

# THE HOUGHTON STAR

## MEMORIAL EDITION

Volume XXIX

Houghton College, Houghton, New York, Monday, April 26, 1937

Number 23

# DR. LUCKEY PASSES ON TO REWARD

## Over Thousand Attend Service For Dr. Luckey

### Official Representatives From Church, State Are Present

Funeral services for the President were held in the Houghton Church on Sunday, April 11, at 2:00 p.m. A group of friends numbering over 1000, including about 150 students, were gathered at the church at 1:30, while at the home of the deceased President the faculty of the college met with the family for a Scripture reading and prayer. Immediately afterward, the procession made its way to the church, where, on the walk outside the building, the faculty formed a guard of honor for the entrance of the family.

Rev. J. R. Pitt, pastor of Houghton Church and personal friend of President Luckey, conducted the funeral service and preached a Spirit-inspired sermon on "The Shepherd and His Sheep." He was preceded by fitting tributes from Dr. I. F. McLeister, President of the Board of Trustees of Houghton College, Mr. Mark Bedford, president of the college class of '25 and representative of the alumni of the school, and Rev. E. G. Dietrich, member of the Wesleyan Methodist Book Committee and of the college Executive Board.

The texts of the sermon and tributes will be found elsewhere.

Among official representatives were:

Executive Board  
I. F. McLeister, Syracuse, N. Y.  
F. R. Eddy, Syracuse, N. Y.  
E. F. McCarty, Lansing, Michigan

Local Board of Managers  
E. L. Elliott, Falconer, N. Y.  
J. R. Swauger, Sandy Lake, Pa.  
S. W. Blanchard, Cornwall, Ont.  
D. Rees, Elmira, N. Y.

State Education Department  
Dr. Ward Bowen, Delmar, N. Y.  
Representatives from Marion College  
President William F. McConn  
Professor Herrman Baker

John Williams, Treasurer  
Representatives from Alfred University and Chesbrough Seminary attended.

Interment was made in Mount Pleasant Cemetery at Houghton.

### Former Pupil Writes Tribute

Mr. William T. Manning, a pupil of President Luckey's when President taught high school sent in the following tribute.

"I was a pupil of Dr. Luckey's when he was the Principal of Miller-ton High School. I remember him as an inspiring teacher and a far-sighted executive. Some of the improvements he advocated at that time have only been adopted within the past five years. I treasure his memory greatly and count him among the finest men I have known."

## Text of the Funeral Sermon

Scripture: John 10:1-18

Text: John 10:4—And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him; for they know his voice.

The story of the Christian's Life is told in the words of my text. It is a very wonderful story, very wonderful, and very simple. I am glad that this story is in the Bible.

The Bible is wonderful. It is so different from the People. If you listen to what the People are saying about the Christian Life you will have your thoughts confused with theories, creeds, doctrines, hypotheses. You will not know what the Christian life is. But if you come to God's Word, the Bible, to find out what the

Christian Life is, you will find that its teachings are different from those of the People. You will find that the Bible does not speak to you of hypotheses, or creeds or ideas, but that it speaks to you about persons. The Bible tells you about Peter and James and John and Mary and Lazarus and the Dying Thief who were Christians (Christ's Sheep) and the Pharisees, and Herod and Pilate, and those who crucified Jesus who were not Christians. When you get thru reading the Bible you will know who is a Christian. And most important of all you will know when you have read the Bible, whether or not you are a Christian. For that reason the Bible is a tremendous book. It is all about persons, and GOD. It is all about me, and God. It is revealing; it is searching. It is a terrific book for it searches me. It is searching me now. It is challenging me with its question.

Am I a Christian? Am I one of Christ's sheep?

Is he my shepherd? Does he open the fold of life to me in the morning? Does he send me forth? Is my day his? Does he go before me? Is it true that to me to live is Christ?

O, these are tremendous questions, but they are all in my text. The

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## Member of Board, Life Friend, Speaks A Heart-felt Tribute

(Member of the Executive Board of Trustees—life-long friend of President Luckey.)

It is an honor to have the privilege of saying a word about such a friend as Dr. Luckey was to me and to hundreds and thousands of others. He has gone on before us. His work is done and what we should do is to follow in the path that he marked out under God.

My first acquaintance with Dr. Luckey was as "Jim", in the year 1885, in January. That was the first year of Houghton Seminary. He came here in the fall of 1884 and I came in January. I had not been here long before I found I had a friend in him, and what impressed me then and still impresses me was the fact that he wanted us to have high ideals in the way of education and in every other way.

If his talents had been expended for the making of dollars and cents he would have been a multi-millionaire to-day, but the riches that he accumulated and that he has left as a heritage to us who are his friends is worth more than mere dollars. He followed Jesus Christ. His ideals were for a higher type of life. He wanted young people to get a better training for the activities of life. He was always encouraging some one to higher education. He said that it could be done, and because of the difficulties through which he has passed

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## Life Has Been One of Constant Devotion for the Advancing of The Best Interests of Houghton

### Milestones In an Eventful Life

1892-1896—Dr. Luckey became Principal of Houghton Seminary

1897-1907—Dr. Luckey did graduate work and received three master's degrees and one bachelor's degree

1908—Dr. Luckey became President of Houghton Seminary

1923—Houghton received its provisional five-year charter

1927—Houghton received its permanent charter

1933—Dr. Luckey received the degree of Doctor of Laws

1935—Houghton was admitted to membership in the Middle States Association of Colleges.

1936—Houghton was admitted to membership in the American Association of Colleges

1936—Houghton was admitted to membership in the American Council of Education

1936—Houghton was permitted to give the honorary degrees of Bachelor of Divinity and Doctors of Laws

1939—Houghton will be permitted to grant degrees to students who complete the approved course in Theology

## First College Class Has Mark Bedford As Representative

(President of the first graduating class of Houghton College, 1925, representing the alumni.)

I am honored and privileged today to assemble with others to pay tribute to a great man of vision—a great man of power—who has passed to the greater life beyond. To-day, as we meet on this sad occasion, there are hundreds of alumni of Houghton, here and elsewhere, whose thoughts are turned in deepest sympathy for those bereaved and in highest respect for the beloved President of their Alma Mater.

Alumni scattered over our land and other lands are reflecting to-day some of the personality of President Luckey, for we could not, as students in this institution, pass through its portals without having gained from that radiant personality some of those Christian principles, and those principles are continuing on in the years that will follow, and as the years that will come do come, they will gain momentum from year to year. I speak in behalf of not only my-

(Continued on Page Four)

## Attained Two Great Aims For Houghton College Accrediting

Dr. James Seymour Luckey, for nearly thirty years president of Houghton College, died at his home at 5:15 p.m. on April 7, 1937. He was 69.

