

# THE HOUGHTON STAR

## ALUMNI EDITION

VOLUME XXIV

HOUGHTON COLLEGE, HOUGHTON, N. Y. JANUARY 8, 1932

NUMBER 12

### Purple - Gold Clash Tonight

#### First Game Promises Many Thrills

Everybody is going to Bedford Gym tonight to see some real basket ball. Why not forget your studies for an hour or two and join the surging, sighing, shouting throng. Remember it is Friday night and the weather 4 cast is "fair and warmer". We look for it to be really hot!

Now for some inside dope. Chet Driver, recently acquired from this institution to coach the Gold "Balloons", has put his squad through long and vigorous secret drills. His regulars have perfected many keen plays. Watch for their mighty aerial attack. The Gold are very fortunate in having four last season men on their squad, and with their strong reserve material they feel confident of victory.

At last the Purple have been able to secure the services of William Joslyn, as coach. "Bill" was formerly of Ebenezer High School. He isn't saying much, but there may be a lot behind his, "Nothin' to it". The Purple have a larger and stronger squad to choose from, having received this year many fine performers on the court. They lost only two of last year's regulars. With all this reserve material it looks good for the Purple too.

If gossip would decide the basket ball series, the Purple girls would have lost already, but an optimistic, fighting team will uphold the long established Purple record. The loss of Fiske and Stevens seems to have caused some lack of confidence, but good reserves are being trained to fill their positions. Congdon, "Vi" Ackerman, "Peg" Ackerman and Kissinger, forwards and guards from the championship Senior team; Minnis, sturdy Junior center; "Deets" Frank, a new and promising fighter; MacFarlane, Lisk, and Stoddard, guards of experience—all this squad promises a good fight with victory as the goal.

Led by Captain Harbeck and favored by the presence of six veterans from last year's squad, the Gold girls are looking forward to speedy victory on the coming Purple-Gold series. Let's go, Purple-Gold! On with the game!

—ALUMNI—

### Alumni Appreciate Musical Treats

On Friday evening, December 11 the alumni were privileged to listen to the presentation of the well known Christmas Oratorio—"The Coming of the King" by Dudley Buck. A chorus of 160 voices presented this oratorio. Much credit is due Prof. Alfred E. Kreckman, director of this choral organization, for the spirit manifested by all participants. The tonal shading and colorful effects produced, together with dynamic climaxes and beautiful pianissimos, made the rendition most pleasing. The soloists are to be congratulated upon the manner in which they presented their numbers. With this strong chorus of singers and soloists, and the keen cooperation of the two accompanists, Prof. Kreckman

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### Prof. Douglas Conducts Scientific Investigation

Although there is nothing incompatible between science and religion without their man made conjectures and artificial trimmings, one would scarcely expect to find a group of scientists as alumni in a church school as avowedly fundamental as Houghton College. Superficially this appears to be an anomaly, yet we cast aspersions on the church if we believe that it takes less clear thinking, less testing and weighing of material to be a good scientist than it takes to be a good clergyman. In casually checking up a list of alumni I find at least ten scientists who have made names for themselves in the fields of astronomy, chemistry, physics and research. Nine of these men graduated prior to 1919. Perhaps there are budding scientists among the recent graduates, but it takes time for a bud to become a flower. Give us, say ten more years and "Who's who in America" will have to add a few more pages to its now already ponderous volume. Appearing in order of their graduation are the following:

Dr. Leland J. Boardman, formerly Professor of Physics at Houghton, now doing research work at Caldwell, N. J. Class of 1909.

Dr. Theos J. Thompson, Professor of Chemistry, Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln, Neb. Mentioned in "American Men of Science". Class of 1912.

Dr. Paul Fall, Professor of Chemistry, Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio, Class of 1913.

Dr. Bethel J. Babbitt, Riverside, Illinois. Doing Research Work for Western Electric Corporation. Class of 1915.

Dr. Leo J. Raub, Louisville, Kentucky. Mentioned in "American Men of Science". Class of 1915.

Dr. Ralph Kaufman, University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky. Mentioned in "American Men of Science". Class of 1916.

Dr. Wilford Kaufman, East Orange, N. J. A prominent Scientist Class of 1916.

Dr. Ira Bowen, Pasadena, California, a prominent physicist and astronomer. "Starred" in "American Men of Science". Class of 1918.

Arnold Pitt, Toronto, Canada, a promising inventor and physicist Class of 1927.

