

AMERICA'S UN-FINISHED TASK

Memorial Sermon Delivered by the Rev. J. Alfred Nansen Last Sunday Morning.

At the request of Naper Post, G. A. R., we are reproducing the annual Memorial Sermon, delivered last Sunday morning at the First Evangelical Church by its pastor, the Rev. J. Alfred Nansen.

Nearly every local member of the Grand Army of the Republic was present at the service.

AMERICA'S UNFINISHED TASK A Challenge to Modern Heroism.

In Colossians 3:11 I find words written by Paul as a description of an ideal Christian Community—"Where there is neither Jew nor Greek, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor Free."

America's unfinished task is the building of a human brotherhood of individuals and of nations. It was the theory of equality and recognition of identity which led us into a separate national existence.

To attain the standard which is fundamental in the ideals of our great country, America must become a land where, in practice as well as theory, shall there be no recognition of some as foreigners and others as favored natives, no boss control in politics or economics, no separating class distinction but a land where we are all one in intelligent liberty.

I believe the present generation of young Americans should be led with greater effort to cultivate the memories of our country's patriotic past and that type of heroism which led many to pay the last full price of devotion at the shrine of national patriotism in the fateful years of '61 to '65.

But let the youth of today, rather than merely to feel the thrill of battle as scenes bitter carnage are described in glowing terms, let them be deeply stirred by the emotional principles for which blue clad lads left home and fireside at the country's call to service.

Let them know of the sacrifices, made by men and women alike in the days of civil strife, at the altar of true patriotism. Let them appreciate, if it be possible, the tremendous price paid in blood for the liberty they now enjoy.

With the boys of the '60s we honor today all who in our national history fought or died for similar ideals: those who fought and died in the birth throes which launched the United States into the world's history as an independent Republic; those who fought for the country's protection in 1812, and those who since the days when Blue and Gray engaged in civil strife, fought for worthy ideals in the Spanish-American war and the recent World War.

Chums of some here, sons of others, cannot be with us. Their bodies lie buried in rude graves in shell torn fields of France, in Flanders fields, where poppies grow. This knowledge adds much of pathos to our observance of Memorial Day this year.

But today let us speak briefly of the setting of the Civil strife. We will see in it something of the vast debt we owe to Christian leadership for America's present greatness.

The election of President Lincoln in 1860 was followed immediately by rebellious action on the part of South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas.

Within three weeks these seven states had drawn up ordinances by which they declared their relation to the other states of the Union dissolved. They quickly set up a rival government with Jefferson Davis of Missouri at its head.

But when the 4th of March, 1861, came and brought with it to the presidency, Abraham Lincoln with his firm conviction of right, his courage his wisdom and his faith, the Southern secessionists began to tremble for the success of their action.

Lincoln immediately advanced the principle that further acts of secession could not be carried on without it being construed as aggressive acts of war. Following the bombardment of Ft. Sumpter April 12 and 13, 1861, the president made his first call for 75,000 of the militia of the States.

Very soon Virginia, North Carolina, Arkansas and Tennessee joined the rebellious league of the Confederacy. Lincoln issued a call for volunteers and the war was on in earnest. "In all history," says Larned, in his fifth volume of the History of the World, "No man ever faced a more formidable task than Lincoln as he faced civil strife and no human accomplishment ever surpassed his successful settlement of it."

What means our Memorial Day? Have we met today to glorify warfare? Have we met to celebrate military achievement? Have we met to keep alive hostility which will invite civil strife by the separation of men into social classes?

By this service today, we recognize with honor and respect those who have sacrificed for the righteous cause. There is only one glory in war, and that is when it is fought out of necessity for a righteous cause.

There are three institutions upon which the accomplishment of America's unfinished task is dependent, the Family, the Church and the State.

The Family is God's first unit of society. Sometimes I fear that the modern way of living is only too productive of the decadence of family life. We need homes where husband and wife are happy in the companionship of one another and where the children are taught by example the intrinsic value of personal character.

