ORATORY CONTEST.

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONTEST
WON BY H. W. HANSON.

A good sized audience assembled last evening at the Opera House to listen to the contest which would decide who should represent S. O. L. in the final contest of the Northern Oratori­al League, to be held at Alma this fall.

E. W. HANSON.

According to the constitution of the Logos, the winners of second and first prizes, Messrs. Lynch and Copeland will accompany Mr. Hanson to be final contestants as alternates.

At 8:30 C. S. Brown delivered his invention, and immediately after as long and encore by the Quartette. Dr. H. C. Moore, President of the local Oratorial Association, announced his next speaker on the program, E. W. Copeland.

The title of Mr. Copeland's oration was "Mere Hill." He was smoothly spoken, and smoothly delivered. Mr. Copeland has a pleasant appearance upon the platform and is the sort as if at good a role. He spoke clearly, softly, and forcibly. There was a return and dignify in his bearing, and it was closely followed by his audi­ence.

H. W. Hanson then followed with his oration "The Right of Revolu­tion." His delivery was very well shaped to the subject matter of his oration. He spoke distinctly, his intonation was eminently clear. He was easy, and graceful, ap­pearing at home in his platform. There was a kind of magnanimity about his bearing. The modulations of his voice were excellent. With the true tenor of his voice he led his audience where he wished; first interested them, then fascinated them, and at last, in the most dramatic parts of his oration, he actually thrilled his listeners.

After Mr. Hanson's oration, Miss Wood varied the program by reading a visual story, with violin accompaniment. It is a winning manner to make the audience beg for encore.

The third speaker on the program was Mr. Peter, whose subject was "The World State." His voice though strong and clear, did not possess the range of infection that some others on the program showed. His delivery was char­acterized by an earnestness that sur­passed the efforts of any of his com­petitors. Like Mr. Hanson, he spoke as if he thoroughly believed every­thing he had to say, and was making an honest endeavor to lead the audi­ence to believe as he did.

MERCY HOSPITAL.

THE UNIVERSITY'S BIRTHPLACE NOW TO BE TORN AWAY.

The old building now known as Mercy Hospital, is the one in which the first aspect of the University was taken place. All who are in any way acquainted with the early history of the institution know that in 1855, this building became the home of the institution.

The first floor of the building was rented to the Faculty Professor Henry S. Welton, E. M. Griffin, and John Van Vlissingen. Two others, James Hall and J. D. Whiting were named among the Faculty, but they were employed in the State Geological Survey and conducted no classes in the University.

For the first few months all recita­tions were held in one room, but in the winter the use of another room was secured, the larger one was divided into two by a partition, and so with these three small rooms for all the University exercised its institution entered upon a course which, though not without many setbacks, has proved on the whole to be one of steady growth and development.

A bell belonging to the old stone chureh on Burlington street opposite the present Baptist Church was pur­chased by the University and hung in the belfry on the Mechanics Acad­emy. This served to tell the students their hours for recitations. Soon after the University vacated the building the bell was sold and unfortu­nately the whereabouts of this old relic is now unknown.

The University Library then con­stituted of about 125 volumes, and these were arranged in shelves in a little room about four feet square, over the north stairway in this same building.

From the fall of 1855 to the spring of 1856 all the exercises of the Univer­sity were conducted in the birthplace really of our institution.

At one time during this period, owing to a lack of funds, all the de­partments except the Normal depart­ment were closed. When at this prec­arious stage, Professor Wells, then known as Professor of Theory and Practice of Teaching—now designated Pedagogy—secured a small building and named it the "Normal Department of the State University," and fastened it to the front of the building.

In the year 1857 the seat of the government was transferred to Des­ Moines, and the old capitol, the pres­ent Central building, became the seat of the University. Necessary repairs, however, postponed the date of occup­ancy until late in the following year.

Several years after moving into their new quarters the University pur­chased the Mechanics' Academy and has retained possession to this day, which is to be erected on the same site.

