

THE FIFTH STATE ORATORICAL CONTEST.

Eight Colleges Represented—Large Delegations From Different Educational Institutions.

Fred Fisk, of University of Oregon, Eugene, Receives the Medal—P. E. Bauer of Pacific University a Close Second.

The event of the year for which our students have been preparing so faithfully for the past few months is over. The excitement, worry, and work, pertaining to it are a thing of the past. It now remains for us to take a retrospective view of the interesting proceedings of the last few days and make our conclusions concerning them.

The fifth annual meeting of the state oratorical association was without doubt the most successful one in every way which has yet been held. It will not be at all out of place to state a few reasons for this success. In the first place our state executive committee has done its work most faithfully. The president of the association, Mr. G. L. Cox of our college has left nothing undone which he thought would be beneficial and advantageous to the success of the fifth annual meeting. He has been very self-sacrificing, having spent very much time and labor from his college work.

The students of our local association can not be lauded too highly for the faithfulness with which they took up the work and carried it forward to completion. Especially does our local president, Rollin W. Kirk deserve commendation for his self-sacrificing efforts. Walter Macy was a faithful and competent manager of the finances of our association. Will Allen has had one of the most difficult positions for work, that of chairman of the banquet committee; everyone knows at first thought just about how much work is connected with this committee, but Mr. Allen has been tireless in his efforts and has brought everything around in good shape. The entertainment committee has done efficient service along the line of its work.

But all the efforts of our students would have been entirely fruitless had it not been for the hearty co-operation of the citizens of Newberg. The students realize and remember this fact and are accordingly very grateful to them.

The Eugene delegation and two members from Albany came down on the boat Thursday afternoon. They were the first to come in. The next morning the delegation from McMinnville college came in on the 8 o'clock train with colors flying. The Pacific University delegates came a little later having driven over. The members from Portland University arrived about noon on the steamer Modoc. The last delegations to appear on the scene of battle were those of Albany, Monmouth, and Salem which came by steamer Rath, about 2 o'clock. As soon as all were on hand they were led down to the basement of the Friends church where a banquet had been prepared by our local association in honor of the visiting delegations. The basement had been much changed from its common appearance by the pains-taking efforts of many helpers. Loads of evergreens had been brought and the students had spent a good part of the Thursday before in decorating with them.

Two long tables had been set which were very becomingly decorated, being covered with the choicest of edibles. The windows were darkened so that not a ray of sunlight could penetrate the darkness below. Then beautiful lighted lamps had been placed around, making a very pleasing effect with the evergreens.

Mrs. Rebbie W. Smith, one of our efficient professors presided as toast-mistress. After all had taken a satisfying portion of the good things at hand she arose and speaking in brief, lauded the noble art of oratory. Rowten of McMinnville college responded to a toast on "The successful orator." Mr. Rowten is a slow speaker and spoke quite at length on the essential characteristics of the orator which makes him successful. "The frightened orator," this speech was remarkably juvenile and could easily be bettered by many a public school student. Mr. Watts evidently labored under the delusion that he was witty and thereby insufferably bored his learned audience. But he undoubtedly did his best, and when he at last took his seat it could be said of him "He hath done what he could." Tenny of Portland University then responded to a toast on "The future of our association." This was without question the best toast of the three. Mr. Tenny spoke well and earnestly, doing his University honor.

The delegations then removed to the Baptist church where the business session was held. The meeting was called to order about 4 o'clock by president Cox of Pacific College. The first order of business was the election of president for the next year.

As the college from which the president is elected is always favored with the next contest great interest is always centered in this election.

There were two contestants for this honor. Galloway of Eugene nominated Rowten of McMinnville college. Atwood of Willamette University nominated Wight of Albany. The tellers, Dorsey Hill of Portland University, and Fletcher of Pacific University, collected the ballots and the vote stood Rowten 30 Wight 35. So our next contest will be held in Albany. For secretary, Kykendall of Eugene received 26 votes and Brown of Salem 30. The election of Kykendall was made unanimous. For treasurer, Lewellyn of Pacific University

received 33, and Weed of Portland University 36. The election of Weed was made unanimous.

Under the head of miscellaneous business, the association generously voted to allow P. E. Bauer of Pacific University to appear in the contest. No primary had been held in his college, hence by the constitution a special action was necessary.

An amendment to the by-laws was introduced by Pacific College and carried arranging for two sets of judges. One introduced by University of Oregon was carried, making the annual contest come in March.

In the first part of the meeting the committee on credentials reported full delegations present from all the colleges. This was the first time in the history of the association when full delegations were present to take part in the proceedings of the business meeting.

Generally, very good feeling pervaded throughout this session. Weed of McMinnville college made himself conspicuous for his offensive and obstinate juvenile peevishness, and thereby lost the respect of many present.

President Cox is to be congratulated for his correct and impartial rulings. He made one of the best presiding officers the association has yet had.

