

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

The HOUGHTON STAR

Volume XXXII

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Number 12

Recess Frees Over 500



Professor Cronk Leads Chorus and Orchestra in Handel's 'Messiah'

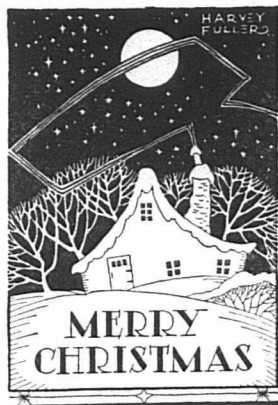
Ferchen, Fisk, Gast, Sauerwein, Mann Have Solo Parts

The traditional Christmas performance of the *Messiah* was given by the Oratorio Society at the college church Tuesday evening, December 19. Prof. Alton M. Cronk was the conductor, and the accompaniment was furnished by the Little Symphony supplemented by the organ.

The annual *Messiah* concert is ever somewhat of a gala occasion for Houghtonites, and this despite the fact that the oratorio is essentially religious in nature. It is, however, only in keeping with the spirit of the season to feel the pervading gaiety and joy which is present even in our moments of sacred recollections and quiet meditation.

Handel's composition appears destined to retain its high seat in all the people's hearts for long years to come. It was a strange quirk of chance that allowed this particular opus to eclipse all the rest of his vocal music—a list which leaves to his credit the bewildering total of forty-one operas and twenty-four oratorios. The reputation the *Messiah* upholds is entirely out of proportion to its actual worth.

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HOUGHTON CHOIRS IN MUSIC VESPERS

"The Lord Is in His Holy Temple" came the call to worship as residents of Houghton, students, and visitors, entered into the musical vespers service given by the choirs of Houghton college on December 17. Vespers began with organ numbers played by Barbara Cronk. After the impressive processional of the combined a cappella and chapel choirs, the invocation was given by Dean Stanley Wright. Then the fully-robed choir, with Prof. Eugene Schram, conductor, sang the first of their program of Christmas anthems. The congregation joined the choir in singing of vesper hymns. Luella Fisk, senior member of the choir, sang Adolphe Adam's beautiful "O Holy Night." For the Scripture lesson, Prof. Wright read St. Luke's account strong over the "appropriateness" of "The Song of Mary," always a favorite with choir audiences, was sung by Laura Ferchen. Following the choral benedictions, the choir sang "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" as a recessional.

IN APPRECIATION TO THE PRYOR GANG

The music that has been giving the campus and village a Christmas atmosphere is the result of Professor Pryor's hard work. He with his helpers John Smith, Dan Engle, and Glenn Jones has installed and operated the broadcasting system. It was these same gentlemen who installed the Christmas lighting effects in the tower, in front of the administration building, and in front of the main girls' dormitory.

Professor Cronk has loaned recordings from the music library for the occasion. Ralph Black has loaned other recordings. Earl Sauerwein has assisted in the music. But the big hand goes to Professor Pryor.

Season's Greetings

The entire *Star* staff joins in extending Season's Greetings to all readers of its columns.

We thank the faculty members and students for their constructive criticisms on our first twelve issues and invite any that might be made in the new year.

The close cooperation of the print shop has made it possible for us to get the *Star* out each week on time, with only one exception which was due to circumstances beyond our control. Those who have worked on the editorial staff of the paper know that without print shop cooperation it is impossible to get our college weekly out on the date line set. We wish to take this opportunity to publicly thank them and say, "A merry Christmas, boys, and a prosperous New Year!"

And to all of you we say, "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"

Gala Party for Faculty Families

At six o'clock on Saturday evening the Anna Houghton Daughters and their families gathered in the dining hall of Gaoyadeo hall for their annual Christmas party.

Following a tureen supper, all retired to the main reception room where a heavily laden Christmas tree gave indications of a St. Nicholas visit. A somewhat diversified program, under the able direction of Miss Anna Fillmore, began with the singing of several Christmas carols. After an ingenious recitation of *Twice Times* by Master Elwood Douglas, the Kreckman "sorority" in collaboration with Miss Sally Shea rendered a vocal number. Miss Priscilla Ries gave a dramatic recitation, entitled *There's a Difference*, after which Miss Alice Wright gave a violin solo accompanied by Miss Peggy Fancher. Christmas poems were read by Prof. Claude Ries and Prof. Stanley Wright. The program concluded with an editorial reading, *What Have We Done to Christmas?* by Mrs. Lee.

Gifts were distributed by the drawing of numbers and hilarity waxed strong over the "appropriateness" of some of the gifts as they were revealed in tune to rustling of bright paper. And thus another Christmas party was checked off the list!

FAREWELL PARTY FOR BEULAH SUMMERS

Miss Beulah Summers was the honored guest at a farewell party recently given by the Bible school girls at the home of Mrs. Reba Wright. She will be leaving Houghton this week to take up a music course in the Ottawa Conservatory Music.

Faculty and Students' Plans For Vacation Will Include Travel, Hiking, Study, Resting

Some Visit Nebraska, Iowa, Indiana, Maryland

You wouldn't guess it, but those same people who sing "Come Back to Dear Old Houghton" so lustily, are right now twitching on the edges of their last-class seats, mixing indiscriminately with Latin verbs and chemistry formulas such irrelevant snatches as, "Wonder if I got everything?" "Spouse we'll manage to get that 10:29 train?" "Now, let's see: gloves, suitcase. . ." The professors face their last few classes, optimistically expecting to eke one last recitation from the uneasy group which divides its attention rather unequally between the prof and its Hamilton or Ingersoll. As though the very thought of home, and mother, and mouth-watering concoctions weren't enough, we are worked up into a frenzy of anticipation, being constantly reminded of the approaching crisis by the abundant and suggestive decorations, and frequent repetition of carols. We couldn't clear out the school quicker or more thoroughly if an air raid were planned for Wednesday morning at 10 a. m.

