

STATE FIRST AGAIN.

The Eleventh State Oratorical Contest has come and gone, and the State University again has the first honors. Even the other four colleges admit that the first place properly belonged to Mr. Sherman, although Cotner, Wesleyan, and Gates all complain of rank injustice because Kenagy, of Doane, got second place. Whether Mr. Kenagy deserved second place or not, the Doane delegation deserved first place, for their college was best represented of any and the songs, yells, and enthusiasm of the Doane students was sufficient to put us to shame.

Excellent music was rendered by the University Banjo Club, the Wesleyan Euterpean Quartette, Mr. Dungan of Cotner, and the Doane Glee Club. The invocation was offered by Rev. Curtis, of the First Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Sherman was the first speaker. His delivery was almost perfect. Mr. Sherman has a very musical voice which was well modulated, and he was perfectly self-possessed. His oration on "America's Literary Genius" seemed even better than when it was delivered in the local contest. When he had closed with his glowing tribute to Emerson and Hawthorne there was little doubt among the State University people that the honors would again belong to them.

Mr. Kenagy, of Doane, spoke on "The Law Supreme." He dealt especially with industrial disturbances, arguing strongly for their settlement by better laws more thoroughly enforced. His delivery was a little stiff and his voice was not well modulated. Mr. Beattie, of Cotner, spoke on "A Problem of the Ages." This problem proved to be that of unrestricted foreign immigration. This subject was treated in a strong style, but the climaxes were a little too numerous. Mr. Beattie's delivery was very natural and pleasing. "The Spirit of Brotherhood" was the subject of Mr. Essert's oration, Wesleyan's representative. He reviewed the history of fallen nations and then showed

tendencies in our own government in the same direction, urging the "Spirit of Brotherhood" as the remedy. Mr. Essert's voice was not varied sufficiently, but his delivery was graceful and effective. The audience was tired and impatient for the decision of the judges, so Mr. Williams, of Gates, spoke at a disadvantage. His oration on "Professional Politics" was thoughtful and well prepared, but his delivery was lacking in animation.

The opera house was well filled, and a very pleasant part of the program was the rival college yells and songs which occupied the time before the exercises began. The State University should appoint a drum major and yell master before the next contest or visitors will think our importance is about equal to that of Gates.

BUSINESS MEETING OF ORATORICAL ASSOCIATION.

The last business meeting of the State Oratorical Association was no exception to the two preceding. It was noisy and disgusting. There was a pulling of hair and an eagerness for power and pelf shown in every motion.

The various delegations were made up as follows:

Nebraska—McNeal, Weaver, McLucas, White and Kimball.

Cotner—James, Harris, McGrew, Harmon and Aylesworth:

Doan—Morgan, Andress, House, Owen and Miss McGrew.

Wesleyan—Mans, Miss Green, Gettys, Coleman and Turner.

Two reports were made by the committee on credentials, Doane and Wesleyan signing one, and Nebraska and Cotner having the unadulterated gall to attempt throwing Doane out on a technicality and admitting Lincoln Normal.

□ At one time, it appeared that there would be a split in the convention when nearly all