SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY BOOK: THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, 1869-1919; PP. 1-141

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UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY BOOK: THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, 1869-1919; PP. 1-141





CHANCELLOR SAMUEL AVERY

Absent from the University, 1918. Major in Chemical Warfare

Service, U. S. A.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY BOOK

The University of Nebraska



BY THE UNIVERSITY
LINCOLN
1919

PREFATORY NOTE

Nineteen hundred and nineteen is the semi-centennial anniversary of the founding of the University of Nebraska. It is therefore appropriate that some record be published, sketching the history of the institution in the first fifty years of its existence. The articles contained in this anniversary book are the product of no long period of preparation. Most of them were written within a few weeks after the book was planned. Doubtless they omit much that might well have been included, and here and there they may exhibit inaccuracies; and there is probably overlapping of material, as always when a work is the product of collaboration. It was not possible in the time available to secure all the contributions wished or to secure contributions from all the persons approached; and it is to make good the defect thereby occasioned that certain articles are supplied by the editor. Nevertheless, for the most part, the sketches . come from the pens of those best fitted to write them; and it is hoped that the book in some fair measure reflects the growth of the University since its foundation half a century ago.

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CHARTER-DAY POEM

QUARTER-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

The hunter shook from his brown pipe the spark
That flashed into the dark
Of the knotted grass-roots, and grew strong and sprang
Into crackling flame, and it heard the wind that sang
Its keen dry wail o'er the prairies, and strengthened and
grew

Till it flared to a league-long flame, and the scared birds flew.

Smoke-blinded before it, and the blundering buffalo fled, And the coyote quacked in his covert, and the Indian said: "Tonight the God of the fire has raised his head!"

From the fire of ancient worlds a little spark, chanceshaken,

Fell on our alien plains, and spread alone,
And strengthened till it shone
World-wide; and nations said: When did it waken?
We saw not its birth, but today we see afar,
A flame that darkens the low sunset star,
And drives the huddled night
Cowering before the lances of its light.

For a voice cried in the ear
Of the West: Awake, for the future calls thee! Hear,
Child of the plain, today your limbs are strong,
Your eyes are radiant! Wake, for you sleep too long!
Wake, for the east hills quicken into day,
And the gray wind of morning calls to song!
Wake, for within your heart there glows
The prompting of the new-born soul,
Strenuous and tireless, quickening as it knows,
Far off, the destined goal!