



R. C. ROPER.

### *Inter-state Oratorical Contest.*

The Inter state oratorical contest took place at Columbia, Mo., Thursday evening, May 6. Perl D. Decker of Park College, Mo., won first honors with an oration on the "Basic Law of Progress," C. T. Bell of Colorado second, L. N. Booth of Minnesota third, C. E. Gregory of Ohio fourth and R. C. Roper of Nebraska fifth. The other states represented were Kansas, Iowa, Indiana, Wisconsin and Illinois.

Only the rank of the first three was announced the night of the contest. It was unofficially given out that Nebraska won fourth and such a report reached the university. It is to be regreted that the report was not true. But even fifth place in an interstate contest, where the best intellects of ten states met, is not an incredible showing for a Nebraska freshman. If fact fifth is as high as the university has ever ranked in an interstate contest. Nebraska is justly proud of the showing made by her representative. The subject matter of Mr. Roper's "The Author Hero of the Revolution" is known by all readers of the HESPERIAN to be an able defense of Thomas Paine. As to Mr. Roper's delivery the Missouri

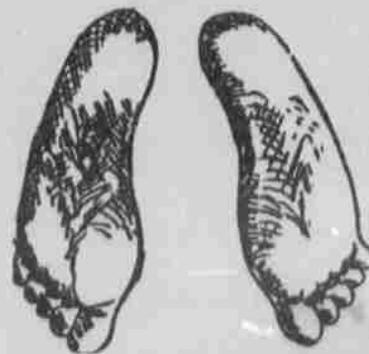
Independent has the following to say: "As a speaker Mr. Roper will be a success. He had no mannerism, and evidently had never heard of the Boston cult-normal and abnormal naturalness. The speaker's posture and gestures were graceful, his voice very strong and the audience listened attentively. It is but just to say that Mr. Roper was actuated by the right conception of oratory, when he selected such a subject for his first trial in such an important occasion."

Mr. Roper has a most enviable reputation as a speaker. He is but a freshman and scarcely of age. Yet he won first honors in three home contests and acquitted the inter-state contest most creditably.

### *Rev. MacAgeal Will Talk.*

Rev. H S MacAgeal of Omaha will address the Political Economy Club Tuesday evening May 18, on the "Christian Element in Politics." Rev. MacAgeal is one of the most brilliant clergymen in the state. He was chaplain of the state senate in 1895 and is now pastor of the Plymouth Congregational Church of Omaha. He has always taken an intense interest in current events—a close student of cause and effect. The club is fortunate in securing one so well qualified to talk to the students. The lecture will be given in Room 23, Library building.

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