

**DIPLOMAS GO TO FIFTY-THREE.**

**PROF. W. H. HAND HIGHLY COMPLIMENTS HIGH SCHOOL AND FORCE OF TEACHERS.**

**Hon. R. I. Manning Asks for Extra Mill Levy—Large Audience Present at Final Exercises—Thirty Diplomas from State Department of Education.**

A large crowd was present Thursday night to witness the closing exercises of the high school and to see the fifty-three graduates get their diplomas.

With the bloom of sweetness, beauty and youth on their faces twenty-two girls and with earnest, manly bearings, thirty-one young men were seated on the stage at the Academy of Music last night to render the closing exercises of the high school commencement and to pay their parting tribute to the school which had trained and assisted them for the past eleven years and to receive at the hands of Supt. S. H. Edmunds the final gift of the school.

The graduates were seated in a semi-circle around the stage and for the singing they came gracefully forward and arranged themselves nearer the front of the rostrum. As each one who had some part to perform tripped lightly forward to the edge of the stage she was greeted with applause and again as she finished her part she was heartily applauded by one of the largest audiences which has ever assembled for commencement. All of the exercises were performed in good part and executed well. There was no falter or hesitation and the audience was well pleased with every part of the program.

From the opening of the program when the invocation was pronounced to its close everything passed through smoothly. Two features not on the program were brought in, but these did not detract from the other features but rather added to the interest which had been manifested by the audience.

Each number performed by the young ladies of the class as their turn came was executed well. The young ladies showed the excellent training that they had received at the hands of their teachers and from Prof. S. H. Edmunds and did honor to both her school and to her teachers.

A feature of the occasion was the absence of flowers on the stage. The graduates of the school had on this occasion decided to do away with the custom of receiving flowers on the stage as some of the members of the class might not get as much as some of the others and might feel slighted about it. The plan was a good one and the graduates deserve great credit for their voluntary efforts to do away with the custom.

Mr. R. I. Manning made a short talk on behalf of the city schools in the capacity of chairman of the board of education. He stated that the total tax on property in the city for school purpose now was six mills and he asked that it be made seven. He said that a petition would be circulated asking for an election to increase the school tax levy and that he hoped that every property owner and qualified elector would sign the petition when it was presented to him. He said that the boys and girls of the city were its biggest asset and that he believed in the education of these boys and girls, that money could not be expended for a better purpose than for education.

Before Mr. Manning made his talk Prof. Edmunds stated that the extra levy was for the purpose of getting a supervising principal of singing and painting in the primary department and an instructor in manual training and in the industrial arts in the grammar and high school department.

Following Mr. Manning's talk came one from Mr. W. H. Hand, State Superintendent of high schools, of the University of South Carolina. This was another feature not on the program. Mr. Hand made a very short talk, but in his talk he highly complimented the Sumter city schools, Prof. Edmunds and the force of teachers in the schools.

He said that this class was the largest to ever graduate from any high school in the State with one exception, that of Memminger Normal school of Charleston, which had graduated two classes at one time. He said this was the largest class of boys ever to graduate from any high school in the State and that he was very glad to see that the boys stayed at the school until they graduated. He also said that this class was the largest ever to graduate from any high school in proportion to the number of pupils enrolled in the city schools. He then paid a high tribute to the service of Prof. S. H. Edmunds, and congratulated him upon the work that the school had done. He heartily seconded what Mr. Manning had said and hoped that the people of Sumter would always work for higher standards in the schools as they had in the past.

The D. A. R. medals were presented by Mr. R. D. Epps, who made out

the questions for the examination upon which the contest had been held. Mr. Epps stated that there had been a number of papers which were excellent, but that one paper in each case had been found to be a little better than the others. Upon opening the envelope containing the name of the winner of the D. A. R. medal, which had been contested for by the girls of the tenth grade, it was found that Miss Mary Mellette had been the fortunate contestant.

The U. D. C. medal which was contested for by the boys and girls of the tenth grade was awarded to Miss Mary Mellette also, whose paper, Mr. Epps stated, was in a little better style than that of the author of the history, Mr. Harry C. Brearley and Mr. Wilfred Shaw were highly complimented upon the papers which they turned in, although they had not done quite so well as Miss Mellette.

The penmanship medals which were awarded by the school to the pupils doing the best writing were awarded by Mr. Neill O'Donnell. The medals were presented to Miss Anna Strother of the tenth grade, Miss Florence of the ninth grade, and Shepherd Nash of the tenth grade and Wilcox DesChamps of the ninth grade.