Of the whole migratory group, Lois Craig has the distinction among the students of traveling probably the greatest distance. She is spending her holidays near Des Moines, Iowa. Earl Sauerwein, Ken Jewell, Margaret Clawson, and Betty Ammons are heading for Indiana, while the usual proud, noisy troupe will swell Michigan's population during the fourteen vacation days. New Jersey and the New England States too, are claiming a larger group than usual, while, out of pure fear, we would never neglect to mention the alarmingly large number of Pennsylvanians who will be leaving us for their native hills and coal mines.

We extend our sympathy (though we're not so sure they need it—from the lively pranks we hear brewing) to the few who remain here over the holidays. Jack Haynes, Bob Fox, and Red Ellis are staying to help Gerry Beach keep things moving in the print shop.

The larger part of the faculty is celebrating Christmas here in Houghton. Coach McNeese says this is the first time he's ever spent the holidays in Houghton, and he's looking forward to a quiet Christmas. Miss Fitch is spending a week end at her home in Illinois, returning immediately to assume her duties in the office. Miss Davison will be in Plattsburg with her father, while Mrs. Bowen is to be with her son in Albany. Miss Ortlip and Mrs. Shea will spend the two weeks at the Ortlip homestead in Fort Lee, New Jersey. We have one quote from Miss Rickard: "What am I going to do during vacation? Well, for one thing, I'm going to slide down hill, if I can get the snow and a sled!"

Miss Burnell is planning to be with her father in Nebraska, thus taking the longest trip of any member of either the faculty or student body. Dr. Small takes second place on the faculty, spending his vacation in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Rosenberger is remaining in Houghton. He plans to hike during the vacation days. He says, "I want to see the backs of some of these woods around here." Dr. Douglas says that if he isn't careful he might get to Caneadea, while several other faculty members have voiced similar sentiments, suggesting that a quiet rest and time for a little study is all that they ask.



The HOUGHTON STAR

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1939-40 STAR STAFF

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Frances Pierce, Ethel Wheeler, Marie Fearing, Jack Mowery, Robert Fredenberg.

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EDITORIAL



Star in the West

While young people carol "silent night, holy night" under the windows of America, on European battlefields there is no silence and nothing is holy.

Germany's youth dare not sing, "all is calm, all is bright." No glowing yule logs for the young men of England who have placed their lot with the destiny of young Frenchmen; they huddle together this Christmas eve on fields already becoming sodden with youthful blood.

Finland can sing only with deep bitterness, "peace on earth, good will to men," and Russia would not sing it if she could.

After years of continual rapacity, Japan could scarcely lay aside her war cries and overnight think of a lowly babe in a manger. China might remember to sing. But China's song is almost gone; if she sang, it would be with shortened breath and swollen lips.

There was no room in an early inn, we are told, and there is less room today. It was a stable then; it would needs be a bomb-shelter now. The very land that felt the tread of the Savior's feet and the mightier impact of His life-giving personality, now echoes to the clank of tanks and is rent by instruments created by men to destroy men.

A star guided men to the Christ then, but can a star shine today? Yes, it shines! And the angel chorus sings "glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace" for those who will hear. Not over Jerusalem fields is that song of triumph, nor over Bethlehem that ray of light. Not over any nation whose carols are engulfed in the rumble of guns.

The angels are singing over America—their melody a soft but inescapable antiphonal to the carolers below. The star is reflected in thousands of eyes as men and women unspoiled by war emulate the One who went about doing good. —K. L. W.

Joy to the World

Joy—with women and children perishing because of hunger, with men killing one another, and the aged dying with the visions of youth dashed to the ground? Yes, joy to the world, for the Lord has come!

Nearly five hundred human beings at Houghton are radiating joy this Christmas season—maybe through a dense gloom, but there is joy. When we arrive home, there will be joy in spite of good reason for sorrow. During the vacation we will attempt to saturate ourselves with joy. Joy because the Prince of Peace, the only true source of joy, has come.

For nearly four months the world has been looking at the darkest midnight. They are failing to see the Star of Joy which radiates all gloom at this season. At least for a brief moment, war and chaos are fading into the background while joy and Christ, the author of order predominate.

Joy—because of the Kingdom of God on earth. Millions are now praying, "Thy kingdom is come into my heart." It is the great spiritual Kingdom which prophets, priests and kings earnestly desired to see but died never beholding the glories of its dawning. It was at the ushering in of the Kingdom that Simeon exclaimed:

"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles; and the glory of thy Israel."

Joy—because of His Kingdom that is to come. The place, the time, the circumstances dim eyes dare not forecast; but we, who have known the joy of his spiritual Kingdom, can let our faith rise with Isaiah's and cry in exultation. W. B. N.

Christmas Spirit Pervades Campus In House Parties

SMITH HOUSE

The Christmas party of the Royal Smithsonian was held last Saturday evening at eight o'clock, in the attractively decorated house of Prof. Smith. In a pleasant atmosphere furnished by candle light and crackling fire, the nine couples sat down to a steak dinner.

Following the capital repast, the company retired to the living room where they were entertained by three reels of comedy secured from Rochester.

