

# 227 SENIORS GET DIPLOMAS IN IMPRESSIVE EXERCISES OF ATLANTA GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

## Huge Auditorium Is Taxed to Capacity to Witness Elaborate Program—Sut- ton Appeals for School Support

With every seat in the huge auditorium occupied, and many more unable to gain admission, 227 seniors of the Girls' High school, comprising the largest class in the history of the institution, received their diplomas Wednesday night at the 53d annual commencement exercises.

The seniors in their snow-white costumes and holding bouquets of red roses, banded tier upon tier on the stage; the processional down the center aisle; the juniors, also in white costumes, tripping gaily across the stage to deposit their offerings of baskets of flowers in front of the footlights and then forming an honor guard as the seniors came in; the thrilling and masterful speeches of Miss Virginia Branch and Miss Alpha Daniel; Superintendent Sutton's appeal that every Atlantan support the public school system; the awarding of diplomas, and the singing of the alma mater by students and audience as the seniors marched out, full-tied graduates—these were highlights of the impressive exercises.

Superintendent Sutton described the event as "just another recurrence of the tradition of the Girls' High commencement," that for 53 years has grown and grown, until it is one of the greatest educational occasions of every year.

### Senior Processional

Not a hitch occurred during the entire evening. The ceremonies began with the members of the junior class marching in from either side of the auditorium and upon the stage, where they placed their baskets of cut flowers, and then marched off, to group themselves in

a semicircle as an honor guard for the seniors' procession.

As the first two girls swung down the center aisle to the strains of the march from "William Tell," a wave of applause swept the audience that did not end until the last of the seniors had taken her place on the stage.

As the processional began, Miss Virginia Branch, president of the Mallon society, and Miss Alpha Daniel, president of the student government body, entered from either side of the stage and stood in the center of the stage. Afterward they sat at the top of the class.

Superintendent Sutton offered the invocation, and as he finished, the entire senior class joined with him in "The Lord's Prayer."

"Old Trygvason" was given next by the entire class, after which Miss Daniel welcomed the mothers, fathers, relatives and friends to the commencement.

### Address of Welcome

"We welcome you," said Miss Daniel, "the audience of our expectations. We see in you our parents, relatives, friends and friends of our friends, all of you who have made it possible for us to attain these dear heights."

"You see in us the senior class of 1925, a class of 227 girls, dressed in white and carrying pink roses—which has become a tradition of this occasion."

"We are glad you are here tonight, because we feel that your presence is an expression of your interest and affection, and we hope that your enjoyment of our exercises tonight will equal our joy in planning them for you."

Following the song, "Singing Chorus," from Wagner, Miss Branch delivered the principal address of the evening on "Our Corner Stone."

"And so, for material objects for these symbols, we placed in our corner stone material things that will go down through the generations."

Miss Branch then described the four material objects that were placed in the stone, explaining what

## Girls' High Winner



MISS RAY KNIGHT, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Knight, 279 North Moreland avenue, who was judged the best all-around student of the senior class by the faculty of the Girls' High school, and awarded The Atlanta Journal trophy.—Staff photo by Winn.

each stood for, and how they had been associated with the lives of the students.

She concluded her address by describing the effect of the school spirit on the lives of the girls who had spent four years at the institution.

"But the spirit so typified is not a high school's only contribution toward a strong, firm character, nor even its best," continued Miss Branch. "Constant association with those less fortunate than herself develops a girl's sense of sympathy and unselfishness; Friendship with many girls rounds off the square corners of her nature and makes her the sweeter for it. She learns to see a girl accepted, respected and honored for what she is and for what she has made of herself. She appreciates the spirit of democracy which is the patriotism of today—a patriotism which unites the spirit of refinement with the underlying truths of the age."

### Sutton Makes Appeal

Prior to delivering the prizes and scholarship awards, Superintendent Sutton appealed for the support of all Atlanta in a public school system that will build "physical bodies and strong characters for every boy and girl," and for the attendance of every boy and girl in the entire city at one of the institutions of the public school system of Atlanta.

"We haven't accomplished all we had hoped for this year," said Superintendent Sutton, "but the year has seen some remarkable achievements."

"For one thing, we are the only city in the United States that shows an enrollment greater than our school census. The census says there are 32,000 children in Atlanta who should be in school whereas we have actually enrolled this year 34,000."

"And we haven't all the children in school who should be in school. One of my ideals is to have every boy and girl, who should be in school, attending school."

"Another is that this large grad-

## GERMANY DENIED WITH PROTEST FOR BALK IN DISARMING

BERLIN, June 4.—(By the Associated Press).—The interallied note to Germany detailing her failure to fulfill the disarmament requirements of the Versailles treaty was Thursday presented to Chancellor Luther by Baron d'Abernon, British ambassador to Germany, representing the allied ambassadors, who accompanied him.

Foreign Minister Stresemann was present when the note was delivered to the chancellor. It was announced that the communication would be published Saturday morning in the various allied capitals.

### MORGAN LOAN IS USED TO SUSTAIN FRANC RATE

PARIS, June 4.—(By the Associated Press).—France's \$100,000,000 loan from J. P. Morgan & Co. made last November is finally being brought into play to sustain the exchange rate on the franc, Finance Minister Caillaux said after Thursday's cabinet meeting when he was asked about the exchange situation. He said, however, he is using this money "only to counteract speculation."

## Mayor Signs Pension Checks, Ending Fight

The 1925 pension fight was ended Thursday morning when Mayor Sims signed checks for ten men, aggregating more than \$2,000, to pay five months' pension.

The mayor said he signed the checks after the city attorney had informed him that since Dr. J. P. Kennedy had approved the applications, there was nothing left to do but pay the men the money.