With him at the time of death were two of three children: Ruth and Robert. The older son, Harold, of Allentown, Pa. came immediately.

Though Dr. Luckey had not been well for several months, the actual passing came as a distinct shock. As someone remarked, "We have always had President Luckey, and it seemed as though we always would have him."

For years the whole thought and energy of this man have been devoted to the cause of Houghton's development. Quoting from the 1935-36 student body president, Layton Vogel, "Words cannot express our appreciation to President Luckey for what he has done for us as a college and as individuals."

Dr. Luckey became president of Houghton when it was a seminary, offering only high school recognition. During the next fifteen years he worked unceasingly to raise the educational standards and endowment, so that in 1923 the College Charter was obtained from the University of the State of New York.

Born at Short Tract, N. Y. on August 1, 1867, the son of James and Pollyanne (Davis) Luckey, he entered Houghton Seminary in 1884, the year it was opened, and became the second graduate of the Seminary. The year following graduation he taught in a one-room school at Rockville, N. Y. At the age of 26 he was made principal of Houghton, which position he held from 1892-1896. He received his Pd. M. from Albany Normal College in 1898; the A. B. and A. M. from Oberlin College in 1904 and 1905, and another A. M. from Harvard in 1908. In 1933 Wheaton conferred upon him the de-

(Continued on Page Four)

## Clinton Churchill Sends Telegram of Sympathy

Just learned of your father's passing. He was a great soul, and helped in a big way in the advancement of our Lord's kingdom. He will continue to live in the lives of those whom he served, and in their posterity. You and your sister and brother have my heartfelt sympathy in your great loss.

Clinton H. Churchill  
Churchill Gospel Tabernacle  
Buffalo, N. Y.

## President of Hamilton Writes a Short Letter

It disturbs me greatly to read in the papers of today that your father has dropped out from all his effective and kindly life. I have held him in very high esteem ever since our paths first met. It has always been a great pleasure to me to be associated with him, and I shall consciously miss him ever so much.

Please accept my sincere sympathy for you and for the other members of the family in this great affliction.

With kind regards.

Yours Very Sincerely

(Dr.) F. C. Ferry

President, Hamilton College

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# THE HOUGHTON STAR

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## Editorial

### PRESIDENT LUCKEY'S VISION

President Luckey has been promoted. We have loved him. We have leaned upon him. We have trusted him. We have tried to catch his vision, and to help in carrying out his further plans in the realization of that vision. We love him still in memory but we cannot lean upon him now. What shall we do? Let us ask what he would have us do. There is but one answer. We must have faith and go on as he has gone on in faith.

Those of us who falter and criticize only, will be faithless to President Luckey and betrayers of his trust and confidence. Some will excuse themselves and abandon Houghton under some pretext. The true friends of President Luckey will pray, labor and support the college and the cause which he so persistently advanced. And God will lead us still in the further realization of President Luckey's vision.

—H. L. Fancher

#### Ralph Rindfusz

We had seen in the *New York Times* the notice of President Luckey's death before receiving the notice which you people so thoughtfully sent.

Naturally, Houghton and our old friends have been very much in our thoughts and conversation since then. I am afraid I heard very little of the sermon this morning, for my heart was and is with you there.

You people will emphasize the part he has played in building the Houghton College of today — and rightly so. It is indeed a great thing for a man to undertake a task with a vision, an ideal, and to hold to it despite all sorts of discouragement until it is realized.

You (Professor Fancher) and I had the inspiration of seeing his calm and kindly persistence when progress was very slow and the handicaps seemed unsurmountable.

I well remember that when the first group of us went to Oberlin with advanced standing, we knew we must make good — not just for ourselves, nor even for Houghton — but for President Luckey.

It was one of the greatest steps in my life to be chosen by him as the first Dean of Men — to be trusted by him.

Helen and I shall always think of him primarily as a friend who "thinketh no evil, but rejoiceth in the truth."

Will you kindly pass on our sincere sympathy to Harold, Ruth, and the younger son whom we do not know, and to all our old friends who are still in Houghton.

Very truly yours,

Helen and Ralph Rindfusz

#### Arthur Northrup

I wish to pay tribute to Dr. J. S. Luckey, the man who inspired me more than any other man I ever met. I first met him at Conference a short time after I was saved. My first impression of him was that of a great man. Later I attended Houghton and then spent fourteen years in the Lockport Conference. Nearly every year I worked with him on Committees. As a member of the local board for a time I saw him under pressure and I saw him in times of triumph. He was always the same. Last Sunday morning I told my congregation he was the most unselfish man I ever met. History will speak of him as the man who took Houghton Seminary and made it a great college. I shall always think of him as the man who taught me how to live.

Arthur O. Northrup, Pastor  
Wesleyan Methodist Church  
Morley, N. Y.

#### Practical Faith

President's practical faith deeply impressed all who knew him intimately. Many a time and oft when the budget would not balance because of a small but elusive discrepancy, he would go to a corner, kneel by a desk or slip into his private office and ask for divine help. Just as often when some difficult task had been completed after hours of work, or when the school had received some such splendid gift such as the \$17,000 bequest from an estate in 1932, he would bow and thank God.

—The Man of the Hour

## President 50 Years Member of Church Says Rev. Pitt

President Luckey joined the Wesleyan Church in Houghton fifty years ago this spring. He was, up to the time of his death, the oldest member of the Houghton Church.

It would be unseemly for me perhaps to take time to add to the remarks that have been made in praise of the character of President Luckey. More than that, I doubt if I could speak of that which is in my heart without more or less emotion.

For sixteen years it has been my privilege to be in the closest association with President Luckey. Circumstances are such in this community that it is absolutely necessary that the president of the college and the pastor of the church should know each other, understand each other, should really work with each other. I found it easy to work with President Luckey. There are some men more famous, more widely noted than President Luckey has yet become, but none whom I know or who have known more worthy of respect due to man, or confidence due Christian character. He never acted the president to me the many times we were alone together. Many times he had the opportunity to impress me if he wished to do so, but he never did. I have never had as a parishioner any one who showed more appreciation for the office of the pastor, more kindly interest, or greater readiness to accept ministrations. I never heard him complain. He kept the faith.

—HC—

### TEXT OF SERMON

(Continued from Page One)

text tells the story. To be a Christian is to live to Christ. "I am crucified with Christ," said Paul, "yet nevertheless I live, and yet not I but Christ liveth in me."

Christianity is Christ. It is Christ in a person, in a man.