The Church has always been the champion of the things that are best and highest in national life. In the midst of the Civil War, almost crushed by the responsibilities which he was bearing, Abe Lincoln significantly said "God bless the churches, and blessed be God who in this great crisis has given us the churches."

Roger W. Babson, America's greatest statistician was recently in South America. As guest of the President of the Argentine Republic they drifted into conversation about the comparative greatness of North and of South America.

American villages do not sufficiently appreciate today the presence of the churches of the community. God pity a nation or any community or organization which withholds from the church its support or which takes active opposition to its ideals and conservatism.

The State also has a place in carrying out the ideals of America's unfinished task. Among the nations of the world stands the United States as a leader. To extend her brotherhood of men to a brotherhood of nations is the broader aspect of America's unfinished task.

The state cannot rise above the tide of public sentiment in its achievements tho it may be led by champions of higher idealism and greater vision, hence good citizenship implies an active interest in and study of all national and international problems.

May God grant to our great nation His continued blessing! Whoever holds up these institutions among men lifts God in remembrance among their generation for God is the founder of them all.

Benediction—"Lord God of Hosts be with us yet, lest we forget our dependence upon Thee. Give us Thy continued blessing, peace and prosperity thru Christ our Lord." Amen.

ANNUAL CLASS NIGHT EXERCISES WERE ENJOYABLE

Students Entertained Friends and Relatives on Last "Fun Night" of School.

As usual the Assembly Hall at the high school was crowded to the doors on Tuesday evening at the annual class night of the graduating class of D. G. H. S. Every seat held two and the folding chairs were necessary to accommodate the spectators at the final "fun night" of the Class of 1920.

Opening the program was "An Old Fashioned Singing School" with Alwyn Fleming in the capacity of Singing Master. This was undoubtedly the premier offering of the evening. Dressed in a miscellaneous lot of costumes some of which could easily have graced the students' grandparents at their graduation exercises, the grads entertained with a miscellaneous lot of "melodies."

All day suckers gum and various kinds of musical instruments, shared the attention of the music pupils equally with what their master was telling and teaching them. The old songs, "Ben Bolt," "Old Folks at Home," "Reuben-Reuben" and "Auld Lang Syne" were the numbers "practiced." A quartette composed of Alwyn Fleming, Marie Nielsen, Margaret Hitchcock and Ben Morgan, as a special favor showed the rest of the class really how to do it.

As very special numbers for the evening Flora Flood was called upon by the Singing Master to recite a poem. This turned out to be the class poem and her rendition of it was excellent. Delight Verdenius, when called upon by the class head, for a recitation, gave the class history. She told of the many changes which have come over that large band of Freshmen of four years ago and who were that night's Seniors and many little sidelights on the doings of the class.

A very sad affair was the second part of the program when the will of D. Ed. Senior was read. The tears of the players were mingled with the tears of laughter, of the audience, as the most precious possessions of the departing students were "wished" on those remaining in the school.

Robert Anderson made a very efficient lawyer. Biting off his sentences in a very professional way. Mr. Faye Cully Guthrie Boon; Mr. Hi. School, Arthur Taylor; Miss June Yore, Dorothy Bordwell; Miss Sophie More, Helen Beidelman and A. Freshman, Stanley Huntington, were very sad in the roles of chief mourners at the reading of the last will and testament of the very much D. Ed. Senior.

Ending the evening was a meeting of the Spiritualists to invoke the spirits of the future. Raymond Wales, Medium, and Harriett Putnam, Spiritualist, held a seance in which the future characters of the graduates took an important part. They fitted across the stage in true ghostly fashion, depicting the many professions, trades and callings which the members are destined to follow in the future. Some of them were very true to what the present would indicate.

