

### Roper Wins the State Contest.

The thirteenth annual contest of the state oratorical association took place in the university chapel Friday evening. There were representatives from Doane College, Grand Island College, University of Omaha and University of Nebraska. Each orator had a number of earnest supporters. Though the attendance was not large, college colors and college enthusiasm were much in evidence. For half an hour before the contest large chunks of plastering on the ceiling were loosened and re-loosened by songs, yells and the screeching of tin horns.

It was nearly 8:30 when President Hotze of the state association called for order and announced "Invocation by Chancellor MacLean." After a piano solo by Miss Molar, an oration by R. C. Roper on the "Author Hero of the Revolution" was announced. This was a signal for vigorous applause from the university part of the house. Mr. Roper calmly stepped forward. He looked as if he had something to say. He did. He said it. Mr. Roper spoke with decidedly more vigor than he had in the previous contests. This with his usual earnestness and sincerity enabled him to do his master production justice. This was sufficient to cause the wearers of the scarlet and cream to feel confident.

F. W. Christner of Doane College next spoke on "Gladstone and Humanity." The subject was an excellent one. It was simply and well handled. The effort was a credit to the contestant. The delivery of Mr. Christner showed signs of stiffness. His voice though mellow was not well controlled. He lacked vigor and animation.

After violin solos by Mr. August Hagenow, Mr. G. R. Lunn, of the university of Omaha, spoke on "The Aspiration of National Life." Mr. Lunn's production lacked coherence. However, it was clothed in the very best language, and was an effort worthy of a college orator. Mr. Lunn's gestures were graceful, his voice was strong and well controlled.

Following Mr. Lunn, Miss Grace Abbott, of Grand Island, spoke on "Will the Republic Endure?" It was a most creditable production. The only criticism is that it contained too many "broad statements" and "generalizations." The delivery of Miss Abbott does not approximate criticism. Her stage appearance was pleasing and graceful. Her voice had volume and good quality. She completely adapted it to her production.

While the committee retired with the markings of the judges the audience listened to a piano solo by Willis Kerr. On the return of the committee President Hotze announced that Mr. Roper had been given first prize and Miss Grace Abbott second. Then—!—!!—!!!

Judges	Delivery			Manuscript		
	Harris	Colby	Smyth	Snow	Gates	Stmonds
Roper	3	2	3	1	2	1
Christner	4	4	4	2	2	2
Lunn	1	3	2	4	3	3
Abbott	2	1	1	3	1	4

\*Roper led on per cents. by a good margin.

The English Club will meet at the home of F. Korsmeyer, Saturday evening.

Miss Jennie Guile is in school again after an absence of a week on account of the grip.

L. H. Robbins and Wm. Reed Dunroy are getting up a "Booklet" which will contain stories and anecdotes.

Miss Amy Bruner has accepted Miss Katherine Melick's place as theme reader in the English department.

T. De Witt Miller will lecture in the university chapel Monday evening, March 29. His subject will be "Two-thirds of a Man."

The Delians have been taking in some good members this term. Miss Standish and Messrs. Giles and Hist are the latest additions.

The Unions have turned over their five cent collection for the settlement work. Have all the other student organizations done the same?

Mrs. Manning has been chosen as one of the judges for the district high school contest which will take place in Grand Island, April 3, '97.

The Y. M. C. A. had an enthusiastic meeting on "Good Citizenship" last Sunday. The boys are determined to have the government of Lincoln improved.

At the institute in Cass county the following will speak: Dr. Wolfe, on "Child Study"; Dr. Flug, "Source Study of History"; Dr. Sherman, "Literature and Language"; Dr. Bessey, "Science Work in our Schools."

Professor Bruner has been commissioned by the government of Argentine Republic to investigate the cause of the grasshopper raids in that country. If the regents grant him a leave of absence he will start for the Republic about the first of July.

The Union Society have elected the following officers for the ensuing term: Norman Shreve, president; Miss Pillsbury, vice-president; Miss Munroe, secretary; Miss Mickey, co. secretary; John Cameron, critic; G. F. Warren, sergt.-at-arms.

A. F. Montmorency, formerly editor-in-chief of our worthy contemporary, has recently been heard from in the state of Vera Cruz, Mexico. Monte has charge of a locating party; and thinks he has found the garden spot of the world. He likes everything there except some of the inhabitants.

Last Friday evening the Unions took a leave of absence after the program. Under the leadership of their president, they visited the Palladian and Delian societies. They found the Delians in business meeting, so the presidents were called on for speeches. The responses showed an unlimited supply of good feeling and interest in literary work. This shows the true spirit; the societies need occasional reawakenings of their interest in each other.

Manager Kimball and the Glee Club returned from their fourth annual tour Wednesday evening. It was one of the most enjoyable and profitable trips that the club has made. Last week the club sang at York, Ravenna and Grand Island; Monday evening of this week, at Columbus. Here the club was royally entertained by the Misses Gerrard, ex-students. Tuesday evening the club sang at West Point. Here the boys had the time of the trip. The Fremont engagement was cancelled. On the whole the trip was a success. This fact is due to the efficient management of Director Kimball.