

The Houghton Star.

VOLUME IX

HOUGHTON, NEW YORK, JULY 1, 1917

NUMBER 18

To Arms!

Spirit that wakened the valor of old
In heroes whose memory we cherish,
Tell us the tale as it never was told,
In anthems that never can perish;
How ringing from chariots of morning's
blue sky

Out-flinging her proud jubilation,
The universe echoed fair Liberty's cry—
A star-studded flag and a Nation!

Sing me a song of an empire
That holds the crown of the West,
That blends the rose of the twilight glow,
When the day has gone to rest,
With the blue of the summer heavens
And the snow-white gleam of the cloud,
As the gray mists weave in the valley
The woof of their mystical shroud.

Out of the grave of the ages,
Out of the dust of the years,
Out of the songs of the sages,
Out of their smiles and their tears,
Out of the dream of the star-world,
Out of the whirl of the sun,
Out of the gloom where afar-hurled
The nebulous vapors are spun,
Out of the near and the far world,
Out of the future begun—
Waken within me the fancies
That flash on the mind of a child,
Stir up again the romances
That spring from a heart undefiled.

Out of the roll of the thunder,
Battle-din, clangor and clash—
Humble and haughty hurled under
The thinking bayonets' flash;
Out of Mars' consternation,
Peal Triumph's chorus of glee,
Pulsate its reverberation
In an echo of Victory!

My Nation! The echo of drum-beats
And bugle calls thrill their appeal,
Incessant the march of ten millions,
The clanging and clashing of steel
Is heard at the gates where the watchman
Denied that the foeman could break
The charm of a siren-lured slumber—
But rise and thy sentinels wake!

Sword of the Hero awaken,
And strike from the forge of the soul
Of the present and past
A hope that shall last

While the years of the ages shall roll!
And sound thou the Trumpet of Freedom,
A blast so clarion shrill—
That empires shall shake,
And the arm of the despot be still.

To arms! O my glory-crowned nation!
To arms! O America mine!
To arms! For the universe calls thee
To champion the all that is thine.
Star-spangled Hope of the Ages,
Fly where proud armaments glance,
Fly where the Banner of Britain
Inspires the ensign of France!

Guard thou that flag, O my nation,
Answer its challenge unfurled,
Follow its folds to the forefront,
Freedom and faith of the world!
Fight thou the fight, my brave nation,
Lead thou Democracy's van!
Arm! For the universe calls thee—
Save thou the birthright of man!

R. S. C.
L. K. H.

Commencement Exercises

Class Night

Unmistakably the class of '17 was favored by the capricious dame Nature. Wednesday was an ideal June day, and Wednesday night smiled with the Seniors in their last frolic. For the Class Day program is the last fun the Seniors of Houghton have. On Commencement morning they are so weighted down by the solemnity of the occasion that fun is out of the question.

For Class Day the chapel was decorated in pink and green, the Senior colors. The platform was banked with evergreens and overhead was a beautiful arbor of pink and green. Senior banners were hung about the room. The Seniors introduced themselves with a lively color song, praising their colors pink and green.

Anna Houghton was the class historian. As an old, old woman she told us the history of the class. She read from a book which she had found hid away in the attic. The account had been written forty years before, in 1917. As she turned the time-worn pages, we looked far back into the past and learned many interesting incidents of the lives of the Seniors. Fred

Waiburton wrote that serious document, the last will and testament of the class of '17. Vivian Sanders wrote the class poem. Lawrence Spencer was the prophet of the class.

The "Weekly Serial" written by several members showed the "Spirit of Seventeen." We were taken with the Seniors across the sea to the battlefields of Europe, where all worked with a will to help the sufferers and to bring peace to the earth. There were good readings and music, and the program closed with a rousing class song.

Prep. Commencement

The Commencement exercises of Thursday morning were very good this year. Each of the seventeen members of the class delivered an oration. As they were being given we could not help but feel that they were the true expressions of the heart.

It would be worth while to tell something about each one of them, but that is impossible here. And it would be unfair to mention any to the exclusion of the others. The one main thought was that of service and helpfulness. All were full of the hope and vigor of youth. Houghton Seminary may well be proud of the students she sends forth from year to year. And surely she will not have cause to be disappointed in their future lives.