Two waiters, Dick Fee and Merrill McKinley and a cook, Mrs. Lois Smith served the company composed of: Prof. and Mrs. Smith, Tom Gardiner, Arlene Wright, Casey Kahler, Marjorie Kahler, Jack Haynes, Belva Baxter, Steve Ortlip, Mildred Bisgrove, Dick Sandle, Peg Fowler, Seymour Rollman, Wilda Winters, John MacGregor, Edith Hinkley, Henry Ortlip and Betty Carlson.

FRENCH CLUB

The annual Christmas party of Le Cercle Francais was held in the home of Dr. Woolsey the afternoon of Friday, December 15. Professor Stockin opened the program by reading the story of the first Christmas from a French Bible. A girls' trio composed of Evelyn Birkel, Marie Fearing and Virginia Black sang several Christmas carols in French. After Margaret Clawson had played two violin solos, *Silent Night* and *O Little Town of Bethlehem*, Thelma Havill and Helen Morse presented a dramatic reading in the form of a conversation between a grandmother and her granddaughter comparing French and American Christmas customs.

Jean Feldt conducted a questionnaire during which the gifts were exchanged. Each person had to answer a question before he could choose his present. The members of the club ate popcorn balls and apples and played games until the meeting adjourned.

JENNINGS COTTAGE

Friday, December 15, 1939

The Houghton Star Houghton College Houghton, N. Y.

Christmas party at Jennings cottage at 7:30 p. m.—stop—theme, Bells and Bows—stop—cottage decorated with hemlock, red and green streamers, and red bows and bells—stop—Beaus in attendance; John Sheffer, Kenneth Hill, Carlton Van Ornum, Raymond Tucker, Casey Kahler, Alvin Ramsley, Frank Hauser, Donald Kauffman, Bill Johnson, Willis Larkin, Wilson Warboys, Jesse Towner and Red Ellis—stop—stabilizers; Prof. and Mrs. Smith, Prof. and Mrs. S. Wright—stop—a few chairs still intact after several "Fruit-basket upsets"—stop—unheeding girl caught under mistletoe—stop—each Beau sang a certain song until he found a belle singing same tune—stop—What fun!

A Little Bird

It is better to love men than to fear gods; it is grander and nobler to think and investigate for yourself than to repeat a creed.

Robert Ingersoll

I think that I shall never see
A "D" as lovely as a "B";
"D's" were made by fools like me;
But only an apple polisher can
make a "B."

—Marion College Journal

Women's styles may change, but their designs remain the same.
—Reader's Digest

Faculty Expresses Deepest Sympathy

The faculty of Houghton seminary and college hereby express their deep regret at the passing of Silas W. Bond, fourth president of the institution from 1896 to 1908, and extend their warmest sympathy to the surviving members of his family. This action voices not only a sincere appreciation of his character—particularly those personal qualities of vital enthusiasm, stimulating ideals, genuine friendliness and unselfishness, which every student under him will so vividly recall, but also a grateful recognition of his positive contribution to the school and the cause of Christian education during a critical period of its early development in the days of the "Old Sem."

A copy of this resolution has been sent to the two sons, Silas, Jr. and John, who reside in Wheaton, Illinois.

("Impressions of Professor Bond" by Dean Hazlett will appear in the next issue.)

IN REMEMBRANCE

"The older members will be saddened to learn of the recent death of Professor Silas Bond in Santa Paula, California. He died last Sunday while sleeping."

That brief note in last Sunday's church bulletin started with me a flood of memories. One of the three most vivid recollections that I have of arriving at Houghton seminary the fall of 1902 is the welcome given to me by Professor Bond. He had never seen me before. I think he had never heard of me before, but he told me he was glad I had come. And I knew he was glad, too. For the extent to which our acquaintance during the succeeding years dimmed that initial pleasure.

There was one important difference between Silas W. Bond and James S. Luckey. President Luckey knew that always behind the clouds, no matter how heavy and foreboding they were, the sun was shining, and he knew that there would sometime be clearing weather. So far as anyone ever knew, President Bond was never aware that there were any clouds. During long days when things were hard,—with a meaning in that word "hard" that it hasn't had even in later years,—he faced the sun with a spring in his step, a note of encouragement in his voice, and a smile on his face,—but with an upper lip a good deal stiffer than any of us than any of us then realized.

Houghton college owes much to the labor, the fortitude, the vision of Silas Bond. It was during his administration that the groundwork of our present college work was done. He saw clearly the need of making provision for the young men and women who were coming to the doors of Houghton seminary beyond what the seminary could do for them. Gradually the work of the "Advanced Department" was added. That was the work which, under the incessant labors of President Luckey developed into the Houghton college of today and tomorrow.

One of God's true noblemen has gone to his reward. This afternoon I looked across to the other hill where stands the white house in which he lived those years and where stood the one lone building that housed Houghton seminary all those years. It was not difficult to see there again a most familiar figure. The afternoon shadows were growing very long as cast by the setting sun. Was it all in my imagination that I seemed to see the shadow of that familiar figure lengthen and lengthen until it seemed to rest upon this campus and I felt myself enfolded in its very friendly embrace? I loved Professor Bond.

Stanley W. Wright

By

J. P. Q.

DeRight



PUISSANT PUNDITS

AROUND THE TOWN

(With apologies to Walt Winchell, who has a much longer distance to travel.)

Some bright young thing . . . sophomore, I think it was . . . asked recently: If "East is East, and West is West, where's the twain?" . . . I didn't know either . . . the answer is: On the twack . . . If you laugh at this one, college slang has a word for it . . . The *t-wack's* are now twain . . . You and Mel James.

