

# The Houghton Star

VOLUME XII

HOUGHTON, NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 15, 1919

NUMBER 4

## ARMISTICE DAY CELEBRATED

### Campus Improved

Realizing that it would be impossible for us to study on Nov. 11, the Faculty decided to give us our usual Fall Arbor Day on that date. With joy we laid aside our books, (it was "exam" week too) and went to the tasks assigned to us. Digging ditch for water pipes, building a road from Prof. Luckey's house to the creek, and painting the tennis-court back stops kept the "lords of creation" out of mischief, while the girls occupied themselves with raking leaves, setting willows and helping in the kitchen and dining-room.

Promptly at noon Houghton's soldier boys filed into the dining room of the dorm, led by Lieut. La Vay Fancher. There were in all fourteen of the boys. Following them came the other boys and the Faculty. After the first tables had been served, a splendid program was given, consisting principally of speeches by the soldiers. Mr. Clinefelter who as a member of a Machine Gun Co. in the 78th division spent some time in France, gave a fine talk on the meaning of patriotism, touching on the point of faithfulness to God as well as to our country. The next of the boys to speak was Mr. Cecil Russell. We are proud to think that he was considered by at least one officer "the best runner who ever wore a uniform." He told us something of what constituted his work, but dwelt chiefly upon the customs of France. The last of the boys to speak was Mr. Fenno Densmore. He too, mentioned some very vital points on the subject of "Patriotism."

After dinner we arranged ourselves that a group picture might be taken, and then the "lords" went back to work, while about fifty starving girls sat down to dinner at 2:30. The remainder of the afternoon was spent by the ladies in any way they chose, and various indeed were their occupations.

As a fitting end to this day we all attended the Student's Prayer Meeting in

the evening, nor were the "dorm girls" forced to keep study hours afterward, "open dorm" being the rule. Upon the whole, it was one of the most delightful days we have had this year.

## HALLOWE'EN

The drenching rains of Oct. 31st failed to dampen the spirits of the jolly crowd of young folks who thronged Seminary halls on Hallowe'en night. Various interesting programs were arranged for the several rooms. To avoid crowding, the card system was used, which indicated to each person which period was to be spent in each room. At the close of each period the gong sounded and each room dismissed its company to receive a different one. Interesting costumes were worn by some participants. There was a good variety of amusing games. Pumpkins and apples were not lacking. At the close of the program, coffee and sandwiches, doughnuts, and delicious pumpkin pie were served.

It does us good at times to get away from the strain of hard study and relax under the influence of clear fun and pure amusement.

## NEWSPAPER MAN LECTURES

### Condemns Sensational Journalism

On Friday evening, Nov. 14, Mr. Albert L. Blair delivered his lecture on "The Whirl of the Newspaper Press." This second number on the lyceum course was well received. Mr. Blair was qualified to speak on the subject for he has spent 31 years under the roof of a newspaper building and has delivered this lecture 1441 times.

The most romantic alliance of history, the speaker announced, is now consummated between printer's ink and electricity. He went on to show how inventions have changed and will continue to revolutionize the printing business. From that cheese-box-like affair that Franklin first used, to the monstrous, electrically-propelled, modern press that

turns out nearly 1,000,000 newspapers in five hours, is a wide step, and yet, it is believed that the X-ray press now being developed will ultimately have a capacity equal to all the presses of New York City combined.

News-gathering has been expedited by electricity thru telephone, telegraph and wireless. In 1812 three months passed before England learned she had been crushingly defeated at New Orleans. In 1918 we were celebrating the signing of the armistice several hours before it was signed, Paris time and were reading the details in our favorite newspaper at eleven o'clock the hour the signing occurred. Such is the remarkable speed with which news can be collected and disseminated. A still better record will soon be possible as aeroplanes become mail carriers.

Mr. Blair has some pronounced views on newspaper policies and morals. "I want my newspaper," he said, "to give me not 'all the news that's fit to print' as the New York Times, but 'all the news'. It is the business of the news-press to uncover the world and we need plain-spoken Nathans to do it.

Too many papers are controlled by sinister corporations. Such subsidized, sold out news journals do not fight the people's battles, but those of social corruption and industrial greed.

