

THE HICKMAN COURIER.

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Baccalaureate Sermon.

Delivered by the Rev. Edw. S. Doan, of Louisville, to the Graduates of Hickman College, at the Court House Sunday Morning.

On Sunday morning the spacious court room at the court house was filled to overflowing with friends of education and those desiring to hear the baccalaureate services of the graduating class for 1914-15 of Hickman College.

The sermon, which follows and speaks for itself, was a fine one. It was delivered by Rev. Edw. S. Doan, Rector of St. George's Episcopal church, of Louisville, who, by the way is one of those big, bright, brainy fellows, one appreciates out of as well as in the pulpit.

The musical program was especially pleasing and well rendered. In addition to the choir's selections, Miss Elizabeth Reeves sang a solo that delighted her audience.

Dr. Doan's sermon follows:

TEXT: ST. JOHN XII-13, 14, 15.

These words were uttered by the greatest Teacher, the greatest Pupil and the greatest Servant mankind has ever known. Our Lord did not perform this act as a ceremony to be perpetuated through the years to come but rather as the great example of service—service of the individual to his fellow man. Education and Christianity should go together, hand in hand. A Christianity without Education, or knowledge deteriorates into superstition or false conception of God. Education without Christianity develops pride and self-conceit. Mr. Doan then spoke of the appropriateness of a gathering of this kind on Whit Sunday. It being the day, celebrated throughout the world as the day when Christianity commenced. The main substance of the remainder of the sermon was as follows:

Introduction to Commencement Address.

In these days when we hear from high sources that Christianity in the face of some of the world problems, is a failure, we need to do a little more serious thinking. Christianity, so far, has been more extensive than intensive, and more pious than practical, more divisive than united. If there has been any failure in Christianity's meeting the world problems, the failure has come from the sinful human elements in it which it has not as yet overcome. The failure has not been in Christianity itself, but in the

non-application of the principles of Christianity to every world problem. Christianity will fail when God fails and not until then. Is there any man so presumptuous to think that God can fail? I think such a man would have to lose his reason and good sense to think it. Men who otherwise claim that Christianity is a failure are either traitors to Almighty God or advocates of a religion or philosophy that falls short of God's full revelation of truth. If Christianity were perfectly realized, today, throughout the world, we would have a perfect form of civilization. The fact that we have not such a civilization, today, is only a proof that we have not as yet intensified Christianity to the extent of making it a practical thing. We theorize a great deal about Christianity, but we hesitate about practicing it. It is this hesitation that causes us to have so many unnecessary problems, and so much injustice in the world.

Your education has been a preparation for the meeting of these great problems of life. If you have thought of your education as a mere preparation for your own culture and self-aggrandizement, it has been a selfish one. You have so far been educated to make your life of more service to humanity, but your education has only begun. You are now only commencing to make life of some service to your fellow men, and there is where you are going to get the best that there is in education. Your powers and faculties are now better drawn out for the struggle and the battle. Without the discipline and the training which your school days have given you, there would be less probability of your being a factor in the further progress of the race. Remember that each of you like all others in this world counts for one, and so don't despise your own personality and your own thinking. The difference between an educated man and an uneducated man is that one does a great deal of his own thinking and the other thinks what others have thought out for him. We are not to neglect the sound thoughts of others, but we must not forget that we have the right to do our own thinking as well. It is only thus that we can have more intensive thought brought to bear

upon our world problems. No man is infallible in his thinking.

There is great need, today, for more independence of thought and action along certain lines. We are too prone to think and act in conformity with those who have gone before or with our associates along certain lines which should develop in us an independence that alone will lift this generation and the one that is rolling in upon us, to a higher plain of thinking and action. What is an education if it does not give us the freedom to think our own thoughts, and act accordingly. No educated man is a slave to the thoughts or deeds of others. I am not thinking of the many things thought and done which have practically been settled because so evidently true and good. There are institutions, such as the home, and the church, the school and society which are permanent, though of course capable of improvement and progress as people become more enlightened. We have even a field here for independence of action and thought that improvement and progress may be made. What is popular is not always best. The vox populi is not always in tune with the best interests of the masses. I believe in democracy, but in a democracy that will do more intensive thinking, and so bring forth action that will redound more to their profit and happiness. The masses have need of men and women who will lead them in this more intensive thinking and action. A world-wide democracy will mean the overthrow of the "mighty" or the few, and the upholding of the "rights" of the many. A nation that claims to be democratic has got to cease to be the tool of the rich and become the champion of justice for all. We shall never have a contented democracy until we have such a regime. Government "by the people" has got to mean more than simply putting men into political office who like

the jobs and who make fair pre-election promises. It has got to mean that the people with the power of the ballot will be able to express their will in matters pertaining to their own fundamental welfare, and the welfare of their children. It has got to mean that the laboring people, the people who work with their brain and the people who work with their brawn, will get a better equivalent for their labor. The product of labor under our present regime is benefiting the class of men who enjoy and revel in wealth while the laboring man is worrying how he is going to make ends meet, and his children have the bare necessities of life. Such a system cannot stand as the people realize their power and exert it in their own interests. This is the economic problem of today, and there is developing a strong sentiment in the world for a more or less radical change due to more independent thinking and action on the part of the champions of true democracy. Here is a field for the young man and the young woman, today, for more fearless thinking and action. You have your own life to live. You cannot live your father's life or your mother's life. You can only live your own life. It is for you to decide what that life shall be. There is no other personality in the universe that is just like yours, and you have your own life to mould and direct.