The medal for athletics which was donated by Mr. C. H. Wilson to the member of the high school track team who made the greatest number of points in the State High School track meet which was held in Columbia was presented to Leon LeGrand, who had made the highest number of points in the meet. The medal was presented by Mr. C. M. Hurst.

The two prizes for the best ready writer which are donated by Mr. I. C. Strauss were presented by Mr. C. Capers Smith. In this contest a subject was given to the pupils of the tenth grade and they were given one hour in which to write a composition on the given subject. The prizes fell to Miss Elizabeth White and Wilfred Shaw, who were adjudged the fortunate winners.

The next medal presented was one that had been the subject of much discussion as to who would be the winner. This was the Rhame Declaimers medal presented to the graduate who had made the best declamation on the night before. Expectation was high in several quarters for all of the speakers had done well and each one had his supporters who thought he ought to have the medal, but seven orators could not each get one medal when there was only one to give so the judges had to do away with sentiment and come down to plain mathematical figures and work out who should get it by algebra or some other system that dealt in infinite quantities, so small was the difference between the contestants. It was finally decided that the honor went to Mr. John Kemper Bradford, Jr., and he was presented with the medal by Mr. R. Dozier Lee.

The diplomas were brought on the stage and Prof. S. H. Edmunds, after presenting the class to the public, presented the diplomas to the fifty-three members of the class. When this was done he stated that Prof. Hand had brought with him thirty diplomas for high school graduates which are given by the State department of education to those pupils who had performed the required amount of work. In this class all of the pupils who had taken the full Greek-Latin or Latin-French course were entitled to these diplomas and that there were thirty who had thus earned them.

The songs rendered throughout the evening were well selected and added much to the program.

During the giving out of the diplomas Prof. Edmunds stopped to pay tribute to Miss Anna Sanders who was not present because of sickness in her family. He stated that she had worked hard during all of her playtime and under the most disadvantageous circumstances to get her diploma and that she deserved much credit for her work.

The program rendered was:  
Invocation.  
Lead, Kindly Light.  
Words of Welcome—Miss Nancy McKay.  
Awarding Medals—D. A. R. and U. D. C.

Class History—Miss Sue Duffie.  
Music—Sing, Smile, Slumber.  
Class Prophecy—Miss Susie Dick.  
Awarding Medals—Penmanship.  
Music—Bright Summer.  
Medal for Athletics.  
Prizes—Ready Writers' Contest.  
Class Poem—Miss Evelyn Fraser.  
Essay—Florence Nightingale—Miss Anna Brown.  
Declaimer's Medal.  
Music—Kentucky Babe.  
Words of Farewell—Miss Ada Bowman.  
Presentation of Diplomas.  
Music—Beautiful Blue Danube.

**In the Police Court.**

Gus Valsamatis was tried in the Recorder's court Friday for petit larceny. He was given a sentence of \$50 or 30 days.

**RENEW LORIMER INQUIRY.**

**INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE SELECTED FROM BOTH FAC-TIONS.**

**Four Proponents of Lorimer and Four Opponents; Four Democrats and Four Republicans. — Seven Hours' Debate Precedes Decision.**

Washington, June 1.—Senator Lorimer of Illinois faces another investigation at the hands of his colleagues. The inquiry will be conducted by a subcommittee of the committee on privileges and elections, composed of four Republicans and four Democrats, four of whom voted for the conviction and four for the acquittal of the senator last session. The methods selected is regarded as the latest thing in jury trials.

It took seven hours' debate to agree upon the system, and it was finally adopted by a vote of 48 to 20, being substituted for the plan urged by Senator La Follette of turning the case over to five senators, who were not members when the case was voted upon before, and therefore were supported to be unbiased.

Before the vote was taken Senator Bristow, who favored the La Follette plan, accused Senator Dillingham, chairman of the elections committee, of having capitulated in the interest of a Democratic scheme of turning the investigation over to a subcommittee. This charge was based upon the fact that the author of the resolution adopted was Senator Martin, the Democratic leader.

Mr. Bristow also claimed that the old guard Republicans had formed an alliance with the Democrats and that they had placed the "mantle of Aldrich" upon the shoulders of Martin.

That the committee on privileges and elections had shirked its duty in the former investigation was charged unreservedly by the supporters of the La Follette resolution. Senator Lea of Tennessee said he would no more turn the case over to the elections committee for another trial than he would submit to a second operation for appendicitis by a surgeon who had failed on the first operation to locate the appendix.