Christ has always had some human lives that he could live in. It is in such lives that benefactions to mankind have their beginnings. Go back to the beginnings of all great moral reforms, great revivals, all true benefactions in education, civilization or true culture, and at their beginnings you will find such lives. There is no new discovery to make in the history of the origins of benefactions to mankind. Go back to the beginning of the thing that truly benefits, or blesses mankind and you will find as its source a life, a someone, who is a true sheep of Christ; a someone whom Christ hath put "forth" in the morning of a great life of devotion; a someone before whom Christ has gone; a someone who has known the Christ as his guide and saviour; and who has lived to hear his voice and do his will.

If President Luckey were privileged to speak to us today of his life and work, with its great benefaction to men, he would tell us that the whole secret of that life and its work is told in my text. He would tell us that every bit of good that he ever did was because of the fact that he became and lived a sheep of the great Shepherd; because in the early dawn of his life the Shepherd "put him forth" into a definite field; because the Shepherd having put the man forth, "went before him"; because the man followed, as a sheep of the Shepherd living only to hear and to obey that Shepherd's voice.

And if the President could speak to us this afternoon he would entreat us, too, to become and to live the sheep of Christ. Very shortly

## With Sympathy

His life was one of inspiration thru his sacrifice and service for others. May Divine comfort be yours.  
Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Carpenter

Sympathize with you in the great loss which has come to you and your brothers, and Houghton College in the death of your father.

Mr. and Mrs. John Williams  
Marion College  
Marion, Indiana

The news of the passing of Dr. James Luckey saddens the heart of all who were privileged to know him. The State, the Church, and Education have lost a valued servant and leader. I extend to you my deepest sympathy.

Dr. Herman Cooper  
N. Y. State Department  
of Education

Wheaton College sends its sincere sympathy to Houghton College in the loss of its president—a great Christian leader.

Enoch C. Dyrness  
Vice-president  
Wheaton College  
Wheaton, Ill.

Our sympathy extended. Great and good man gone to reward.

John Frank Child  
President  
Central College  
Central, S. C.

The faculty and student body of Marion College extend to Houghton College and bereaved family our most heartfelt sympathy in your great loss.  
Wm. F. McConn

In Father's memory. My sympathy to the family, faculty, student body of Houghton College and town of Houghton on the passing of President Luckey. As a message came these words, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course." Second Timothy 4:7.

May S. Houghton

Express my deep sympathy to Luckey family and friends . . .  
Frank Butterfield

Houghton has lost a great president, a courageous and outstanding educator; but President Luckey's ennobling influence and daily practical Christian life will ever be a benediction and an inspiration to all who were privileged to know him. Dorothy and I feel keenly the loss of such a warm personal friend. Please convey our deepest sympathy to his immediate family and the larger Houghton College family.

before his death, President Luckey said to Dr. I. F. McLeister, concerning his work and that of the Board, "Seek the will of God." But it was not alone to Dr. McLeister that the President said this. He said it to every minister; to every teacher, and to every student, and to every friend. I am sure that he would endorse my preaching such a sermon over his bier today. He often told me to seek the will of the Lord.

But there is something else to which I must draw your attention before I stop speaking. For while the wonderful scripture that Brother McCarty read for our Bible Lesson has such blessed things to say about the Great Shepherd who is Christ, it has also something else to say that is not so good to hear. It tells of a darker side to the truth about the Shepherd. The Great Shepherd is not the only Shepherd. There are other shepherds. There are two other shepherds that are mentioned specifically. There are the Thief and the hireling.

And I shall venture to say right  
(Continued on Page Four)

## He Built Monuments Of Human Character Observes F. H. Wright

In all of his life, both public and private, our President endeavored to act under the governing of certain definite principles. He was truly democratic and cosmopolitan. With him, one thing counted most heavily — character. Youth may be poor from the monetary standards, they may come from very humble homes, they may face the task of partial or complete self-support in college. Each man was evaluated, not by the things he possessed, but by the character that moved him. President Luckey demanded truth in every man. He could never stoop to sham or veneer. His sense of polity or diplomacy never included the false or the untrue. One of his sayings, "If a boy will tell me the truth, I can forgive and forget almost every error in his life," is truly characteristic of the man. He was a man of indefatigable courage. Once a course became mandatory, he pursued it to the end. If he could not accomplish his purpose at once, he waited, in labors abundant, until he could win the day. He usually got what he went after.

And he was a gentleman. Uncompromising with wrong, he was gentle to the offender. He looked upon his students as his own children and thus became to them a fatherly and affectionate counsellor. In short, our president was a thorough Christian. He was not perfect, but he was most sincere. It is my own conviction that he built better than he knew, not buildings of mortar and stone but living monuments of human character.

F. H. Wright

—HC—

## Christian Gentleman Is Title Which Prof. Ries Gives President

An outstanding characteristic of President Luckey was his whole-souled greeting to his friends. That outstretched hand and hearty, "how goes the battle?" portrayed volumes of the largeness of soul within the man.

He was courteous. This greatness was seen in his gracious manner with little children. Never was his courtesy a mere gesture of respect but rather the outflowing of a heart and mind at peace with his fellowmen.

He was faithful in whatever it was his to perform, whether in college administration, church business or student problems. He painstakingly gave to each his best thought and did his best to see it through. He was no surface worker. Faithful was he in that which was least as well as in that which was much.

He was a humble man. Though having ability to work side by side with the great of this world, still he chose rather to cast his lot with a small institution where he could spend and be spent for his Lord.

He was sincere. Whether his relations were with the State Educational Department, the Board of Trustees, his faculty or students — all trusted him, for they realized his genuineness and sincerity. He despised show and sham anywhere. His actions were consistent with his words.

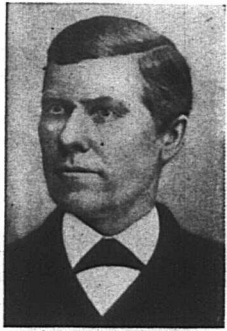
He was unselfish. He was wont to say, "The root of all sin is selfishness." How eloquently his life preached unselfishness!

He was a gentle man. And his gentleness made him great, for he was a Christian gentleman.

Claude A. Ries



# Houghton as Dr. Luckey Found It at the Beginning of Presidency



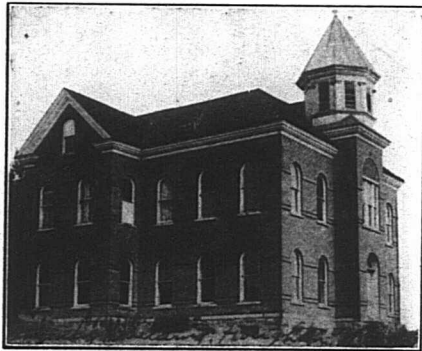
Willard J. Houghton,  
Founder



Campus scene before World War. Few changes other than beautification of the campus were made during the first decade of his administration.



