

# The HOUGHTON STAR

Volume XXXII

Houghton, New York, Thursday, February 15, 1940

Number 17

## EDITORIAL

### Our Cultured Christianity

When Andrew Gih spoke in chapel not long ago, he made a statement that possibly characterizes the Christians of Christian America and the Christians of heathen China. He said, "When women in America go to church, they take their vanity cases. When women in China go to church, they take their Bibles."

This is a sharp accusation from one who a few years before had been a follower of Confucius about a nation that from its inception has been Christian. In spite of this, we cannot pass over this accusation lightly, since it was made by one who is a leading Christian, though Chinese.

It naturally raises the question, "Is the Church of America losing its vitality, or are we just more highly cultured?"

For nearly two centuries we have enjoyed the benefits of Christianity. The Church has given us our great universities, our hospitals and our indomitable faith. No nation has had advanced as far in two short centuries as the United States.

The churches of America have not been slow in missionary enterprise. While other nations spent money in war, America gave liberally to the missionary cause. Not only had we faith, but our faith has been attended by works. Our faith and our works have combined to produce better social and cultural circumstances. In spite of a ten year depression, we are yet one of the wealthiest nations in the world. We may be pictured as a well-fed business man who views his condition with an air of self-satisfaction, who smugly says, "I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing." But he fails to realize that he is "wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind and naked."

In answering Mr. Gih's statement, should we conclude that the American Church is devitalized or merely adding to its once rugged countenance a few dabs of cultured veneer?

Our Christianity needs a revitalization!

— W. B. N.

## Music Notes

Two weeks ago, when we published a little heresy in defense of popular music, we promised to give the other side a chance to go to bat. Hal Homan has done just that. From now on it's up to you. We have presented both sides; you must make the decision for yourself.

By Hal Homan

Music is a universal possession. This is an important thing to remember, but it is also important to remember that music whether it be an exulting, triumphant theme from the great symphonies of Beethoven or the smooth, swinging tune of a modern composer played by a good band. From the magnificent music dramas of Wagner to the simple European folk tunes it can plainly be seen that music is for the enjoyment of the people. Music that does not bring this enjoyment has failed in its aim.

It must also be remembered, however, that personal tastes differ. In any field, people have preferences as to what they enjoy most and the music field is no exception to this rule. Some people enjoy the great music from the past—the Bach fugues, the symphonies of Beethoven

and Brahms, the operas of Verdi and Wagner and the songs of such composers as Schubert and Schumann; while still others prefer the music of today—the sophisticated swing of a Benny Goodman and a Tommy Dorsey, or the hot jazz of a Cab Calloway and a Duke Ellington. All of this music, however, is for the enjoyment of the people who listen.

The ones who follow the works of the great masters are often called musical "highbrows," but they are not. Their appreciation merely lies in a different part of the same field. Remember, however, that it is the music of these masters that has lasted and even the composers of today borrow melodies from these masters for some of the successful popular songs (*Moon Love*, for example). The music of Bach has come up to us through two hundred years and today is more popular than ever, while the average life of a popular song of today does not exceed one year.

Many of the great composers were innovators and, because of that, were not popular in their own day. The popular music of today is also comparatively new and who is to say that there may not an exponent arise who will really make something lasting out of this style? Some composers have already established themselves in the ranks of the musical great. George Gershwin's jazz opera, (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

## Marine Life, Theme of Next Lecture

### Movies, Slides to Be Seen Monday

Constance and Wesley Mueller will present an unusual lecture entitled "Blue Green Water" in the college chapel on Monday evening, February 19, at 8:15 p. m. They use colored motion pictures and slides in describing the bird, shore, and under-sea life in the Florida Keys. This is part of the regular lecture series of the College.

The work of the Muellers is highly recommended by Dr. William Beebe. He said in part that he was surprised "by the clarity and accuracy of color" of the pictures. He further stated that "their presentation gives a very vivid and true idea of the wild life in the regions where they carry on their work." Florida flowers, birds, fishes, sponges, mollusks are combined with charming river and shore view; that are not only extremely interesting but are often thrilling. The shots of crabs and mollusks are particularly good, while their submarine scenes with sponges, corals, fishes and many other forms are excellent.

