

This is a transcription of the article that is unidentified but mentions the "Class Part" that Aaron Koritzky had in the 1901 Rockland High School Graduation.

## Rockland Courier-Gazette

" An event happened this year which I want to chronicle. It was the entrance of the first Jewish boy in the Rockland High School. Among the boys in the first year class was Aaron Koritzky, born in Russia. He had been in the country only a few years when he entered the school, but he had a good command of English and was good at languages generally. The boys ~~inclined to pick on him~~ in their thoughtlessness were inclined to pick on him, and the teachers frequently had to take his part. We used to shame them by telling them we wished that they were as bright as Aaron. He graduated in 1901, and had a class part. I have not known anything about him for years, but I heard years ago that he was in business in the 1st of Pines —

The following 4 pages are images from photocopies of the 1901 school paper that contains the actual text of Aaron's speech.

# **Whims...**

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**Vol. III, No. I.**

**Rockland High School,  
Rockland, Me.**

**To the class of 1901,  
this issue of Whims is dedicated.**

# Graduating Exercises

CLASS OF 1901  
 ROCKLAND HIGH SCHOOL  
 FARWELL OPERA HOUSE

Thursday Evening, June 13

—♦♦♦♦♦—

## Class of 1901.

### Scientific Course.

PERLEY HENRY ANES,	The Progress of the United States
ESLEY BICKNELL,	Lady Hester Stanhope
JESSIE PEARL BILLINGS,	The Nicaragua Canal and Our Commercial Interests
ERNEST CAMPBELL,	Development of the United States Navy
GEORGE CARL CASENS,	Golf
THOMAS EDWARD COSTELLO,	Tammany Hall
IRBROOK COLLINS CROSS,	Athletics in R. H. S. Since '97
MABEL ANNIE ESKINE,	The Yellowstone National Park
HARRIETT ORISSA FUGG,	The Acquisition of Our Newest Territory
THOMAS MANSARD FRY,	Class Prophecy
NINA ALICE GARDNER,	Stagecoach and Tavern Days
GRACE ELIZA GREENE,	Poem—Tides
ALICE LOUISE HARRINGTON,	Evolution of the Book
OLIVER FULLER HILLS,	The Development of the Telephone
MABEL THOMAS KALLOCH,	The Penalty of Fame
WILLENA MARIE LOTHROP,	Class Ode
ARBIE VIANNA MARTIN,	A Twentieth Century Child
JOHN MAY,	Evolution of Rapid Transit
HARRINGTON FISKE MAYO,	The Faye-subsidy Bill
ELIZABETH MARY FLEWNER,	A Spring Walk
HERBERT RICHARDSON,	The Duel between Hamilton and Burr
ALICE ELAINE ROBBINS,	Joseph Nez Percé
SUSIE BELLE SREKER,	The Republic of San Marino
LAURA BIRD SIMMONS,	Early Days in Rockland
FLORENCE MAE STAPLES,	Queen Wilhelmina
LUCIAN ALVAH THOMAS,	Territorial Oregon

### Classical Course.

GRACE GORDON HICKS,	Salutatory
WILLIAM JAMES MCDONOUGH,	The Rise of the Boxer Movement
EMMA LAURA PECK,	Music for Ode
LILLIAN MAE WEEKS,	American Song

**College Preparatory Course.**

ANON MORRIS KORITZKY,	Advantages of Universal Peace
EONA EMMA LAMPSON,	The Apostle of the Gentiles
FRANK MERRILL TIBBETTS,	Class History
MARY MALVINA WESTWORTH,	Dawn of New Days—Valedictory

"School Life to Life's School."

## Program....

MUSIC	ORCHESTRA
MUSIC	ORCHESTRA
SALUTATORY,	MISS HICKS
Advantages of Universal Peace,	MR. KORITZKY
Poem—Tides,	MISS GREENE
American Song,	MISS WEEKS
MUSIC	ORCHESTRA
CLASS HISTORY,	MR. TIBBETTS
The Apostle of the Gentiles,	MISS LAMPSON
CLASS PROPHECY,	MR. FAYE
MUSIC	ORCHESTRA
Territorial Oregon,	MR. THOMAS
Early Days in Rockland,	MISS SIMMONS
Dawn of New Days—VALEDICTORY,	MISS WESTWORTH

### CLASS OFFICERS.

FRANK M. TIBBETTS, President	LAURA B. SIMMONS, Vice President
ERNEST CAMPBELL, Treasurer	ALICE L. HARRINGTON, Secretary

### TEACHERS.

L. E. MOULTON, Principal	ANNA E. COUGHLIN
GERTRUDE L. LESLEY	HARRIETT B. LAW.
MERCY M. HOOD	

## ADVANTAGES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE

Which is more desirable for humanity, peace or war? Can there be any doubt as to the desirability of peace? The advantages of peace are such that they ought to manifest themselves readily to any intelligent being. So depraved, however, is the human mind, that peace far from being considered beneficial is even regarded as injurious.