The partisan press of the country is a nuisance. Hundreds of thousands of voters go to the polls yearly, influenced, but not informed.

Fake, sensational news with little foundation in fact, such as flooded the country during the war, is printed to sell papers and sell the public. There are two things Mr. Blair profoundly hates, the one is a horse trader, the other, a lying newspaper; but of the two the lying newspaper is the more abominable. He is hopeful, however, that the time will come when the people will demand plain truth, and will not touch a yellow journal unless it be to throw it into the fire. J. E. H.

## GLENN CARPENTER TELLS EXPERIENCE

Thank you for the invitation to contribute a few lines to the Star for Nov.

Continued on page 2



## THE HOUGHTON STAR

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## Editorial

NOVEMBER 11

There has been so much delay and trouble over the Peace Treaty and the constitution of the League of Nations that people are in a measure tiring of it. They prefer to look at definite facts rather than at something yet indefinite. For these reasons it is probable that Armistice Day will always mean more to Americans than any other day connected with the closing of the Great War. It is true, of course, that the real settlement has not yet taken place, but the day on which hostilities ceased will always be full of meaning to every true citizen of America. Nov. 11, 1918 will always be remembered with the thrill which came to our hearts when we knew that the brutal Huns were beaten, forced to run up the white flag of surrender. Great was the rejoicing all over our land, but with all our rejoicing, we did not forget to thank the One above all others who had made victory possible for us. And as the year has passed we have continued to thank Him, and to pray that the final settlement may be right and just, and may bring to the world a lasting peace.

## HOUGHTONS CONTRIBUTION

Houghton takes a just pride in the part her men have played in the war. Her service flag bears seventy-eight stars and three red triangles. Four of the stars are gold, representing William Russell and Harry Meeker, who died in camp during the epidemic, and Curtis Rogers and Edward Van Schaick who were killed in action. Clair Beverly and Earl Cookson were with the Y. M. C. A. in France, and David Scott was in Camp Dix.

Two of our men, Will and Glenn Carpenter served in France as Chaplains. Two others, Curtis Woodhead and Wilford Kaufman, have learned by hard experience what life is inside a German Prison Camp.

In practically every department of the army Houghton men have rendered effective service, both from a moral and from a military standpoint. May we acquit ourselves as faithfully in the conquests of peace as they in those of war.

## STUDENT OPINION

Nothing does more to kill interest in athletics than a disposition on the part of players to wrangle among themselves and to question the decisions of the referee. We, as spectators, have no patience with disputations on the floor. We come out to watch the game and we want it to be fast and clean. Let's leave the dish-rag out side the gymnasium. If there must be "chewing matches" let them be in private, and not a public nuisance.

Some are wondering whether we are to have the running track completed for use this winter. The long, cold days are coming on when we will be limited quite largely to indoor sports. A completed track would be a valuable supplement, increasing the capacity of the building and lending keener interest, through variety, to our athletics. May we hope, beloved Faculty, for further developments in the gymnasium?

Another addition that would add to the usability of the gymnasium is the installation of artificial lights. The only time the building is now used, outside of Physical Training periods, is 45 minutes at noon and one hour and 45 minutes before the supper hour. Everyone who needs and desires to use the gymnasium should have the opportunity. Yet scheduled games in which comparatively few can participate, claim the greater part of

this two and one-half hours. If the building was opened for one hour after supper many who lack the time or the opportunity earlier in the day could avail themselves of this period.

It is possible there are Houghton Seminary students who are members of the I. W. W.? How otherwise can we account for the fact that some of her able-bodied men were conspicuous by their absence on our fall Arbor Day; and that some others who "hung around" were too weak or too indolent to do any real work; and that others felt their bit was done as soon as they had surrounded the dinner the women had prepared. Let us remember that toil is honorable and is "one of the greatest blessings of mankind." If we don't have the spirit of honest and co-operative work, let's get it.

This Armistice Day issue, as will be observed, is undersized and very late. This is due chiefly to a "sympathetic" strike among our typesetters. Omitted material will appear later.

## GLENN CARPENTER TELLS EXPERIENCES

Continued from page 1.