These men are remarkably busy in their chosen fields, and if one wishes to find out anything of their very recent accomplishments one must catch them in the act and induce them to tell what it is all about, for they appear to have neither time nor inclination for self advertising, which in itself is a very admirable trait.

[This trait is especially marked in another noted Scientist, Prof. Raymond E. Douglas, now getting his Doctorate at Cornell University—Editor.]

—ALUMNI—

### Ho'tonites Again Embark

Mr. and Mrs. George Sprague sailed for the African mission field on Nov. 11. Mrs. Sprague was May Lord, Class of '06 of the Seminary. Mr. Sprague was in Houghton in 1914. This is Mrs. Sprague's fifth term on this field, and Mr. Sprague's fourth. They were married in 1920 some years after the death in Africa of Mr. Sprague's first wife, Mariam Churchill-Sprague, Class of '10 of the Seminary. They arrived in Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa, December 2, 1931.



Houghton's Most Noted Alumnus

### Homecoming is a Great Success

#### Alumni Return to Houghton from Near and Far

One of the most important and successful events of the year occurred on December 11, 12, and 13th, when a large number of Houghton alumni and old students returned to their Alma Mater to renew old friendships and discuss ways and means for advancing their college. The sight of "Hank" Henshaw's sleek racer slithering over the campus, the sound of "Dizzy" Densmore's potent voice breaking Houghton's calm, and the familiar inflections of the Stevenson brothers' vocal efforts, turned our thoughts to former days, and made a reality that elementary phrase—"Backward, turn backward O Time in thy flight, and make me a boy again just for tonight."

The familiar faces of Stanley Orner, John Wilcox, "Cash" Conner, Keith Farmer, Erma Anderson, Helen Black, Gladys Brown, "Squirt" Bain, and a score of others, made homecoming week-end a real treat—one that will never be forgotten. We missed some of the true "oldsters" such as Harry Kitterman, John Willer, Earl Tierney, Fenno Densmore, Erwin Enty, Edward Elliot, and others, but we realize that most of them were long distances away, and hope that they will be with us next year.

It was a treat to hear the new "A cappella Choir," during the chapel exercises Saturday morning, wasn't it brother mine? And how about it sister, what did you think of the peppy address given by our old friend, Royal Woodhead? Personally I sat with mouth wide open, and marveled at his eloquence. And did you go to Church on Sunday morning? Now did you? If so, you heard a message of truth very ably brought to us by Johnny Wilcox.

To the homecoming exercises some of the alumni brought new wives, some brought grey hairs, some of the men showed signs of too little exercise, but they all brought the good old Houghton spirit, which put the thing across. From the sight of "Squirt" Bain's ponderous self to "Hank" Henshaw and his girl friends, I enjoyed it all, and am mighty delighted that it turned out to be such a roaring success. Alumni don't miss it next year. Are you listenin'?—"Virg"

The basketball games were also interesting even if some of the players did show a little too much averdupois around the belt line. "Hank" Henshaw with his old time "shoe-lacing" stunt, "Baldy" Scott, the man whom married life doesn't seem to phase, "Skeets" Roth, with his greasy, smooth shots, and "Peter" Steese with his old-time vim, gave the crowd a thrill. The girls game too, was well played, and again showed the skill of coeds such as Erma Anderson, Alice Folger-Fisk, Eileen Loftis-Lane, and others.

But the big moment came when the dinner bell rang, and the alumni banquet got under way. To the tune of Theos Cronk's Melody Makers we dreamed dreams of former dormitory meals, smiled smiles at former acquaintances, and ate our blues away. After the meal, an old-time palaver was enjoyed at which time many interesting questions were discussed, such as, "What phase of the Institution should be extended next?", "Should we have a recreational lodge", etc. Many good ideas were gained for extending the work of the college.

—ALUMNI—

### Alumnus Airs Ancient Issue

Why should Houghton have inter-collegiate athletics? For several reasons, brother, several reasons. At the outset, however, allow me to say that I am fully in accord with the principles of Houghton College, and if inter-collegiate athletics will mar the spiritual atmosphere and character-building elements of Houghton, we do not want this kind of sport. Yet I am fully convinced that this need not be the case.

We want the best for Houghton and there are a score of alumni who would do their best to support an inter-collegiate sport program under competent management. The athletic department of Houghton should be the next to be broadened, and we suggest this method.