James S. Luckey in 1908



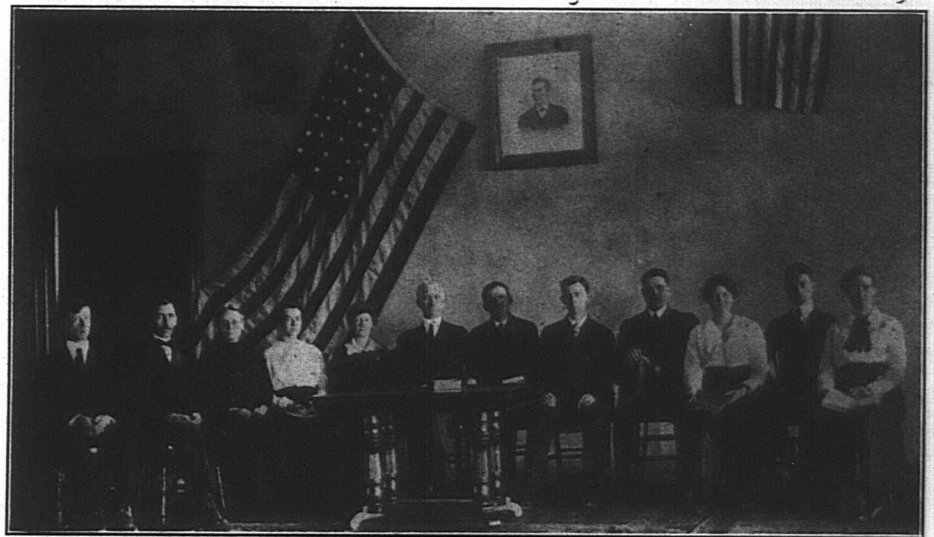
This building is the one constructed through the efforts of Willard J. Houghton. This was used until the school was moved to the present site just preceding President Luckey's administration.



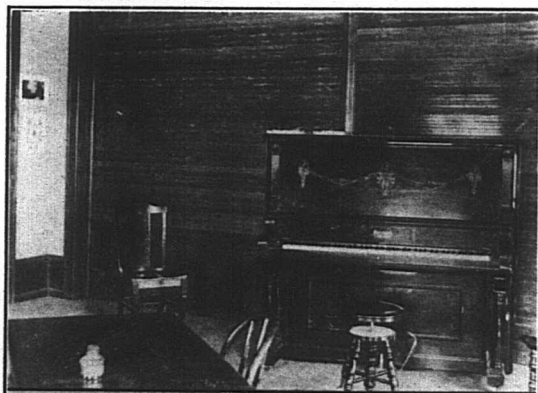
President in the Early Days.



Gaoyadeo Hall as President Luckey found it in 1908.



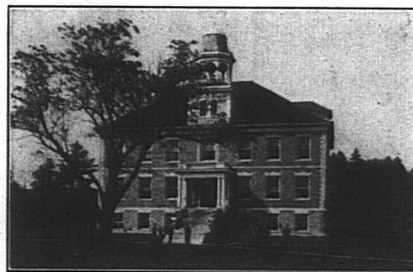
The Faculty of Houghton Seminary in 1917



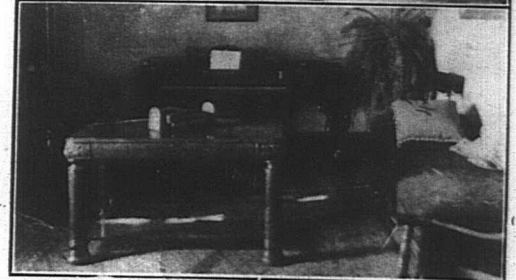
Above is shown the one music room of Houghton Seminary and below the one office from which all affairs of the school were administered.



The Reception Room at Gaoyadeo.



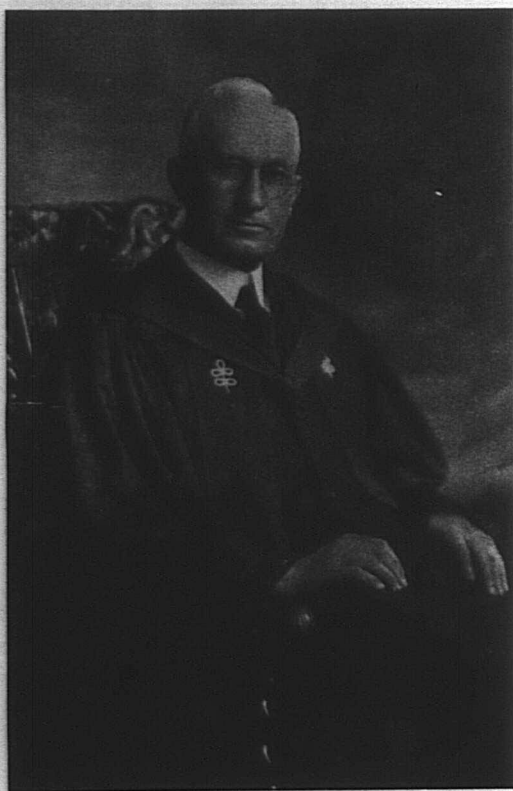
The present Administration Building was the center of all scholastic activities until 1923.



Here are shown some interior views of Gaoyadeo Hall in the pre-charter days.



# The Greater and Accredited Houghton Dr. Luckey Left at His Passing



*Dr. J. S. Luckey, the beloved President, the friend of youth, the builder of Houghton College, an exponent of the Faith of Our Fathers, still lives thru the educational institution set in motion thru his tireless and consecrated life, spent in unselfish service to the school he envisioned and loved.*

## HE LEFT HOUGHTON —

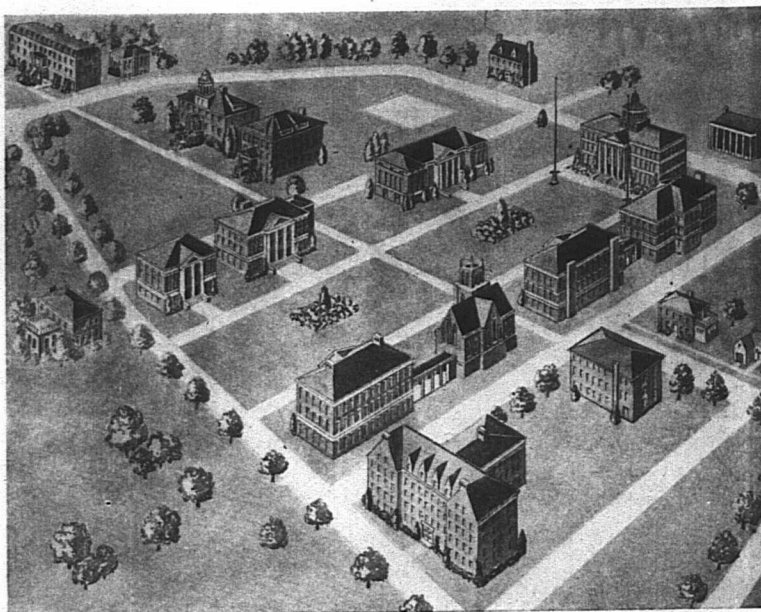
*With a vision of greater service and a greater plant.*

