

# THE LACLEDE BLADE.

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## COMMENCEMENT AND BANQUET

Closing Exercises of Class of '09 and Alumni Association's Annual Spread

The fourteenth annual commencement of Laclede high school was held at the opera house on Friday night of last week, when, in the presence of several hundred friends of the graduates and of the school, the class of '09 finished their high school career with an unusually fine program. The opera house was beautifully decorated in the class colors; the stage was a mass of flowers, while bold and distinct above the stage stood out the simple and emphatic class motto: "Do."

The class of '09 was small in numbers, as compared with classes of other years, but the program was more diversified and very interesting and entertaining throughout. After some fine music by the orchestra, and, by the way, the Laclede orchestra, though small, is a mighty good one, came the invocation by Rev. L. C. Powell, pastor of the M. E. church, followed by a splendid chorus, "Flower Song," by the school.

"The Passing Show," an essay by Miss S. Lula Walker, salutatorian, was well written and excellently delivered. Miss Mabel Rose Kraft followed with a well executed piano solo, a "Valse" by Chopin. Miss Lola Bently Brown was next on the program with a splendid essay entitled, "Black the Heels of Your Boots." The orchestra played a couple of numbers, and Miss Mabel Rose Kraft read the "Class Will," whereby the faculty and the various classes were left divers and sundry articles, and certain members of the high school received more or less useful articles which were then and there publicly bestowed. The "Class History" by Miss Lola Bently Brown interested both her schoolmates and the audience. Another splendid chorus by the school delighted the audience; then "A Shaker Romance," as read by Miss S. Lula Walker, was very entertaining and was followed by another fine essay entitled, "As You Like It," by Miss Mabel Rose Kraft, valedictorian. After a musical number by the orchestra, C. C. Bigger presented diplomas to the three members of the class of '09. The orchestra played a farewell selection, the graduates were congratulated and the audience went home or to the alumni banquet.

The first annual banquet of the alumni association of Laclede high school was an unqualified success. It was held in the assembly room of the high school building after the conclusion of the commencement program. The demand for tickets was so great that many were unable to secure them, but the 125 who were present had a most delightful time. Part of the program had to be omitted on account of lack of room and time, but the Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. church, who formed the refreshment committee, performed their part to the pleasure of everybody by serving a most delicious repast, the first course consisting of sandwiches, salad, pickles, olives and coffee, and the second of ice cream and cake.

The association was organized on Monday night of last week, and the public banquet was largely in

the nature of an experiment, but it is planned to make the alumni banquet a regular feature of the commencement week program in the future. Those fortunate enough to be present this year are glad to have been there and all will want to go again. The officers of the association are Paul S. Lomax, president; J. B. Jones, vice-president; Miss Daisie Rankin, secretary, and C. E. Adams, treasurer.

### M. E. Church Notes

There were five accessions to the church at the Sunday morning service.

Children's day will be observed the 2nd Sunday in June by the Sunday school. The program will be a treat to all present.

The Epworth League will observe their 20th anniversary day on Sunday evening, May 16. A program has been prepared which will be of much interest.

The District Epworth league convention will meet at Moberly the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of June. It is desired that our league be represented at this gathering.

There were 188 present at the school last Sunday morning. We are glad to see the increase as the warm weather advances. The collection was \$5.90.

There will be a call meeting of the official board at the church next Tuesday evening. The Sunday school board will also meet at the same time and place.

The missionary society will meet with Mrs. F. F. Pratt on next Wednesday afternoon. A full attendance is desired as those who have recently attended the conventions at Cameron are expected to give interesting reports.

### Death of James Piggott

In the death of James C. Piggott, which occurred at his farm home near Forker last Sunday morning, this township loses one of its oldest and most highly respected citizens. He had been a great sufferer from kidney trouble for a long time. Deceased was born in East St. Louis, Ill., June 15, 1832, and at death was 76 years and 10 months of age. He came to Missouri in 1857; was married to Julia Tye in 1861. She died in the summer of 1865. He left Missouri in the fall of 1865 and went to Illinois and returned to Missouri in the spring of 1866 and was married to Miss Kate Wise in the fall of the same year. To this union eight children were born of which number five survive him, viz: Mrs. Dora Burnett, of Laclede; Mrs. Sallie Hogsett, of Chicago; Virgil, of Harlem, Montana; George, of Little Rock, Arkansas, and Luke, the only one remaining at home. His second wife died March 2, 1886. Of his father's family one sister, who resides at Memphis, Tenn., survives him. Mr. Piggott had resided on the farm where he died since 1870. He was a good neighbor and citizen and lived an honorable and upright life and had the esteem and respect of all who knew him. Funeral services were held at the home at 9:30 Tuesday morning conducted by Rev. L. C. Powell of the Laclede M. E. church and the body laid at rest in the Locust Grove cemetery.

