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VOLUME XVII

HOUGHTON, N. Y., JANUARY 30, 1924⁵

NUMBER 15

Houghton Church Votes to Retain Pastor

The Houghton people are evidently well satisfied with the type of preaching, with which Reverend J. R. Pitt has been supplying them. This is the fifth year of his term here and at a recent vote taken from the church members, fifty-one out of fifty-five were in favor of keeping him. Although the students could not thus express their appreciation, we feel that they too, for the most part, are of the same opinion.

Large Audience Enjoy Pitt Parker

It has been some time since Houghton has seen on her lecture platform an artistic entertainer, proficient with both clay and crayon. Consequently the chapel was nearly filled on the evening of January 16, when Mr. Pitt Parker gave his interesting program.

Mr. Parker completed three beautiful sketches with colored chalk, besides some comic and illustrative cartoons and clay figures. While his fingers were swiftly bringing to view wonderful mountain scenes, he was also helping to reveal their beauty by word descriptions and associations. Or while the outline of a fearful bison or a hooded Ku Klux was suddenly taking shape some very striking thoughts were being presented, which were illustrated by the cartoon.

His clay figures represented the facial characteristics of different races.

The permanent things in our lives are the things we never behold. It is the true purpose of the artist to suggest these by his art. Mr. Parker's ability to do this is the cause of his success. His British Columbia mountain scene and the last one, of the New England home were especially well liked.

Let Us Hear From You, Alumni

The STAR Staff desires articles of medium length from the Houghton Alumni for publication. Items of general interest to both students and alumni are especially appreciated. We cannot follow you in your various activities and we want you to feel free to send in news any time.

Total Eclipse Plainly Seen in Houghton

Last Saturday, January 24, an event occurred which is rare in this section of the world. The last time this state viewed a total eclipse of the sun was in seventeenth century, and the next time will be in 2024. According to data received before the eclipse, it was feared that Houghton would be almost out of the totality belt. It happened, however, that we were included. In this state, the totality belt passed through Buffalo and went directly toward the southeast, hitting New York. The belt was about one hundred ten miles wide.

As the expectation of this eclipse had not been kept a secret, everybody was ready and waiting at the appointed hour, with adequate material for viewing the sun. Reports from Buffalo, and from other points thereabouts, say that the sky was so cloudy that the eclipse was barely visible; but in this vicinity the sky was clear and conditions were perfect. The approximate time for the beginning of the eclipse had been announced as eight o'clock; therefore, as the clock neared that hour, both citizens and students made ready to view this wonderful phenomenon. Some went to the nearby hillsides, some chose open spots on the campus, while others contented themselves with looking through windows facing the east.

The eclipse started on schedule time, the moon gradually creeping between the earth and the sun, allowing less and less of the solar rays to reach the earth. When the surface of the sun was about $\frac{1}{2}$ or three fourths obscured, it was distinctly noticed that the landscape was becoming darkened, being almost blue, gradually deepening. About this time faint shadows were seen, seemingly chasing one another over the snow; these shadows grew more distinct as the eclipse neared totality.

The moon crept on, the rollicking shadows became more distinct, and the deep blue tinge of the landscape and atmosphere became darker. Then suddenly a distinct shadow came gliding over the snow with inconceivable swift-

Continued on page 2

NOTICE

On January 18th the Anna Houghton Daughters spent a very pleasant afternoon with the members of the club who live in Houghton Hall. Mrs. Lennox gave an interesting and instructive talk on "Etiquette", which was followed by a question box and open discussion. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Pierce Woolsey on the afternoon of February 6th.

Basket-ball Series Opens With Two Fast Games

It has been the custom in the past for the Gold to take the first game of series, but Friday night the Purple girls broke the charm and surprised everyone by winning their first game in three years. The game was a very good one and, although the score would not indicate it, was not one-sided. Poor shooting on the part of the Gold was largely the cause of their low score, for the record shows a total of 16 attempts at the goal for them as compared to 11 by the Purple.

Eileen Loftis, Purple floor captain, played with her usual aggression. The two new recruits, Edith Bork and Ione Driscall, proved to be valuable members of the team. Erma Anderson and Laura Steese starred for the Gold. Erma's clever floorwork and shooting are quite certain of insuring her a place on the All-Houghton team.