*With an enlarged plant and crowded class rooms.*

*With improved general facilities and equipment.*

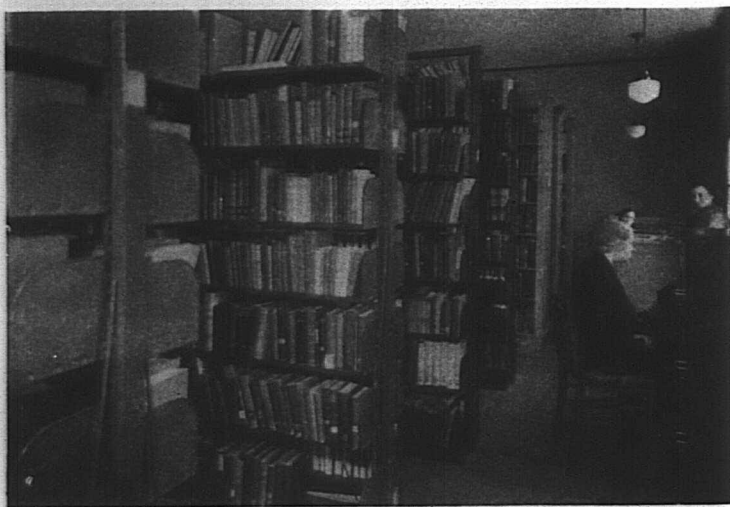
*With a student body and faculty tripled in 29 years.*

*With his influence expressed in the building of the Houghton Church.*



*"Honored Lives for thee have fallen,  
Hearts that broke and bled,  
But for God and righteousness we  
And thy light to shed.*

*"Other schools may claim their thousands  
We're a smaller band.  
But for God and righteousness we  
Take a noble stand."*





# YOUNG JAMES LUCKEY CLIMBED THE LADDER FROM JANITOR TO PRESIDENT

Excerpts from Biography Show Great Character of "The Man Of The Hour"

*The Man of the Hour*, a biographical sketch of the life of President Luckey is the source from which the following story of the fulfillment of his ambitions and dreams are drawn. The book is written by Mrs. H. Hugh Thomas, '29 and will be published by the Houghton College Press.

While completing his Master's degree at Harvard and making arrangements for another year's study there, James S. Luckey was elected President of Houghton Seminary—the school where he had been janitor eleven years previous. Professor H. W. McDowell had been elected to succeed the out-going President, Silas Bond, but Professor McDowell said he would either accept the position or secure a better man. Professor Ray Hazlett, then a lad in Houghton, describes the return of James S. Luckey to Houghton:

"I well remember when President Luckey assumed office. He came with no fanfare, no elaborate ceremonies and inaugural speeches; he appeared almost unheralded—a slender, soft-spoken, bespectacled, youngish-old man with just a trace of the asceticism of the scholar in his face and manner...

## A Born Educator

Professor McDowell had done considerable press-agenting; and we all knew that the new president was an Oberlin Professor (how far away the place and how awesome the title!) and that he was coming from graduate study at Harvard (with probably a Hah-vahd accent, if we knew what that was!) We younger students were probably divided between curiosity and suspicion—for to us he was something of an interloper and a stranger. If we had heard that his birthplace was in Short Tract in the town of Granger, that meant nothing to us—for the honor of the prophet in his own country is notorious. Little did we self-sufficient youngsters realize that our New Head had been a student in the Old Seminary, even before we had been born, and that with such men as Clark Bedford and John Willett, he had helped make the Houghton tradition. Students and faculty members quickly discovered that our new President was not only a real teacher but also a real man. He was a born educator—probably he discovered and developed his own remarkable powers as an administrator."

## Advanced Department

When Professor Luckey assumed the presidency in 1908, the Seminary offered a four-year college course, but the term college was not permitted. Advanced Department was the safe title. Degrees could not be granted. A situation such as this was as much a direct challenge to the young President as a crimson cloak to an infuriated bull. Recognizing the handicap under which the Advanced Department was laboring, President Luckey decided that three years of college work must be recognized. Characteristically, the decision made, the point was as good as won.

When the hepaticas and arbutus began to peep out on the wooded slopes of the nearby campus in the spring of '09, President Luckey left for Oberlin to negotiate with "the powers that be" of that institution to the end that students of Houghton's Advanced Department might enter Oberlin with three year's recognized credit. Provided the probationers did well, they were to be graduated with the A. B. degree after one year at Oberlin. If they failed to make the grade no credit was to be given. The proposition was accepted—doubtless because the work of the in-

terviewer was recalled as having been highly satisfactory.

The choice of the "probationers" was made with the usual discretion and resulted in the conferring of the coveted A. B. degrees....

## All Work

Vacation time—the phrase meant nothing to the versatile President of Houghton Seminary. In the summer of 1912, his vacation had been a short horticultural course at Cornell University. In 1915, he remained in Houghton during the summer months and acted as overseer for the installation of the new water system and the building of an annex to the dormitory....

His early risings gave a longer day in which to figure out new plans for his school. Not infrequently he has called his secretary at six-thirty in the morning to explain a new method or system to replace the one she was working on the night before. Whenever new construction was under way, he was out bright and early to look the situation over. Often Mrs. Luckey would have to call the office to request that they send President home to breakfast.

His office desk is typically that of a genius. An amazing pile of letters, unfinished documents, pamphlets, catalogues, file trays, books and pencils usually adorn its seldom-seen polished top. A few timely gifts from different classes, student body and faculty have aided in bringing order out of chaos. Strangely enough, he could always locate the desired epistle. One curious streak of neatness prevailed the whole; he always placed a letter back in its envelope after it was read....

## CHARTERED

(From chapter 10)

President Luckey always accepted each new challenge with characteristic quiet tenacity.... His love envisioned eyes had seen a chartered college on the horizon, and to this end he made his unceasing appeals for a heavier endowment. Endowment and gifts had been steadily increasing and were approaching the annual income required to charter a college....