The meeting adjourned at about 6 o'clock. Of course the important meeting of the convention was the contest held in Friends church at 7:30 o'clock. It was for this event that all the many efforts had been put forth. All interest was centered in the proceedings of this short time. As soon as the doors were opened the crowd began to rush in, and it was not long until the house was full. Before the exercises of the evening began the colleges gave a round of spirited yells.

At about 8 o'clock the contestants marched upon the stage. And indeed they presented a noble array.

President Cox then announced that the program of the evening would begin, which was as follows:

Orchestra (No. 1. Overture, "Zethus," No. 2. Galop, "In Tia")
Invocation, Pres. Thomas Newell.
Quartette, "Little Tommie Went a Fishing."
Messrs. Haskell, Bradley, Fletcher and Bauer, Pacific University.
Oration - Shadow of God on Earth
Blanche George, State Normal School.
Oration - True Political Greatness
C. P. Haight, Portland University.
Piano Duett, "Rhapsodie Hongroise."
Misses Gardner and Britt, Pacific College.
Oration - Birthright of Americans
Sadie L. Bond, Pacific College.
Oration - America
S. P. Early, Willamette University.
Quartette (No. Lullaby
(No. 2) The Cuckoo
Misses Stewart, Lee, Parker and Garrison, Pacific University.
Oration - Protherhood
Fred Fisk, University of Oregon.
Oration - Patriotism for Present Need
J. Sherman Wallace, McMinnville College.
Contraalto Solo - "There, Little Girl Don't Cry"
Katherine A. Glen, Pacific College.
Oration, The Progress of Democratic Principles
P. E. Bauer, Pacific University.
Oration - The Fanatic
Edgar J. Stewart, Albany College.
Orchestra.
Decision of Judges and Presentation of Medal.

The first speaker referred to Abdul Hamud, in meaning "Shadow of God on Earth," but she boldly asserted he was the shadow of Satan on earth. With true pathos and feeling did she picture the miserable conditions of the persecuted Armenians, graphically recounting their inconceivable hardships and tortures, ending in a noble appeal in their behalf. Miss George was entirely self-possessed on the stage and was the very picture of grace and elegance.

Haight of Portland University spoke with great power and force but began a little too strong. He drew a comparison between false and true greatness and gave examples of history as illustrations. He showed the cause of our greatness as a country and what must be our ideal of greatness in the future to remain in our present enviable position.

Miss Sadie Bond of Pacific college spoke with perhaps the clearest enunciation of any of the speakers. She was natural and at ease and carried the attention of the audience with her. She followed out the line of thought as indicated in her subject. Our ancestry and the spirit of loyalty and freedom, are great bequests to us. Our country, glorious from so many points of view, and the fact that it is a Christian country is our great heritage.

The voice of the next speaker was greatly against him. It was too weak. His thought was very much the same as that of the preceding oration.

Fisk of Eugene had a very deep oration and was perhaps the hardest to follow of any. He was very deliberate in his enunciation, taking ample time for what he had to say. His gestures were very good and he seemed very much at ease.

Mr. Wallace first spoke of the evils of our country and cited as especially dangerous ones, foreign immigration, intemperance, too low ideals, and Catholicism. He then showed how greatly we are in need of patriotism of the highest order. Mr. Wallace had a very good voice, especially for one so young in years. His gestures, however were a little constrained and awkward. He had the close attention of his appreciative audience.

P. E. Bauer, of Pacific University traced the development of democratic principles. He began with the time of

Christ, as he maintained that with his birth democracy took lasting root. Mr. Bauer is very quick in movement and has a rich, mellow voice which is very pleasing to hear.

The last speaker, Stewart, of Albany College took Girolamo Savonarolo the Italian patriot-priest as his fanatic. He traced briefly the life of this noble man, the good he accomplished, and then he generalized. His delivery was good.

Taking it all together the speaking was much better than that of any previous contest. It was characteristic of the orations that they were marked by the highest tone of patriotism. Indeed one of the orators remarked that if there had been a Turk or Spaniard in the audience he would have been completely annihilated.

An especial feature of the evening's entertainment, was the excellent music rendered. Much care had been given to this part of the program, and the appreciation shown by the audience indicated the success of all efforts put forth in this direction.

The audience hailed with delight the quartettes from Pacific University. The male quartette would without doubt have been called back if it had not been for the extreme length of the program. As it was the ladies were recalled while the averages were being counted up. Their number entitled "The Cuckoo" was especially enjoyed. Pacific University has the reputation of having some very good musical talent.

The Newberg orchestra simply captivated all lovers of music. We were expecting something good from it, but everybody was surprised at the most excellent music which it rendered. It will certainly be much in demand in the future. It is indeed a very rare case when a town the size of ours can boast of such an orchestra. Its members are, Mrs. C. B. Friesell, S. J. Lashier, Sam Farish, E. D. Elwood and Dr. H. J. Littlefield.

The piano duett by the Misses Jessie Britt and Myrtle Gardner is certainly deserving of especial notice. These ladies are the best instrumentalists and could well take part in any musical exhibition before whomsoever it might be. They had put much time and work on their selection and very difficult though it was, it was rendered most perfectly, with the most beautiful expression and accuracy.