15, 1919. It is difficult to get started on the subject of Chaplain's work or on my experiences at the Front, it will perhaps be more difficult to stop.

Leaving my home in Vicksburg, Michigan, in July 1918, I entered the Chaplain's Training Camp located near Louisville, Ky. Completing this course (which to me seemed a hard one) I received my first commission as a First Lieutenant and Chaplain. After a leave of a few days I was ordered to report back to the Chaplain's School and received my assignment as assistant instructor. This was a great disappointment to me as I very much desired to start for France at once. After remaining at the School for one term, I received orders to report at Hoboken, N. J., and the fore part of Oct. 1918 found me in France. My order read for me to report to the 29th Division. This outfit was called the Blue and Gray for the boys came from both sides of the Mason and Dixon line. At this time it was in the lines North of Verdun.

My experience would be very lengthy and not at all interesting to one not across, if written in the army terms;



First of all let me say the American Doughboy is the bravest and best the sun ever shone on. He is human and did wrong many times but I place him second to none who took part in the World War. I have seen him without food, without drink, no where to sleep except in the open field or perhaps under a tree; not one chance in a hundred of his seeing home again, yet never a word of complaint. Then I have seen him located in some of the best houses of the French towns with enough to eat and drink; allyou could hear was complaint on every side. Such is our American Doughboy.

Then to those who lost a boy at the front or some other one near and dear, it is perhaps fitting to say; that dear one died as only a brave boy can die. So many many times you would hear the boys say: Chaplain, tell the folks back home I was not afraid to go. Some were able to die without fear because of a well lived Christian life back home. One boy told me of an old man in his town who taught Sunday School for years, the results were not pleasing to this faithful man, but over there in France this boy confided to me. His life is ever before me as an example which leads to the Cross.

My space is nearly taken but before closing I will pay tribute to the boys who did not return, but sleep in fields of France. I doubt if you who read this can know all they passed through. True to their ideals they paid the last great price; may we be better for their sacrifice. It was pleasing to the Chaplain to have the boys say, "now Chaplain if Fritz gets me will you see I am buried and say a prayer over my grave." It made one feel the fellows had confidence in your religion and the sincerity of your effort to serve with and for them.

To-day as I sit in my pleasant study it seems almost like a dream. I would not exchange my experience for untold wealth, but I hope never to pass through another of like kind. On the first day of June, 1919 I received my discharge at Camp Mills, N. J. Glad to be out of the service, well I should say; my wife met me in Glen Falls, N. Y. at the home of my father, and we have been on speaking terms ever since.

Glenn E. Carpenter

### SERVICE FLAG

Capt. Leman Babbitt  
Instr. Naval Tr. Sta. Canton, O.  
Lieut. W. LaVay Fancher  
Aviation Corps. Professor in Houghton  
Lieut. Max Reed  
Signal Corps, Mass. Inst of Tech.  
Genesee, Pa.  
Lieut. Robert H. Presley  
Sig. Batt. A. E. F. Wagus, N. Y.  
Lieut. Robert Kaufman  
Camp Dix. Sunnysbrook, Alta. Can.