Why? 1. The Purple-Gold system of athletics in Houghton is breaking down, and we must have something to take its place. 2. The college spirit needs the tonic of inter-collegiate athletics to make student

(Continued on Page Four)

### What is Ho'ton's Next Advance?

This question which was proposed at the recent home-coming of the Houghton Chapter of the Alumni, is of vital importance. It is natural that each of the Alumni should be biased a little in his opinion by his interests in life. The question should not be what we would like to see developed next, but what phase of improvement is necessary to extend the permanent influence of the school.

Something can be said in favor of almost any suggestion, but we should not forget that Houghton's primary purpose is to be a Christian college. Therefore something ought to be done to strengthen, build and fortify her spiritual tone. This can be done only by putting emphasis upon that phase of her mission.

It is a long step between Houghton's Theological Department as it is now, and one endowed. But that is all the more reason why we should begin to build at this point. The Theological Department cannot grow unaided. Therefore let Houghton college install at least one full time Bible specialist and offer to give real Bible training, and students of a high spiritual tone will come instead of going elsewhere. Houghton College needs such a stimulant to save her from a drift toward worldliness. Her pupils need better Bible training. Dr. Charles Edward Jefferson in commenting upon the lack of Bible training in the colleges of our nation said, "In this way we have reared a nation whose ablest sons were allowed in the formative days of youth to think that a man can be truly educated though ignorant of the Scriptures." Our school ought to take warning from this and develop a Bible department for the sake of those who are to preach the Word, for the sake of the spiritual uplift to the institution, and to attract and hold those who desire such training. I Tim. 4:8

—R. W.

—ALUMNI—

### Pastor Pitt Sees Spiritual Mission

To educate is to augment the power of the educated for good or for evil. The evil become thereby more powerful for evil, the good more powerful for good. The reversal of this rule is impossible. It must be accepted, and the effort to promote good through education governed accordingly.

The accomplishment of future good in spiritual life and service through those to be educated demands as the corollary of their mental training that they shall be of spiritual character and utterly steadfast.

The attempt to bring this about can be made in either of two ways: by segregation of those only who are spiritual as students; or by permitting spiritual and unspiritual alike to share the benefits of education effort is made to secure the conversion of the unspiritual, their entire sanctification and establishment in the Christian life.

Both these methods have been tried. Neither has ever worked perfectly. The absolute accomplishment

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# THE HOUGHTON STAR

Published weekly during School year by Students of Houghton College.

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## Alumni Staff

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Royal Woodhead, '25	Religious Editor
Virgil Hussey, '28	News Editor
Raymond E. Douglas, Faculty	Scientific Editor
Wesley Gleason, '30	Music Editor
Erma E. Anderson, '29	Feature Editor

## A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

*A few days ago at our house we took down the old calendar. We thought we had grown rather tired of the familiar picture that had looked out at us for a twelve-months. We were sure we had noticed every possible thing about it. But when we came really to take it down, we noticed just a lot of interesting things that the artist had worked into it that had entirely escaped our notice. We almost wished we could hang it up again. But the new one had to take its place. This new picture surely is interesting. We cannot quite get the relationship of all its parts and in some things we simply cannot yet figure out what the artist meant. In the background are a number of quite indistinguishable figures. Are these angels of mercy or are they something quite different? How like the passing years it all is!*

*Anyway the STAR wishes for every one of you a year of great temporal and spiritual prosperity.*

## IS REVERENCE GOOD STATESMANSHIP?

We recently saw a picture of a section of the House of Representatives taken by Underwood & Underwood during the chaplain's opening prayer. Two things about this were of interest. First was the amount of ivory visible. If there is any point to that old joke about hair falling out when it goes down and strikes nothing, then it certainly has a dirty dig for this group of men. The other is the angle at which the light strikes those same bald heads—the number of men who have their heads bowed in some semblance of reverence, and those who are gawping around to see what is going on. Some way we would feel a good-deal more optimistic about the coming session if a lot more of those heads were down.

## THE ALUMNI EDITION

The present edition of the STAR is the result of an action at its last annual meeting of the Alumni Association looking toward the publication, sometime in the future, of an Alumni Magazine. We gratefully acknowledge the courtesy of the Star Staff in making it possible. It is presented to the Alumni who are not subscribers with the compliments

of the STAR Staff in the hope that you will become subscribers. Will you show our appreciation that way? Requests for this issue of the STAR from Alumni who have not received it will be appreciated.

If you find anything about this issue that you like, let us know. If you don't like it a bit, say so, as mildly as possible, please, then help to make the next one better. For we really do plan to issue one or two more such editions this year.