Mrs. Mueller is a graduate with honors from Sargent School of Boston University. She has been a teacher, an organizer of physical education, a student of chemistry, mathematics, industrial work. She has become a photographer, a skilled pilot through uncharted and treacherous coral reefs, and an efficient house wife. Mr. Mueller is an industrial engineer, having graduated (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

## Pre-Med Club Has Monthly Meeting

### Question Bee Is Program Theme

The Pre-Medic Club met on Monday evening Feb. 5. After the usual preliminaries of roll-call and reading of the minutes, the club discussed the business of the evening. It was decided that the club will hold its next meeting on the last Monday in April, for the election of officers. This irregularity in schedule is due to the fact that the regularly appointed times will be interfered with by the Artist Series Concert and the Lecture Course programs. The other business of the meeting was the appointment of a nominating committee consisting of Thelma Van Houtte, John Will, Dan Engle, acting president.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to an amusing "Professor Quiz" contest. The club as a whole participated instead of just a chosen few. The house was divided into two groups who were ably supported by two faculty members, Miss Burnett and Dr. Douglas. The secretary-treasurer, Georgia McGowan acted in the capacity of Professor Quiz while Dot Paulson was "gonger" and Art Meneeley, time-keeper. At the conclusion of the contest Warren Husted and Leslie Van Hohen were the victors, both standing on the same side. Professor Quiz decided that since she ran out of questions it might be wise to divide the prize, a pack of Houghton stationery, between them. And they did!

## Rev. Armstrong Conducts Evangelistic Services Here



Evangelist and Song Leader

## Hoyer Speaks to German Students

### Discusses Early Life in Germany

The regular monthly meeting of the German Club, held Monday night, February 5, was opened with prayer by Myra Fuller. After the minutes of the former meeting had been read and approved, new business was discussed, under the direction of the club's president, Ernest Hollenbach. Robert Hollenbach was accepted as a new member. Laura Ferchen then took over the meeting, introducing the musical element, presented by Wilda Winters. Miss Winters gave a sketch of the life of Ludwig von Beethoven, by way of background for her piano solo, "The Heavens Resound", which she explained was typical both of Beethoven's work and of German music as a whole. Following this, Mr. Hoyer, the master tailor of our community, who puts the neat creases in the boys' trousers, was presented to the club.

Mr. Hoyer's genial personality delighted his listeners. He began with vivid descriptions of school life in Germany, drawing from events in his own life, for he is a native German, and was a citizen there for 17 years. We learned that elementary school is conducted primarily the same in Germany as here, with the exception that the "classes" are numbered conversely to ours, the seventh corresponding with our first, and so on. Wednesday and Saturday afternoons are "recesses" and only four weeks in the summer are allowed for vacation. At the age of fifteen, the youth was taken from school for his confirmation, regardless of his intellectual rating.

After his confirmation, the young man must decide whether he will take up farm work or learn a trade. (The girls must learn a trade also—only in the home.) If he decides on a trade, as Mr. Hoyer did, he will go to live with his boss' family, receiving his room and board, for about three years. The tips which he receives (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

Humility is often an artifice of pride which stoops in order to rise. — La Rochefoucauld

### Substitutes for Rev. Anderson

The February revival services were opened Tuesday February 6, by the Rev. Mr. Armstrong. Rev. Mr. Anderson was to have been the evangelist and Rev. Mr. Armstrong the song leader; however, due to the illness of Mr. Anderson it became necessary for Mr. Armstrong to assume both responsibilities, which he has capably done.

The opening services were well attended by student, faculty, and townspeople. Mr. Armstrong's forceful and pleasing manner has sustained student interest. The necessity of relying upon the Holy Spirit has been emphasized by our evangelist and Rev. E. W. Black, our college pastor. The church has given itself to prayer that God may revive his people in Houghton and that faith may be inspired in the unbeliever.

Besides leading the services in the church, Brother Armstrong has spoken four times a week in chapel. His appeal has been invigoratingly appealing to our higher emotions. It cannot be said by any that at any time our evangelist has resorted to over-emotionalism which so often attends revival services. However, he has been straight-forward in speaking the Truth when such was needed. His illustrations have been illuminating and provocative.

The series of meetings will be concluded Sunday, February 18.

## Popularity of Rec Hall is Increasing

### Minor Games Used by Many

The Recreation Hall has been enthusiastically received by the student body. About 75 visited the hall last Saturday evening. The ping-pong tables seem to be about the most popular and are always busy although shuffleboard is a close second. It is planned to add chess, checkers, and Chinese checkers in the near future.

Already they are signing up for the ping-pong tournament. Entries are being received for play leading to the Hall Singles Championship in both mens and womens divisions. Pairing will be made and first round play will begin in about two weeks. Around the tables this week Stone and Russell have both looked good. Van Ornum has also shown plenty of class for the men. Flint has been outstanding for the girls.