In 1922 President Luckey had an interview with the Assistant Commissioner of Higher Education of the State of New York, the late Dr. Augustus S. Downing and presented testimonials of the work of Houghton College, along with the statement of Houghton's income. Dr. Downing intimated that the petition for a charter might be granted. With that bare encouragement, President Luckey had to be contented. He came back conferred with the Board, worked with treble energy for the realization of the half-promise, and in February of 1923 prevailed upon the Board of Trustees of Houghton College to vote that such a petition be presented to the Board of Regents of the State of New York. Two months later, on April 7th, a Provisional Charter was granted....

## The Man of the Hour

When that precious piece of prolix parchment reached the President he made a quietly triumphant announcement in chapel. The student body, being perfectly normal, burst into thunderous applause, and foremost among the cheers was the old

favorite:

"Who's the man of the hour?  
Who's the man of the power?  
Who's the man we all admire?  
Luckey! Luckey! Luckey!"

The afternoon hours were punctuated by periodic outbursts of rejoicing. As is characteristic of the President, the institution, and its staff, the first move of all was to give thanks to the Giver of all good gifts.

Another vital step had been reached. He could relax a moment now? Not for a second! In the charter was the statement that if at the close of the five year period, conditions were met which were required during the provisional period, an Absolute Charter would be granted. There was the challenge. Again it was quietly accepted. The constituency co-laborers, and friends had been loyal and unwearied in their assistance. They must go a step further. The library must be increased to 8000 vol-



umes, the music department must grow, pre-med courses must be installed, one leave of absence after another must be granted in order that the higher degrees might be obtained. Each necessary step was taken. The new Science Hall had been erected in 1922, the year before the Provisional Charter was granted. The first A.B. degrees were granted in 1925 and what a week of rejoicing that particular commencement turned out to be! An intangible halo hovered above that class and set it apart from all others. Each year brought further promise of victory, and again the vision materialized on June 30, 1927 when the Absolute Charter was granted. Again thanks was given to God and again an overjoyed student body went wild, while a grateful faculty smiled indulgently.

If the prolix Provisional Charter was worth its weight in gold, the concise Absolute Charter was worth its weight in diamonds....

After the chapel rejoicings, President Luckey took the parchment to his office, and placing it beside the framed Provisional Charter, offered wordless gratitude to his Maker that He had made this day possible and permitted His human instrument to live to see it.

Unlike what some might have done, President did not then become supine. In the back of that fertile brain many a plan was formulating, plans of which he had spoken to no one.

## "Help Houghton Hospital"

In 1928 came the drive for funds for a hospital. "Help Houghton Hospital" was the winning slogan and a huge thermometer in chapel kept the Purple and Gold rival sides at white heat. The result was the remodeling of the brick residence of George Hussey (which had been christened McDowell Cottage in honor of Rev. H.

W. McDowell, who once owned the property). The remodeled residence, furnished with modern hospital equipment, including four private rooms, a ward, sun parlor, and doctor's office became the infirmary. The new hospital sheltered measles and scarlet fever victims, cured sprained ankles and sore throats, and has even been known to heal ruptured hearts. Moreover, it became another means of self-help, for graduate nurses wishing to obtain the A. B. degree worked out their tuition fees in hospital services.

## Buildings

In 1932 the Music Hall arose. No more would Granger's "County Gardens", practiced daily, fervently, repeatedly, for the May Concert presentation lose its beauty and charm from oft-repetition when a library-full of earnest seekers after knowledge tried to concentrate with that melody screaming through harassed brains. Sound-proof practice rooms in the new hall solved that problem.

In 1934, after months of planning, soliciting and prayer, the new church was dedicated. President Luckey had been on the building committee and had made several trips to various cities to view the structure of outstanding churches. On one occasion when he and Professor Ries were investigating the vestibule of a prominent Catholic Church in Buffalo, the priest, who lived across the street observed their exit and came hurrying over to see if President wished to make confession. Prexy courteously replied in the negative.

Could he "confess" to all the labors of love he has performed for Houghton College? We doubt it!

## "Fully Accredited"

(From chapter 13)

From principal of the old Seminary to President of the new Seminary on its new site, from Advanced Department to College, from Provisional Charter to Absolute, and finally to the coveted goal of admission into the Middle States Association and the crowning halo of permission to confer honorary degrees—through all these vicissitudes walked the indomitable figure of the President with hair a little greyer and thinner shoulders a little more stooped, eyes a little more keen, handclasp a little more personal, and prayers a little more fervent—if that is possible.

When the long-coveted goal was reached, and the President returned from his trip to the thoughtful Association which decides on the rank of educational institutions, he was greeted by the usual hilarious mob of students, this time enlarged by the returned alumni, for it was on Home Coming Day in November, 1935 that this greatest goal of all was reached—admission to the Middle States Association, an admission which automatically carried with it membership in the American Council on Education, the Association of American Colleges, and the American Medical Association (though notification concerning these was not received until January 15, January 20, and March 4, 1936, respectively.)

In the special thanksgiving service in the new church, at the annual alumni chapel, and at the fifth annual home-coming banquet, President Luckey "said a few words" about the latest advancement.

The old weary look had vanished from his face, his shoulders were lifted a few inches higher than was their wont, and many remarked upon his serene and beautiful expression as he accepted a huge basket of chrysanthemums as a token of the regard

of the faculty in this, His Great Hour....

## Illness and Work

The following months held visions of a yet greater Houghton, and then a dark cloud filled the horizon. Mrs. Luckey, after several weeks of illness was called home on April 17, 1936. She had shared the President's visions and ambitions for forty-two years and had lent material aid and moral support. They had been host and hostess to non-resident students of many Christmas vacations, had gone together to church and chapel, to such lecture numbers as Dr. Southwick's reading of *Julius Caesar* or Sidney Landon's impersonations of Mark Twain and like celebrities, to Hartmann violin recitals, college chorus cantatas, and May concerts, senior teas and student receptions. Now she was to go ahead and wait "just inside the eastern gate."

In the fall of 1936, the President was to see his beloved institution march the one step further that he so coveted for her. The *Star* for September 18, carried the following news:

## COLLEGE GIVEN PERMISSION TO GRANT HONORARY DEGREES

Regents of the University of New York Amend Original Charter

Houghton College was recently authorized by the University of the State of New York to grant the honorary degrees of D.D. and LL. D.

Once again President took the document to his office and thanked his God. Now a rest was in store? All the major goals had been reached? No! The vision of a Greater Houghton filled the horizon of his fertile mind.

But a rest was imperative and when the President neglected to relax, Mother Nature, took him to stern account. In October, 1936, while on tour with then A Cappella Choir so that he might speak at alumni chapter meetings, he was taken ill, had to discontinue his trip and receive medical treatment. On October 19, he underwent a major operation, which had been preceded by a preliminary operation two days previous in Physicians Hospital, Plattsburg, New York. Faculty, students, townsfolk and friends were much concerned and there was united prayer on his behalf.