## HEIDELBURG CELEBRATES

Did you hear that unique New Year's Eve celebration by the students of old Heidelberg University just six hours before the New Year rolled in on Eastern Standard Time? Inasmuch as the broadcast was especially for the United States, it did seem as though they went out of their way a bit to call attention to the amount of drinking that was going on. Possibly it was just another case of examining the hole of the doughnut too closely to fall to wondering how far Germany's New Year's Eve drink bill would have gone toward paying that overdue reparations payment, which Germany declares her absolute inability to pay.

## Noted Baritone Soloist Coming Tues., Jan. 12

### Willard Hallman Is Former Member of the Westminster Choir

Next Wednesday evening, January 12, will occur the next number of our Lecture Course program. Mr. Willard Hallman, Minister of Music in the Tabernacle Methodist Church of Binghamton, is voice artist of the evening. Mr. Hallman, a bass-baritone, was a member for three years of the Westminster Choir and traveled extensively with that organization. His voice is of unusual range, having all the colors of a tenor and of a bass as well. He has a very well selected program of opera and oratorio numbers. His program is also varied with Russian, English, German, American songs, and the highest type of church solos.

Music students will certainly learn much in voice artistry from hearing Mr. Hallman, while everyone who enjoys listening to a smooth, well-trained voice will find a keen pleasure in next Tuesday evening's performance.

—ALUMNI—

## Houghton Audiences Hear Alumni Speak

Rev. Royal Woodhead, pastor of the Fillmore Wesleyan Methodist Church, spoke at the Alumni Chapel on Saturday, December 12.

Rev. John D. Wilcox preached in the Houghton Church morning and evening of Sunday, December 13. John is pastor of the First W. M. Church of Rochester, N. Y. His church is on the Long Pond Road just off the Spencerport Road.

Rev. Edward L. Elliott, President of the Lockport Conference and pastor at Levant, N. Y. conducted chapel on December 17.

—ALUMNI—

## "STAR" WELCOMES TINY SALLBERG

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Sallberg are the parents (proud, we presume) of a baby girl, Muriel Edna, born November 7. Mr. Sallberg, Class of '29 is teaching in Silver Creek, N. Y. high school. Mrs. Sallberg was Miss Edna Haynes, also of the Class of '29 (naturally).

—ALUMNI—

## CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. White, of Erie, Pa., parents of Charles L. White, Class of '26 celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on December 21. The four sons and the daughter, the third generation, and many friends were present. Charles is Principal at Albion, Pa.

—ALUMNI—

## THE BRAVES ASSEMBLE

Several Houghton grads were seen at the Syracuse Holiday conference of the Principals of New York State. Among them were Howard Bain, Gordon Allen, Ellsworth Brown, Joe Kemp, "Virg" Hussey, Arthur Bernhoft, and Francis Cort. We couldn't locate several who should have been around, such as Gerald Scott, Joe Horton, Max and Even Molyneux, and Seeley Austin.

We regret to learn of the death on January 5, at her home in Black Creek, N. Y., of Mrs. Lyon, the mother of Gladys Brown, class of '29.

## Houghton's Spiritual Mission (Continued from Page One)

of the object in the first method would seem to be impossible. On unworthy among twelve chosen was the proportion among the disciples of Jesus; and surely no effort of human segregation can hope for better results. Notwithstanding the utmost vigilance to the contrary there will always be some who will unworthily share the educational benefit.

The object of the latter method is no doubt just as truly impossible of complete realization. It must, like all human efforts, fall short of perfection. Nevertheless, as a way in the process of education there is much to be said in its favor.

A much broader scope is therein given to the activities of those who are Christians for the carrying out of the great commission in the winning of souls to Christ. The student body of mingled saved and unsaved is a great and fertile field for the carrying forward of real heart to heart evangelism. It furnishes in this great field to the Christian faculty, to the students who are saved, to the resident pastor and his church, as well as to the evangelist in his occasional ministry an unique and in many respects unequalled opportunity.

Houghton College is the result of the choice at her inception and throughout the successive years of her history of this larger and bolder method in Christian Education. To her choices made under God she owes her growth and also her present position of power and influence in her appointed field. For the sake of the accomplishment of her spiritual mission all her economies and details of service have their being; and in the successful prosecution of her spiritual mission lie all her hopes for success in the future.

No effort in the field of education could be fraught with greater difficulties; none could be more truly and greatly heroic; and surely none could be more worth while in successful consummation.

This Houghton College, as we are so often reminded by its President is "our" College; the College of its alumni and of its constituency to which we belong. We are challenged by the greatness of its being; by the courageous faith of its high endeavor. Surely no greater opportunity awaits our commitment of body and mind to its interests than is presented to us in the spiritual mission of our own Houghton College.