Lieut. Rennseler Johnson  
Inf. Camp Upton  
Instructor, Amherst, Ohio  
Lieut. Chas. Burgess  
Field Art. A. E. F. Pasiac, N. J.  
Sgt. Clare Dart  
Inf. A. E. F. Pontiac, Mich.  
Sgt. Carroll Daniels  
Sig. Batt., A. E. F. Moody Bible Ins. Chic.  
Corp. LeRoy Clow  
Sig. Corps A. E. F. Westfield, Pa.  
Corp. Clark A. Warburton  
Fd. Sig. Batt. A. E. F. Student in Cornell  
L. Corp. Will S. Lewis  
Reg. Can. Gen Hosp. B. E. F.  
E. Curtis Woodhead  
Inf. A. E. F. Rochester, N. Y.  
D. C. Morris  
Eng. A. E. F. 1240 Seneca St., Buffalo  
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Med. Dept. Columbus, Ohio  
Owen M. Walton  
Inf. Camp Sherman, Ohio  
William Gearheart  
Guard and Fire Co., Ft. Newark, N. J.  
Student in Houghton.  
Norris Luckey  
Inf. A. E. F. Houghton, N. Y.  
Burdette N. Wolfe  
Base Hospital, France.  
Houghton, N. Y.  
Warren K. Jones  
Cav. Ft. Brown, Texas  
Sheffield, Pa.  
Kenneth Babbitt  
Marine Guard, U. S. S.  
Ann Arbor, Mich.  
Harold Chaffee  
Inf. A. E. F. Rutland, Vt.  
Dale Calhoun  
Fd. Art., Camp Cody, New Mexico.  
Fenno Densmore  
Base Hospital, A. E. F.  
Student in Houghton.  
George Whitaker  
Inf. A. E. F. Marion, Ind.  
Cecil Russell  
Inf. A. E. F., 77th Div.  
Student in Houghton.  
Shirley Babbitt  
Inf. A. E. F. Lincoln, Neb. Sta. A.  
Leslie V. Lane  
Inf. A. E. F. Akron, O.  
Ami Cookson  
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William Davis  
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Harland J. Strahan  
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David A. Reese  
Hdgrs. Co., Fd. Art. Camp Shelley.  
Hattiesburg, Miss. In service, Florida.  
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Eng. Heavy Tank Motor Unit, A. E. F.  
Deceased.  
David Scott  
Y. M. C. A., Camp Dix. Bradford, Pa.  
Clair Beverly  
Y. M. C. A., France,  
Student, Columbia Univ.  
Ward Bowen  
Photo Dept. of Air Service, Ithaca, N. Y.  
Instructor, Cornell U.  
Charles B. Harris  
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Fd. Art. and Hosp. A. E. F.  
Houghton, N. Y.  
Nathan Capen  
Camp Devans, Ayer, Mass.  
Brandon, Vt.  
Frederick Overton.  
William Carpenter  
Chaplain, Army of Occupation  
Tin len, Mich.  
Walter Frost  
Lee Rogers  
Inf. A. E. F. Forksville, Pa.  
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Cleveland, O.  
Ira Bowen  
S. A. T. C., Oberlin, O.  
Student, Chicago Univ.  
Glenn Molyneaux



S. A. T. C., Oberlin, O.  
Student in Oberlin.

Everett Lapham  
S. A. T. C., Oberlin, O.  
Student in Houghton.

Harold Lee  
Inf. Camp Dix. Houghton, N. Y.

Earl Cookson  
Y. M. C. A. France. Hempstead, L. I.

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S. A. T. C. Oberlin, O.  
Watts Flats, N. Y.

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Inf. Camp Humphrey, Va. Deceased

William Russell  
Great Lakes Naval Tr. Sta. Deceased

Glenn Carpenter  
Chaplain, Argonne Forest Drive  
Dackerville, Mich

C. Floyd Hester  
69th Inf. Band, 10th Div.  
Camp Funston, Kan.

"Y" Secretary, Vladivostok, Siberia

Allers Coggin  
Medical Dept. Succasunna, N. J.

Edward Van Schaick  
Inf. A. E. F. Deceased

We regret the above is incomplete. 15 were in service whose names do not appear; also data is lacking for some others. If those who have information will send it at once it will be published in a later issue. (Ed.)

## ARMISTICE DAY

The day the Armistice between the Allied and Associated Powers as Party of the First Part and the German Republic as the Party of the Second Part was signed, my outfit, the 326th Field Signal Battalion, was stationed at Benoit-Vaux (pron. ben-wot-voe). Benoit-Vaux is a little village located 8 or 9 kilometers to the southwest of Souilly, then the Headquarters of the First American Army. As I remember it, Benoit-Vaux consisted chiefly of three things, muddy roads, muddy fields, and well just plain mud. It rained most of the time we were there. Of course there were a few houses and trees and ditches, but it was mostly mud.

The Seventh Corps of which the 326th Field Battalion was a part was moving from Remiremont, down near the Swiss border, to the town of Regret (pro. re-gray), about four kilome-

ters south of Verdun. There it was to relieve the 17th French Colonial Corps which then occupied that sector. While resting here after coming the first leg of the trip we made ourselves as comfortable as possible in some old French barracks in the woods on a hill overlooking the valley leading from Benoit-Vaux to Souilly. Incidentally we never made the second leg of that journey. The Armistice prevented.