Another spoon marked Childs has appeared . . . at the dorm, of course . . . Perhaps it's someone with a guilty conscience who can't return the spoon he took because the girl-friend is wearing it as a bracelet . . . This has nothing to do with the subject unless you, dear reader, will have to explain to the next generation around the breakfast table that your wife's maiden name really was "Houghton."

Newest campus title for the man-about-town . . . A drizzle . . . in other words, a drip that is going steady . . . Another one from Mel James . . . he must be (or have) the proverbial pan under the ice box to know so much about drips.

On the way down to Westminster college to debate last week, Walt Sheffer had a hard time sitting still . . . His suit was a prickly tweed, and so he squirmed a great deal . . . Had he been at home he could have easily supplied himself with some scratch pads from the Book Store . . . On the same trip Norm Mead started a punning streak, with: "The mother irons while the father steels." . . . Sheffer came back with, "Yes, but the kids tin be easily lead by a good copper." . . . Prof. Hazlett squelched them, however, by saying, "If you can't do better than that, your tungsten stay quiet."

A certain professor was recently lecturing to a very interested class . . . Said he: "Have you seen one of these instruments which can tell when a man is lying? . . . In the back of the room, George Huff muttered, "Seen one? I married one!" . . . We aren't all so good at lie detecting, though . . . A fellow was brought to the infirmary recently under the influence of poison, and, after Doc Lyman brought him 'round he said to him: "How did you ever come to take that poison? Didn't you read the label on the bottle? It said POISON very plainly!" . . . "Sure," replied the student, but I didn't pay any attention to that!" . . . "Why not?" . . . "Why, right underneath that, it said LYE."

Waiter McKinley is very effusive about the food he serves over in the dorm . . . The other day he was serving eggs . . . He served one table with a flourish, and said, "These are the best eggs we've had for years . . ."

"Well," snarled a member of the Houghton Grouch club, "bring me some you haven't had quite so long. Which reminds me that Prof. Shea went to get a physical check-up recently . . . The doctor looked him over, slapped him on the back, and said, "You're as sound as a dollar" . . . "Say, Doc," prof. blurted out, "I'd no idea I was that bad off."

We ran on to a little poem in the *Christian Herald* . . . reprinted from *Kablegrams* . . . that might be of interest to some one . . . I'd like to be a could-be

If I could not be an are,

(Cont. on Page Four, Col. 5)

Music Notes



By Mark Armstrong

Christmastide brings to us the most opulent offerings of music in all the year. Carolers with frostbitten noses and cheeks blend the simple appeal of their songs with the stately tones of classical jubilation given by gowned choristers, while both are mingled with the clear chimes ringing from the belfry and steeple to make a mighty paean of joy surging through a land of gladness.

The thrice familiar story of Christmas has been adorned by hymn and verse through centuries. It has been the common lot of men and generations to fall under the spell the telling of it weaves over them, and there has come from this enchantment a soaring of the wings of the minds in noble creation. Witness, on the one hand, the splendid grandioseness of the Bach *Christmas Oratorio*, and on the other, the rare and pious beauty of Franz Gruber's *Silent Night*.

In earlier times, men thought much on the milieu of the first Christmas. Figures representing the Holy Family,

with an ox and an ass standing by the manger, were set up in churches and homes. The English spoke of this as their "crib." The French word *creche* is the one that has survived to modern usage. It was customary to dance around the "crib" or *creche* to the accompaniment of carols or noels. Not a few of the more famous Latin carols were written to dance tunes. Probably the most renowned of the Latin group is the carol known as the Boar's Head, *Caput apri defro, Reddens ladnis Domino*.

Strange legends are to be discovered in many old carols. In many cases the legends were taken from the mystery plays. Examples are preserved in *Joseph Was an Old Man*, *I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In*, and *The Camel and the Crane*. Mention should be made of *Good King Wenceslas*, which king lived in trouble to the end of his days, but who has his memory kept green in a jolly carol.

As the race grows older and wiser, it seems to care less about the celebration of Christmas in wassail and merry song. Even as late as the eighteenth century, Charles Wesley wrote a famous hymn which began rather noisily, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." Since then the words have been refined into the more fitting "Hark, the herald angels sing." More than reverberations of shouting and clangor in the atmosphere, we desire the angels' glad annunciation of peace toward men of good will.

MESSIAH...

(Continued from Page One)

in comparison with Handel's other music.

But no reflection is intended on this work. Its popularity is far from undeserved. It maintains a fine architectonic balance in a conception of the work as a whole, while there is a spontaneous flow of movement in what is felt to be a natural change as the music shifts from recitative to aria to chorus.

Handel was a prolific composer. Nevertheless, out of the multitude of themes occurring in his work, dozens have been found which he merely resurrected from the pages of other composers or from earlier numbers of his own, to serve his purpose at the moment. The only contemporary of note from whom Handel did not see fit to borrow was the great Bach. Bach's style was apparently unsuited to the other master's Italianate mode of composition. The chorus "For unto us a child is born" from the *Messiah* is set to two melodies from one of the composer's earlier duets. Likewise, the music to "He shall feed his flock" is suspected of having been first used with some text which is now lost to us. But this circumstance does not prevent the chorus and aria in question from being two examples of extraordinarily good settings, in which words and music are intensified in feeling, the one by the other, and together achieve a unity that is well-nigh perfect. That Handel should have composed and scored the entire oratorio within twenty-three or twenty-four days (some claim only twenty-one) seems impossible, but is the incredible truth.

The *Messiah* has not always held the place it has won today among Christmas celebrations. Its first performance took place in the spring, on April 13 or 14, 1742, in Dublin, Ireland. Since that time it has continued to receive the favor of the music public, and now stands alongside Haydn's *Creation* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* to form a trinity of oratorios that is considered the most enduring in popular esteem.