## Feature Editor Learns Life At First Hand

Feature articles donated to the STAR while we were in College seemed to require the unearthing of such vital data as astounding appellations found on the grotesque carvings of the desks, varieties of student likes and dislikes, faculty idiosyncrasies enumerated, commented upon, criticized, and generalizations upon every topic under the blue canopy of heaven.

The majority of Alumni being engaged in the great game of pounding knowledge into the pachydermatous craniums of to-day's young hopefuls, seldom need to delve deeply for "feature articles" of any form. The fact that the teacher learns much from the test papers still holds true, trite as the reiteration of the statement may be. Many a relaxing grin is forthcoming when correcting a set of papers. While studying—or at least reading—*Julius Caesar*, one chap stoutly maintained that Caesar was stabbed by the Ides of March and his last words were, "You two brutes!"

The psychological study of behavior sounded very well in the theoretical examples cited for our edification in Ed. Psyc. class; but in the actual working out, the study is doubly arresting. The innocently blank face after a note has been surreptitiously passed; the guilty chagrin when an open book is discovered on a knee during a test; the congratulatory gleam of the eye upon receiving an "A"; the conciliatory tone used to inform the instructor of a lesson unprepared;—all these remind us of how very Macbeth-like we used to be with our "open-book" faces, which we so fondly believed to be non-committal!

If a sweet face denotes the same quality of character, it surely is worthwhile to make our features with something besides cosmetics. Houghton Grads carry with them as a treasured memory the image of the devoted, earnest, beloved features of those who from time to time have gazed eruditely from the rostrum into the impressionable lives seated in the dear old chapel. May such features ever reign at Houghton on the Genesee!—E. E. A.

—ALUMNI—

There is a young lady in Freshman Bible just aching to ask Prof. Wright who killed the Dead Sea, it is understood. You're all wrong, Theresa, all wrong; that sea was dead when they first found it. Suicide probably.

East Aurora, N. Y.

Dear Alumna and Alumni,

The Star Staff is presenting to you this complimentary copy of the first Alumni Edition. The Star is offering you a special subscription rate one-half the year's rate, seventy-five cents, for all the remainder of the year. Since this brings to us one or two more Alumni numbers, does it not behoove us to mail the enclosed subscription blank to the Star Subscription Manager? Alumni, let's sign on the dotted line!

Yours for new subscriptions,

Frank O. Henshaw.

Alumni Business Manager.



## Is Houghton's Spirit Still Militant?

Something like this seems to be the question that sits a bit uneasily in the minds of some of the Alumni of an older (and better?) generation, as voiced by an Alumnus who mixed in to his share of things, alright, when he was in Houghton some umpty-steen or more years ago.

"Ye dear Alumni Editor: How dear to my heart are the scenes of those dear departed days when the halls of Houghton rang with the heavy firing in the front-line trenches of some of the major problems of national and international import. Never mind now about how 'dear' those days were, but, friend Editor, I am a bit concerned as to whether those days are really 'departed'. Then the STAR, even though only a faint glimmer of what it is now, just naturally reechoed some of that thunder. And do you know, it doesn't seem as though I've heard much of that of late. Now I haven't exactly retired to my chimney corner to content myself with my pipe and the antics of my great-grandchildren. There are several reasons for this. First, I have not any chimney corner. Second, I learned my lesson well back there in Houghton and I don't smoke. Third, I do not have even any grandchildren. But the really big reason is that I find myself right in the midst of such stupendous, challenging, world wide, life-consuming problems that it takes my best licks simply to keep up, to say nothing of furnishing a bit of the leadership that seems to be just naturally expected of me.

I think likely Houghton has outgrown the old Neosophic and Philomatheon 'literary societies.' Perhaps that's well enough. I now read much of 'Music Club', 'Expression Club', 'Pre-Medic Society', and 'Feder Plume'. That all sounds good to me. But I can't help wondering if the new order of things has left plenty of room for the development of that same, clear-visioned, yet militant leadership that is going to have to pilou us between Sylla and Charibdis if we don't crack up. Please don't tell anybody, Old Timer, but I've forgotten a lot that I was supposed to have learned back there. Why, just the other night my girl wanted me to help her find the Least Common Multiple and the Greater Common Divisor. I was astounded! I told her that you and I had hunted together for that same slippery pair one night away back there. I knew we didn't find them, but I supposed they had been run down long before this. I told her I had lost all trace of them. Then a little later, while I was listening to Amos 'n Andy, the boy began muttering something about cosines and tangents and secants. I knew he was looking in my direction, but I never let on for, would you believe it, those birds didn't start a single mental discharge. But I arise to remark that I haven't forgotten it all! When it comes to the

give-and-take of the solving of these mighty problems in the midst of which we find ourselves, friend, what Houghton did for me just isn't for sale! I have an honest concern as to whether you are exposing your young men and women of today to the same sort of thing, and if so, whether they are catching it.