European Flowers. An authority on botany estimates that the number of species of flowers cultivated in Europe is 4,300, of which 420 possess an agreeable perfume. Odors are most likely to be found in flowers, having white or cream-colored petals, then yellow, red, blue or violet in order.

CITY MEN ASK AT AGENCY FOR FARMING JOBS

As the grocery bills mount higher and higher and the hope of saving for the inevitable rainy day on a city salary gets slimmer and slimmer, Chicago men of every occupation line up in the farm bureau labor office of the Illinois Agricultural Association and ask for the chance to pitch hay, new mown or mildewed.

On Monday beginning the third week that the I. A. A. has endeavored to furnish farmers with hired help, ninety-six men applied for the country jobs—only fifteen of whom were men of country experience, which is a strong testimony by men who have struggled in it all their lives that the city is not the Utopia that it is sometimes advertised to be.

While it has been necessary to disappoint 474 of the 624 applicants because they lacked the technical knowledge that is a part of the efficient farmer, quite a service has been rendered the Illinois farmers when 150 men have been supplied. The railroad switchmen and the traveling salesmen who covet the wholesomeness and satisfaction of farm life do not always realize the amount of skill farming requires. But the waiting line does not shorten and the labor scarcity problem has been solved for a worth while number of farmers.

The Bureau will continue and if any one needing a hired man will write to the I. A. A., 130 North Wells st., and state his wants it may be possible to supply him.

Telephone 172 M. L. PUFFER, M. D. PHYSICIAN & SURGEON Downers Grove, Illinois

G. B. TOPE, M. D. Physician & Surgeon Downers Grove, Ill. Office and Residence: 15 Highland Ave. Telephone 105 OFFICE HOURS: 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. After 6 p. m.

DR. W. W. GOURLEY Office at Residence - Phone 283 N. Forest Ave. and Franklin St. OFFICE HOURS: 8 to 9 a. m. 3 to 5 p. m. 7 to 8 p. m. Sunday by appointment

C. A. DURKEE OPTOMETRIST 92 E. Curtiss St. Every Evening Phone 134-W

J. H. CHENEY, D. V. M. VETERINARIAN Downers Grove, Illinois Phone 11

G. H. BUNGE Lawyer Office, Farmers & Merchants Bank Building, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays, 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. Every evening, 7 to 9.

Purity of Mind. You can no more filter your mind into purity than you can compress it into calmness; you must keep it pure, and throw no stones into it, if you would have it quiet.—Ruskin. Orientals seem to be immune to the nerve heat of the steamer and the glare for a great length of time temperatures that would speedily prostrate white men.

Sterling Tires One of the best tires on the market is the "STERLING" tire. After considerable investigation we have decided that it is the tire we will sell exclusively. THE STERLING GUARANTEE for practical purposes is — "The User Must Be Satisfied." C. PENNER 101 South Main St. Downers Grove, Ill.

In Your Kitchen A Bright New Gas Range Now — at Spring house cleaning time—is the time to replace your old coal stove or antiquated Gas Range with one of our new labor saving Cabinet models. With enameled splasher backs and doors, these ranges are remarkably easy to keep clean—you merely wipe them with a damp cloth. If you wish, your range can be equipped with an Automatic Lighter that does away with the use of matches. Western United Gas and Electric Company

Delicious More and more every day are our customers relying on our bakery for their supply of cakes, pies, cookies, etc. There is one word used by them in describing these palate ticklers more than any other. "Delicious" is what they say. You do not know what you have been missing until you have tried one of our delicious. Layer Cakes For the crowning part of your Sunday dinner these cakes are designed. Try one today. Downers Grove Corner Sanitary Model Bakery

Announcement-- Regarding the Future Management of The Curtiss Theatre I have taken over the management of the CURTISS THEATRE and have contracted for some of the finest pictures obtainable to be shown at that theatre each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. A four piece orchestra will be an attraction at every performance. Your patronage is respectfully solicited. Elmer H. Uhlhorn