

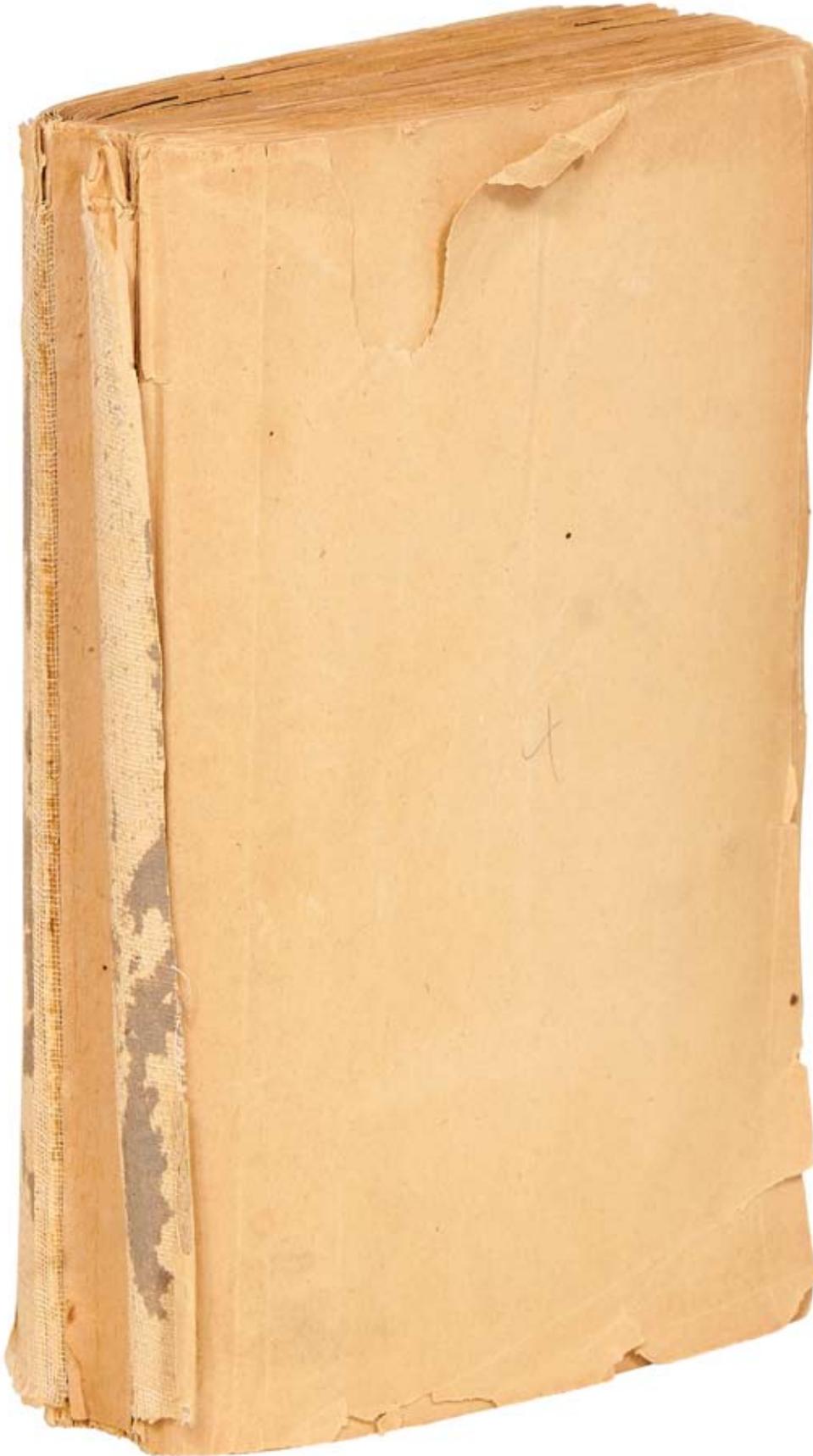
BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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Sarah Jean Brady

[Scrapbook and Photo Album]: Huron College

Huron, South Dakota: 1915-18



Octavo. Lacking the boards, but leaves are intact and held with binding mesh at the spine. Scrapbook with printed title, "School Girl Days," written and illustrated by Clara Powers Wilson with, "our youth we can have but today," written on the title page of the book. Offsetting and some light wear on the outside pages, else very good with fine photographs. A scrapbook and photo album for the years 1915 to 1918 set at Huron College in South Dakota, made by Sarah Jean Brady. Filled with various ephemera including newspaper articles, invitations, small paper souvenirs, and 165 sepia and black and white gelatin silver photographs ranging in size from 1½" x 1" and 7" x 5".

The first few pages are filled with well-composed pictures of classmates with their signatures. One photo depicts the female classmates dressed up in Asian attire and makeup, while another shows an artistic shot of two men, one spilling milk, and with a woman in the background. While most of the photos are candid shots, several of them were for promotion of the schools clubs. Four photos show pictures of Huron's debate team, dressed formally and posing with books in hand.