I understand that a strong majority of your graduates now go into the teaching profession. That is natural and no doubt as it should be. But I have another concern about this and what I have been saying suggests it. There seems to be a widespread idea (false one, if you ask me) the teachers should be vaccinated against such diseases as I have been mentioning; that it is not too good for them to become too interested in the vexing problems of their communities, or to become at all militant about much of anything. I've seen a bit of life myself, in the last twenty years and more. I've seen a lot of teachers come and go. Such a lot of these have been perfectly content, where they've covered 'teen pages of the latest textbook by Seymour and Do less, to call it a day. Well, meebby so meebby so! But I still think, old friend, that Houghton has a marvelous opportunity and a bit of an obligation to send us a different sort.

Ladies and gentlemen, for the past half hour you have been listening to . . . (et cetera ad infinitum)." —ALUMNI—

### HO'TON REPRESENTED AT BUFFALO

Three delegates from the college attended the eleventh quadrennial convention of the Student Volunteer Movement, held in Buffalo, December 30 to January 3. Convention headquarters were the Statler Hotel

"Though the cross was given special emphasis, yet the Living Christ and His relation to the Modern World, constituted the real convention theme—one which offered a strong bond of fellowship between the numerous nationalities represented."—Gladys Taylor.

"The note of spirituality manifested by the speakers and desired by the delegates to such an extent that definite and practical ways of deepening spiritual life were discussed, made the deepest impression upon me." —Florence Park.

"When a group of 2200 students of every nationality and creed together with teachers, preachers, doctors, and leaders of various missionary enterprises come together to discuss mutual problems, one cannot help feeling that men are brothers after all with common interests and problems."—Kenneth Wright.

—ALUMNI—

### STAFF MEETING

The Star Staff Club has been seeking a name for itself. Its first suggestion, Phi Sigma, was referred back by the Faculty as suggestive of fraternities and sororities. Deep thought ensued. The new name is not only sophisticated and different: it has appeal. The Club hopes to announce it soon.

### Tony Midey

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### BEACH

Our community was deeply grieved over the sudden death on December 28 of our new neighbor, Mr. Harry Beach. Only a few weeks ago Mr Beach moved his family among us from his old home in Michigan. Two of the children, Dorothy and Gerald, are with us in the Seminary; two others, Norman and Richard, attend the District School; and little Leslie has not yet started school. We extend to Mrs. Beach and the children and to our old campus neighbors, Rev. D. O. Beach and family, our deepest sympathy.

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## How to Be Spiritual In College

It might interest the reader to know that the topic before us is an assigned one. Too, the party requesting this article included a word, which, because it begged the question. I am leaving out. You may draw your own conclusions concerning the word in question. I should like to proceed from the positive side which the present caption indicates as a possibility. One can be spiritual in college. It is quite possible to increase in spirituality while in college, if you attend the proper kind; and also, it is possible to become spiritual though you entered college in a non-spiritual condition.

To approach the subject properly we should arrive at a working definition of the term "spiritual" so that to proceed will clarify rather than confuse. Ideas are legion about spirituality. To some, a person is spiritual only when he is demonstrative. By another, it is found that one may be called spiritual when a super-sensitive disposition provokes weeping or kindred emotional states that may or may not be found among devout people. Again, the strict observance of stated times for private devotion, public service attendance, and rigid, puritanical observance of the Sabbath are criterions in the minds of others. We might go on at length and enumerate various standards of measurement which are used by sincere people to ascertain what genuine spirituality really is. Jesus established a standard of New Testament living when he said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind and Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." If upon this standard hangs all the law and the prophets, we cannot be far from His idea if we put such a standard into practical living and designate it "Spirituality". Let us think of spirituality then as "That form of conduct which emanates from a heart that loves the Lord and one's neighbor without reserve." I would have you see that "attitudes" not "acts" immediately becomes the criterion for spirituality. That form of conduct may undergo various measures of correction, and adjustment while the attitude remains pure and undefiled. So that though one may both see and do things differently he may be none the less or more spiritual since his attitude has remained the same. All of the grounds for growth in grace, and Christian development are herein given a place to carve and adjust the life fully yielded to Christ.