Unlike some branches of the service, the Signal Corps can begin to function before it arrives at its place in the line. There are always telephone and telegraph wires to be strung and telephones and switchboards to be installed and repaired, messages to be sent and received, and, not the least important of all, news to be gathered from the surrounding atmosphere, as it were. This latter, among many other things falls to the lot of the Radio Company. Where we were, newspapers of any sort were imaginary, at least, as the square root of "minus one," so it is easy to realize the importance of the work of picking up the news by radio. The telegraph lines, of course, had too much business for news work.

For several days the official communiques transmitted by radio had indicated a rapid eastward movement of the battle lines on practically the entire Western Front so what I will tell you about was not such a shock to us as it otherwise would have been. One day shortly before November 11th one of our radio operators came running down to the officers' quarters with an exciting bit of news he had just copied. It was the first sincere peace overture from the German High Command. We had followed with ever increasing interest the reports of the abdication of the Kaiser followed closely by his cowardly flight and that of the Crown Prince, but there was something better than we had dared hope for quite so soon, as certain as it was to come eventually.

From this time on, the "air" was continually full of news "scoops" which would have gladdened the heart of the most inexperienced "cub" reporter and we were able to follow closely the development of the negotiations which rapidly led to the Armistice, or "Waffenstillstand" as the Boches persisted in calling it. First came the Allied reply granting the request for a parley and naming Spa as the place. A few hours later followed the German request that their plenipotentiaries be allowed to cross the lines at a place which they named and a description of the automobile which would bring them. Then came the Allied order prescribing the flags to be carried by the automobile and ordering all firing to cease at the proper time and place at the bridge where Allied officers would meet, blindfold, and conduct to the Allied rear the German plenipotentiaries.

During the next few hours the "air"

was filled principally with suspense, then, shortly, came a radiogram from Herr Erzberger, chief of the German Plenipotentiaries at Spa addressed to the German High Command saying that Captain Helldorf had been sent back to Germany as a messenger. Next heard was another radio from the same source and bearing the same address stating that Captain Helldorf had been unable to recross the lines due to the blowing up of a bridge but that he would proceed at once by airplane, would cross the lines at a certain point,\* at a height of 1000 meters, at a certain hour, and that the plane would carry a large white flag on each wing so that it might be identified readily.

Then, after a short period followed a series of excited inquiries from Erzberger to the German High Command requesting to know if Helldorf had arrived. After some delay there was talk of sending another messenger, fearing that Helldorf would not arrive in time. The time for the Armistice to go into effect was fast approaching (it had been signed by Erzberger) and it was necessary that the German High Command be provided with a copy in time to make the proper arrangements before the time named in the document.

But at last the German High Command announced that Helldorf had arrived and before many hours the terms of the proposed armistice became common knowledge. The political aspects of the affair I will not touch upon.

Now as to Armistice Day, I would I were able to tell you that the sun shone on Benoit-Vaux that day, or even that it was visible at the First Army headquarters, but it stayed hidden. But that did not hinder the world from seeming far brighter to the two million American boys then in the A. E. F. to say nothing of the odd hundreds of millions of other human beings vitally interested in the outcome of the Great Conflict.

The actual celebration of the event was very simple there where we were. It consisted principally of cheering of several thousand doughboys who wouldn't have to go into the trenches again.

At Souilly, an impromptu parade, one member of which was a French 155 cm Field piece bearing the label "Le Pere de Paix", some music by a regimental band, and an ovation to the Commanding General constituted the celebration. Airplanes circled overhead and the colored stars shot from their Very pistols livened up the scene a bit.

Though for days we had heard the incessant booming of the field-pieces all was quiet after the hour named in the armistice. A last little echo of the therefore in a brief manner I shall touch upon only one or two points.

\*Note - The writer regrets the loss of papers which would furnish names of these places.



Hostilities was intercepted by our radio station about 7 o'clock on the evening of the 11th. It was a would-be pathetic little note from the Commanding General of the 10th German Corps to the Commanding General of the 89th American Division stating that an American officer and 12 men, who evidently hadn't yet received notice of the Armistice, were trying to drive the Germans out of a little town near Stenay. I do not know what answer he got but I can imagine, if he got one at all.