Many able writers of our day assert that war is essential to the welfare of humanity inasmuch as it acts as a civilizing and humanizing agent. How war can accomplish such things it is difficult to see. Every intelligent person will admit that war is a most barbarous practice, a relic of our savage ancestors. Men, ordinarily peaceful and industrious, become in times of war like wild beasts, capable of performing the most barbarous deeds. They will burn peaceful homes, kill helpless women and children and commit all kinds of violence.

Still another reason has been advanced, namely, that war acts as a means of freeing the world of its superfluous population. A more shameful theory scarcely finds its equal in the annals of history. Such an idea could have originated only among the cannibals, with whom these writers must be closely related, at least in mind.

But even if we could reconcile ourselves to such an idea from a moral point of view, it is extremely absurd. There is no reason to fear lest the world should be overpopulated, as there are millions of square miles which will not be overfilled for centuries to come.

Some historians also claim that war is indispensable as a means of developing the physical courage of a nation, and that without war a nation becomes weakened. To understand how senseless such an argument is, we need merely to look over the pages of history. All those nations which have been constantly at war have descended not only to the lowest abyss of physical and moral corruption; but

have finally passed out of existence, as nations.

Our country in the short time of a century and a quarter, having been engaged in few wars, has developed into one of the wealthiest and mightiest nations of the globe. If we continue in the course we have followed, not imitating the barbarous military system of Europe, in a few centuries we shall leave all Europe far behind, as regards both civilization and political power.

In regard to the statement that war develops the physical courage of a nation, let us see what is implied. Do we not in everyday life meet with the noblest examples of courage? Are the deeds of heroism performed by our firemen, the dangers and hardships endured by men for the advancement of science, in any way inferior to the noble deeds performed upon the battlefields?

There are collected from different parts of the world men among whom there cannot possibly exist the slightest ill feeling. These men with the deadliest weapons in their hands are told to attack one another like wild beasts. They cut, stab and mangle in a most fearful manner. For what has all this courage been displayed, if not for the purpose of gain? For the pursuit of gain has been the principle and motive of nearly all the wars waged between one nation and another.

What a shame is our civilization, our boasts of learning, and all our scientific achievements, if we are constantly preparing ourselves for an attack upon our neighbor, whose only fault may be the possession of a gold or a diamond mine.

What is the reason of the feverish militarism displayed by all the civilized nations? Invariably the answer will be that such large armies are necessary for self-defense, for the protection of religion and similar pretexts.

It is a great mistake to suppose that the evils of war are confined to the battlefield alone. Indeed, as long as a nation is constantly engaged in mili-

tary preparations it can hardly be said to enjoy perfect peace.

Immense sums of money are yearly spent for the support of large armies. The principal motive for holding such large armies is to acquire new territory. How long shall we be so barbarous as not to profit by the teachings of history! History shows us by thousands of examples that all conquests must come to naught. The real greatness of a nation does not consist in the ability to subjugate different nations; a conglomeration of entirely different races under one empire cannot hold together. The inevitable must come. Revolutions and civil wars are sure to follow which finally annihilate the whole nation. This has been shown by the fate of all great empires of antiquity.

But if all these vast sums of money spent for war purposes were reserved and employed for the benefit of the people, how greatly could their material and moral condition be improved. It is a known fact that no government, however liberal, is exceedingly generous in relieving the sufferings of the people. The simple reason for this is that, considering the enormous expenditures which are required for carrying on war, a very small amount can be spared for the needs of the people. All the more reason that war should be abolished. That government which will sacrifice thousands of lives

and spend millions of dollars to obtain a few square miles of land containing a gold mine, or to acquire a small tract which can be used as a coal station, will display the most miserable economy in relieving famine.

Let us take, for example, Russia and England. Russia supports the largest army in the world at an enormous expense; but when a famine occurs in the land, as it frequently does, the government takes few active measures to help the famine-stricken districts.

It is a known fact that England carries on more wars than any other nation. Yet England, the wealthiest nation on the globe, found herself helpless in the face of the terrible famine in Ireland in 1847, when nearly 300,000 people starved.

All these facts show us clearly enough that a government will squander hundreds of millions on useless wars, but when a disaster comes upon the country all at once it becomes poverty-stricken, and collections have to be taken all over the world for its relief. With the money spent for war, nearly all the poverty in the world could be exterminated, thereby exterminating the criminal classes. Education could be made more widely diffused among all people. Then and then alone can a nation hope to reach the highest stage of civilization.

AARON KORITZKY, '01.