Final Chapel

The final chapel was held Thursday afternoon at four o'clock. The students had a chance to see what the Faculty could do at impromptu speaking. The men of the faculty gave us brief words of advice and farewell. But the unique feature was the fact that for once the women of the Faculty had a chance to "have their say." We wonder why they do not speak oftener, for even with so little practice, they almost excelled the men. We also heard a few words from some of the Alumni, Jesse Frazier, Ray Hazlett and Tremaine McDowell, who have been teaching in other schools during the past year. Mr. McDowell's talk set us to wondering if his chapel talks here next year would be in the same style as this one was. If so, he will surely be our matrimonial bureau.

Oratorical Contest

The June Oratorical Contest was held Thursday evening. It is the opinion of many that the contest this year was the best we have had in several years. There were five contestants and each one did well.

George Hubbard was the first speaker. His subject was "The Call to Service." Along with service in war there is also the greater call to service in social reform and religious work.

Mr. McKinley's subject was "The Mission of Wesleyan Methodism." Mr. McKinley has had much experience in public speaking, and this time he seemed to have complete mastery of his subject.

Glenn Molyneux was the next orator. His oration was "The Call of the Hour." The call of the hour to a young American is to serve his country, to bring a reign of democracy on the earth.

Miss Head's oration was "The Indictment of the Century." "Force and right rule the earth, force until right is ready." It was a plea for a world democracy and a federation of nations to insure peace. She showed us just what such a federation would be and what it would not be. The oration was a masterpiece. And it was delivered with all the fire and enthusiasm of one who entirely forgets himself in his subject.

Miss Hanford's oration, "A Twentieth Century Challenge," was a call for service in the vast mission fields of the world. We all felt that Miss Hanford's oration burned upon her heart.

The decision of the judges gave the first prize to Miss Head, the second to Mr. McKinley.

The music of the evening which deserves special mention was the original song by the girls' quartette, in which appropriate toasts were given to the different contestants.

L. J. C.

College Commencement

The class of 1917 in the College Department of Houghton Seminary was graduated on Friday, June 15. The members of the class, Mr. Nathan Capen and Mr. Clarence Barnett, gave a conclusive proof of their loyalty to the school by returning from their farm work in Vermont for the Commencement exercises. As one of them remarked, the farm seemed to be the dominant note wherever they went for the two left the stony hillsides of New England to graduate in a potato patch.

After the invocation by Professor McDowell of Miltonvale, the graduates

spoke briefly, Mr. Capan on "The Elimination of National Waste" and Mr. Barnett on "National Ideals." Mr. Barnett pointed out the character of our nation, developing thru the years under divine guidance and actuated by two ideals: religious liberty and political liberty. Today, amassing wealth seems to be our aim in all society but the pressure and stress of the hour demand a higher and nobler standard. Our Vermont farmer produced an impressive array of facts to prove immense wastefulness not only in the industries but in all national life. The fact that so much of this inefficiency is avoidable made the condition criminal even in times of peace. The annual Commencement address was delivered by Rev. I. A. Grise, an honored minister of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection and at one time president of the Allegany Conference. Sketching the epochs of history, he brought out the particular needs of the present age, especially as affecting the graduates of Wesleyan schools. His practical lessons and mature advice revealed the speaker's knowledge of practice as well as precept.

Alumni Dinner

President Luckey makes it a point to emphasize the family nature of the alumni dinner and the gathering of 1917 certainly justified his attitude. Everyone was in the best of humor and in a mood to enjoy the enthusiasm of the younger members of the family. The reunion actually began before the alumni reached the tables, for reminiscences began while the procession was forming by classes in the Seminary building. The Preparatory Class of 1911 furnished an amateur drum corps for the march to the dining hall where ninety-five were seated for dinner. The meal was punctuated with class yells and other expressions of healthy school spirit, particularly from '16 and '17 who utilized their special prerogatives as the babes of the Houghton family. In the speeches of the afternoon, Mr. Capan represented the college graduates and Mr. Wilcox, the Preparatory class. Rev. M. E. Warburton, the first graduating class of the school, and Mrs. A. D. Fero, '93, told of old times at Houghton. Mrs. Bowen's remarks on "What Houghton Should Do for the Student" were illustrated by references to what the school had actually accomplished for its students this last year. The pastor of the Houghton Church, Rev. Charles Sicard, emphasized the necessity of both the public school and the denominational institu-

tion. President McDowell made a plea for "Wesleyan schools that are different" and pointed out that indiscriminate popularity for our schools would be an indication of failure. Mr. Leonard Houghton, always welcome at the family gatherings, complimented the Seminary on the accomplishments of the year and reiterated his interest in the institution. At the annual meeting of the Alumni Association, Professor Fancher was re-elected President, Professor Ward Bowen elected Vice-President, Miss Lelia Coleman re-elected Secretary and Mr. John Wilcox elected Treasurer. Plans were made for keeping the Alumni more closely in touch with the school and for a mail campaign for funds to complete the new building.