The Recreation Hall will be open each afternoon for practice and play from 3:00 to 5:30 and on Saturday afternoon from 1:00 to 5:00. After the special meetings it is planned to have the Hall open from 3:45 in the afternoon until 7:15 in the evening.

To believe only what he can prove is to say: "I can see only to the horizon; therefore there is nothing beyond."

— Buffalo Evening News

Confucius say, "Man who buy Lanthorn no longer in literary fog."



# The HOUGHTON STAR

Published weekly during the school year by students of Houghton College

## 1939-40 STAR STAFF

WESLEY NUSSEY, Editor-in-chief

ALAN GILMOUR, Business Manager

## EDITORIAL BOARD:

Donald Kauffman, Lester Paul, Walter Sheffer, Kenneth Wilson.

## STAFF:

Mary Helen Moody, news editor; Lloyd Elliott, assistant news editor; Mark Armstrong, music editor; Allyn Russell, sports editor; Jesse De Right, feature editor; Ruth Shea, religious editor; Henry Ortlip, assistant religious editor; Allan McCarty, make-up editor; Wesley France,

Carleton Cummings, circulation manager; Frances Pierce, advertising manager; Bretrice Gage, Warren Woolsey, proof readers.

## REPORTERS IN THIS ISSUE:

Ethel Wheeler, Harriett Kalla, Virginia Dash, Ruth Hallings, Mary Jane Larson, Marie Fearing, Dave Morrison.

## TYPISTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Marie Fearing, Francis Pierce, Jack Mowery.

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Houghton, New York, under the act of October 3, 1917, and authorized October 10, 1932. Subscription rate, \$1.00 per year.

## Spark Plugs

Have  
Been  
Cleaned

## PUISSANT PUNDITS

I've always wanted to dig up all the dirt I could around here, and print it. Everybody else tells all he hears or makes up, so I might as well get in my share of scandal. I've solicited opinions here and there, and all items marked (T) are true, ready to be backed up by this columnist, even though they may or not reflect the opinion of the author.

It is unreliably reported that the new tablecloths at the dorm, done in red, green, and blue stripes, were secured by sending in 60 Octagon Soap coupons and 25c in coin for each cloth. But we cannot vouch for this.

It is true, however, that the napkins ran out for a couple of meals, and Bea Gage admits wiping her hands on the tablecloth. That should be a cleanly way, especially when the tablecloth represents 60 Octagon Soap coupons.

Discrimination! The *Star*, which last week ran an ad for the College Inn, was requested several weeks ago not to run one from Wakefield's. (T)

Last Tuesday evening Mr. Walter Sheffer, well-known senior, threw a slice of bread at Miss Beatrice Gage, and missed. The bread struck Mr. Clifford Blauvelt (who incidentally got a 3.0 this semester), even though Mr. Blauvelt sat several feet away. Walter lays his bad aim to the fact that his girl told a friend recently that his middle name was Ferdinand. (T)

And a certain senior, a member of last year's *Boulder* Staff, and a big crabber at last year's *Seniors*, not only absconded with his senior pictures, but sneaked into the *Boulder* office and stole some of the proofs someone else had returned. It was most unfortunate that he was seen in his "grabbing." (T)

While Drane Lester, the G-man, was talking down at the church last Tuesday afternoon, the Willard Houghton Memorial Library kicked out a number of students busy at their work, and closed its doors for the duration of the speech. And this, even though Mr. Lester gave the same speech he had that morning in chapel, and even though the library also closed at 7:00 that evening. As one eye said to the other, "Just between you and me..." (T)

## GERMAN CLUB . . .

(Continued from Page One)

from customers for delivered goods, constitute his Trinkgeld—"drink money". After the apprenticeship, the tradesman travels for four or five weeks, to gain experience. He may beg, or work, for different bosses, as he chooses. Now he is a Geselle or "journeyman". He can be a roamer for life or start a business for himself.

Mr. Hoyer was drafted into the army, and worked in his professional capacity, making uniforms, for about two and a half years. After his dismissal, which came six months sooner than was customary, he worked in a tailor shop, and finally established himself in a business of his own, in the Holstein Province, near Hamburg. In 1907 he emigrated to the "Yankee" country.

Those of us who heard Mr. Hoyer feel he gave us a very keen insight into the life of a German, though we can't help wondering if his youth was not markedly different from that of the present day boy in that country.