Barred Plymouth Rock eggs 50 cents per setting. A. M. Walker, route three, Laclede.

One hundred bushels of fancy new crop Whipperwill cow peas at \$2.50 per bushel. P. F. Felt, Laclede.

## THINGS YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW

Pungent Paragraphs Picked up by Our Perambulating Pencil Pusher.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Farrar are rejoicing over the arrival of a fine boy baby at their home northeast of Laclede this week.

M. P. Benson unloaded a car of sand the first of the week to be used in putting in 300 feet of granitoid walk along the south side of his residence property and putting a cement floor in his new barn.

Henry Kraft on last Saturday bought the E. J. Robison place in the southwest suburbs for \$1900 and is to get possession next week. It is understood that Mr. Robison will remove to Chillicothe. W. S. Savage made the sale.

If you want to know what is going to happen this month read Ganderbone's forecast in THE BLADE today. Ganderbone covers a wide range and touches upon many subjects that other prognosticators dare not tackle.

At a meeting of the school board held this week all the old teachers were unanimously re-elected with the exception of the sixth and seventh grades, Miss Rose Tripper not being an applicant. The school did good work the past year and the re-election of Mr. Diemer, as principal, Misses Jardine, Heath, Rankin and Barber will meet the hearty approval of every patron of the school. J. R. Hawes was elected janitor for another term.

John Nelson and two daughters, Misses Carrie and Rebecca, were agreeably surprised Monday night by thirty-three of their friends of the Christian church calling at the Nelson home with well filled baskets including plenty of good candy. The party took that method of showing their appreciation of the splendid work the Nelsons have done in the Sunday school and church work, and also in the willing workers society. Refreshments were served in three courses and a delightful evening spent. Mr. Nelson and daughters left Tuesday on an extended visit to California and perhaps to make their future home there. Good-bys were said at an early hour, all wishing them a safe journey and hoping for their return.

Miss Bracy V. Cornett closed a very successful eight months' term of school in the Oak Arbor district last Friday. Commencement exercises were held Thursday night when two young ladies, Misses Mary J. Cowen and Maggie E. Daniels, graduated from the eighth grade and are ready for the high school. Friday forenoon the friends and patrons of the school began to assemble and at the noon hour a feast such as only the Missouri girls know how to prepare, and must be participated in to be appreciated, was spread and ninety happy, hungry people gathered about the tables. After dinner the professionals of old time "town ball" renewed their acquaintance with the game while the younger ones with their teacher engaged in the less dangerous pastime of "ante over." At two o'clock the bell summoned the crowd together in the house, where they were delightfully entertained with a well rendered program by the pupils of the school. Judging from the interest manifested, Miss Cornett is not only a favorite with her pupils but is appreciated by the patrons of the school.

### Some Evening Reveries.

The boy who takes his hat off when he enters the house is the one who usually has his hair combed and his face clean, and the boy or girl who says "please" and "thank you" is always prettier than the one who forgets these things. Just look around and see if this is not true.

There are many housekeepers who work sixteen hours a day, while three or four healthy, active boys stand around and watch her. They cannot help her because housework is "girls work," and they cannot lower their standard of American manhood. A little reform would work for good in more ways than one in all such cases.

It isn't enough to believe that "every cloud has a silver lining," and then sit down and wait for the lining to reveal itself. We can if we will, take the X-ray of determination, and pierce the cloud and find its bright side. We can, if we will, control our moods, shake off depression and drive away "the blues." Think of the good the gods give and be happy.

