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MSS. intended for publication and books, etc., intended for review should be sent to the Editor of SCIENCE, Garrison-on-Hudson, N. Y.

THE AMERICAN TYPE OF UNIVERSITY¹

Mr. Chancellor, and Ladies and Gentlemen, and, more particularly, you young men and women of the Class of 1907:

There is no more fascinating, indeed no more exhilarating, spectacle than a commencement scene in an American university, on a clear and bracing morning in the rosy month of June.

It is not only the hour when an eager and ambitious class—justly proud of substantial intellectual accomplishments, with the proper confidence which comes of very considerable intellectual discipline, truly courageous and sanely idealistic through much contact with the very best in human life—receives the standard stamp of approbation and commendation which the best scholarship can give; but it is also the hour when the university comes out into the open and presents to the activities of actual life the finest new energies which it can generate and train.

There are universities—and many of them—in other countries which never have commencements. They give credits for work done, and when one has enough credits he exchanges them for a degree. I say *he* because the women have little or nothing to do with it. The whole thing is as guiltless of ideality, of imagination, of incentive, of spirit in any form, as the building of a canal-boat or the buying of a pair of shoes. There are universities in this country which have inherited so much from

¹ Commencement address at Syracuse University, June 12, 1907.