

# The Houghton Star.

VOLUME X

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NUMBER 9

## THE COVENANT.

And why do you ask me? As if I could tell  
The why of a world in the fray,  
The why when the peal of old Liberty Bell  
Indicts its new challenge today?  
When darkness is aiding its super-slave sin  
When arms gleam to champion Right  
When fiber of adamant says we must win  
And Righteousness says we must fight?

Do you say it will cost me, the margin of days  
Allotted by short sighted fate?  
'Tis naught but the toll every destiny pays  
In the cycle of soon or of late,  
And how pay it braver than flung at the feet  
Of Freedom a Cause and a Call,  
Advance of that Silence more eager to greet  
Than promise of life and of all.

Service it spells and its covenant burns  
Bravery graven in steel.  
Love for its love with a heart depth that yearns  
Deeper than life can reveal,  
Sworn at its altar, bound by its ties,  
Vowed to its Captain on high,  
Under the folds of a banner that flies  
Ready to live or to die.

Mine be the heart of the service crowned goal  
Feet that must follow its lure,  
Lightning to flash from the skies of the soul,  
Faith like its shrine to endure,  
So bury old hearthstones, blazon new fires  
Out where their beacons will find  
Life no more mine but the flame that inspires  
Life for a world of mankind!

L. K. H.

## IS STUDENT SELF-GOVERNMENT PRACTICABLE?

There is an idea pervading the minds of some of the students and faculty of Houghton Seminary that student self-government is practicable. While this has not been proved out yet in Houghton and many of the students are convinced to the contrary, yet the idea prevails and it prevails not without cause.

The present plan of partial student government does not appeal to the average student. The student's representative body, the Senate, may sit as a court and try cases for violation of any rule and may report findings and recommendations for punishment to the faculty. It may make any recommendations to the

faculty concerning student interests but as the students see it, it has no real power of its own. On the other hand, if they would take an interest in self-government, push the Senate, and demand regular meetings of that body as perscribed in the "Students Hand Book," and if this governing body would use its authority to its utmost capacity, it would be found that the more successful and aggressive the students were, the more power the faculty would give them. But they do not see it in this light and therefore do not think the plan of partial self-government is successful.

A little more power given the students by the faculty or even the semblance of more power would rouse the students to more confidence in themselves. The right of the Senate to enact regulations with the consent of the faculty need not give that body much more power than it now has but it would encourage the students to do more; it would give them a feeling of greater responsibility.

But we cannot blame the faculty for not intrusting the school affairs more to the students, when the latter will not use what authority they do have. What we need is more life! Let the president of the student body call regular meetings of the Senate and let them see what they can do! When we get the ball arolling the plan will prove successful. Let's have some interest and some pep and more pep, and prove that we can do something when we try!

F. W. W.

## A TRIBUTE TO HOUGHTON.

The more I learn of that great mystery---Life---the more I am impressed with the fact that it holds much the same for all of us. While it is, perhaps, natural for one, when some particular problem presents itself, to feel that no one else has ever been placed in a similar circumstance, if we but look around a little we soon find that our own case is but one of many.

Hence, it is not the problem we need fret ourselves about but rather how we shall meet them. This is an age of Preparedness. We, as a nation, have perhaps never realized the meaning of that word as we do now. If it is well for a nation to prepare itself to meet strange foes, is it not equally important that individuals be prepared to encounter the forces, which if less tangible are no less real? My purpose in writing this article



is to endeavor to convey to others, some part at least, of what Houghton has meant in my personal preparedness for life.

Just here I wish to say that some of the happiest days of my life were those spent in Houghton. If I thought of this while there I do not believe that I attributed it to the sources which I now feel sure were the real ones. True happiness, I find, contains more vital elements than those of pleasure. No doubt most of you have found that out long ago. But you will remember the old saying that, "It takes some people a long time to learn anything." Perhaps, however, the lessons are better learned in that case.

Houghton days were happier because beneath the fun there were ideals to live up to, some perhaps just being formed --- and always the standard that is highest of all presented in its true light.

I am ashamed to confess that I once considered Houghton's teachings narrow and outgrown. Since leaving school I have found myself confronted with many of life's problems which had hitherto been but names. And while I regret to say that I have not always lived to those highest ideals I find myself satisfied with nothing less.