President's Reception

The President's Reception at 8 P. M. gave the visitors an opportunity to meet the faculty and become acquainted with the student body. The delightfully friendly atmosphere of the alumni dinner continued thru the evening and as the country correspondent says, "an enjoyable time was had by all." The H. W. M. S. Orchestra played while refreshments were served and a brief program of vocal solos, readings and a violin duo was given. The reception was one of the most enjoyable occasions of Commencement week.

G. T. M.

The Indictment of the Century

Leona Kathryn Head

First Prize Oration

"Force and Right rule the earth, Force until Right is ready."

The civilized world today is a battlefield, a cataclysm of international hate and horror. War, the curse of the ages, the menace of enlightenment, has been indicted at the court of humanity and human progress and the verdict is "Guilty." Our own republic has drawn the sword against autocracy and militarism for the restoration of peace—and peace is inevitable, the olive branch will again be restored—but after peace comes, what? Something must be brought about to render another epoch of international slaughter impossible; in other words, we must have a Federation of Nations to Enforce Peace. This, in reality, is the most supreme issue of the hour; we must have it because it is altogether practical and possible, because it is the only efficient means of preventing war, because democracy and humanity demand it and because without it the

mission of Christianity on earth will fail.

It is altogether practical and possible. Let me bring before you the following proposition for an International Democracy. By the most accurate authorities it is agreed that such a plan must begin with the political organization of the world. There must be an international association for this purpose, and an agreement signed by every nation on earth willing to sign it. Every civilized country of the world has admitted that some such conciliatory measure must be adopted after the close of the present war. Germany has even agreed so, the power that might, at first, be considered the most formidable objection to such an idea.

Primarily we must have a legislative body consisting of a World Congress, representatives from each country of the Federation assembling to draw up an international constitution and laws, having for a basis, those already in existence. This constitution and these laws must be subject to ratification by the nations concerned.

The next evident essential is that upon the formation of such a Congress there must be an International Court with jurisdiction to decide upon controversies that can be settled by international law. However, there will come international questions and disputes which cannot be settled by courts and laws, wherefore the necessity of a Commission International to decide upon such questions according to the principles of equity. The function of such a commission shall be to compromise and arbitrate the dispute.

In addition to this there must be an Executive Department, International Police to enforce the decision of the court and the compromise of the commission. This Police Force must necessarily be an extremely important factor in the whole scheme. Let the nations of the world delegate their military and naval forces and all armaments to an international army to enforce peace, not only between nations but even extending its resources to each individual nation in case of internal trouble demanding the expediency of force. The potential power of such an international army would be tremendous.

We must wake to the issue that "force is an aid to moral impulse." Conditions go to prove that the earth has not yet attained that Utopian state of perfection whereby force can be absolutely dispensed with. We still must have policemen to enforce our local laws: is it not reasonable to agree that we must have Interna-

tional Police to enforce International Law? For instance, assume that all force to keep order in New York City were disposed of. How long would "peace" continue to exist there? It would be a typical case of Civil War between man and man; riot would ensue. That is exactly what the world has been doing, only on a larger scale. "The present war is only the natural outcome of the kind of peace we possessed." And see the result! Civilization is Havoc, Europe is bled white, Mars is celebrating his horrible jubilee!

Furthermore in the plan for a Federation of Nations still another safeguard must be taken. Suppose a Nation, being a member of this league, shall suddenly be impetuous and begin hostilities against another nation before the controversy has been submitted to either court or commission. Every other member of the League shall stand ready to protect the nation on the defensive, by finance and moral suasion and, if necessary, military force. Hence this International Union is the world politically organized, backed by a strong, central, federated government, legislative, judicial and executive.