What is hard to see in that? And why should College life furnish a unique problem in conducting one's self by such a defined standard? I beg leave to offer a few reasons, and also what I believe to be some workable solutions for each.

Those of you who are in college, and those of you who have attended college know what I mean when I say that college life is different. It has no duplications elsewhere. You cannot ape the college student with success before you reach college; and the individual who attempts to carry over into our world of practicalities the life of his college days will never get to first base.

Enumerating some of the difficulties common to the college student I shall name (1) the pressure of time for routine college work that crowds out the time necessary to remain spiritual. Perhaps the word routine should have been left out. For, more than otherwise, the routine work will leave time. (I see the professors smile!) For, there is neither a short cut to spirituality by way of time any more than there is by way of com-

promise. You must take time to pray, and read your Bible in private devotion. Note the word take. I do not find time to pray, I have to take time to pray. So will you. And if communion with Christ is absolutely necessary to become spiritual it is no less essential in maintaining one's spirituality. If you cannot do this in your schedule you should revamp it immediately. A young lady, recently sanctified in my congregation commutes to her work at the office and must of necessity rise earlier than most college girls do. Her work is strenuous, and she is talented enough that outside activities take much of her time after working hours. When should she pray? She rises every morning at 5:30 and has a half hour with the Lord before she sees anyone. And she is both spiritual and influential. Look over your failures and see if the armour didn't get thin right here.

(2) Second, the change in associations, upon your entrance into college (as an under classman) caused you to break down in public testimony, and here is another test of spirituality. "Let George do it" crept into your attitude or spirit, and tho he may do it well, and in human measurements he may do it better, God does not excuse you, nor can you remain spiritual and fail here. Adjust your testimony to the pressure of time, be humble by all means, but give glory to your Lord. It will aid yourself and others.

(3) Another difficulty arises in one's associations. I wish that it could be said that all our holiness schools were made up of fully spirit-filled young people. But such is not the case, and we shall get no where by merely stating the case. The question is, with whom shall I turn for whatever social life I may indulge in? Do I plead for clannishness? By no means. Leaven may leaven the whole lump, but you are supposed to be salt. Don't let the devil fool you by thinking that you can take that group of carnal friends, and while with them change the crowd to your ideas and standards. You had better spend your time for social activities with someone who will not make it essential to "be on your guard" all the while. There are ample opportunities for personal evangelism with out devoting one's social life to the group you would like to win for the Lord.

In short, spirituality in college can be maintained by taking the general principles of prayer, Bible study, testimony, and selective associations, and applying them to the particular setting which college life furnishes. The principle is the same; its application is local. It takes grit to be spiritual anywhere. The weaklings drop out or rather back; and leave you with an open field to "Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of the truth."

C. W. MEREDITH, '27.

Pastor of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Holland, Mich.

### Musical Treats

(Continued from Page One)

brought to the community the true spirit of Christmas in song, which thrilled the soul of ever listener. Mr. Kreckman is an alumnus of the Music Department and Seminary of '27.

On Saturday morning, at the big Alumni Chapel exercises, the first appearance of the college "A Cappella Choir", an organization of forty voices under the able leadership of Prof. Wilfred C. Bain, was made. In their vestments of purple and white they made a very pleasing appearance. With true accuracy of pitch and voice-blending, they held the closest attention of their audience throughout their entire program. Each part was so truly balanced with all the others that the effect of organ tone was felt. Prof. Bain, having been a member of the world famous Westminster Choir, is using to good advantage his excellent training received

with that organization. The Houghton College "A Cappella Choir" is an outgrowth of the former Men's and Women's Glee Clubs. The choir anticipate an extended tour in the Spring. There is no doubt as to the manner in which their programs will be received. Such an organization as this, under such capable directorship as that of Prof. W. C. Bain, '29 is one of the strongest, if not the strongest, asset that Houghton College possesses.

Again, on Saturday evening, December 12th, a musical entertainment was afforded the alumni by another musical organization of the college the Houghton College Orchestra. This was under the baton of Prof. Alton M. Cronk, '30, director of Public School Music. This orchestra of thirty pieces, is the largest orchestra group Houghton has ever claimed. Their program was very well arranged, and the performance of the players was highly commendable. The works of such noted composers as Gounod, Haendel, Schubert, Mozart, Mendelssohn and Gui on were presented. Together with this orchestral group, was heard as soloist, Mr. Sorensen, violinist, who has charge of the violin department. As an added feature Mr. Theos Cronk, baritone soloist, was heard in an excellent rendition of "Honor and Arms" from Samson, accompanied by the full orchestra. The college and student-body should be proud to have Prof. Cronk as director of such a fine musical organization.