We hear a great deal about the liquor problem, today, and it is a serious problem, but there are other problems as serious if not more so, in many respects, than the liquor problem. The economic problem is of more vital interest to the people than the liquor problem. A better economic condition would keep men in employment and give them such a share of the product of their labor that they would be able to live happier and healthier, and suffer less from the depressions

which so often lead men to abuse the use of liquors. A healthier, happier and more contented democracy will mean a democracy that will have less and less use for an institution like the saloon that menaces the happiness and welfare of the homes of the workers of the world. People properly fed and living beyond want and the pinch of poverty are a people who do not have, as a rule, the craving for a stimulant that will brace them for the struggle. I have seen the worst forms of drunkenness in the homes of the poor where the economic strain was too much for them. In this line as well as in other we are prone to go with the crowd, and say, "What's the use! Its the way it has always been!" A thing may be quite the common place in one set of society today and yet quite tabooed by a set of higher ideals. A thing may have been pretty generally accepted in a former generation which today may be pretty generally rejected. As the old saying is, "We learn by experience." Regardless of many things to the contrary, we should believe that the world is growing better. This betterment of ten has to come through much privation and suffering, and even persecutions and death. But the trend is ever upward and forward toward God and the rights of the common people. Abraham Lincoln once said that "God must love the common people for He made so many of them."

In society today, men and women are thinking on a higher plane than did many of their forbears. At least certain things are being emphasized which they did not see necessary to emphasize. It used to be an old saying that "Young men had to sow wild oats." That was a doctrine of the devil, and many good people passed it on as a doctrine to be condoned in a way. It is not so now among the best thinkers, and the best people. They are

more and more emphatic in their belief that to sow wild oats is to reap wild oats, and that a young man today should be as clean and pure as the young woman whom he expects to marry and make happy. Fathers and mothers were never so wide awake to this fact as they are today. The conscience of the people is being enlightened, and made more sensitive to many lurking evils which former generations winked at. We owe it to our children to pass on our experience and observations and thus save them from much that would otherwise mar their whole lives. Society was never more awake to the fact that many things that have been tolerated in the past must be put out of business for the good of the home, the nation and wholesome conditions.

Men who put a wrong interpretation on the one great Man of the ages may not see the potency of Christianity in all these things. They may talk of the failure of Christianity in the face of the terrible war now being waged by the so-called Christian nations, their vision is beclouded by their own false interpretations, and their wish becomes the father of their thought thus expressed. We have had wars all through the Christian period, but Christianity went on regardless of these human passions and tragedies. One might just as well say that Christ was a failure on the cross because His enemies seemed to triumph. We know who was really triumphing under that world tragedy. So it is with Christianity today. The passions and weaknesses of our common humanity are again in the ascendancy in the present war, in many other spheres of human activity, but in the long run God and Christianity will be vindicated as they always have been in the past. There are too many good things that have grown out of Christianity to

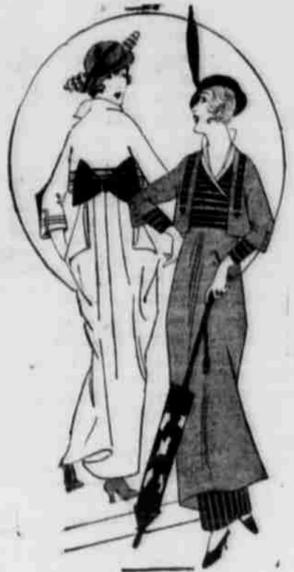
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..Extra Values In Spring Suits..



WE'VE about thirty Spring suits left in stock which we intend selling at just about what the material would cost.

To adequately describe these suits here is hardly possible. Included are the Norfolk suits, semi-Norfolk suits and plain styles, while among the fabrics are serges, poplins, shepherd checks, club checks, etc.



This is one of the many opportunities you'll find at this store to save. Remember these suits will be good for early Fall wear. The regular prices were \$10, \$15 to \$20.

Sale Price, \$5.00, \$7.50, \$10.00

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MENU

...SUNDAY, MAY 30th, 1915...

11:45 a. m. until 2:00 p. m.

Roast Chicken, with Dressing
Veal Loaf, with Celery Sauce
Green Beans New Potatoes New Turnips, Creamed
Red Apple Salad Radishes and Onions
Raspberry Jelly Strawberries and Cake
Coffee Milk Ice Tea

50c

SUPPER 5:45 to 7:00 p. m.

Spring Chicken and Cream Gravy
French Fried Potatoes Rice, with Date Sauce
Poached Eggs on Toast Cold Meat Salad
Hot Biscuit Pineapple Rings Cake
Ice Tea, Milk, Coffee

40c

SPECIAL FOR SATURDAY—Barbecue Dinner, 35c