The other evening Millie White and Ivan Engle challenged me to name 12 different kinds of pie, and then miscounted my endeavors. For their benefit I will list them below: apple, mince, cherry, berry (black-blue, huckle-, rasp-, and not-berry), lemon, custard, pumpkin, banana cream, raisin, chocolate, peach, and rhubarb. If you don't like my list, or wish to add any, come around and tell me, if you've got crust enough. I won't batter you, for marangoni more I've got to save my own bakin'. (TT)

It is also reported that a certain nice girl in the student body is "on the make" for a certain popular and well-known fellow who is well-liked by everybody on the campus. Well, it's leap year, so I hope she gets him.

In a recent Ed. Psych. class Miss Fancher was speaking of keeping girls from too strenuous participation in sports. "But what are we to do?" she asked. "Hold them against their wills?"

From the back of the room "Moon" Mullin came out with a vehement "Yes!" (T)

Recently seen about the halls was Mr. John David Haynes, with a jack-knife and a surreptitious countenance. He was busy removing clothes labels from the insides of coats in the lockers. It seems that he wants them to sew on the outside of a b-r jacket. So if you value your labels, keep them out of the way, or you're "label" to lose them. (T)

So, begging your pardon if I've hit you, and reminding you that if you're sore, it isn't my conscience that makes you that way, I remain,

Sincerely yours,  
J.P.Q. DeRight

## NO NEWS THIS WEEK

The *Star* this week is a two-page edition not because our supply of paper ran out but because there wasn't any more news. To be more exact, the coming of second semester revival services pushed other activities completely out of the picture. When there is more news, your *Star* will tell you about it.

## STAR DEADLINE

Reporters and those who contribute to the *Star* are requested to have their material in the office Tuesday by chapel time if it is to appear in the issue of the following Thursday.

## Notice to House Presidents

Presidents of the men's houses are requested to turn in house indices by Saturday, February 16. If enough of the women's dorms turn in their indices, these will be listed in next week's *Star*.

## Extension Groups Continue to Work

A male quartet assisted in the morning and evening worship at the Evangelical church of Olean. The quartet included Carlton Cummings, William Work, Frank Hauser and Richard Bennett.

The Extension Department also sent a group to the Riverside Wesleyan Methodist church in Corning. Wesley Nussey spoke in the morning worship service. In the afternoon Prof. Willard Smith was the speaker for the educational service. Music was furnished by a male quartet consisting of Stephen and Henry Ortlip, Lester Paul and Paul Miller.

The trumpet quartet, Norman Marshall, John Gabrielson, Michael Sheldon and Ray Alger, assisted at the evening service at the Salvation Army Hall in Wellsville. Theodore Bowditch spoke in the young people's service and Bert Hall was the speaker in the main service of the evening.

## MUSIC NOTES . . .

(Continued from Page One)

*Porgy and Bess*, was acclaimed by the critics as a composition from which great things were expected and they were not disappointed. And even the severest critics take their hats off to this same composer's *Rhapsody in Blue*.

We of today call ourselves progressive and demand broadmindedness and fair play. Why not be broadminded in our tastes and feeling for music? In the field of literature everyone recognizes the works of Shakespeare, Milton, Dante and Goethe as great masterpieces, but does that mean that we should exclude the works of Zane Grey, Harold Bell Wright and Grace Livingston Hill?

No, let the classicist recognize the modernist and let the modernist not exclude the classicist. Music is a universal possession, and let us recognize it in its entirety.

## LECTURE . . .

(Continued from Page One)

from Lehigh University. He has been an employee of several business houses. Now he is a skilled nature photographer. His interest in undersea life began at the age of fifteen when he first experimented with undersea diving. Since the beginning of this type of work, he has built most of his own submarine equipment.

Some of the unusual items that will be shown in the Mueller lecture and colored pictures are: a pelican with a sore throat; a heron fishing; a star fishes' feet; a tame shark; an octopus changing color; a fish-eye view of a horseshoe crab; and collecting sponge.

— Publicity Office

## Special Services

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The Rev. Mr. C. I. Armstrong, preaching in the college church on Wednesday night, February 7, spoke on "The Promises of God". "Today we regard promises as of very little consequence; but God's promises stand sure. Do you need guidance? Do you have temporal needs? spiritual needs? My God shall supply all your needs."

"The promises of God imply a moral obligation to us; we must decide to either accept or reject Him. The Bible warns, 'Prepare to meet Thy God'."

