunday school at 12 o'clock every Sunday.
 Mrs. E. B. Smith, Superintendent.

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