I afterwards learned that this officer and these men knew of the Armistice but were tired of sleeping on the ground. They had decided to sleep in a real bed. They did.

Robert H. Presley.

The Houghton Star,  
Houghton, N. Y.

Dear Friends:

Since I left Houghton two years ago I have heard little of the school activities. Now that I am located for a time in this place I want to get in touch again.

You asked me for an account of my experiences in France. That I sent you last winter while in France but never learned whether or not you received it. To give my experience in a few words would be impossible but I will tell you a little of the things I saw at different places.

On April 6, 1918, I went abroad the Justica with Co. M. 308th Inf., 77th Division. The following morning we set sail for Liverpool, England. Two weeks from the day we went aboard ship we landed after an uneventful voyage. Two days later we were in Calais, France.

The divisions then went into intensive training under British instructors west of St. Omar and later just south of Arras. We left the latter section the first of June for the Vosges mountains where we took over a quiet section for about six weeks. In August we were thrown into the heavy fighting north of Chateau Thierry, on the Vesle River, near the town of Fismes. We had not been in long here when the Oise-Aisne offensive started. In this offensive the division made an advance of ten kilometers in the Aisne river. Those who did not know what was in those Vosges learned all they cared to in this offensive.

Sept. 26, found us the most western division in the great American army that

went thru the Argonne. It was our task to go thru the very heart of this forest from just north of St. Mennehoult to Grand Pre on the Aire River. We did it, and then after catching our breath, pushed forward again until the armistice found our front line just across the Meuse River between Mouzon and Sedan.

With best wishes for the paper and the school I am,

Very truly yours,  
S. C. Dart.

#### A MATTER OF HERALDRY

It was noticed on the night of Nov. 14 at the Lecture that the American Flag was incorrectly used in the Seminary Chapel. Undoubtedly this is merely an oversight, for we cannot imagine a patriotic American who does not know there are only two correct ways to display an American flag when it is used for purposes of decoration. It may be hung with the stripes horizontal and the field of stars at the upper left hand corner or it may be hung with the stripes vertical and the field of stars at the upper right hand corner. But it may not be draped by tying it at the center or at any other place. May we see it displayed correctly when we visit the chapel again?

An Ex-soldier

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**Allegany Lumber Co.****Fillmore,****N. Y.****Current News**

Fred Ward is spending some time at Seneca Falls, N. Y.

Mrs. Frank Lowe visited her aunt in Belfast several days recently.

Nora Mattoon entertained the Senior class at her home Friday Evening.

Mrs. Chas. Knox visited her parents on Cronk Hill Monday.

Mr. Will Francis and son of Olean were in town the first of the week shipping their goods South.

Elizabeth Thayer spent from Friday until Monday at F. Thompson's at Sonyea.

We are glad to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Clark and daughter Evangeline into our midst.

Alfred Bullock has been visiting in town.

Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Cronk have returned home after spending some time visiting relatives and friends here.

Chas. Leet altho past 79 years of age enjoys fishing and hunting, and brings in more game than many of his younger competitors.

Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt Thayer of Dakota are soon to begin house keeping in Susan Baker's house.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Bentley are located in the Post Office Building for the winter.

C. J. Thayer was in Cuba Tuesday.

Mr. Harold Balcom of Rushford, N. Y. has just registered with the Junior Prep. class. Mr. Balcom was with the Army of Occupation.

Misses Nellie Linebarger and Elvira Lawrence spent the week end at Miss Lawrence's home in Cattaraugus.

Miss Alice Hampe preached at Rushford Sunday morning, Nov. 9.

Miss Lillian Christman spent a recent week end at her home.

Misses Anna and Iva Rauch and Leah Benning were at their homes for the week end Nov. 7-9.

Money is being raised by subscription for the purchase of some new records for the victrola.

Stanley Lawrence held services at Rushford Sunday evening Nov. 9th.

Miss Marietta Fancher was in Rochester for an operation last week; her sister accompanied her.

Among our new students this year are seven who were in the service: Messrs. White, Balcom, Groff, Clinefelter, Ballinger, Presley, and Johnson.