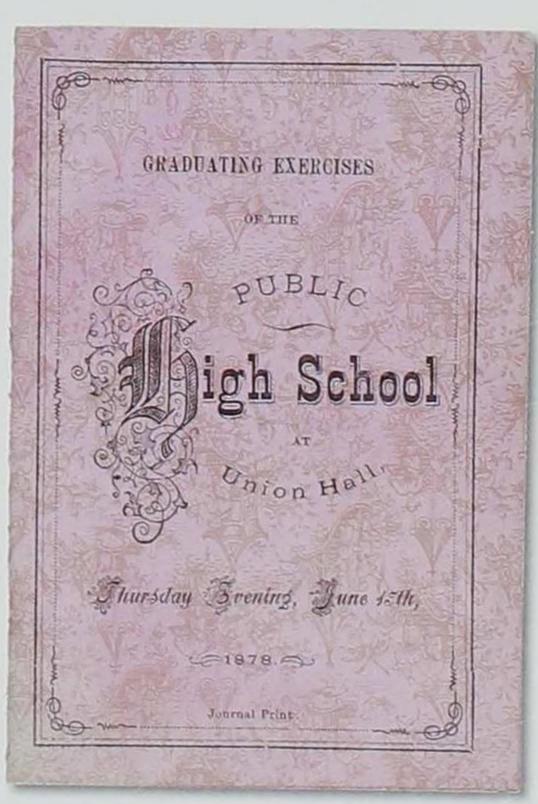




Above, in silent anticipation, the stage is set for graduation in 1910 in Silver City, Iowa. Five chairs await graduates, and dozens more on the floor await proud guests. Graduation has long been a traditional rite of passage for Iowans, and will surely continue to be for a very long time, for Iowa is a state that places great value on education, and graduation is celebrated as a major step into adulthood.

How we celebrate and commemorate graduation, of course, changes slightly with each graduating class, as new traditions take hold and old ones are discarded. What hasn't changed, however, is the importance of formal acknowledgement of the event, through photographs, announcements, and programs (the one on the left is from Alden, Iowa; on the right, unknown). Here on the following pages, for your pleasure, are a few such items from the collections -The Editor of the State Historical Society of Iowa.

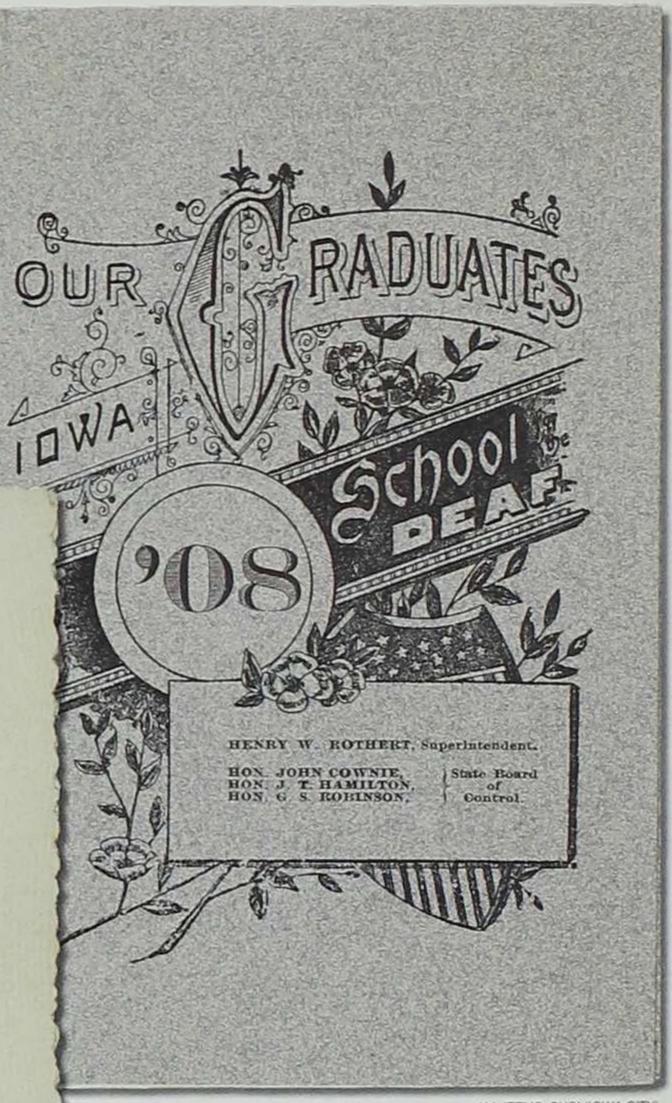












ALL ITEMS: SHSI (IOWA CITY)

Below: The high school graduating class of Washington, Iowa, in 1890.



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