

# Valedictory Address At University Encaenia

Class History Reviewed in an Interesting Way by Mr. R. L. Simms—Good Work Accomplished by the Various College Societies—Outlook for the Future is Promising

The valedictory for the Senior Class at the U.N.B., was delivered by Mr. R. L. Simms, who spoke as follows:

Your Honor, Mr. President and gentlemen of the Senate, Mr. President and members of the Associated Alumni, Mr. Chancellor and members of the faculty, Fellow Students, ladies and gentlemen:

"The old order changeth yielding place to new."

There is nothing that endures but change itself.

"Time presents new moments, such in its individuality, never was to be fore and never will be again." Every moment contains within itself a fading past and a dawning future. But some moments stand out among their fellows as a giant among men, or as a crowning mountain peak that towers above the surrounding foothills, because they sum up as it were the significance of a closing speech and man's drawing of a new era. Such a moment is the present to the class of 1914. Four years we have been lingering in this quiet haven, apart from noisy tumults, the surging currents of the outer world, and in this period we have shared in the best thoughts of our civilization, we have measured our limitations by the achievement of our race, we have tested our powers and have gained breadth of vision and strength of will. But the long expected hour has arrived, the period of preparation has closed and today we enter the life that is real and earnest, that ceaselessly urges us forward and upward, endeavoring to attain an ever advancing goal.

We are not alone; others have gone before and won their laurels by duty well performed and their needs are beacons to guide us on and to inspire within us the courage and perseverance that the world demands, that humanity calls for and conscience bids.

## CLASS HISTORY

Before we say farewell it is in order that we review briefly the history of the time spent here. One morning in the early autumn of 1910 a group of forty-four youths and maidens with verdant notions of college, ascended the rocky pathway toward the University. The sinister warnings in the trees of the grove caused no delay, for the curiosity of their years urged them timidly forward. They entered at the back door and college life began. The next evening the class was entertained by the Sophomores in a unique manner, after which the code of unwritten laws was given and

the new member became a part of the student organization, and were soon absorbed in the tasks necessary to fulfil their college purpose.

As Sophomores the class numbered forty. The Sophomore year is one of the most important and in class room work perhaps the busiest of the course. College has a different meaning, there is a beginning of responsibility in the affairs of the students, there are a few costumes shared in by the class alone.

We entered the junior year with a class of thirty-six. Much of the uncertainty of the former years was gone. In the junior and senior years we became more acquainted with the inner affairs of the college life. New avenues of activity and influence presented themselves and the horizon widened. Moreover the elective course gives one opportunity to branch out along lines of his special influence, his particular genius finds expressions and work is pleasure. For us the year marked a time when the student body had taken a new determination to promote the interest of college; there was increased activity in athletics; but the joy and promise of the football season was clouded when a fatal illness deprived the team of one of its foremost members, and the college of a valued and noble student. Joe Alexander was an ideal college man and a clean, manly, unselfish classmate. "He never turned his back but marched breast forward."

"Never doubted clouds would break, Never dreamed though right were worsted, wrong would triumph. Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better, sleep to wake."

## THE PAST YEAR.

has been successful. Unfortunately the class missed some of its most valued members, but with a hearty co-operation of the other classes the different associations have been well conducted.

A needed change in organization has been made formerly the Literary and Debating Society controlled all the affairs of College; this has been supplanted by the Students' Association under which the Debating Society is a separate organization, given to debating only. The U. F. A. has been abolished and the finances placed in the hands of a committee, Association. Some important changes directly responsible to the student have been made in the by-laws. Two at least, deserve mention. That each athletic team to elect its own captain, and that no person shall

be elected to an office unless he receives a majority of all the votes cast.

More progress has been made in athletics than for several years. More than usual interests have been shown and with stricter discipline maintained the various teams have been in better condition. In football, we won second place in the intercollegiate league with a very narrow margin from winning first at a game played away from our home field. Of the four games played in Hockey three were won by U.N.B. There is need of better regulations in this game. If football demands a field of certain dimensions it seems reasonable to suppose that all rinks should be of a standard size. Our teams have been handicapped in this matter.

The basketball team has maintained the high standing characteristic of the U. N. B. team. Although some of the best players are leaving with our class there is ample material among the undergraduates and there is no doubt that with earnest effort a better showing can be made next year than even this one.

The physical training class under the direction of Mr. Chester Alexander is worthy of mention. This training should become general among the students and may the time not be distant when a course of military drill will be given at the University not for war, but to develop a proper physical carriage. In all matters of sport, the very high and honorable methods of our students are commendable. The spirit of fair play is always shown and all mean and disreputable tactics avoided. Athletics properly conducted are a valuable supplement in education, but if loose methods are practised, they become a decided source of evil. The tendency to win at any cost is only a popular frenzy and should be discouraged. It is at our preparatory schools that the habits of sport are formed and there is a big responsibility on the heads of our high and collegiate schools.