The family sitting room should be the best and most luxurious room in the house. Here the family gather to read and talk and enjoy themselves as they can nowhere else. It should be well lighted, well ventilated, and well warmed. The old fashioned way of putting the best and prettiest of everything into the parlor and then shutting out air and sunlight to keep the furniture from spoiling is a stupid and senseless fashion.

Beauty is a dangerous gift. It is even so. Like wealth it has ruined its thousands. Thousands of the most beautiful women are destitute of common sense and common humanity. No gift from heaven is so general as the gift of beauty. In about nine cases in ten it makes her silly, senseless, thoughtless, giddy, vain, proud, frivolous, selfish, low and mean. We think we have seen more girls spoiled by beauty than by any other one thing. "She is beautiful and she knows it," is as much as to say she is spoiled. A beautiful girl is very likely to believe she was made to be looked at; and so she sets herself up for a show at every window, in every door, on every corner of the street, in every company at which opportunity offers for an exhibition of herself. And believing and acting thus, she soon becomes good for nothing else, and when she comes to be a middle aged woman she is that weakest, most sickening of all human things—a faded beauty.

The poorest girls in the world are those not taught to work. There are thousands of them. Rich parents have petted them, and they have been taught to despise labor and to depend upon others for a living, and are perfectly helpless. The most forlorn women belong to this class. It is the duty of parents to protect their daughters from this deplorable condition. They do them a great wrong if they neglect it. Every daughter should be taught to earn her own living. The rich as well as the poor require this training. The wheel of fortune rolls swiftly around; the rich are likely to become poor, and the poor rich. Skill added to labor is no disadvantage to the rich, and is indispensable to the poor. Well-to-do parents must educate their daughters to work. No reform is more imperative than this.

## SHORT PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

Brief Mention of Those Who Come and Go During the Week

E. B. Allen is up from St. Louis for a short visit this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Cook spent last Sunday visiting at Meadville.

L. Kathryn Felt came down from Chicago on a visit Thursday.

Mrs. A. E. Steele of Brookfield spent last Friday afternoon in Laclede.

Victor Pitney of Louisiana visited over last Sunday with relatives and friends in Laclede.

Miss Jean Jardine has gone to Maitland where she will spend the summer with relatives.

John C. Brown is home from spending the winter on a business trip through the south.

Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Weaver spent last Sunday with J. Q. Ader and family in Brookfield.

Attorney and Mrs. B. E. Bigger were guests of relatives here the first of the week from Hannibal.

Mrs. O. F. Libby is spending a couple of weeks with her son, Oscar, and family in Kansas City.

E. K. Welsh and T. L. Humphres were in Kansas City the first of the week with two cars of sheep.

Ed. Newton, who has lived in Laclede for the past year removed to Chandler, Clay county, this week.

Single Comb White Leghorn eggs for sale at 50 cents per setting by Geo. L. Farrar, route 1, Brookfield.

Misses Hattie Bauer and Viola and Beulah Kraft of Bethel have spent the past week in Laclede, guests of the family of Wm. Kraft.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Adams have returned from Arcadia where Mr. Adams has been principal of schools the past two years. They will spend the summer here.

Mrs. Burnett, Mrs. Hogsett and Luke Piggott join in extending their appreciation to neighbors and friends who so kindly lent their assistance during the family's late sad bereavement.

Regular meeting of Phil Kearney post Saturday afternoon, May 1. This is an important meeting as committees for decoration day are to be appointed and all members should make an effort to be present.

Mrs. S. M. Brown's store is headquarters for everything in the millinery line. She has a nice stock of the most stylish, up-to-date hats and is receiving new goods two or three times a week. Some of the prettiest and most becoming hats worn in Laclede this season came from this store and it will pay you to call and inspect her stock before you buy. She can save you money on anything in the millinery line.

The next meeting of the Laclede W. C. T. U. will be held at the home of Mrs. T. M. Elliot on May 11. It is desired that there be a full attendance in order that the union may hold a rally day in honor of its new members. An interesting program will be given at the close of the business part of the meeting. Program: Selected temperance reading, Mrs. C. A. Clark; recitation, Miss Venia Libby; selected temperance reading, Mrs. T. M. Elliott; talk on parliamentary rules, Mrs. H. Eccles. The union's attention is especially called to the last number on the program, and the ladies are invited to bring questions regarding this subject.