It was a joy to hear the Oratorio thus once more in the singing of this noble Handel work. The soloists were Laura Ferchen, soprano; Luella Fisk, contralto; Margaret Mann, contralto; Earl Sauerwein, tenor; and Theodore Gast, baritone. Mildred Bisgrove was the organist.

DR. PAINE SPEAKS ON PSALM 29

On Tuesday, November 12, Dr. Paine gave a chapel talk on the twenty-ninth Psalm. He entitled the psalm *God's Glory in the Storm* and divided it into three sections. The first division, verses one and two, he called "Glory to God in the Highest." Here the psalmist calls upon men to fall on their faces and ascribe unto the Lord the glory and honor due Him. We must not only admit His power and authority, but also obey Him and worship Him in the beauty of holiness. In verses three to nine, "God Speaks in the Thunder," we watch the development of the storm, which, like that in the Wilhelm Tell Overture, has three phases — the calm, the storm, and calm again. "The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedars of Lebanon" — this is the height of the storm. The cedars of Lebanon were supposed to represent greatness and strength and they illustrate the power of the Lord to bring down the haughty. The last two verses Dr. Paine called "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men." "The Lord sitteth upon the flood" shows us that though all of us will be faced with calamity, if we have obeyed the injunction in the first two verses, we will receive the promises of the last two.

CAROLS SUNG IN CHAPEL

Directly in keeping with the Christmas season, the chapel of December 14, presented by the music department, is worth considerable mention. The usual opening hymn was led by Halward Homan, "Angels from the Realms of Glory." Phyllis Greenwood was at the piano. Following the song, Mildred Bisgrove read two verses from the ninth chapter of Isaiah, verses 6 and 7, and led in prayer. Frances Wightman gave an account of the history and development of the present-day carol, preceding the highlight of the program — interpretations of typical carols, sung by a mixed chorus. All the students, except freshmen, who are enrolled in the public school music course, made up the chorus, led by Doris Veazie. Singing a cappella, the group gave their version of these carols: "A Christmas Carol," "Rise Up, Oh Glorious Day," "The King," and "Deck the Halls With Boughs of Holly."

Carolers Spread Christmas Spirit

"Joy to the world the Lord is come!" echoed on the sharp air as carolers, in keeping with an annual custom, made their way from house to house on the last night before vacation. After listening to the exultant *Messiah*, students gathered in front of the Administration building where they were divided into two groups, and, headed by choristers and trumpeters, they set out in opposite directions to sing the familiar old Christmas songs to the townspeople. Outside of the President's home the two groups met, and led by the trumpets they caroled lustily for Dr. Paine and his family. From the President's carolers proceeded to Gaoyadeo hall where refreshments were served.

EXTENSION GROUP

The extension department sent a group to the Angelica County Home for its Sunday afternoon service on December 17. Burt Hall was the speaker, and special music was provided by a trio composed of Margaret Fox, Elizabeth Cheney, and Ada Stocker.

A male quartet represented the Methodist church in Bliss in the morning service. The quartet was made up of Carl Cummings, Richard Bennet, Frank Houser and William Work. The same group sang in the Baptist church in the evening.

Another quartet assisted at the evening service in the Wesleyan Methodist church at East Aurora. The singers were Lloyd Elliott, John Gabrielson, Mark Armstrong, and Michael Sheldon.

STUDENTS' PRAYER MEETING

Prof. Frank Wright was the leader of the students' prayer service December 12. Before prayer Mr. Wright said, "There is quite a difference between going to prayer service and having a prayer service," and he quoted some promises from the Word as a stimulus to faith. Later in a brief talk he reminded us of the importance of being "holy and unblameable before God." Do you feel within you a deep-seated desire which Christ alone can fulfill? For "Jesus, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered..."

MOSES HOUSE

Candles sparkling in the windows of the Moses' house informed the college campus walkers that something was going on inside. In fact, that something started early in the day when the boys cleaned up for Christmas party Friday, December 15.

The thirty-six present were well-entertained for two hours and a half. Hal Homan led the group in various games. Wilda Winters gave the reading, "The Night Before Christmas." The sequence was given by Wesley Nussey in the reading, "The Night After Christmas." Charles Foster challenged any girl to compete with him in ironing shirts. Marjorie Roberts took the challenge. Although popular acclaim made Miss Roberts the winner, the official judge Mr. Foster credit for having done the best job. It was at this point of the program Miss Moses was presented with a gift from the boys of the house and from others who had formerly roomed there.

Professor Robert Homan and his bachelor friends showed the lady guests just how to serve refreshments and in what quantities. At ten thirty the blinking candles said good-night to the guests, while Mr. Homan and his bachelor gang washed dishes as a penalty for not having a "date".

Sunday Services

SUNDAY MORNING

The topic of the Sunday morning sermon on Dec. 12, preached by the college pastor, Mr. Black, was "The Light of the World." "I am the Light of the world," said Jesus. "He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12). Christ, as the Light of the world, reveals to men the boundless love of God and the possibility of fellowship with our Creator both in this life and also beyond the grave. By His works, His teachings, His life, Jesus demonstrated what the Light can do by shining into the darkness of the human soul. Jesus said, "As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world." He also told His disciples, "Ye are the light of the world... let your light so shine..."

SPECIAL MISSIONARY PROGRAM BY Y. M. W. B.