Senator Kenyon of Iowa intimated that the great trusts had busied themselves with the election of senators, so as to influence the selection of United States district attorneys whose friendship might be useful in the case of prosecutions.

The defense of the Martin resolution was conducted by Senators Dillingham, Martin, Bacon, Stone and other senators from both the Republican and Democratic side of the chamber. Most of the insurgent Republican senators voted against substituting the Martin resolution.

The resolution adopted merely provides that the investigation shall be conducted by the elections committee and makes no mention of a subcommittee. It was in connection with the understanding on the part of many senators that a bipartisan and bi-Lorimer committee was to be named that brought out most of the criticism.

After the adoption of the resolution the senate adjourned until 2 p. m. Monday.

**D. A. R. RECEPTION.**

**Mrs. E. Louise Mayes, State Regent of D. A. R. Entertained by Mrs. Kingman.**

An informal reception was given on Wednesday afternoon by the local chapter of D. A. R. for Miss F. Louise Mayes, State Regent of the D. A. R. The reception was given in Mrs. C. W. Kingman's fine new residence on Washington street.

Mrs. Mayes, in her capacity of State Regent, has been visiting all of the chapters in the State and Wednesday the honor of her presence fell to Sumter, where she was entertained during her short stay by the D. A. R.

A meeting of the local chapter was held earlier in the afternoon, after which came the reception, which was given so that the ladies of Sumter might meet Mrs. Mayes and that she might have the pleasure of becoming acquainted with them.

Refreshments were served during the reception which were much enjoyed by the guests of the evening.

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**TO GIVE LECTURES ON HEALTH.**

**FIRST LECTURE TO BE GIVEN SUNDAY, JUNE 11, AT THE COURT HOUSE.**

**Committee Appointed to Make Arrangements for a Crusade for Better Health in Sumter Decide to Have Course of Lectures Here.**

A committee appointed several weeks ago to perfect an organization to work for better health in Sumter has, after several meetings, decided upon plans of a campaign. There will be a course of lectures given here from time to time on subjects connected with the health of the community which are for the purpose of instructing the public regarding the rules of health and showing them how better health can be maintained in Sumter.

The committee appointed by Dr. Brown, who at the lecture given by Dr. McCormack several Sundays ago at the First Baptist church was appointed to select the committee, consisted of Dr. Walter Cheyne, who was made temporary chairman; Dr. C. P. Osteen, Rev. H. H. Covington, Dr. C. C. Brown, Prof. S. H. Edmunds, and Messrs. L. I. Parrott, A. B. Stuckey and W. B. Burns.

This committee first met and organized. Rev. H. H. Covington was elected chairman and Dr. Walter Cheyne was elected secretary. After its organization the committee has held several meetings and at its last meeting, held on Friday, the plan of work for better health was mapped out.

It was decided to have a course of lectures on subjects that would prove beneficial to those persons of the city who were anxious to know more about keeping the town cleaner and having less sickness in it. This plan was the same as that which has been mapped out by a large number of towns and cities about the same size as Sumter and has been found to work best in the maintenance of good health in the locality.

The first course of lectures will be given on Sunday, June 11 in the court house at 5:30 p. m. Everybody is invited to attend the lectures which will be given by persons who know what they are talking about and who will tell their audience how they may have better health in their homes and in their city.

Those to deliver the lectures on this first occasion are Dr. Hayne, the secretary of the State Board of Health and a man well versed in the science of health. His lecture will be along general sanitary lines. Dr. Hayne has served in various parts of the world and has had much experience in ridding places of malaria and it will be to tell the people how they may do away with this disease that he comes here. Other subjects besides the eradication of the mosquitoes will be treated in his lecture.

Dr. Eggleston and Mr. David R. Coker, Jr., of Hartsville are the other two lecturers in this first series of lectures. These gentlemen will tell about how they have almost eradicated mosquitoes from Hartsville and how they have held a crusade for better health in Hartsville which has resulted in great good at that place.

