



SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Rev. C. J. Krell, pastor of the Zion Evangelical Church, pronounced the invocation.

The next number on the program was a vocal duet, "Wond'rous Night," by Eulalie Mehlhop and Dorothy Dodd. Their appearance was very pleasing and their number was well received.

Supt. C. A. Brothers in a few words introduced "the speaker of the evening," Dr. W. H. Macpherson, of Joliet, who took as his subject, "Find the Value of X." Dr. Macpherson, who is a Scotchman in truth, as well as name, kept his audience alert and interested with his ready wit intermingled with facts.

He began by stating that he had chosen the subject "Find the Value of X" because that was what the members of the Graduating class were up against. Finding the quantity of the unknown. As an example he said, "I know how far it is to Joliet and I know just about how fast a car will go and so, I can figure out how long it will take me to get home tonight. I know that the distance could be covered in thirty-nine or forty-nine or fifty-nine minutes, depending on how fast I drive, but I do not know what I may meet on the road. As a certain road sign says, "Drive carefully, you might meet a fool." Regardless of how carefully you yourself drive, you cannot depend on the other fellow.

I have a reasonable faith that I will wake up in the morning and greet the sun, but on the other hand, like the Irishman, I might wake up and find myself a corpse. Life is full of uncertainties. I know I have a chance of getting back to Joliet tonight, but I am not sure. This thing we do not know, we call X, the symbol of the unknown.

Education helps us face the unknown. For instance, what terror thunder must have been to our remote ancestors, and why? Because they did not know what it was. And yet, how many people do you know that really run when they hear thunder? I know people who are afraid of lightning. I know people who are afraid of mice. We all more or less quiver at the sight of a snake. And so, one of the things that education does is to help overcome the fears and terrors of the unknown.

Today people have to be shown. They are not content with the mere "say so" of some one else. It has to be proven to them. For centuries monuments have been erected to the known heroes, to Generals, Poets and a few Scientists. But do we ever see one erected to the mothers of these great men? And again, we have been taught to believe that Washington won the Revolutionary War; that Grant won the Civil War, but did they debate on the question of who won the late war? Was it one of the great Generals who lead the armies? Was it the doughboy, the gob or the leather neck? The question was settled with the erection of a monument to the "Unknown Soldier." To one upon whom the turning point may have rested.

War is a boy's game and until a generation is grown that does not know of the horrors of this most recent one, there won't be a war. The old men start them and the boys finish them. If we had to put the Lloyd Georges, the Clemenceaus, the Orlandos and our Senators at the front, there would not be any wars. It's the boys, the youth of the land that go in to war with grim, fighting faces, because they do not know.

Twelfth Annual Commencement

Dr. Macpherson Address Class of 1927 at Friday Evening Ceremonies.

Last Friday evening at the Blackstone Theatre there took place one of the "great moments in the lives of little men"—Commencement. The commencement upon the road of life and experience.

The march of the thirty-five dignified Seniors of the class of 1927, D. T. H. S., down the aisle and up on to the stage was very impressive and a ringing applause arose from the audience as they took their places. The music was furnished by the high school orchestra and was very plaudibly done.

The boys' chorus, consisting of eight boys, three of whom were Seniors, sang, "We Meet Again To-night." There appears to be some good talent among the boys at school that would be worth cultivating.

MR. THOMAS MAGUIRE

Mrs. Clark A. Brothers