In debating keen interest has been shown. The Saturday Night debates have been better attended and a schedule of inter class debates was carried out the fall term. Although we were unsuccessful at the Intercollegiate Debate the decision against us was not unanimous.

The usual Mock Trial and Mock Parliament were held with good attendance and lively interest.

The University Dramatic Society was highly successful with their play College Chums, winning favorable comment from expert opinion. The success of the Orchestra was largely due to the kindly assistance of Professor McGinnis.

The college monthly has been well managed and in literary production equal to that of former years. The College paper can be a great influence in promoting unity and harmony among the students or its effects be equally injurious if improperly used.

The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A.

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continue their good work. There are those whose zeal in this respect calls out our admiration.

The Ladies Society has been highly influential. We regret that the president Miss Greenlaw was compelled to leave college and we sympathize with her in the recent death of her mother. We appreciate the assistance of the ladies given in the social life of the college.

There has been changes in the faculty this year. It was mentioned at last Encaenia that Prof. Gordon was leaving, but it was not generally known until near the beginning of this year that Dr. Carson, Professor of Chemistry had severed his connection with the University, which was much regretted by all. We were fortunate in securing in his place Dr. Cameron of Edinburgh University whose work has been very satisfactory. We welcome Prof. Macdonald to the Department of English and History. He comes to us with high attainments. Both these gentlemen are of that race which has so many representatives in colonial education and they have already won popularity among the students not only by their official duties but also the kindly interest shown in the students affairs.

This year's class contains the first students who have completed the law course given in connection with the University. We look forward to a time when we shall have a full course in law given here. We also wish the arrangement made whereby students that fulfill the conditions are granted one year's exemption from Mr. Gill Medical Course.

## OUR ALMA MATER.

What it means to say farewell to our Alma Mater cannot be expressed in language. It is felt by those who alone know the meaning. Here we experienced the keenest struggles of the intellect, the deepest emotions of the mind; the fancies of former years have been transcended by a nobler fuller vision of the world, and the relations of men and above all we have entered into that unity and fellowship with each other that can only come through such association as is formed in college life.

What can we say in appreciation of our University? When the fathers of our splendid school system laid down the broad and fundamental principles, free, non-sectarian schools they found that breadth and tolerance already existing in this university which was intended to be the head of our educational institutions. The open book the problem of our education is before all, there is no bar by caste, by creed, to anyone who desired the higher scholarship given here. And as all meet here in a plane above petty denominational prejudice they receive the best possible training for citizens of our country which is made up of diverse races and religion as some one has well said, "The Spirit of unity in diversity is the spirit of U. N. B. Men are rated for what they are, rather than creed."

Again, the young man who enrolls here does so as if right, so far as his conduct is proper he is master of his own destiny. Not hedged about by rigid rules, he gains a self-reliance that will serve him well in after years and when he receives his degree he gains the highest honor his country bestows for individual effort; he has forced recognition from his native land. It is an official act, a signal distinction of civil honor that can come to a native of New Brunswick only through this institution.

But the degree is but a symbol of efficiency. Back of it lies the fact that there is a broad and liberal course in instruction in science and arts under the direction of competent, energetic instructors equal to any given in the eastern part of the continent. There is no need to dispute concerning the direction our education is taking; there is opportunity either for the classical or vocational.

The University has extended and

(Continued on Page 6.)

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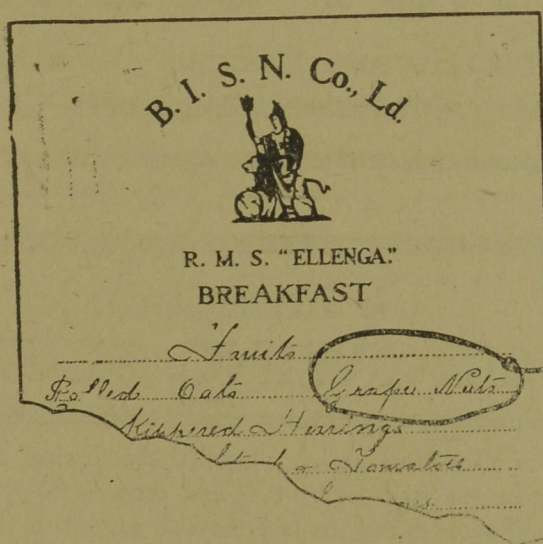
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