That's one of the best features of Houghton's teachings --- they stick --- and with so tenacious a grip that they are not easily shaken off. And when we have heeded the admonition of Paul when he said, "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good," there need be no fear that Houghton precepts will ever be discarded.

—Elvira Lawrence, stenographer in Geo. M. Korn Razor Manufacturing Co., Little Valley, N. Y.

#### THE VALENTINE PARTY.

Thee do we praise, the College girls of Houghton Seminary. They are not so bad as some of these Houghton bachelors feared. In fact they are just dandy. We may be prejudiced but we are tempted to believe that they represent the most remarkable and absolutely the finest collection of girls that there has been since the world began, unparalleled by history, unequalled at present by any aggregation on the face of this terrestrial ball and perhaps never shall be surpassed in the future aeons that shall ensue. Indeed they entertained the college boys. One and all soon overcame their bashfulness and timidity and enjoyed a very pleasant evening. Actually some of the most modest boys were breaking hearts before they had been in the place five minutes. The hearts were only bean bags, however, and ordinary good thread will serve

real well to replace the broken heart strings.

We enjoyed it all, ladies, from start to finish and still happy recollections linger. We were animated with the inspiration of Robin Hood of old when we attempted to display our ability as ushers. The game of Shadows was the hit of the evening. The caricatures of your faces as shown on the sheet was greatly admired by all. We are convinced that we never before had fully appreciated your beauty.

No minor consideration to us was the part of the program dealing with the refreshments. Just think! Ice cream! Some of us fellows haven't had any ice cream since last summer. And then such dainty cookies, prepared with unheard of delicacy, shaped like hearts!

Congratulations, you managed to get a start on us that time. However, fortune permitting, we shall certainly return the compliment.

H. Meeker.

#### THE INJUSTICE OF AMERICAN PREJUDICE

In a certain city in Ohio a decided spirit of opposition has recently been aroused toward the school authorities because of a German club existing in the High School. The opposition became so pronounced that the board of education decided that it would be wise to abolish the club and accordingly did so. Perhaps the citizens, had they understood perfectly the purpose of the organization, would have acted in a different manner. There is, however, no excuse for anyone to criticize unfavorably a body or an individual without fully understanding the attendant circumstances. In this instance the club was organized among the students of the German language for the purpose of strengthening them in the use of this language. Although we censure the German people for upholding their ruler in his outrageous deeds, there is absolutely no reason for condemning the language which they speak. Surely we do not wish to forever forsake the study of German literature. Such a course would add nothing to our effectiveness in the war and would simply limit our own field of thought.

We should not be narrow and refuse to see all sides of the question. Why should we not recognize whatever of good there is about our adversaries? Let us be broadminded enough to appreciate the excellencies of our enemy at the same time that we despise his evils. Let us manifest a more Christ-like spirit toward them. By so doing, instead of injuring ourselves we shall create a more liberal and helpful spirit. By



refusing to see the good in anything pertaining to Germany or her subjects, we do ourselves an irreparable injustice. Shall we not by doing away with all petty prejudices, be true to the highest good that is in us?

Beulah Williams.

### LINCOLN.

A brief program was given in chapel by members of faculty and student body on the occasion of Lincoln's birthday. The Gettysburg Speech was read by Mr. Visser. Mr. Hill read a paper written by himself concerning the character of Lincoln as manifested in his speeches. Professor McDowell read from the New Republic what is perhaps the most widely read editorial on Lincoln. A reading was given from Edwin Mark by Miss Butler. The program was very interesting as well as instructive.