In the Sunday evening service on December 17, a special missionary program was presented by the Y.M.W.B. of the church. In the first part of the service, the members of the junior Y.M.W.B. demonstrated some of the work learned in their Sunday afternoon meetings under the direction of Miss Josephine Rickard. Grouped around the pulpit and in the choir loft, standing in the dimness of artificial starlight, the children sang several Christmas carols. Following this they gave a short missionary demonstration and presented their Christmas offerings. Since this is the fiftieth anniversary of W. M. Foreign Mission Work, Mrs. Mary L. Clark, General Superintendent of the Y.M.W.B., showed slides of the work in Japan, India, and Africa, illustrating the progress of the missions since their beginning. Much has been accomplished; yet, there is more to be done. An offering was taken at the close of the program for the furthering of the mission cause. Miss Rickard had charge of the service.

W. Y. P. S.

"Can Christ be a disappointment?" asked Alan Gilmour in his talk at the W.Y.P.S. service December 17. Although a Messiah was expected by all classes of people, many people were disappointed in Christ. There were several reasons for this. The multitude looked for a king to come floating out of heaven in power and glory or they expected him at least to be born of royal parents. Some believed the Messiah would bring prosperity to the Jews and establish a great earthly kingdom. Most of all, however, Christ was considered a disappointment because He and his mission on earth were misunderstood. We should strive to make Christ understood in this generation and to tell others of the King who is yet to return.

Lester Paul led the singing for the opening of the meeting, after which Viola Koonce gave a Christmas reading.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Several members of the Bible school were present at a Christmas party at Podunque Monday night. It was given by the Podunque Sunday school at the home of Mr. William Mills. The children presented a Christmas program and the Bible school led in devotions and games.

The Podunque Sunday school is a project of the Bible school with Miss Havreth Owlett in charge. Mary Foster, Elma Brooks, Elton Seaman, George Kilpatrick and Emory Scott are the teachers.

Defeat isn't bitter if you don't swallow it.

—Reader's Digest

The Desire of All Nations

By Ruth Shea

"We wait for — someone!" It is Plato, voicing the inner cry of the whole world... Through cold and mud, in hunger and pain, a band of Crusaders follow King Richard to the Holy Land... In India, a man slowly measures his length on the ground again and again, ever nearing the holy Ganges... In the public square of a great city, little bunches of people cluster around this zealot and that enthusiastic, eagerly appraising what is being said... Early on Sunday morning, quiet crowds fill the cathedrals, kneeling, praying, departing...

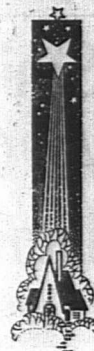
Within him, man finds a craving after something, someone. Human leaders satisfy for a time, but man's inner soul seeks someone greater than himself, a supernatural being, a god. Man must have someone to worship. Ever since the beginning, men have made gods for themselves; the Greeks had their Juno and Jupiter; the Mohammedans have their Allah; the Orientals have their Emperor of the Sun; Scratches-Face, the Crow Indian, has his "guardian spirit." But the world is still seeking. The desire of all nations is for the satisfaction of souls that will not be satisfied. Is not this a picture of the world: "And they shall pass through it, hardly bestead and hungry: and it shall come to pass, that, when they shall be hungry, they shall fret themselves, and curse their king and their God, and look upward. And they shall look unto the earth; and behold trouble and darkness, dimness of anguish; and they shall be driven to darkness." (Isa. 8:21-22).

In the book of Haggai, we find the prophecy of the coming of Someone: "Yet once, it is a little while... and I shall come..." (Hag 2:6,7) Someone! The Desire of all nations! Jesus!

"If the finest spirits of the human race should sit down and think out the kind of a God they would like to see in the universe, his moral and spiritual likeness would gradually form like unto the Son of Man.... We believe there are three great elemental needs of the East and West: an adequate goal for character; a free, full life; God. We believe that Jesus in a supreme way gives these three things." — E. Stanley Jones.

Again we have come to the Christmas Season. Is there one of us within whom the carols do not awaken the desire to worship and praise? The beautiful old Scripture verses of prophecy and fulfillment sing in our minds and hearts like a familiar, loved song. "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." One can't read that without a lilt in the voice. "The people that walked in darkness have seen a Great Light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the Light shined. Lo, this is our God... we will rejoice in His salvation." We have a right to rejoice! "Hallelujah! I have found Him Whom my soul so long had craved." The Desire of all nations, the Desire of my heart!

O nations, searching after God, "He satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness." O towns, "in thy dark streets shineth the Everlasting Light!" O seeking hearts, "Unto us is born a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord!"



Seniors Take Offensive As Court Contest Swings Into Second Round of Play

Tallish Tuthill and
Shortish Torrey Share
High-Scoring Honors

The senior annexed the first game of the second round, Friday evening, December 15, in Bedford gym, turning back the junior Redskins 29-24. The tilt was a hectic forty-minute tussle in which the teams shared the lead alternately. The sages, led by diminutive Bob Torrey with nine counters, consider the victory as a step toward overtaking the current series leaders, the sophomores.

Pete Tuthill, tallish junior forward, shared the scoring honors with Torrey, while Frankie Taylor, spectacled Sage center, followed with seven points, Bill Olcott, Cliffie Blauvelt, seniors, and Jim Evans, the Redskins captain, hung up five counters apiece.

The upperclassmen, performing before a good sized crowd, exhibited a fight to the finish contest. Despite many acrobatic scrambles for possession of the leather sphere, neither team lost a man via the foul route. All in all the struggle proved to be an ideal set-up for player and grandstander alike.

