

Judge Carpenter

TRANSCRIPT OF STENOGRAPHIC NOTES OF ADDRESSES DELIVERED
AT DEDICATION OF THE BEAUMONT MEMORIAL TOWER AT MICHIGAN
STATE COLLEGE, EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN, ON SATURDAY
JUNE 22, 1929, AT THREE O'CLOCK P.M.

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Transcript of stenographic notes of Addresses
delivered at Dedication of The Beaumont Memorial
Tower, at Michigan State College, East Lansing,
Michigan, on Saturday, June 22nd, 1929, at three
o'clock P.M.

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DOCTOR KEDZIE: Seventy-two years ago the thirteenth
of last month, a large assembly -- not so large that day --
met in what was known as "Old College Hall"; the Governor
was to be there; and the enormous sum of fifty-six thousand
dollars, the result of the Government grant of twenty-two
sections of salt spring land, was announced. That was the
opening of the College. That was the first college for the
teaching of agriculture on this continent or in the world.
Nobody recognized what that meant. History is always de-
ceiving when you are making it.

Of all the people who gathered together at that meet-
ing in Old College Hall, a picture of which stands there --
this building stands on the north east corner of that
building -- of all the men and women who were present at
that first meeting, there is but one living person, Mr.
Warren Gunnison.

Mr. Gunnison, will you rise? (Applause)

Of the graduates of the College, the oldest living graduate is Mr. Daniel Strange. Mr. Gunnison fell a little bit by the wayside. He should have graduated in '66. Mr. Daniel Strange, oldest living graduate, will you rise? (Applause) Mr. Strange of the class of '67, (Applause)

The oldest member of the teaching force of the College, who is with us today, alive and lively, is Mr. Charles W. Garfield, of the class of '70.

Mr. Garfield. (Applause).

The architect of the building, representing Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont, will now make the presentation address. Mr. John M. Donaldson, of Detroit. (Applause)

MR. JOHN M. DONALDSON; The significance and interest which this Tower may possess lies, I feel, largely in the spiritual influences which gave it birth,

As you know, it is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Beaumont of Detroit.

Mr. Beaumont is an Alumnus of this College and the memories and influence of his student days here, with the inspiration of a small but exceptionally distinguished faculty, has held his gratitude and loyalty through the years, -- years charged with the duties and responsibilities of an active professional life.

He is one of the State's distinguished lawyers, whose ability and integrity is recognized by his professional brethren and by all who are privileged to know him.

His gratitude and loyalty to his College he desired to express in some simple and dignified memorial and this Tower is his expression, insofar as the Architect was able to interpret it.

He hoped it might take such outward form as to fittingly supplement the charm and beauty of its peaceful setting, that its chime of mellow bells and the sculptured "Sower" over its entrance might perhaps echo in some modest way something of the inspiration that came to him in his young manhood through the lives and words of his teachers.

The ideals awakened by inspiring teachers may, the Architect hopes, be in some small measure carried on through the coming years by the Beaumont Tower.

HONORABLE WILLIAM L. CARPENTER: We are met on the site of old College Hall. That hall which stood here from the time the college was founded in 1857 until 1918 is endeared to the old graduates of the college by thousands of happy memories. For in it, all their recitations were conducted; in it they delivered their college orations; in it they received the degrees conferred upon them when they graduated. Though the building no longer stands, the place where it stood is to them hallowed ground.

We have come to dedicate on a portion of that ground this tower, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Beaumont, of Detroit. Mr. Beaumont, as you all know, is one of the old graduates of the college. He graduated in 1882, after he had taken the regular four years college course. Immediately after his graduation he studied law; not in a law school, but in the law office of an old friend in Saginaw, and as soon as he had completed this study and been admitted to the bar, he went to Detroit to practice his chosen profession.

His career as a lawyer has been an extraordinarily successful one. He soon attained eminence. For many years he has ranked, and now ranks, as one of Detroit's foremost lawyers.

Mr. Beaumont believes, and has long believed, that what he got from his four years work and training, and especially what he got from his association during these years with strong and kindly members of the faculty contributed more than any other single factor to make his life successful and useful. Exactly what he believes were the benefits he received by this training and association I cannot state. But, I who have had the privilege of being his intimate friend for forty-five years can state what I believe those benefits were. It is my thought that to this four years work, training and association, he is largely

indebted for the acquisition of the admirable character and winning personality, which are his most distinguishing attributes, and that it is due to this character and personality that his life has been what it is.

Several years ago Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont determined to do something to testify their gratitude for what the college had done for Mr. Beaumont. Just what the nature of that testimonial should be received long and careful consideration and they finally decided that it should be a tower to be erected on this site. So this structure you behold was built. The donors wish me to say that much of the credit for this achievement should go to Mr. John M. Donaldson, the architect who designed the tower and superintended its erection. For he took their conception when it was without form and made of it this object of beauty.