### AT THE ATHENIAN

"It was some debate." Who said so? Athenians, and they know! Yes the Shultz - Hale vs Lee - Searles debate of the last Athenian possessed some live-wire pep. Expectation and enthusiasm ran high in the largest audience that has attended an Athenian this year. The proposition: "Resolved that the government shall own and operate the railroads" surely has some room for heated argument. Hale and Seales met one another's fire with concentrated debate speeches which made their listeners sit up and take notice. Especial commendation should be given Harold Lee for the splendid quality of his debate and refutation speeches. His argument against government ownership and operation really made us think. But not many of us will forget the eloquence of Star Editor as he flashed a panorama of facts and figures before our infinitesimal knowledge of the portentous proposition. So vivid were his instantaneous oratorical abilities on that occasion that we could see bombs in every corner of the room, we could feel the lightning of anarchy thru private ownership and control everywhere. His rebuttal speech was likewise a masterpiece. Tho none of us carried our dictionaries with us, we came to realize that we did not need them because we would have had no time to look for the rapid succession of words that flew to champion the object of the affirmative. Taken as a whole we can truthfully say that it was an eloquent debate, one we will not forget for many a day. Interest in the Athenian is constantly growing. After all, we can come to the decision that the "citadel" shall not fall, that future Athenian meetings will surely have a new lease on life.

L. K. H.

### "BOOSTING" THE I. P. A.

A short time ago it became evident to loyal members of the I. P. A. here in Houghton that it would be well to put forth more of an effort to bring the Prohibition work before the school. Consequently a short program was given in chapel a few days ago. The president of the organization, John Hester, in a few well chosen words, spoke of the purpose and aim of the I. P. A. Miss Leona Head gave a brief talk full of courage and enthusiasm. After a few remarks by Professor Hester, special music was given by the male quartet. The result of the meeting was a good response in membership.

### DID IT EVER OCCUR TO YOU?

1. That it is better to aim somewhere and get nowhere than to be put somewhere and stick?
2. That half of the world can't make out why the other half has the blues?
3. That a smile is a mighty good investment?
4. That no circumstances can defeat you if you WILL TO WIN?

How about it? Did it ever occur to you?

### THE WOODS--BOLLES WEDDING.

The marriage of Mr. Laurence M. Woods of Rushford, N. Y. and Miss June R. Bolles of Marshall, Mich., was solemnized at the home of the brides parents, Mr. and Mrs. Myron Bolles, Saturday evening, Feb. 16. Rev. Ethel M. Ovenshire, sister of the bride, officiated and only the immediate relatives were present at the ceremony.

And again we see two of our former Houghton students join hand in hand to walk through this life's journey together. Their career at Houghton encourages us to believe that they will not always have to walk, but that Mother Fortune will provide them with the Chariot of Opportunity and entrust them with the Reins of Wisdom. We charge them ever to cherish Houghton in their memories, to ever strive to hold up its standards and to ever lift them higher, and to indefatigably and incessantly boost for their Alma Mater.

The speedy unification of the two was rather a surprise to their friends but in these war times such a rapid mobilization is certainly to be admired!

We extend our heartiest congratulations to the groom and our very best wishes to the bride. We proclaim Mr. Woods the richest man in the world for one and all can appreciate after such a winter as we have had, that the man who can have June all the year round has wealth beyond measure.

H. M.



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## Editorial

## THE RHAPSODY OF LIFE

The hours that mark the impress of the twentieth century upon human progress are eternities of tremendous intensity. To say so is but to again repeat the oft reiterated phrase of every passing day. But to feel it—until the sensation flies “to brain, to tongue, to pen, to feet, to hand, to action”—is to harmonize the living universe with its individual actors. To the heart beating atune with the heart of a valiant world no moment is colorless; that individual has found the answer of the eternal question in personal response to the lure of Heaven-ordered usefulness. To him no moment is unmusical, no moment is colorless! The purple of its mountain summits contrasts with the ochreous-fire of its sunrises, its rainbow hues never unfriendly with its sunset tints—Romance it spells, mystic, wild, boundless—for life has found its ideal in the heart of mortal creation, jealous solicitude multiplying her benefactions and tomorrow's victory but the supplement of today's. Something divine pulsates all the world, for life has found her Lover and the two are no longer estranged by the commonplace. And her L'Allegro chords of inspiration are brilliant, effort-demanding, dynamic incentive to attaining the ultra-impossible.

But there is another minor strain of Life's ever changing melody. It speaks of the soul that has learned its adversity, its nebulous skies with their un-

diversified sameness in solitude, or those same skies a riot of thundercrashing and intermittant lightning; he who has braved the tempest like the intrepid sea gull, harbor-bound but to an unknown harbor knows the Il Penseroso of the rhapsody. God give us the inspiration of personalities who have fallen in love with Life, who have challenged the phosphorescence of demon eyes in combat with human endurance and as vividly have seen serephim face to face in the sanctuary of righteous triumph.

