

A Few Things That Might Be

Class Prophecy by Lu N. Ruggles

Twenty years ago I stood up on this rostrum with the graduating class of 1917. I know that many in this audience before me are greatly interested in that class. So I will tell you of their trials and joys.

Five years ago while through Montana, I stopped at one of the large cattle ranches when the Round-up was going on. My hostess, Violet Denny, ordered saddle horses and we rood across the nearby hills. Horsemen were to be seen here and there, at times riding slowly and again at a dashing speed. Looking a little farther, I saw a black object tearing up and down the slopes, gathering cattle at a terrific speed. Violet asked me if I remembered Earl McNeill, who used to be in the Physics class? I couldn't see much resemblance, but I was interested. She went on to tell me that he had

great inventive powers and how, after leaving that class, he had fixed up several different models for Fords and only a few weeks ago had completed a small Ford in which he was herding cattle. "It really is satisfactory," she said. "At lunch time he sets his coffee pot, and whatever he is to have for dinner, in the engine box a few minutes and has hot wienies, buns and steaming coffee."

When I went on to the great city of New York, I went with a party to the theatre. Much to my surprise my old schoolmate, Gaynelle Shore, was introduced as Mrs. Gaynell —?, now I have really forgotten that name, but it is of little interest to you. She sings well and has attained great renown in the musical world.

While there, I met an old friend, Alice Hamm, but her name had been changed from an eatable. We decided to take a trip to the White House. Congress was in session at that time. Upon visiting the Senate, we listened to some debates. The one that most interested me was the one "Resolved, that the school boards throughout the nation should pay for the commencement week programs." Clare Walker was the chief debater. He still wore his hair long enough to braid. How will I ever forget that hair? Alice also happened to tell me that Si Starr had made a name for himself in this world, as financial manager at Sing Sing.

While I was still in New York, the papers were full of excitement about the President's cabinet, for the Secretary of War had resigned. I may say, that it was announced that the place had been filled by B. A. Van Loan.

The prominent senior, J. B. V. Butler, Jr., decided to make a man of himself that would be a great help to the world and mankind, a veterinarian.

Coming west, I resolved to go thru part of the country in a car. After leaving that town we got into the country a little way, when the car stopped. We



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were not far from a chicken ranch. We went over and inquired from the lady of the house, who was feeding chickens if she had such a thing as a monkey wrench. She became a little angry, and retorted: No, this is no monkey ranch; this is a chicken ranch." Finally, I remembered this person as an old schoolmate, none other than Gertrude Coote. An interesting visit followed, for we talked of our old M. H. S. days. I learned thru her that Helen Scott had at last become a language teacher.

A prominent circus came to a nearby town, and we decided to go to it. One of the bareback riders of the show was very accomplished in his profession and did many daring feats. It was our old friend, Harold Olson.

One of the clowns paid particular attention to us and just as we were leaving, he called Gertrude and myself by name. Then he lifted his mask and revealed the face of Guy Sacre.

I was told that Gladys Evans had become an assistant in a law office and was having the best of success.

Plans were being made for guests at home. An old friend and fellow-sufferer was coming. It was MISS Thelma Marks. She told me the same things as she told an audience at Athena 20 years ago—that in three days more her name would not be Marks any more. Of course I didn't believe her, but all the same, arrangements were made for the wedding. The bridegroom and the guests came. Last, came the minister who was to perform the ceremony, the Rev. Donald Portwood.

As to myself, I happen to think of a story which about describes my place. I am doing the same thing which I was doing twenty years ago. One time there was a man named Smith, who liked to play practical jokes. One day he told Mr. Jones a very good tongue twister and after Mr. Jones had mastered it, Mr.

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