The tower is given in the belief and with the hope that it will revive and preserve old College Hall memories and be a spiritual inspiration to the present generation of graduates and students, and to those who may come after them.

PRESIDENT ROBERT S. SHAW: There are a number of reasons why the presentation of this magnificent Chimes-tower to Michigan State College just at this time is very appropriate indeed.

The institution has grown to quite large proportions and this tower, with its chimes, will be the one institution on the campus that will daily and hourly direct the movements and activities of more than three thousand students and a large staff on the faculty. Very timely, indeed, because I can recall very distinctly that lone, old, crude, cast-iron bell on the top of Williams Tower which jingled at the end of each hour, nearly tearing out the heart strings with its shallow, cast, metallic melodies, if you like to call it such.

With the disappearance of that old bell there were years following of large considerations doing with the installation of clocks and a gong system throughout the various buildings. That, it seems to me, would have been something like unto chaos in its effect upon the soul and enthusiasm of the people connected with the institution.

Then, all of a sudden comes a donor who offers this institution this magnificent gift, and so, I believe, in the future it will be one of the trysting places. It will no longer be "We will meet at 100 Ag Hall" or "in

the Little Theater" or "at the Union", but it will change and be considered as the meeting or trysting place of the students, student groups or organizations, "at the foot of Memorial Tower", the center of all of the activities of this institution.

I think that we had just come to the point where there was a great necessity for a unifying factor. Your attention has been called to the early beginnings, away back seventy-three years ago. There was just one organization at that time, that may be likened in the multiplication of its activities to the multiplication of the very lowly microscopic organism known as an amoeba, that has its nucleus, and there is a division of that nucleus, and then we have two organisms, and then there is a further division and we have four, and a further division and we have eight. So, this institution was divided until it is now made up of a large number of units.

The ringing of these chimes and the striking of the hour, and their wonderful melodies, will be the one thing at Michigan State College that will say hourly to the students and staff of this institution, "We all belong", not to the "Home Ec Division" or "the Ag Division" or the "Engineering Division". They will be the one constant reminder of the fact that "We all belong to Michigan State College". I believe that will be one of the great and

most decided advantages.

And then, I believe there is going to be something inspirational about this. I know that some people might think that I am awfully wicked if I were to undertake to parody a quotation from Scripture but our habits are like river beds; they are not easily changed.

Usually, when I came to my daily task, I come right up that walk. I never come up that walk without raising my chin off my bosom and looking up at the chimes clock, and there comes to me that passage which I shall quote as follows:

"Unto the hills will I lift up mine eyes;
from whence cometh my help."

and so, I want to change that just a little bit because it appeals to me every day as I come up this walk again:

"Unto the Memorial Tower will I lift up mine eyes; from whence cometh my inspiration."

And, I believe that this tower, those chimes and that clock are going to act as a very great source of inspiration to the students and the staff of this institution, appealing to many of those better things. I would like to have associated with this idea of inspiration, reminders and suggestions of inspiration, I would like to have connected with it, the idea of the matter of standards. Inspired to do what? Inspired to advance and elevate and live up to higher standards, scholastically, socially, morally

and spiritually in all our affairs. In connection with Michigan State College, I hope it may answer as an inspiration and the inspiration may point towards achievement and the maintenance of these higher standards.

Personally, I greatly appreciate the opportunity of personal acquaintance with the donors, Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont. I have a keen appreciation of the splendid service rendered this institution by Mr. Beaumont during the time that he was a member of the Board of Control.

Representing the administration of the institution, the State Board of Agriculture, the Advisory Board of the College and the faculty, in accepting this wonderful gift, I want to assure you that every person concerned with the institution in an official way speaks with a heart full of the greatest appreciation. We greatly appreciate this gift, coming just at this time, in the epoch making period of the history of the institution, which I believe it is. Our students and our faculty have been looking forward with great anticipation to the statuary which has been carved on the side of the building, which carries a moral along with it. They have been looking with an anticipation and I think that anticipation and the associated ideas have had a great deal to do with bringing about during this year the quiet and peace and calm which I hope and believe prevail on this campus.

The one thing I appreciate more than anything else in my experiences of the past year is the wonderful attitude of mind on the part of the student body. I think that the anticipation and the influences of this harmonious, artistic, aesthetic edifice, which they have been thinking about, have at least played an important part in this.

So, it is with a feeling of great gratitude and with expectations of a very benign influence as a result in the future that the State Board and the Administrative Officers of this institution formally accept this magnificent gift from Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont.

(Applause).

(Prayer. Rev. N. A. McCune, (Ol.)

(Alma Mater)

(Chimes: Ode to Joy - - - Beethoven.)

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