But there are several things that a World Federation, in order to be practical as well as possible, is not. It is not a rash, uninvestigated, modern idea. Seers of the Bible looked forward to such a goal for the world. On down the ages the idea has been cherished by poet, prophet and patriot—Luther, Gladstone, Tennyson—it was openly advocated by James Wilson of the Keystone state in Revolutionary days. At present, James Bryce, Andrew Carnegie, President Wilson and Ex-President Taft are among its staunch supporters. The plan, as I have outlined for such a Federation, is advocated by the Association for International Conciliation, the largest peace organization in the world.

A World Federation is not a mere League of Nations, each depending on the others' good will and promises to keep peace. Such a state of affairs existed at the beginning of the present War. It was about as effective as a feather in the way of a machine gun. We cannot risk destinies in the hands of presumptions. We must have a World Democracy, each member of which co-operates with the others to enforce peace and punish the offender.

Such a Federation of Nations we must have, I argue, because it is the only efficient means of preventing War. How could the spirit of Militarism in nations exist when their War forces are resigned

to an International Army? What would they have left to fight with? Inevitably peace would be permanent. There is no reasonable excuse why the excellent relations established between England and the United States cannot come to pass between all nations of the earth.

There must be a World Federation to Enforce Peace because democracy, humanity, and the welfare of human progress demand it. Peace when liberty is at stake is not peace but subserviency. "There can be no enduring peace on earth until absolutism is destroyed." The Hohenzollerns are doomed as were Russia's Romanoffs and Hapsburgs. Democracy must win and with its triumph righteous peace shall come. But how long can peace last with the world divided into two hostile factions, each a believer in extreme preparedness, each armed to the teeth and anxious to return vengeance? Can civilization afford to run the risk of another world war like the present one? The price is too fearful. Can the United States of America afford to throw billions into the fight for democracy, and after the goal is won, carelessly jeopardize that democracy and peace by refusing to lead the world in proposing an international federation, sure and binding, a guarantee such as the Hague Tribunal has never been able to execute? Until this comes to pass, Democracy can never reach its ideal.

Without this means of executing peace the mission of Christianity on earth will fail. War is an arch enemy of the precept and teachings of Christ's love, goodwill and service. How can the gospel be preached to all nations, how can the Christian Church fulfill its mission to mankind as long as international conflict continues to work hate and destruction? If these are Christians, whose ambition is to murder and devastate and domineer, is there any such thing as a heathen? Without a guarantee to insure peace, Christianity is imperiled and challenged.

The starving children of Belgium holding out their baby hands to you and me, the widowed womanhood of France, yes, the slaughtered thousands of Germany—mangled soldiers who are dying alone now—the Danube that rushes red with human blood, yes the seething hell of all Europe echo the indictment and ring the challenge: "We must have a world democracy to enforce peace." It must come as a safeguard against the recurrence of another European War. It must come because the present awful struggle will have been in vain if it does not come,

and this present conflict Democracy must win as sure as there is a God of Justice and an American flag to wave liberty where tyranny has reigned. Never shall Kaiserism triumph as long as you possess a life and I possess a life to throw in the breach between that flag and its foes.

America, in the name of Christianity, in the name of mankind, in the name of God above, fight the fight for democracy and peace and save that peace from Mars! But I catch a glimpse of a not far distant day-dawn, when the "world shall under God have a new birth of freedom and the government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth"—universal democracy, universal freedom, universal peace. "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more," for the Indictment of the Century and the challenge of the Ages has been championed by international arbitration and peace at last is Victory.

Editorial

Answering the Challenge

What challenge? The greatest one of history in the greatest crisis of history—the intense now. You and I and everything we hold dearer than life is challenged—the freedom of civilization, the soul of democracy! And it is because the demon hand of Wrong has vowed vengeance on Right, because across the broad, briny Atlantic in a throne built on the prestige of the "divine right of kings" sits an Emperor who has written "Deutschland" over the map of the world and would have "Me und Gott" dictator of it all.

The challenge? It is because the Hohenzollern would rob us of our liberty, crush our government, tear our dear ones from us and throw them into a militaristic machine to be slain fighting for autocracy! That is the challenge. And Columbia's patriotism has come to the rescue. One with the Allies we shall face the despot. America again fights for freedom, not for herself alone, but for the universe. Once more cannon shall speak, shrapnel shall answer shrapnel and bayonets shall think!