Brady was an interesting character. A busy woman and a determined feminist, Brady pastes into the last pages of her scrapbook an article describing the argument to allow woman to be a part of the debate team, “No longer do the maidens regard their college days as opportunities for the exhibition of fascinating charms. No longer can the men complacently bask in the atmosphere of adoration. No longer are they superior beings who have merely proved their generosity by admitting an ‘illogical’ sex to the class room. No longer is man conceded a divine right to the platform. Ability is sexless. Brains are brains, wherever found. At last men are being compelled to admit this. A new day is dawning. True, it is not yet here, but it is coming.”

She not only was in several clubs and headed a few of them but won countless oratorical contests for her written speeches. An article in the scrapbook declares “Huron College had the only lady representative in the contest, Miss Jean Brady, with an oration on ‘Preparedness.’ It dealt with the preparedness for peace rather than war,” and, “Miss Jean Brady was awarded first prize in the Peace Oratorical held at the college auditorium... by winning this contest Miss Brady will represent Huron at the State Peace Oratorical.” The evidence in the scrapbook indicates that she attended several contests as the only woman and placed first almost every time. She became the secretary of the Evlaleon Literary Society which was one of the first literary groups to form at Huron College, Another article indicates that “The smoldering desire for literary societies has flamed forth resulting in the organization for the collegiate department.” She also directed the school’s play “Mr. Bob,” and was a part of the college’s Drama Club.



Little about Brady's life after college is indicated in the book except for two small articles present here with dates written on them from 1921, "Miss Jean Brady, head of the drama department of Sioux Falls College, has gone to Chicago... She will attend a conference of the officers of the Drama League of America," showing how dedicated she was to performance and writing.

Huron College was founded in 1883 as Presbyterian University of Southern Dakota. In addition to the usual debate, oratory, and drama activities Huron College sponsored two touring glee clubs and no fewer than seven literary societies. By the 1980's Huron College was experiencing financial problems and in 2005 the campus closed. The buildings were demolished in 2011 and the area is now a central park for the public.

An intense, detailed, and engaging look back on a strong-willed woman from the 1910s and her academic life and achievements. [BTC#402463]



FRESHMAN-JUNIOR
BANQUET
HURON COLLEGE



APRIL 27, 1915



KODAK
Snap Shots





MISCELLANEOUS

Coeducation.

Coeducational colleges are frequently charged with being matrimonial agencies, but even so, it cannot be said that the ventures of college students into the realms of romantic affection are any more troubled or end any more disastrously than similar adventures of humanity in general. The relations between the sexes at Huron have in the past been most happy. True the campus does not abound in bosky dell, nor is it crossed by murmuring brooks. Neither have the trees yet become venerable. But where youth, there love is also. And we venture to opine that our unromantic campus, the gently meandering "Jim," with its semi-occasional groves, and the windy plains all about us have witnessed avowals no less tender and passionate than those inspired

expressions heard in the most popular summer resorts.

But these are days of the past. No longer is time wasted in sentimental nothings. No longer do the maidens regard their college days as opportunities for the exhibition of fascinating charms. No longer can the men complacently bask in the atmosphere of adoration. No longer are they superior beings who have merely proved their generosity by admitting an "illogical" sex to the class room. No longer is man conceded a divine right to the platform. Ability is sexless. Brains are brains, wherever found. At last men are being compelled to admit this. A new day is dawning. True, it is not yet here, but it is coming.

The philosophical observer of student life in Huron might note some peculiar paradoxes in the expressions and attitudes revealed in the recent and growing agitation for a readjustment of the relations between sexes. The men who are loudest in their protestations of admiration for the charms of woman, and even for her superior ability, seem most anxious to avoid her in their literary ac-

tivities. The women who are most emphatic in their denunciation of the men, who laugh at their claims of superiority, are the most anxious to be associated with them.

Should you, gentle reader, wonder what particular event inspired these pseudo-philosophical cogitations (for we must admit that they are inspired) the writer must confess that they are not gradual growths from daily thought, but that they sprang from a single event. The writer was lounging in the Y. M. C. A. room meditating over Kant's

transcendental aesthetic. With his feet comfortably perched upon the radiator, his mind had wandered far away from mundane cares and woes. Suddenly a voice broke in upon the silence. It came from the adjoining room where debates, orations and other noise-making contrivances are hatched. It was the voice of the instructor. At times it seemed as if he was attempting to pour oil on troubled waters. Again the tones unmistakably betrayed his nervousness.

"Now of course," he was saying, "this is a coeducational institution, and the girls have proved their ability in debate. In fact, one might almost say

leyan here will consist of Messrs

INTER - COLLEGIATE DEBATE

HURON COLLEGE
v. U. of South Dakota

AT THE UNIVERSITY CHAPEL.....

Tues. Eve., Feb. 29

The women of the University of South Dakota debate those of Huron and Morningside this year for the first time. The affirmative team debates on home platform with Huron.

QUESTION: "Resolved, That Immigration to the United States Should Be Further Restricted by Means of a Literacy Test."

At 8:30 o'clock.

Admission, 25c.

HURON COLLEGE

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MY CLASS MATES

Their Photographs
Autographs



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