L. K. H.

## WHAT HOUGHTON COLLEGE STANDS FOR

This college stands first for individuals who may receive proper training in Liberty both in judgement and conduct. Liberty is no “force”, it is no cause, yet because it exists many things may be done under its sway. Few indeed, are the rules Houghton lays down, few are the principles, yet the rules are not for those who observe the principles. We should appreciate this liberty for soon we will go out to be “philosophers of our own charcter and masters of our own destiny.” The best preparation, therefore, to mold our characters or to shape our destinies is in liberty itself.

This college also intends to train “under responsibility unto responsibility.” One should be made to feel that he is a part of the community, and further that someday he may hold the responsible position of headship of a home. These positions are surrounded by complex and holy aims that should cause the best in one to be true to the best that is in him. If you are the head of a home you must thoughtfully mold the character of the coming generation while on the other hand you yourself are the product of the past ages. If you are great the community has made you so. Your progenitors paved the way for your greatness by great struggles, by wealths, poverties and deaths. To you is your child a debtor as are you to the community.

Lastly, the college stands for wisdom and wisdom is the “application of knowledge to affairs.” At school you receive knowledge but you are to apply that knowledge. As college is a small world in itself, if you attend college, you have received a little of the world. Wisdom does not stand alone for intellectual attainment but also for religion and ethics; for a right relation to the great Governor of the Universe and a right relation to man. It stands for the spirit of learning. “This wisdom begins with the intuitive and ends with the logical.” It is conservative for it does not neglect the past; it is progressive for it faces squarely the future.

G. B. S.



## Students' Philosophy

After such fine chapel talks as we have had lately we feel like apologizing for criticising in the preceding issue, our hard pressed professors. Pres. Luckey gave us an inspiring discussion on character. Prof. Fancher dealt with the subject "wisdom" in his very interesting and instructive manner. Prof. Hester read and commented upon Sidney Lanier's poems "The Crystal." The manner was fine in which he presented that one and all are hero worshippers, and that Jesus Christ is the greatest hero of all. We enjoyed all these talks and appreciated them to that extent that we await in hopeful anticipation of the continuance of such.

A spirit of optimism characterizes the students of Houghton. It seems to be the duty as well as the special gift of every professor to inspire in the breast of every student a spirit of cheerfulness. He is invited to look upon the bright side of things. Then too the student is young, is filled with red blood, life and vigor and looks only to a long broad future before him. He looks to a life of usefulness among his fellowmen and this fact has a very salutary effect upon his broadening vision. Most of the students are studying those books or pursuing those courses in which they especially delight, so this being the case they have the "spirit of the craftsman" and consequently are more successful in that line than they would be in any other course in which they were less interested.

A student's reading is often a good index of his character or at least of his tastes. At Houghton, the magazine stories receive perhaps the greatest attention although all of the periodical literature is glanced through more or less. Good novels are very much read but serious literature is not very popular with the younger students. Many students carry such a heavy schedule that they have no time to read other than the daily papers. True education, however, consists as much in avocational study as in one's lessons.

## CITIZENS' RALLY.

Immediately following the Athenian Debate of Monday evening, Feb. 18, the Prohibitionists of Houghton assembled to discuss the portentous proposition of the New National Party. Prof. Hester presided as chairman with G. B. Shultz, secretary of the occasion. About fifty voters were at this get-to-gether meeting. Prof. Hester brought up both sides of the "merger" impartially at first giving all an opportunity to see

both sides. Following this came a splendid discussion of the situation, pro and con, by various citizens of the town, our women citizens taking a noticeable part in speech-making. The planks of both platforms were investigated and compared. At the close of this meeting delegates were named to represent the Prohi. forces of Houghton at the county convention at Cuba N. Y. on Monday Feb. 25 where the "merger" was again debated and National Convention delegates elected.

L. K. H.

## Locals

The Demosthenes Club, in other words, the Second Year English Class, gave a program on Washington's Birthday.

Mr. Bolander, the proprietor of a music store in Cuba, N. Y., has been visiting his friend, Mr. Barrett.