The alumni of Houghton College certainly appreciated these programs, and will be only too willing to help these organizations advance so that the Music Department of their Alma Mater will be unexcelled in quality.—"Wes".

[This alumni edition is not presenting the regular critical review of music programs. That review will appear next week.]

### ALUMNI Ancient Issue Aired (Continued from Page One)

fiery, enthusiastic workers for Houghton. 3. The athletic department needs controlled inter-collegiate athletics as a nucleus around which to build. 4. Students need the physical exercise of competitive games. 5. Inter-collegiate sport would bring a host of alumni to the support of the college who before had been merely interested spectators. 6. Inter-collegiate athletics would put Houghton on the map. 7. Inter-collegiate athletics would be of immense value to those graduates who are seeking teaching positions. One of the first questions asked a candidate is, "Can you coach athletics", or, "What experience in athletics have you had?" 8. It would bring many more students to Houghton.

But why keep on innumering the many reasons why Houghton should have inter-collegiate athletics? It is not obvious? Away with the worn-out theory that inter-collegiate athletics would injure spiritual life. Where is character and manhood? Away with the idea that this phase of sport would lead to financial and moral troubles! Away with the idea that Houghton cannot compete with other colleges! Away with the theory that inter-scholastic athletics are unchristian. Those of us who are in secondary schools now understand the worth of inter-scholastic athletics more than ever before.

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## My Responsibility to My Alma Mater

Responsibility is based on relationship and measured by ability and relative need. What then is my relation to my Alma Mater?

Self-made men are few. Most of us needed the incentive of the systematic study and mental awakening of college advantages in order to succeed in our life work. Hence our relation is one of gratitude and actual obligation to our Alma Mater. As Alumni of Houghton College we have received even more than the basis of mere material success, for Christian Education is education of the highest order. Christianity preceded and founded education. One hundred and thirteen out of one hundred and nineteen colleges each of the Mississippi were founded by the church. Theodore Roosevelt said that education without Christianity was dangerous. Houghton specializes in character. Who can estimate the benefits of their years in Houghton?

Our relationship goes even deeper than the College. Houghton is the product of Wesleyan Methodism. Willard J. Houghton, with his deep spiritual life, his vision, and his untiring zeal was the product of Wesleyan Methodism. Sacred tithes and offerings have supported Houghton and the wise counsel of our leaders have held Houghton to standards of spiritual life, which are her only reasons for existence. May Houghton never be without the safe counsel and control of the church. Houghton is our school and every Wesleyan is a stockholder. Shall we promote or hinder our own interests? Houghton has always welcomed students from without the church, and we believe that large portion of our alumni who have been thus welcomed are indebted to the Wesleyan Methodist

Church. Whether within or without the church we Alumni owe a debt to Our Alma Mater and the Church. How can we pay it?

What are Houghton's needs and what is our ability to supply them?

Houghton needs money. Tuition pays less than half of the actual cost of college maintenance, and the same generous contributions that paid the other half of our college debt are still necessary to balance the college ledger. A dollar contributed by an Alumnus is a dollar on his debt and at the same time a dollar advanced on the education of another. Who could make a better investment? Perhaps none are making greater financial contributions to Houghton than her own loyal sons and daughters throughout Wesleyan Methodism, many of whom are members of an underpaid ministry. It is only common justice that those in secular employment, who are cashing in on the high quality training received in Houghton, should rally to the support of their Alma Mater. One highly endowed college acquired most of its endowment from a loyal Alumnus whose superior training and ability in chemistry made him a millionaire.

Another need of Houghton is moral support. Let us be ever on the alert to speak a good word for Houghton or to turn a prospective student Houghtonward. But the greatest moral support we can give is lives that advertise Houghton's ideals. He whose life is below Houghton's standards is not Houghton's loyal son.

Houghton needs our prayers. A radical, orthodox holiness college is a continual storm center of the powers of darkness. Each new class with its numbers of unsaved students is a new demand for spiritual power. The Faculty and Board of Houghton need our continual prayers. Do they have them?

"Let us pray that we

All her sons be firm and loyal  
To eternity."

—O. Glenn McKinley.

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