### THURSDAY NIGHT

"The rudiments of redemption are found in I John 1:9," said Mr. Armstrong on Thursday evening, after reading "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." He continued by indicating the four guide posts on the way of grace—conviction, confession, and cancellation of sins, and cleansing from sin." Jesus said that they who hunger and thirst after righteousness shall be filled. Full redemption is the message of Calvary. Make sure you are on The Way."

### FRIDAY NIGHT

"He that spared not His own Son but freely delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" (Rom. 8:32) Basing his message on this verse, the Rev. Mr. Armstrong preached on "The Unsparring God" on Friday evening Feb. 9. In the sermon he clearly showed what our redemption meant to God—the giving to death of His only Son. It meant to Jesus real poverty, loneliness, the tortured shedding of His Blood. What can it mean to us? It can mean life instead of death, hope instead of despair, balm for the disease of sin, and the Holy Spirit as our Guide. In the face of such dearly bought salvation, the only decent thing to do is to recognize God's claim upon us.

## Calendar

Friday, February 16

Teacher's Conference

Monday, February 19

7:00—Forensic Union, Bible school, Music club  
8:15—"Blue Green Water"—Wesley Mueller

Wednesday, February 21

7:00—Oratorio rehearsal  
3:30—Alfred—Houghton freshman debate

Thursday, February 22

7:00—Music recital

Friday, February 23

7:15—First Purple—Gold game.

## ARLINS MOVE

The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Arlin have moved from Clyde, New York, where Mr. Arlin was rector of St. John's Episcopal church, to Hammondsport, where he is now rector. Mrs. Arlin formerly taught Latin in Houghton college. Mr. Arlin graduated from Houghton in 1934.

## THE STORE

Just like home

Make full use of it while in  
Houghton

## Houghton General Store

M. C. Cronk, owner

## BLEACHER



## GOSSIP

by Allyn Russell

(Ed. note—This column has been dubbed "Bleacher Gossip" for some time, but your editor asks permission to use the name "Bleacher Hash" for this issue, since we are decidedly out of gossip.)

Fillmore, New York... Snuggled in the foothills of the Alleghenies, this small hamlet prepared to entertain the throngs that are expected to view the annual Purple-Gold contests down at Houghton college four miles south on route 19-A (turn right at Prof. Frank's Jersey cow). Although hostilities are relatively quiet now, close observation reveals that it is just the lull before the oncoming storm, since both squads are girding their loins for victory in the best three out of five series.

Chicago, Illinois... Jerome "Dizzy" Dean, baseball's biggest blow-off, blew off again early this week with the emphatic statement, "I'll starve to death before I sign for \$10,000." Poor Phil K. Wrigley, who has enough trouble worrying about his gum business to say nothing about his erratic right-hander who won only six games last year and caused several disturbances throughout the season, has about lost his patience with the problem pitcher. Owner Wrigley is also downhearted concerning the general welfare of the Cubs as is evidenced by one of his mid-winter statements which ran thus: "You know, when the Cubs win, the elevator man, the taxi driver, the waiter, all say to me, 'Our Cubs looked great today, didn't they, Mr. Wrigley?' But when they lose they all say, 'What's the matter with those lousy Cubs of yours, Mr. Wrigley?'"

Houghton, New York... The local town basketball outfit has been riding high, wide and handsome over the opposition provided by several western New York hamlets. The squad, after a shaky start, have now advanced to a tie for second place by virtue of an extra-period 50-41 victory over Wyoming and a 43-20 win over Bliss. This week Saturday the village hoopsters tackle the powerful Gainesville outfit, who are holding down the first place honors.

New York City... Arturo "Toscanini" Godoy smote the heart of 16,000 roaring boxing fans plus countless thousands of radio listeners as he battled poker-faced Joe Louis in a fifteen round Madison Garden thriller. Although the decision went to champion Joe, the boy from Chile proved to the fisticuff world that there are least a few die-hards who do not wilt immediately under the brown bomber's telling blows.

Here's to the fan, a rare, rare treat, Who never stands up on his bleacher seat

At basketball moments most intense To bar the view of the other gents. Here's to the fan who'll never fleck His peanut shuckers down your neck; Who never at the ref has hissed; Here's to that fan. He doesn't exist.

The refusal of praise is the desire to be praised twice.

— La Rochefoucauld

An egotist is a man who thinks as much of himself as you think of yourself.

— Buffalo Evening News

Peace: a period of cheating between two wars.