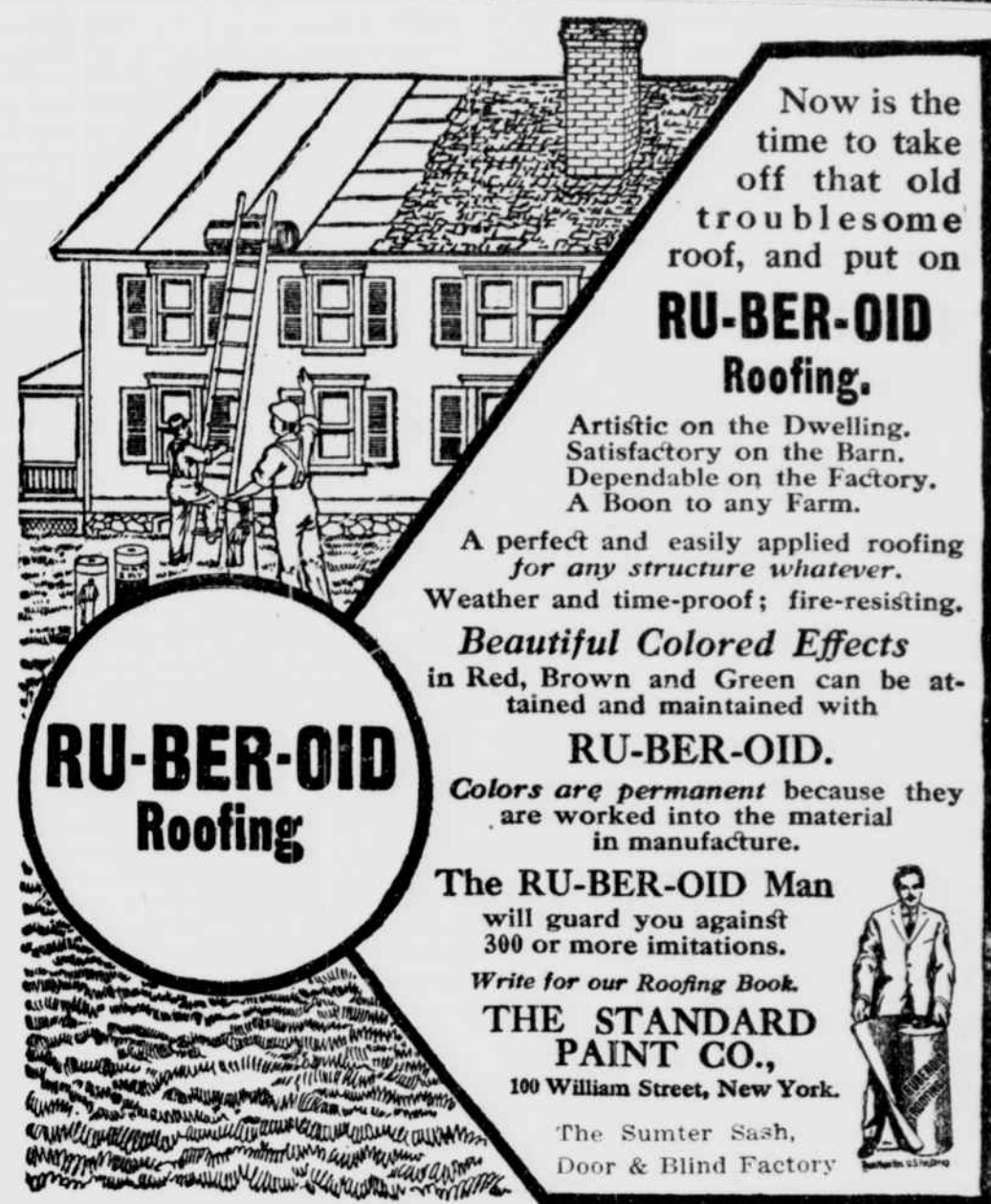
The second series of the lectures will be delivered in the court house two weeks later at which other lecturers will tell about other things and more ways of securing better health in the town. After this the series of lecturers will be held from time to time as they are deemed needed.

The city board of health is working with this special committee and is ready to assist them in anything that they do for the betterment of the health of the town. It will also welcome any aid from outsiders which can be given in the work.

Every prohibitionist who voted to abolish the dispensary is pledged to pay all necessary additional school and other taxes required to make good the deficit in school, city and county revenues caused by cutting off the income from the dispensary. The man whose conscience would not rest easy while the schools, streets and public roads were being maintained by blood money derived from the lawful sale of liquor cannot consistently refuse to vote for an extra one mill levy needed for the adequate support of the city schools. A conscience that is too straight-laced to rest easy under the use of dispensary profits for the support of schools, should hail with delight the opportunity to pay a straight-out tax to do the work that was heretofore done by the indirect tax paid by the patrons of the dispensary.

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