It was a day of great, if quiet, rejoicing when President returned to Houghton. Tears of joy stood in many eyes when he was first seen slowly walking about in the administration building. With suppressed excitement careful students bore him up the steps to his familiar sanctum on the second floor. He had visualized it so many times while in the hospital! But—was this his office? New furniture had replaced the old—a handsome desk and five leather upholstered chairs, a letter tray, a wooden wastebasket and a hall tree. The room was transformed. Knowing the love that prompted the gifts, President smiled a bit tremulously and fingered the new college book-ends on the shining desk. The moment was reminiscent of an April evening when the Seminary students had presented him with a sectional bookcase as a love offering.

Mingled feelings filled the hearts and glowed in the eyes of onlookers when on November 28, at the Founder's Day Convocation, a pale Dr. Luckey entered the auditorium leaning on the arm of his son Robert. He feelingly conferred LL.D. degrees on Dr. Hermann Cooper, Assistant Commissioner of Education of New York state, and on Dr. J. O. Buswell, President of Wheaton College. On

(Continued on Page Four)



## Sense of Duty Was His Characteristic Avers Dr. Douglas

Very seldom have I met a man who took his responsibilities as seriously as President Luckey. If he had any bad habit it consisted of his unwillingness to relax and delegate some of the less important details of his work to others. He reminded me of St. Paul, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." If President Luckey ever took any time off from his work it was usually to do something for someone else. In fact, he was so self effacing that many of his co-workers did not realize the seriousness of his illness until it was too late to do much about it. At the occasion of Founders Day when the President made his last public appearance many a member felt a lump in his throat and tears in his eyes as he realized that only Divine aid and a strong will could permit President Luckey to achieve one of his long sought goals.

When the President was so ill that the doctor would permit him to sit up but a few hours a day, his keen sense of duty led him to hold business meetings at his home, often at times when he should have been resting.

The President had an acute sense of humor, but his laugh was more the inward chuckle than loud guffaw that one too often hears. The alumni used to like to joke with one another about President Luckey's new PAT and MIKE story.

Raymond E. Douglas

## RISE FROM JANITOR TO COLLEGE PRESIDENT

(Continued from Page Three)

Rev. I. F. McLeister, President of the Board of Trustees of Houghton College, Dr. Luckey conferred the D. D. degree.

The entire audience stood in respectful silence while President Luckey retired from the auditorium.

Weak as he was from the extra exertion, he penned his usual message to his "children".

"Dear Alumni and Old Students:

Again you are gathered together for Home Coming under the very auspicious circumstances for which we give thanks to Almighty God. His blessings have been upon the school very manifestly during the past year, and a few new steps of progress have been made. The increasing enrollment has made necessary another enlargement of the dormitory, which we invite you all to inspect. In June the Board presented a request to the Board of Regents for the right to confer honorary degrees, and the charter was amended giving this right. Today we have given the first honorary degrees in the history of the institution. May we all with humble simplicity thank God for His blessing and acknowledge Him as the source of them all. We welcome you back to Houghton.

Very truly yours,

James S. Luckey"

That evening at their annual banquet the assembled alumni felt especially privileged to have President Luckey dine with them. When he arose to leave after the meal, it was with intense fervor that they broke into the President's yell:

"Who's the man of the hour?"

## Student Council President Gives Student Tribute

President Luckey was to us an ideal. We respected him for his kindness, spirituality, leadership and ambition. We believe he was a man whom God raised up to fill the position he occupied so long. His life and labors have raised Houghton to a high level — a lasting tribute to him. His passing is not only a loss to the school but also to us for individuals for he was our friend.

Laurence Saile  
President of the  
Student Council

## MARK BEDFORD

(Continued from Page One)

self but the whole alumni body when I say that the splendid influence of our beloved President has been a determining factor in the lives of many young men and women in inspiring them to do and to become. Truly, building a better world in which to live is a stupendous task, yet I am sure that not only my fellow alumni but also many hundreds of other people will agree with me in saying that surely the world is a better place in which to live because President Luckey lived in it. How better then can we show our appreciation than to go forth and live by those noble ideals, stand fast by those honored principles, by which he lived and moved among us.

He was a man who took time to think carefully and speak fairly in any problem that arose in his dealings with his students, no matter what the problem might be, and I am sure I speak the feeling of the alumni. We felt that we had been dealt with fairly when he had solved, or helped to solve, a problem.

Such greatness of character as his was not attained by a few conspicuous deeds, but by striving to apply the Christian principles from day to day.

He was to us who had the privilege of having him as an instructor one of the best of teachers. He was an outstanding adviser, a wise administrator. When in college, many of us failed to realize to the fullest extent the great privilege that was ours in having as our college president so fine a scholar, but a true Christian gentleman and an eminent scholar.

He seemed to have the ability to enter sympathetically into the lives of young men and young women and to understand them. Many times he has told us that we could do what we wanted to do if we wanted to do it bad enough. He has told us that in order to be successful we must let God direct our lives.

It is for us to keep the torch that he has given us burning brightly. God said to Abraham, "I will bless thee and thou shalt be a blessing." God must have said to President Luckey, "I will bless thee and thou shalt be a blessing" for he has been a blessing to many. Had it been the privilege of each alumnus to have seen President Luckey a few days before he passed on, as it was my privilege. President Luckey would have said to him these words—the words which he said to me—"God bless you."

## PREXY'S PET DIVERSION

President Luckey's one pet diversion seemed to be listening to "Amos and Andy." Though his office force, or perhaps just his secretary, would be asked to return to the office in the evening to complete some task or start a new one, never did the "boss" appear until he had heard his "Amos and Andy."

—The Man of the Hour

Who's the man of the power?  
Who's the man we all admire?  
Luckey! Luckey! Luckey!

## Text of Sermon

(Continued from Page Two)

at this point in my talk, that it is certainly in every man's interest to know just who it is that is shepherding his life. For some shepherd is shepherding your life. It is for each one of us to see that it is not the Thief, nor the Hireling.

The Thief Shepherd steals the souls of men from the True. He is most religious. He invents religions. He designs religions to secure a following for his own advantage. Much of religion of today is of this sort. It is designed to secure for its designer a following of men and women whom he may use for his own gain or honor or other gratification. He steals from Christ the souls of men. The results of his stealing are the death and the destruction of the souls of men. Beware of him; shun him. Seek the Good Shepherd.