"However," said Mayor Sims, "although the pension fight for 1925 is ended, I intend to renew it again next year. Temporary pensions are costing the city more than \$5,000 annually, and many of the men receiving money are able to work and are making more now than when they did when in the employ of the city."

Sara Douglass, while the D. A. R. Agnes Scott scholarship, given by Mrs. John Slaton in honor of her mother, went to Miss Mary Prim.

Miss Mary Lou Hoyt won the shorter college scholarship given by that college, while \$20 in gold was presented to Miss Estelle Kenny by the American Chemical society for the best work in chemistry. An autographed copy of "Chemistry in Industry" went to Miss Rebecca Holbrook.

Three girls, Misses Alice Eley McDonald, Carmen Mather and Annie Bell Dick, were cited as not having been absent nor tardy at anytime during their entire four years' attendance at the schools, while the following were not absent nor tardy during the past year:

Misses Alice Eley McDonald, Carmen Mather, Annie Belle Dick, Jacquelyn Nolan, Eloise Tankley, Mable Ellis, Fay Wilkins, Clara Senkell, Frances Kocher, Ollie Neely, Isabel Herbig, Wilhelmina Flecken, Nellie Kate Noel, Gage, Bledsoe, Anna Etheridge, Bertha Warren, Grace Turner, Tommie Lou Wells.

Misses Leslie Sacre, Lucile Walters, Loretta Martin, Margaret Dean, Frances Adams, Leona Brooks, Estelle Kenny, Mary Gardner, Julia Finch, Edna Catgen, Elsie Stone, Ruth Mills, Louise Ehling, Lois



tem that will build physical bodies and strong characters for every boy and girl," and for the attendance of every boy and girl in the entire city at one of the institutions of the public school system of Atlanta.

"We haven't accomplished all we had hoped for this year," said Spuer, intendent Sutton, "but the year has seen some remarkable achievements.

"For one thing, we are the only city in the United States that shows an enrollment greater than our school census. The census says there are 52,000 children in Atlanta who should be in school, whereas we have actually enrolled this year 54,000.

"And we haven't all the children in school who should be in school. One of my ideals is to have every boy and girl, who should be in school, attending school.

"Another is that this large graduating class, the largest that the Girls' High school has turned out in fifty-three years, is indicative that we are having better teaching, and that our children are being held in school for a longer period of time than they used to be. Besides this class, the five senior high schools will graduate this week, approximately 1,000 students, who have completed our required course.

#### Building for Future

"We have two objectives. The first is to encourage the building of a strong physical body, building men and women for the future who will become the mothers and fathers of physically perfect children.

"This year we have had reports from 29 of our schools where every child had a dentist's certificate that his teeth had been examined and the necessary corrections made.

"Our other is the molding of a strong character—characters for men and women who can take their places in the world.

"We believe that if we can accomplish these two things then the educational system will have done a wonderful thing for the world.

"I hope to see the time when every father and mother will send their boys and girls to institutions such as we are building in Atlanta. Institutions that seek to build the mind and body for higher things, and not a place that tends to fit them merely to attend a finishing school.

"I believe in the finished product, but I think that we should take the stand that character and physical fitness should be instilled into the growing boy or girl, so that when they become the mothers and fathers, when they reach the stage where life means everything, they will have these two requisites to take their stand in the world."

Superintendent Sutton paid high tribute to the work of Miss Jessie Muse, principal, and to the members of the faculty.

#### Graduates in Demand

He said no finer example of their work could be obtained than what a student at a girls' college told him, to the effect that the teachers in her college literally fight to obtain graduates from the Atlanta Girls' High school.

"There are no finer teachers in any school system in the country, than we have in Atlanta, and I doubt if there are any cities where they are as good," he said.

Miss Ray Knight, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Knight, 249 Courtland street, was awarded The Atlanta Journal trophy as the best all-around student during the year.

In presenting the cup, Superintendent Sutton said that the student was judged by the faculty not on any one particular thing but on her all-around fitness in all activities and endeavors of the school. He declared that the trophies given by The Journal, had been instrumental in stimulating interest throughout the entire school system, and that the department was deeply indebted to The Journal for its interests in the schools of the city.

Miss Pearl Hastings was awarded the Marsh cup, given for the past ten years by the late Mr. John Marsh, to perpetuate the memory of his daughter. He also announced that although Mr. Marsh died several weeks ago, his widow had announced that the cup would be continued. It is awarded each year to the senior showing the greatest proficiency in English.

#### Agnes Scott Scholarship

The Agnes Scott scholarship, given by the Ginn, was awarded Miss

Industry" went to Miss Rebecca McDonald.

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Misses Lessie Sacre, Lucile Walters, Loretta Martin, Margaret Dean, Frances Adams, Leona Brooks, Estelle Kenny, Mary Gardner, Julia Futch, Edna Oetgen, Elise Stone, Ruth Mills, Louise Phillips, Lois Smith, Corinne Clayton, Sarah Robinson, Shirley Wolcott, Elizabeth Thomas, Lucile Breitenbucher.

#### Cum Laude List

The girls named on the Cum Laude list, the national honor society for taking the highest rank in their class, are:

Misses Gage Bledsoe, Helen Brall, Virginia Branch, Lucile Breitenbucher, Anna Etheridge, Carol Hess, Dorothy Josephs, Julia McLendon, Louise Phillips, Isabel Hanson, Mary Lou Hoyt, Geraldine LeMay, Ethel Hanes, Effie Butner.

Dr. R. M. Eubanks, a member of the board of education from the Fourth ward, prior to presenting the diplomas, urged every Atlantian to have an interest not only in the schools of the city, but throughout the state as well.

## AUTOMOBILE SHOW

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