

St. Augustine's Record

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COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

(Extracts from the *Raleigh News and Observer*)

The call of God for the qualities of life which we term leadership are needed more today than ever before, declared Arthur Howe, president of Hampton Institute, in his address yesterday morning at the graduating exercises of St. Augustine's College.

President Howe spoke on the subject, "The Challenge of the Ages" and pointed out to the graduates the qualities most needed by those facing life's test. The speaker was introduced by Rev. Edgar H. Goold, president of St. Augustine's.

The exercises marked the end of the second year of the life of St. Augustine's as a college and the 65th year as one of the leading Negro institutions in the South.

"Unselfishness, obedience and moral courage are the three basic qualities of true leadership," said President Howe in his address. "Perhaps the first is the more important.

"The quality of leadership is not confined by any means to those in the front rank. It may be compared to the Mississippi River, a vast expanse and powerful body of water at its mouth, but made up of numbers of riverlets and creeks, all of which possess that same quality as the great river, but not to the same degree."

The speaker referred to the French statesman's opinion of Col. E. M. House, advisor of President Wilson, to bring out his point of unselfishness as a quality of leadership.

"He is the most selfless man I have ever known," said the statesman of Col. House.

Obedience, although somewhat discarded in both school and home, is nevertheless an outstanding quality of leadership, said President Howe. One must be obedient to the duty before him, never ceasing to put forth efforts to reach the goal.

The third element, moral courage, requires one to do what he thinks best and not what other people do. It is best, said the speaker, to pay attention only to how thinking people regard one and not "the crowd."

Interesting features of the program included several selections by the choral club, demonstration by nurses of St. Agnes Hospital and several addresses by graduating students.

EVENTS OF THE COMMENCEMENT SEASON

Friday, May 20, 8:00 P. M.—Senior High School Class exercises with play, "It Happened in June," by E. G. Hafer.

Saturday, May 21, 8:00 P. M.—Dramatic Club Program. Two One-Act Plays, "The Cure," Anonymous; "Overtones," by Susan Glaspell.

Sunday, May 22, 5:00 P. M.—Baccalaureate Service. Sermon by Rev. Emmet E. Miller, Warden of the Bishop Payne Divinity School, Petersburg, Virginia.

Monday, May 23, 8:00 P. M.—Senior College Play, "Tartuffe" by Moliere.

Tuesday, May 24, 4:00 P. M.—Class Day Exercises of the Senior College Class, held on the Campus.

Tuesday, May 24, 8:00 P. M.—Musical, "Il Trovatore," a Drama with Music. Adapted from Verdi's Opera of the same name. Rendered by the Choral Club.

Wednesday, May 25, 10:00 A. M.—Annual Commencement.

Wednesday, May 25, 1:00 P. M.—Refreshments will be served in the Cheshire Building for Alumni and families of the Graduating Class.

Wednesday, May 25, 2:00 P. M.—Meeting of the Alumni (Hunter Building).

THE PLACE OF THE LIBRARY IN COLLEGE EDUCATION

(Graduation Address by Edith Thompson, Class of 1932)

A building is not a library, although it can and should be a beautiful home for a library. Books are not a library any more than blood is a man, although they are just as indispensable to it. A library is a collection of books housed adequately, and if possible nobly, but most of all organized for use. The library was called by its founder, King Osymandos, of Egypt, "The Medicine House of the Soul." It has been called often a treasure house of intellectual wealth. Rather, I like the unpoetic figure that it is a cafeteria where mental food and drink are spread out in a way to fill every need, and suit every taste, and meet every demand of the various departments.

The relation of the library to the educational work of an institution is unique and peculiar. True is the statement that the library is the heart of the college. No other division of the college articulates with all departments of instruction on the educational side; and certainly no department can rank with the library, which conserves and makes available the thought and capitalizes the experiences of mankind. It is indeed far more than a department; it is a common meeting ground and unifying influence for all departments. The intellectual growth and vitality of every school and division, of every professor and student depends on the vitality of the library. If the accession of books and periodicals should cease, or if the staff of the library were discharged, education on the campus where such an event happened would immediately become stagnant.