We are not indebted to books for the above information. It has been furnished us through the kindness of Mr. W. L. Langdon, the State Historian. The statement has been produced from his memory. He was chairman of the committee which organized the Uni­versity for its first year's work, and was treasurer of the first Board of Trustees, hence he is qualified to know.

Resolutions of Respect.

TO HIS DEAR ONES;

Carl Treonner was our teacher and our friend; words can not express our sorrow at his death. But God is love, and He works all things for the good of them that love him, and are called according to his purpose. Hence, you must take comfort, for no man can lay any thing against the reward of those that loved God, who died for his sake. In offering sympathy in our power.

We, the undersigned, a committee appointed from the members of the West Des Moines High School, hereby extend to you in behalf of our school the most heartfelt sympathy in our power.

We recommend the publication of these resolutions in the papers of Des Moines, Iowa City and Davenport.

E. A. RAYMOND 137.

Grace Myrick, 19.

Miriam Jones, 19.

Harl. M. S. Graham, 19.

Committee.

Whereas, Carl Treonner, an honored and true member of our school, has departed this life during his college course, and was an active worker in this organization, and an inspiration to his co-workers.

Be it resolved, that we, its members, hereby express our sorrow at his untimely death, and recognize the losses which are irreparable to our organization and society.

Be it resolved, that we hereby extend to his bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy.

Committee.

NOTICE.

There will be a meeting of the Orato­tial Association in Irving Hall, Wednesday, March 13th, at 8:30. A full attendance is desired.

RALPH UPTON, Pres.

NOTICE.

The members of the Senior College class are requested to report at Locomot's studio as soon as possible to have their negatives taken.

Committee.
We have received several "communications" which we have not published. It is not through any partiality that we have published some of these and held others unpublished. They have not appeared in our columns simply because they were not accompanied by the name of the writer.

We are always on the lookout for the sentiments expressed in articles headed "communication" or "to the editor." We would much prefer to publish under the communication the name of the writer. However, if the writer so desires, we will withhold his name from the public. Our paper is a University organ, and we invite the students who would have something to say to our student body to communicate it through our columns, providing he sends his name with his communication.

In today's issue we publish a few of the facts, or perhaps more properly called, traditions of the infancy of our great institution. The Merce Hospital has a long history, but we have touched upon it lightly only where it has a direct relation to the beginning of our University. There are only meager records of this period of University history, and the statements we have given stand verified only by memory, but by the memory of a man who took an active part in the development of that time.

A tape of regret or patience at least, that we will see the old walls torn asunder which echoed to the falsetos and ringing voices of our students forty years ago; those old walls which saw her joys and sorrows; which held her, battling with adversities, to the end. The old bell which used to call the students to their classes, long since silenced; has disappeared. And now the old home, which knew the child of the University; which by its traditions and time-worn aspect, remains alone, the most symbolic of her infant days,—it too must go. While we keep in mind our superior facilities of to-day, let us pause and feel for a moment the pathos of passing kings.

Reception to Students.

The Y. M. and Y. W. Christian Associations are to give a reception for the professional students, at close hall, Tuesday evening, March 8th. Everybody is welcome. June and have a good time. A competitive production of two acts will be the feature of the evening. One will be put on by the cabinet members of the two organizations. College songs will be sung. You are especially requested to come early, as early as 7:30 for some of the students are in the midst of examinations. We are sure there will be a good time for all. We want the whole institution to help in giving the professional students a first-class send off.

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THE VIDETTE - REPORTER.

We go by the calender, not by the weather.
At a meeting of the senior class, held on Wednesday afternoon, the class decided, by a large vote, to have their e commemorative pictures taken at Lotusbush. A couple of inquisitive Juniors, who endeavored to attend the meeting, discovered that as well as brain was an element in a Senior's make-up.

**THE VIDEITE REPORTER.**

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**Law Department.**

Law Bulletin number twenty-two will soon be out.

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