Esther Busch, who is taking music in Rochester, is home now. She was the guest of Ethel Kelly at the Dormitory Friday.

Elsie Hanford went to Elmira to attend The Student Volunteer Convention.

The father of Almeda Hall pleasantly surprised her by coming to Houghton for a couple of days.

Lillian Hampton went to her home at Portageville, N. Y., over Sunday.

Glennora Andres went to Fillmore Thursday. Judging from appearance the barber wasn't sick this time.

Gladys Crandall has left the dormitory to live with her parents who have lately come to town.

Mr. Wallace Glass went to his home in Bradford, Pa., for the week end.

Ethel Kelly and Lillian Hampton gave a Valentine spread to seven schoolmates on February fourteenth.

Edna Caryl went to her home in Wiscoy over Sunday.

The revival meetings are being well attended by the students. Even the reception room at the dorm is deserted on Friday nights.

The Loyal Sons got together on Feb. 15th for another of their semi-monthly good times at Mr. Hales'. On their way home they tried to impress themselves on a party that the college students were having. The Loyal Sons were ignored which hurt their pride more than the peace of the upper classmen was disturbed.

Harold Luckey who is attending Geneseo Normal came home for the week end.



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About It



The I. P. A. delegates to the County Convention to be held at Cuba left Monday A. M. A great meeting was enjoyed. L. L. Brown of Cuba, N. Y., H. H. Hester of Houghton N. Y. and Leona K. Head of Houghton N. Y. were elected delegates to the National Convention to be held in Chicago beginning Tuesday, March 5, 1918.

### FACULTY NOTES

Mrs. McDowell may still be seen about 3:20 P. M. racing about the Halls in a vain attempt to round up the delinquents who have been sentenced to an hour of hard labor.

Miss Moses has been ill with LaGrippe.

Prof. Bowen was summoned to Belmont Wednesday for his physical examination.

Prof. Luckey was in Bradford recently. While there he attended a Y. M. C. A. "father and son" banquet, going in the capacity of son of Mr. Woodhead of that city.

The business of the school farm has been so engrossing lately that Prof. Fancher missed several classes one day and Faculty meeting was disbanded on account of the President's absence.

Miss Hillpot accompanied Elsie Hanford to Elmira to attend the Student Volunteer Convention at Elmira College.

Miss Thurston was most eloquently presented with a baton in chapel recently. This birthday gift, although belated, will nevertheless be found valuable—according to Dean—not only in chapel exercises but also at the Dormitory.

Mrs. Bowen has recently celebrated the fifty-first anniversary of her nativity. She so much appreciates birthdays that she desired to participate in the yell given for her on the occasion.

Prof. Hester is ably maintaining his reputation for tardiness. We fully expect him to carry off all the prizes in track at our next field meet.

### VILLAGE NOTES

Miss Esther Busch is enjoying a few days at home with her mother.

Mr. McKerrow has purchased a Shetland pony colt for his little daughter, Margaret. It is quite a novelty to all of the children of the town.

Mr. Morgon from Silver Springs spent Sunday with Miss Mildred Houghton.

The District School Children give a patriotic entertainment March 4th at 8 P. M. Everybody get a ticket. They are only ten cents.

Everett Lapham and Alfred Parker are spending their time in the woods. When they are not building fires, they are chop-

ping each others thumbs or unsoldering their dinner pails.

Rev. Anderson is conducting revival meetings here. On account of the floods around the church services had to be held at the Seminary a few nights last week.

The missionary Society met with Mrs. Peck Wednesday for a prayer meeting.

V. E. P.

## Jolting Breezes

Meeker's Ode to Goddess Almeda.

(With due apologies to Scott.)

Give me a place of stone cliff walls  
In solitude to roam

For love ne'er dwelt in marble Halls

And Halls are not a home—

Unto this roving heart of mine

Deceived by one coquette

No longer with their wiles so fine

Can charmed Halls lure me yet!

Teacher: "And how many subjects are you carrying, Mr. Stugart?"

Stugart: "Carrying one and dragging three!"

Overheard on one of the trips to Fillmore.

She: "How do you think I handle the reigns?"

He: "Oh, with the regular forecaster's ability."