The student body of Houghton Seminary would answer Uncle Sam that we are ready to fly to the standard. That is why the campus has been plowed and planted and prospects for a great potato crop are fine. That is why we loyally sent our young men to the ranks of soil

tillers, that is why we are ready for whatever else the call may mean. Wherever our nation can use us best we are glad to be. Our boys are ready to follow the folds of the flag. And likewise our girls are ready for the expediency of answering the challenge wherever Duty calls us, whether in school, business life, the kitchen or the fields—perhaps it may mean the Red Cross. We are even ready to make the supreme sacrifice if it means saying "Good-bye" to Daddy, brothers or schoolmates. To give our own lives for our nation we are willing—for the fight of U. S. A. is our own.

The challenge is being answered. Our ensign of Freedom shall—

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Loud rings the Nation's cry—
Union and Liberty, one evermore!"

And by the splendor of national might, by the loyalty of Columbia's men and women, by implicit trust in Jehovah whose "truth is marching on," the Right shall triumph. L. K. H.

Our July 1 Star comes somewhat synonymous to the proverbial "fifth wheel of a wagon." It is the eighteenth issue, however, and in spite of the fact that it comes last, may not be the least significant. Have you enjoyed your Star during the past nine months? Do you like to have it come twice a month, fresh and breezy in newspaper form, or do you prefer it "the old way?" One of the aims of the Star is to please its readers. Tell us how you like it and in what form you would

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JOHN W. NUGENT, Registrar.

rather have it come. The attitude of our readers in this regard will largely determine the status of our paper next year.

This number is largely a report of Commencement week. School has ended and the greater part of our students have left for their various homes. School will open again, of course, in September and we are expecting an excellent enrollment.

Perhaps our readers, particularly those who have been connected with the staff in the past, would be interested to know a little about the success of the financial and business management of our school paper during the present school year. Happily, almost jubilantly, we are able to report that the feat was achieved. By this we mean that "both ends meet" from a financial standpoint. Proceeds have met expenses—and were it not for some very loyal School Spirit back of the work, we would not be able to report it so.

School spirit? Yes. The manager of the editing of this issue is about to tell you something. You could scarcely guess what, because very few people, either in Houghton or elsewhere, have ever stopped to think about it. The persons whom it directly concerns do not even know what is going to be said. In fact one objected so strenuously to the idea that he said he'd refuse to set type for it! He doesn't want you to know, but just read on!

Do you know how much Clark Warburton with the efficient assistance of Fred has done for the Star this year? Of course you don't know. It is a fact that had it not been for these two hustling young men, the Star would be unable to report

"out of debt" for the present year's expenses. In reality, had it not been for the "Warburtons," and their gratis donated work, the Star would be "out" at least \$150 (or else you would have received a paper worth that much less). These boys have worked on our paper, its type-

setting, planning and printing—worked on it, we say, faithfully and earnestly—often while the rest of us were sleeping. It has meant the kind of work that spells School Spirit. Let's give Clark and Fred a cheer and a vote of thanks. They deserve it!

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Locals

Commencement has ended and another school year gone into the yesterdays. The exercises were splendidly attended. Among those who were Houghton's guests during Commencement were: Mr. Robert Presley, Mr. Jesse Frazier, Rev. and Mrs. M. E. Warburton, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Barnett and family, Rev. and Mrs. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Hanford, Miss Lois Kent, Miss Ethelyn Stebbins, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders, Miss Nellie Irvine, Mrs. Horner, Mr. Armstrong, Rev. Samuel Smith, Rev. Ira Grise and Mr. D. L. Presley.

H. W. McDowell, President of Miltonvale Wesleyan College, was here a few days during Commencement. It was a pleasure to see your smiling face with us again, Professor.

H. C. Bedford of Central, S. C., was with us Sunday night and preached one of his stirring sermons.

Clare Dart and Ray Hazlitt are back home. Mr. Dart graduated from Oberlin College this month. Professor Hazlitt has been teaching in a High School near Oberlin.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Tremaine McDowell have taken their abode in Houghton on Seminary Hill.

The Misses Bryner, Bolles and Butterfield, who could not complete the school year with us, returned for Commencement.

Harold Lee, Robert Chamberlain and Earl Barrett, who left school for agricultural work, we were glad to welcome back during their short stay.

Miss Francis Woods has returned from Oberlin. She was the guest of Grayce Steese Sunday.

Mr. Leonard J. Houghton and family were in Houghton a part of Commencement week.

G. L. S.

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