The high point of the tussle came in the final quarter, when the sages claimed a four-point lead over their adversary. At this point, with four minutes remaining, Bill Olcott and Cliffie Blauvelt rang up double-deckers to boost the senior lead to eight points. Hereafter Pete Tuthill's lift shot was the sole bucket to be scored, as the sages manifested the old truth that "the best offense is a good defense" by freezing the ball for the last few seconds.

BOX SCORE:

	FG	FT	T
Juniors			
Tuthill	3	3	9
McKinley	2	0	4
Marsh	1	1	3
Sackett	0	0	0
Evans	2	1	5
Prentice	1	1	3
Seniors			
Torrey	4	1	9
Olcott	2	1	5
Taylor	3	1	7
Mix	1	1	3
Blauvelt	2	1	5
Weaver	0	0	0

Cronk House Party

The Cronk Sextette held a gala Christmas party last Friday night, December 15. The Sextette—Misses Stanley, Shrader, Waterman, Lane, Daggett, and Vivian Anderson—entertained such notables as Miss Orlip, Miss Falkins, Messrs. Stockin, Bennett, Knapp, McCartney, McCarty, Scrimshaw, Stebbins, and Ceylon Snyder, a graduate of Cornell. Many games and a few (?) corny puns and jokes kept the party moving at a rapid pace. The group paired off to participate in a treasure hunt arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Cronk. After covering the town from end to end with a fine tooth comb, the couples returned to find themselves already defeated by Miss Falkins and Mr. Bennett. A very excited young lady, Miss Penelope Cronk, distributed the gifts. Tops, trucks, and various other novelties were received by the joyful members. One of the gifts was appropriately accompanied by this caption: "Everyone should have a rule by which to live. The intelligent thing, however, is to have a slide rule." The gift? A slide rule of course. Refreshments were served, by the abounding generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Cronk.

JUNIOR GIRLS BEAT SOPH WOMEN 12-9

Arlene Wright Star
Guard for Winners

The junior girls hung up their second scalp of the season Wednesday afternoon when they secured a 12-9 victory over the sophomore coeds in a waltz-time matinee contest. The second-year lassies had trouble finding the back-board during the first quarter; and the juniors ran up a lead of 6-0 on a middle-court strike by Richardson and a pair of net-splitters by Luther. The soph offensive clicked momentarily at the outset of the second period when Driscoll chucked in two field goals; but these were quickly matched as Fidinger accounted for a brace of double-deckers. At this point, the defenses took over the spotlight and neither team scored for the remainder of the half. The last half found the sophomores having a little better of the going, as they outpointed the Redwings, 5-2; but when the Ford horn ended the game, the score read 12-9 in favor of the juniors.

Special commendation should be given to Arlene Wright, Redwing guard, for holding Doris Driscoll, who has been premier point-getter of the series to date, down to four field goals. The sophomore sentries also set up a sterling defense though in vain. Driscoll led the orange attack with eight points, while Fidinger was tops for the juniors with six.

The percentages help to tell the story of the game. The sophomores made 8.7 per cent of their shots while the third-year forces found their mark on 18.4 per cent of their attempts.

Box score:

	FG	FT	T	Pct.
Juniors				
Fidinger	3	0	6	.200
Luther	2	0	4	.250
Richardson	1	0	2	.111
Smith	0	0	0	.000
Guards: Wright, Geer, Bell				
Sophomores				
Driscoll	4	0	8	.103
Lawrence	0	1	1	.125
Carlson	0	0	0	.000
Guards: Murch, Foster, Reynolds				

EXTENSION GROUP

The Extension department sent a group with Prof. F. H. Wright to the Methodist church of Sardinia, N. Y. on December 13, for the morning, afternoon, and evening services. Prof. Wright and Kenneth Wilson were the speakers and a male quartet composed of Charles Foster, Paul Miller, Stephen Orlip, and Henry Orlip sang in the services.

Another quartet assisted at the morning services in the United Brethren church of Obi, N. Y. These men were William Work, Frank Hauser, Carl Cummings, and Richard Bennett.

Floyd Sovereign was the speaker in the morning service of the Baptist church at Great Valley, N. Y. Theodore Bowditch led the congregational singing, and Margaret Clawson and Betty Ammons, accompanied by Luella Patterson, provided special music.

Betty Ammons and Margaret Clawson also sang in the Friday evening evangelistic service at the Wesleyan Methodist church of East Aurora.

He didn't carve his career—he chiseled it.

—Walter Winchell

'CHRISTMAS' THEME OF FORENSIC UNION

The regular monthly meeting of the Forensic union, held Monday evening, had as its theme "Christmas". The meeting was opened pleasantly by the singing of two numbers by the high school choir under the capable direction of Millie Schaner.

The Extempore, presented by Wesley France, was entitled "Is There a Santa Claus?" The impromptu, all of which were good, were given by Glenn Jones, Thelma Fuller and Tom Gardiner.

Emily Markham's essay, entitled "Christmas in Other Lands" was both enjoyable and enlightening. Parliamentary drill was humorous and although it sometimes became somewhat out of control, all in attendance received benefit. The chairman of the drill was John Smith.

Forensic humor, conducted by Alan McCartney, included jokes which were not only above the average, but also above heads of many in the audience. The Critique for the evening was Frank Taylor.