Perhaps the number remarked most upon by the visiting delegates was the contraalto solo by Miss Katherine A. Glen of Pacific College. There is nothing surprising in this as Miss Glen's musical talents are well known and recognized. She made a very beautiful appearance on the stage and rendered most beautifully and touchingly her selection, charming in its simplicity. "There, Little Girl Don't Cry." Miss Glen is without doubt the best contraalto soloist in the state.

Pres. Cox gave the decision of the judges as giving first place to Fred Fisk of University of Oregon, and second place to P. E. Bauer of Pacific University. While this was perhaps not the popular decision, the competent judges without doubt gave an honest decision after such a study of the orations as was not allowed to the audience. President Cox called Mr. Fisk forward and in a few well chosen words, presented him with the gold medal in behalf of the local association of our college by which it was furnished.

The final markings of all the speakers are as follows:

Fred Fisk, University of Oregon..... 93.4
P. E. Bauer, Pacific University..... 92.8
E. Stewart, Albany College..... 91.5
Sadie L. Bond, Pacific College..... 87.12
S. P. Early, Willamette University..... 85.9
J. Sherman Wallace, McMinnville College..... 85.72
Blanche George, Monmouth Normal..... 83.36
C. P. Haight, Portland University..... 85.5

The next morning most of the delegations left by the river steamers. All the delegates seemed highly pleased with their short stay in our little city, and spoke in the highest terms of the treatment they received at the hands of our students. Surely no one can gainsay the statement that the greatest success attended the fifth annual meeting of the state inter-collegiate oratorical association.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Nebraska has corn "to burn" this year and much of it is being used for fuel. At many of the farm houses along the line of the Burlington road all the cribs and available out houses are filled to overflowing with the golden ears of this staple crop, and beside, a huge rounded heap may be seen piled up at a convenient spot near the kitchen door, and the well known smell of burning corn as it comes from the smoking chimney tells the tale.

While passing through this territory a fellow traveler, a populist newspaper man from the Black Hills country of South Dakota and a son of congressman elect Knowles of that district, while enlarging on the importance of a larger circulating medium of exchange, that there among the farmers of Nebraska was a good example of the loss sustained from a contraction of the currency, and asserted that the low price of corn was chargeable to this one condition. When the young man was asked if he would account for the greatly increased price of wheat in the past six months in the same way he changed the subject.

The fact is Nebraska as well as all the neighboring states had an abundant crop last year and the cholera has swept off the hogs to such an extent that very few are left to eat the corn. In a day's ride on the train through this great corn belt I did not see one single bunch of hogs of any respectable number, and in fact hardly a hundred head all told were seen.

Strange as it may seem the cattle are in very ordinary condition while there is corn in sight in all directions. The herds of cattle rooting in snow on the bleak plains of Wyoming are in much better condition. All along the railroads old cribs are bursting with corn and great lines of new cribs hundreds of feet in length are being put up to

receive the crop which is still being harvested. A great deal of corn is being bought up by speculators at nine and ten cents per bushel and here it will lay along side the railroad tracks, much of it without a roof, waiting for the rise which is sure to come sooner or later. As cotton is king throughout the great south-land, so corn is king throughout this region.

A commercial man whose territory extends over a wide field stated to me that business was better in Missouri than in either of the states of Kansas, Nebraska or Iowa. Missouri is a conservative state and not much subject to the ups and downs so common in other western states. Iowa may be said to rank in the same list to some extent, but the corn crop of Iowa is not of the most salubrious quality this year when the very best corn goes begging at a living price and consequently commercial men say business is not as good there as it otherwise would be.

Staid old St. Louis has made great strides in the last ten years in the heart of the city in the way of erecting splendid buildings and the end of this kind of improvement is not yet. If a number of other cities that might be mentioned had spent much more of the energy which has been wasted on outside boom additions, in building the center, more satisfactory results would have followed.

The Union Station at St. Louis is said to be the most costly and magnificent railway depot in the world. The building with the terminal tracks covers a little more than twenty acres, and all told cost \$9,500,000.

There is a splendid hotel in the building where travelers can stop over at a reasonable cost, without undergoing the worry of transfers. Here at this, the Terminal Hotel, gathered the delegates from all over the United States except from the South, to take two special trains for Galveston, Texas, where the meeting of the National Editorial Association was to be held. Many of them were old timers who have been accustomed to meet from year to year at these annual gatherings and this meeting was simply a reunion to such as these. Newspaper men are a jolly lot as a rule, when out from home, and soon all were comparatively well acquainted.

Ira Campbell, of the Eugene Guard, was on hand with his new wife and beside him there were four other delegates from Oregon.

E. H. W.

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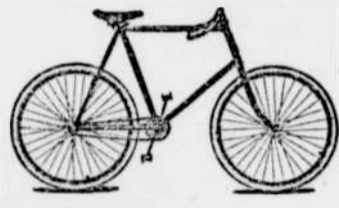
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