

I can remember when I was in the position you boys are in now. It wasn't so very long ago that I was graduated from elementary school. And the only thing that I really remember very clearly is that I couldn't wait until the long-winded speakers finished their talks and the fun started. So, you see, I can really sympathize with you and therefore I will make every attempt to make my talk as short as possible.

What I want to give you is what I think is the best prescription for clean, healthy, successful, God-fearing, American living. You boys are starting out on your high-school careers now, you are at the beginning of your adolescence. Now adolescence is a time when you can have a lot of fun and when you can build your bodies, your minds and your characters. But it is also a dangerous age. And if you realize that beforehand then you will be ready to accept my personal prescription for a character- tonic which will brace you for the long, exciting and dangerous adventures ahead of you.

The first ingredient in that prescription is Hope. Hope is a very rare commodity these days. You are growing up into a very unstable world. People may laugh and they may joke and spend much time, money and energy on entertainment. But deep down, underneath, people are very frightened. This is an age when people jump at their own shadows, they see atom bombs falling from every corner of the sky and they see spies under every bed. It may be true that things aren't quite what they should be. But you can accomplish absolutely nothing by despairing. Once you give up hope, you can never hope to win. I know - there's a Cold War that may become a Hot War, there's a danger of Inflation, there are many other troubles. But you boys are young - you must be determined that you are going to set things aright when you get the chance. I am reminded of the story of the old gent who came upon a baseball game between two sand-lot teams. He watched for awhile, and noticed the team at bat hitting some long drives, many of them home runs. He approached the first baseman, who happened to be the captain of the team in the field, and asked him what the score was. "We're losing 29 to nothing", answered the the young captain. "What! And you haven't given up yet?". "Of course not, Mister," replied the first baseman, "of course we haven't given up. Why we haven't even gotten up to bat yet". That, my young friends, should be your attitude. Don't let anyone frighten you. Things may look formidable, dangerous and pessimistic. But just remember: you haven't gotten up to bat yet, and when you do, I'm sure you'll be able to even the score and win the game. We Americans can lose innings. But we don't lose games - providing we learn how to hope. Because there is no hope for a man who has no hope.

The second important ingredient in our prescription is RESPECT. Respect means many things - it means politeness, it means courtesy, it means mannerliness; but most of all it means consideration - consideration and appreciation. Respect for God means appreciating the fact that He is the source of all life and all good. Respect for parents means appreciating the suffering, the sacrifices, the long nights tending and watching over you in your moments of need. Respect for teachers means appreciating the work they put into preparing you for the great adventure of life, the patience they have to have with you -and how much patience it requires! - and the devotion with which they teach. Have that respect - and you will automatically have self-respect.

The third ingredient in our character- tonic is HAPPINESS. There are so many things which can make one unhappy today. The big things - the prospects of war and fighting on a far-off battle-field, hunger, disease. And the smaller things - failing an exam, not getting an award, losing a game. But it's really not these outside things which make a man happy or unhappy - it's his own determination to be happy. Abe Lincoln once said, "A man's as happy as he wants to be". How true that is! Without that feeling your work suffers and your success is meaningless. With it, every one about you is happy. Because Happiness, like politeness, is contagious. It makes everyone about you feel the same. I don't mean a false happiness, but a real one, one which comes from the inside, one which is made up of Faith and Loyalty and Devotion.

With these three ingredients you can compound a prescription which will be more than a cure, but a prevention. It can bring out the best in you, make you better sons, more educated citizens and more loyal Americans. God bless you all.

Graduation Exercises



Public School 82, Manhattan

FIRST AVENUE and 70th STREET

New York City



June 24, 1952

MARY NOVY, *Principal*

Mr. Andrew G. Clauson, Jr.*President Board of Education*

Miss Regina C. M. Burke*Associate Superintendent*

Dr. William Jansen.....*City Superintendent*

Dr. Edward J. Bernath.....*Assistant Superintendent*

— Program —



1. March of the Graduates
2. Reading of the Scriptures.....*Rabbi Norman Lamm*
3. Hymn—"The Lord's Prayer"*School*
4. Salutatorian*Olaf Hausgaard*
5. Class Song*Graduates*
6. Address to the Graduates.....*Rabbi Norman Lamm*

— Program —



7. "Our School"*School*
8. Award of Prizes
9. "America, The Beautiful"*School*
10. Granting of Diplomas.....*Mr. Abraham Cohen*
11. Valedictorian*John Pastier*
12. Graduation Song*Graduates*
13. "Bless This House O Lord We Pray".....*School*
14. Salute to the Flag.....*School*
15. National Anthem*School*

adul. - prison, time (character)

Hope (baseball)

Respect (or - self respect)

Happiness (Lamar - manuscript) as
he wants to be

TEACHER

MISS HALLBERG

P. S. 82 Manhattan

June 1952

LIST OF GRADUATES

Chin, Lang Y.
Chudoba, William
Di Maggio, Michael C.
Drazka, John J.
Ehlers, Rudolph
Fabsik, Lawrence P.
Gomory, Paul P.
Grosso, Joseph
Guido, Vincent M.
Hausgaard, Olaf C.
Ingrassia, Paul A.
Jochim, Robert J.
Kletecka, Richard G.
Kriss, John H.

Mahoney, Thomas C.
Meek, John L.
Miska, Richard W.
Pastier, John E.
Ramsey, Peter
Rasile, Anthony
Schuck, William T.
Siderelis, Christos C.
Stark, William B.
Swanchak, John R.
Thelen, Frank A.
Tuma, Gary J.
Waldmann, Jeffery A.
Walsh, Patrick