Social Science Club Has Big Spell-Down

The Social Science club, after its Monday night business meeting, had a spell-down on questions ranging from the amount of the President's salary to the states last to secede and first to reenter the Union—the one which caused Wesley France to be the last of the winning side to be "stumped." During the first round Miss Gillette was stopped with the question of the highest military position held in the army by Hitler. In spite of this, members of Miss Gillette's classes gave correct answers about the well-known movie star with a wooden leg and president buried in Grant's tomb. Remarkable answers, good and bad, were given by the opposition, with Douglas Shaffner the last to go down. Vice-president, Bob Torrey, capably conducted this quiz with the help of committee members, Frances Pierce and Mary Tiffany. Paul Stewart gave the news report for the month. The music for the program was Debussy's "Reverie," played by Ruth Richardson, and Adams' "O, Holy Night," sung by Laura Ferchen. Scripture was read by Mary Tiffany.

PUISSANT PUNDITS . . . (Continued from Page Two)

For a could-be is a may-be
With a chance of touching par.
I'd rather be a has-been
Than a might-have-been, by far,
For a might-have-been has never been,
But a has-been was an are.

To which we might add . . .

Oh, Houghton has its could-be's
But it's hard to find an are,
For the fems are all determined
That the could-be have a car.
I'd rather be a might-have-been
Then an are with lots of dash;
Though a might-have-been may lose
the girls,
The are has lost his cash.

Football, Olympics Flash on Screen Last Friday Eve.

RKO Sound Film
Includes Skating
And Dog-Sledding

A large crowd of Houghton's sport enthusiasts gathered in the chapel Friday evening to witness an unique sport treat. A program featuring several reels of sport films, brought here through the efforts of Coach McNeese and the Athletic Association, was presented for the entertainment of the athletic-minded fans.

The first reels pictured the Columbia-Cornell football game of 1934. The Columbia team of that year, featuring two All-American backs, Cliff Montgomery and Al Barbaras, were the 1935 (January 1) Rose Bowl champions. Long runs and exciting pass plays were only a part of the fast action portrayed in this film. Then too, by means of the slow-motion cuts, the audience was able to pick out the finer technique of blocking, the split-second timing, and other mechanics of the game that made the many deceptive plays successful.

The next series of reels were winter-sport films of the German Championships in 1935. Featuring the downhill ski-racing, these films picture many downhill drops and hair-raising turns which were executed with all the grace and apparent ease of the experts.

The final reel was an RKO sound short, a sport newsreel. The scene of action of this film was Canada's foremost wintersport palace at Lake Louise. Exploited in this picture were feats of several world-champion skiers; the world men's figure skating champion, Karl Schraeder; and several foremost figure skating artists among the women. In addition to these sport attractions, the film pictured the dog-sled champions of the North, and gave many interesting facts about dog-racing and the dogs themselves.

The football pictures were secured through the courtesy of Lou Little, Columbia coach; and the German wintersport films were obtained from the German Railways' office at New York City. The films were brought here and shown by Sid Miles, athletic director and coach at Wellsville high school.

Musical numbers between films were rendered by Ed Leschander and Paul Snyder. The proceeds from the program were for the benefit of the Athletic Association.

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before you can get the
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Best



Wishes

The Houghton College Press

BLEACHER



GOSSIP

By Al Russell

A sextet of senior girls have jumped into the lead in the women's basketball league. Although the frosh women are but one game behind, the general opinion seems to be that the feminine Sages with sharpshooters, Gerry Paine and Millie Schaner snapping the strings will continue to lead the "black sox" league. The frosh have a trio of victories against one defeat, the juniors have two wins and two losses, the high school has won one and lost three and a luckless soph outfit have no victories against three defeats. BUT, it's only the first round! . . . Sportiest crack of the year: Blackie was in the Star office musing over some old issues and came across his brother's picture. Asked if he knew the gentlemen, Ralph answered, "Nope, but he sure looks like he came from a blueblood family! . . . The football letters for the varsity men arrived last week and according to latest reports all were satisfied. . . . Another year almost gone and we see these headlines in the realm of sports. . . . The New York Yankees still wearing baseball's golden crown; Alice Marble and the Australian men's team supreme in the tennis field; Joe Louis making it a custom now as the boxing ruler, and Texas A. & M., according to news writers, the top ranking gridiron eleven. . . . Porridge for New Year's bowls will be plentiful, so while enjoying your vacation, we suggest that you tune in on a game if you have time to sup in the entertainment and you're through with your English note-book. . . . The ingredients will be something like this: Southern California over Tennessee in the Rose Bowl, Pasadena Calif.; Texas A. & M. over Tulane, in the Sugar Bowl, New Orleans; Missouri over Georgia Tech., in the Orange Bowl, Miami; Clemson over Boston college, in the Cotton Bowl, Dallas; Catholic university over Arizona State in the Sun Bowl, El Paso; New York All Stars over Miami High, in the Health Bowl, Miami. . . . Big pardon folks, Clark Griffith's proposal which we mentioned in last week's column was passed by only the National league and not by both on the major circuits as erroneously stated in last week's column—thanks Bill. . . . Those athletic movies shown Friday night went over with a bang! There could have been more out, however. . . . Houghton's latest sport, water polo, has been on the decline since Herr Hollenbach has stopped his five and tenor (from Puissant Pundits) vocal lessons. . . . The local town team composed some of the college students living in Houghton have been matching shots with other nearby village outfits. Using Fillmore as their home court, they have taken over Silver Springs and have lost a pair of tight games to Gainesville and Pike, the latter contest being an overtime "sudden death" game Sid Miles, of Wellsville, refereed Friday night's battle. . . . Well guess that's all for this year; however, "Wooze," Dave, Bill, Bob, and Al all wish you a very very merry Christmas!

PROF. WRIGHT SPEAKS

Professor Frank Wright spoke to a group of about one hundred young people at an Epworth League banquet on December the fifth. The banquet, a meeting of the western New York institute of the Epworth League, was held at Gainesville, N. Y.