But the Thief Shepherd is not the only false shepherd. There is another, and the Word of our Lesson describes him as the Hireling Shepherd. I wonder if there are any of us here today who are followers of a shepherd "who is an hireling"—a shepherd for pay. He puts on all the airs and graces (so far as he may) of the true Shepherd; he professes the Shepherd's faith; he uses correct terms and ways, but he is only a hireling at heart. At the first approach of "the wolf" he fleeth. He does not care for the sheep after all. All he cares for is his own position as a shepherd, and his new "flock" the wolf coming and fleeth and he will catch the sheep." Let me ask you a plain question, "Are you shepherded by a shepherd like that?"

How different is the true Shepherd. He steals nothing from life but adds to life. There is nothing that he takes from life save that which destroys life. He adds to life all that is good. "No good thing will he withhold." He seeks nothing as the hireling seeks. He gives to life instead. He lays down his life for the sheep.

You may think that first step with the Great Shepherd hard. For that first step is yours, when he putteth forth his own sheep. But you must take that step, for that is faith. But one must not stop to look too long at that first step. Some have done that; they have looked too much on the Christian life as a beginning. Many have got only that far. They have not had courage to go forward. They have turned back. But we must not do that; for the next step forward in the Christian life is His. "When he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them." And that is the wonderful thing that all discover as they "go" with him. "He goeth before."

And not only does he go before: he reveals himself to his sheep. "They know Him." This is a knowing that really does something for one, for it is "eternal life to know him."

You will hear his voice, his Word. He will by the Spirit Divine make His Word, this written Word, the very speaking of God to your soul. "You shall hear his voice."

No matter how young we may be He is the only Good Shepherd of our life. No matter how old, there is hope in no other. He is the only Shepherd who can give us life everlasting in the knowledge of himself and the peace that passeth understanding in the counsels of His Word.

Every one of us may be a sheep of the Great Shepherd today. Each one of us may find himself Shepherd-Directed. Each one may find in the words of my text the story of his life: that what the text says of the sheep it says of me: "When he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know His voice."

## DR. MCLEISTER

(Continued from Page One)

has fallen in the ranks. We are reminded of Alexander when our comrade in work is called to lay his armor down. He was indeed a comrade in arms in this most worthwhile conflict against all unrighteousness. He was a soldier in the conflict with evil.

We loved his fellowship. He was a good traveler. His memory is blessed to us. Pleasant recollections linger with me of journeys made in company with this noble man. He was a good companion in travel. I never heard him complain in all of the incidents of journeys and experiences in church life. He seemed to meet all with the noble spirit of the man of God who saw his life a service, not so much to people as its final and ultimate results - as it was in serving God and in this capacity to help people. He always seemed sincere and hearty in places where the spiritual conflict was on. I have seen him attend camp meetings, conference sessions, and revival meetings, and he always entered sincerely into the worship of the hour.

We are happy for the developments in the educational world through President Luckey's life. The background of his educational career is connected with some of the very noblest institutions of higher learning of the country, but, in love with the cause of Christ, he came to this village and to this institution, and here poured out his life freely. His monument is all about us in the physical properties in sight. His monument is abroad over the country in the lives of young men and women whose lives have been lifted, ennobled, and inspired by this man of God and of the Church.

My outstanding memory of President Luckey came in February when I was calling at his home. At the end of the visit we had prayer—I knelt and he covered my hand with his and clasped it warmly while I prayed. I then asked, "Have you any message to send to the men in the office?" (I meant to the Board and also to the men of the church. for I wanted to get a last message from President Luckey to the church at large.) He had a message and it was in his heart. This is what he said: "Tell them to seek the will of God and to keep the work spiritual." By God's grace we will!

## MR. DIETRICH

(Continued from Page One)

he could speak from experience, not theoretically. He came from a poor home and had to work his way through. Thank God for such a friend and such an example.

I was impressed recently in a meeting of the Board of Trustees that his goal and ambition was for a higher theological department—a better training for the Christian ministry. His ideals were always uplifting and encouraging. He had many difficult experiences and discouragements, but he carried on in spite of them. He had a vision in all he did—in college functions and in the planning for new departments. His plans, as he presented them to the Board, were always constructive. He had his plans all worked out before he presented them. He knew what he wanted and how to procure it.

Thank God for President Luckey. God bless his memory. God bless his children. God bless all his friends, and may we be better servants of Jesus Christ from now on. Because the leader has gone we must close the ranks and carry on. Let us not fail, for Jesus' sake.

Let us carry on, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know His voice."

## President's Motto 'Carry On' States Dean S. W. Wright

When President Luckey began the administration that has just closed, I was pursuing the work of the "Advanced Department". The years that have intervened have given opportunity for him to touch my life under a wide variety of circumstances. Not once that I recall has this been other than positively for my good. A certain night spent with him in Oberlin resulted in some needed adjustments for me. His visit to an early parsonage home resulted in a more earnest minister of the Gospel. Years of a little bit more mature ministry were further encouraged by such visits. Seven years of working close beside this really great leader and choice companion have greatly increased the desire for accomplishment through many a cheery, "Well, my boy, how goes the battle?" He fought it well; he made one want to carry on.

Stanley W. Wright

## LIFE STORY

(Continued from Page One)

gree, Doctor of Laws. Dr. Luckey was a member of the Phi Beta Kappa and the Pi Gamma Mu. Entering school at five years of age, he spent twenty-three years in preparation, and forty-two years as professor and president.

When Dr. Luckey became president of Houghton Seminary, he envisioned Houghton as a liberal arts college of the first rank, granting appropriate degrees. The first part of this ideal was achieved in 1923 with the granting of the college charter.

The next ten years were spent in raising the educational standards of the college, and in further strengthening the endowment to gain admittance to the Middle Atlantic States Association of Colleges, which admission was made in November of 1935. President Luckey said on that occasion: "As April 7, 1923, marked the beginning of a great epoch in the history of Houghton College, so November 29, 1935, marks the beginning of a new epoch. If Houghton College will keep in the middle of the road, will rely wholly on the Lord, and will keep pushing ahead just as heretofore, I believe a great future is before her."

During the past year a schedule of courses leading to a Bachelor of Divinity degree as outlined by the college was presented to the New York State Education Department for approval. Permission to offer these courses was the beginning of the realization of President Luckey's aim for a Theological Division which would be able to present to the church a trained Christian ministry.

But the crowning attainment of his ideals came at the Founder's Day Convocation held on November 28, 1936, when in his last public act Dr. Luckey conferred Houghton's first honorary doctor's degrees. In a message to alumni and old students printed in the *Star*, President Luckey said: "Today we have given the first honorary degrees in the history of the institution. May we with all humble simplicity thank God for His blessings, and acknowledge Him as the source of them all."

As a gift of alumni and friends, President Luckey visited Palestine in 1913, and again toured Europe in 1934. Last spring, the alumni began a tribute in the form of a Luckey Memorial Hall. This will be the key building in the proposed new quadrangle.