During an interesting discussion on "light" in Astronomy.

Pres. Luckey: "Hester, what is the brightest thing you have ever seen?"

Hester: "Well—I guess that young son of yours."

A green little freshman in a green little way

Mixed some chemicals up for fun one day

The green little grasses now tenderly wave

O'er the green little freshman's green little grave. Ex.

"What is it"—the last question was intended for a scientific poser—"that pervades all space, that no word or door can shut out."

But a Dorm. girl rose to the occasion: "The smell of onions, professor."

We hear distressing news from our boys at camp. It seems as if some of the commands violate their sense of delicacy. For instance they not only tell you to dress right, but ask for the right face, too, and some of the poor fellows went to camp with only one change!"



June was back on a little visit. Meeting Dorothy the girls happily exchanged greetings.

June: "And what are you doing these days?"

Dot: "Oh the same old things."

"Are you really? I thought he went to France."

Ira, embarrassed—"Are you fond of indoor sports?"

She (?) "Yes, if they know when to go home."

Miss Butler: "Paul, who was it that prompted you then? I heard someone whisper that date to you."

Paul S. (Uneasily.) "I expect it was history repeatin' itself again."

#### What Did He Mean?

Professor McDowell was lecturing on "Paradise Lost" in English Literature. With a great deal of certainty he expostulated, "Indeed my conception of 'Hell' is increasing every day."

Miss Williams: "Forgotten it! Oh dear, I want to go back to the Dorm."

Laug: (Absently.) "Dear, so do I."

### Alumni Notes

The following are extracts from letters from some of our soldier boys:

We wish to apologize for being so negligent in expressing our gratitude for the gifts which you sent us for Christmas. The fact that you selected books and eats proves to us that you have keen insight into camp life. Each contribution in the box seemed to taste better than the one before it. The poems and stories were very choice.

We remember very distinctly the happy days we spent at Houghton and in our connections with the Sunday School we shall always be deeply indebted to it for the principles which were upheld to us. We are very glad to say that we are trying to practice them in our camp life. We express our good wishes for the continued success of all that Houghton stands for.

Again extending our gratitude for your thoughtfulness in regard to our welfare, we are,  
Sincerely yours,

Ransseler R. Johnson.  
Robert C. Caufmann.

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—Debt and Death are two words singularly connected not only in sound, but in fact; for the former frequently hastens the latter.

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FILLMORE, N. Y.

Through you I wish to thank the members of the Houghton Sunday School for the fine box of "eats" that awaited me on my return from a four-day furlough home over Christmas.

It was splendid and I can't tell you how much I appreciate it. Aside from the pleasure of eating it, it brought two distinct thrills of satisfaction,—one that the folks at home and the nation are behind the effort here; the other that, though a considerable length of time has elapsed, we old students are not entirely forgotten. Camp life has a number of hardships but it is easy to lose sight of these in the purpose of it all and we have been chosen to have a part in the great movement that will eventually restore peace to the world. Very sincerely yours,

Owen M. Walton.

This morning I was vaccinated in my left arm for smallpox and inoculated against typhoid fever in my right arm. My right arm is a little lame this afternoon. Some of the fellows cannot lift their arms to the height of their shoulders. I'll have to have two more "shots" (as the fellows call them) for the fever.

When we were drilling this afternoon once every man in the squad I was in (8 men) but we executed a command entirely wrong and then six of them did another one wrong. At that the sergeant ordered me to "fall out." I wondered why until he made the rest perform a double quick march around a telephone pole.

Camp life here is much like that described by Robert P. only less regular. We have drill now part of the time. The men are here from all classes and drilling goes rather slow. It takes two or three times as long to get a squad in shape on any particular order as it did with our gym classes. The men or some of them are those who tried to enlist in the regular army or the aviation corps but were rejected for small physical defects, as weight, eyes, etc. Some are telegraph operators and of course have a big start for the S. C. Some of them are regular "boobs," worse than any students that ever saw Houghton.

The Y. M. C. A. is certainly a great thing here. A very clean place. Absolutely no smoking, no loud talking or any disorder whatever.

I wonder how the Star and everything is getting along. Wish I was sure of an address so I could get some word from old Houghton.

Your old schoolmate, Clark.