

THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

February 5, 1913

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL SENDS OUT GRADUATES

Twenty-Seven Girls and Four Boys Receive Diplomas.

Bishop Gaylor Orator.

Salutatory By Miss Louise Caruthers and Valedictory by Miss Alretta Woods. Brief Address by Class President, Herbert Abele.

Thirty-one members of the mid-winter graduating class of the Central High School received their diplomas last evening, after simple exercises had been held in the auditorium of the school building in the presence of an audience which filled every seat and overflowed into the lobby.

There were 27 girls in the class and 4 boys, and the stage where they were grouped presented a beautiful picture of budding young womanhood and young manhood.

The exercises were simple, consisting only of the salutatory and valedictory, a brief address by the class president and two class songs.

Miss Louise Caruthers delivered the salutatory in a sweet, womanly way, after a brief introductory address had been given by the class president, Herbert Abele. She spoke briefly, but with such distinct enunciation that her words could be heard in every part of hall, in spite of the interruptions from the seating of several score who arrived late.

The valedictory was delivered by Miss Alretta Woods and that also was remarkable for the perfect enunciation and the well-worded phrases.

Prof. N. M. Williams Absent

The diplomas were delivered by P. H. Phelan, Jr., a member of the Board of Education, in the absence of the president, Dr. G. B. Malone, who was too ill to attend. For the first time in eighteen years during which he has been principal of the High School, Prof. N. M. Williams was also absent. He was taken seriously ill on Monday while attending to his duties in connection with the closing of the term and the beginning of the new term and enrolling of classes.

Continuation: Central High School Sends Out Graduates Feb. 5, 1913

The class songs were sung, with orchestra accompaniment, under the direction of Miss Marie Leary, supervisor of music in the city schools.

The address to the class was delivered by the Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Gaylor, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Tennessee. Bishop Gaylor has the honor of having been one of the first boys to graduate from the Memphis High School. He congratulated the class upon the increase in the number of boys, which showed, he said a gain of 100 per cent over the class in which he himself was graduated, which had but two boys.

Must Build Character With Purpose

"Education", he said, "is only a means for developing our personality. It is to enable us to develop that which is within us, to make of our lives the highest that can be made of them. It is the business of education to enable a boy or girl to bring forth the powers which God has given them, not merely to give them knowledge of books. Many men grow old among their books and die in real ignorance of life.

"There are two great qualities of personality, the first of which is purpose. It is necessary for any man who is to lead a useful life to have a purpose in life, to have something that he wants with all his might to do, and that he is willing to live for and if necessary to die for. Lack of purpose makes men pessimists or egotists. With a strong purpose in life, anything is possible of achievement to a man or woman. Lack of purpose leads only to a useless life and perhaps to utter failure.

"Every man or woman in this world gets what he wants. If they do not want goodness and truth, if they do not seek high ideals, they will not achieve them. It is not what we merely think we want, but what we really want that counts. If we want the highest that the world can give us of good we shall secure it if we strived earnestly and persistently toward our goal.

Courage And Faith Needed.

"Another attribute of personality is courage. We must have both physical and moral courage to succeed. We had a lesson of both in the terrible Titanic disaster last winter, when American manhood was tested and not found wanting, when men stood aside, with courageous courtesy, seeing that the women and children were placed in the lifeboats, and then went down into the icy waters of death because they were real men.

Continuation: Central High School Sends Out Graduates.
Feb. 5, 1913.

"Too many people do not think for themselves, but merely think the thoughts of other people. So the world is filled with charlatans who seek to lead others who have not a strong purpose and true courage and too often succeed.

"We must build our characters upon these two attributes of personality, not forgetting faith, faith in God and faith in ourselves. The only true independence in this world is that which looks in the all-wise and all-powerful God to provide for us in His providence.

"So we must build our characters three-fold, educating truly our bodies, our minds and our souls, taking care of the height, breadth and thickness of our structure so that we shall not become lop-sided. Faith in God will complete true manhood and womanhood, making a complete life.

Graduates Hold Reception

"So my young friends, as you go forth in life, remember these things, and that this is a wonderful age of progress, an age of great problems, many of which you may be called upon to aid in solving, through true faith, courage and purpose."

After the conclusion of the exercises the members of the class held an impromptu reception in the large lobby, hundreds of their friends remaining to greet them.

The members of the class held their class day exercises on Monday afternoon. These were under the direction of Miss Florence Schloss and consisted of music by the High School Orchestra, two class songs, toasts by the various members, a class prophecy by Miss Louise Caruthers, and a little playlet, "The Man From Brandon."

Those who received their diplomas last evening were;

Misses:

Willie Andrews,
Anna Gordon,
Anna Krummerer,
Herbert Swepson,
Delilae Lighter,
Marion Douglass,
Ann McNicholas,
Lucile Sneed,

Continuation: Central High School Sends Out Graduates.
Feb. 5, 1913.

Taleeta Meyers,
Ina Kirby,
Beatrice Herold,
Louise Caruthers,
Rosalie Stiffel,
Hazel Grief,
Bessie Lewis,
Martina Dolan,
Elizabeth Schlemmer,
Myrtle Stewart,
Irene Moore,
Omega Davidson,
Sloay McMahon,
Margaret Cydelotte,
Marguerite McIsaac,
Johannah Frank,
Elretta Woods,
Irene Stahmer,
Catherine Landis.

Messrs.

Herbert Abele,
Henry Jones,
Hyman Bronstein,
Sam Goldberger.