Purple (9)		Gold (4)
Elsie Higbee (2)	R F	Alta Albrow
Jean Eldridge	L F	Esther Hall
Ione Driscall	C	Erma Anderson (4)
Edith Bork (2)	R G	Laura Steese
Eileen Loftis (5)	L G	Laura Baker

The Gold boys maintained their reputation in copping the first game by the score of 35-17. The playing was hardly up to par with last year's games, but the first half especially was fine basketball. The Purple line-up was somewhat changed with Irwin Enty and Fero, a new Purple man, playing forward. Vanus Rosbach and Charles Howland shared the position vacated by Clinton Donohue.

Careful defensive work by the Gold and poor shooting by their opponents account for the score. In the last half

Continued on Page 2

Faculty Member Entertains

The Senior class of the high school department was entertained Saturday night at the home of Miss Bessie Fancher. This included the new members of our class, formerly called "specials". These, having obtained enough credits to become Seniors, have enlarged our number until we are now twenty-eight—the largest senior class in the history of Houghton Seminary.

Various games were enjoyed and many humorous things were brought to light. We discovered Florence Long's voice was quite masculine and Ruth Dewey, blindfolded, having guessed all the senior men, gave up in despair.

It was surprising, indeed, to find what able actors we have for we tried-out seven who applied for a position in a dramatic club. Carl Steese and Louis Baker looked so angry, that they became red and nearly choked each other. Vanus Rosbach won first place for looking peaceful and serene while Erma Anderson was exceedingly embarrassed.

An "Intelligence Test" annoyed Bill Sallberg who didn't like to waste his time so.

Jack wax on snow and stirred sugar were certainly very palatable. We thank you, Miss Fancher, for our good time.

Five new students have enrolled in the college department, and six in the high school department.

What? A Maple Sugar Party?

The College Senior class were pleasantly entertained at the home of Mrs. Lillian Burr last Friday evening following the basketball games. The party was given as a surprise to Miss Russell, a member of the class, who is also a niece of Mrs. Burr.

Most of the class arrived at the house before Miss Russell. When she opened the door she heard a senior yell from the darkened room.

Soon all were enjoying that which was indeed a treat to us, warm sugar and maple wax on snow. The evening was very well enjoyed, our hostess having made all things pleasant for us.

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Food for Your Soul

If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord honorable: and shalt honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.—Isaiah 58:13, 14.

Editorial

It is not a part of our primal curse that in this flesh-shackled body we are best able to appreciate all that is good in the world in a large measure only as we see forces of evil united against us and by that very fact testifying effectively to the eternal existence of good? Would we, for instance, be able to prize love so highly if it were not for the presence of the opposite element of hate in the world?

Thus it is that the frequent degradation of religion into mere superstition is a signal testimony that man does have a natural capacity for the mysterious and the mystical in religion. The average skeptical scientist is rather inclined to pour his most fervid vials of wrath and ridicule out upon what he calls the blind unreasoning faith of God's true children. It is this fact which makes scientists appear so ridiculous when, with Sir Oliver Lodge,

they are obliged to fall back upon the most degraded forms of superstition which the world has ever known. What infinitely greater wisdom and pure beauty are present in the simple faith of the least of true Christians

Basketball Series Opens

Continued from Page 1

the Gold broke into an aggressive stride which lasted throughout the game. This, with the inability of the Purple to break through the opposing defense, resulted in little competition in the last half.

Gold (35)	Purple (17)
Rosbach (8) R. F.	Fero (6)
A. Baker (5) L. F.	I. Enty (6)
Hussey (6) C.	Farner (2)
Henshaw (4) R. G.	M. Enty (1)
Williams (6) L. G.	F. Bedford

Howland (6) substituted for Rosbach in last half; Russell (2) for Fero in last twelve minutes.

Series Even---Gold Boys Lose

The second games of the Purple-Gold basketball series were played Monday evening, Jan. 26, before a large crowd of students and other fans. Enthusiasm ran high and the players seemed to be all on their toes ready for the game.

The girls' game came first and ended in a victory for the Gold after a hard-fought battle. L. Steese and E. Anderson starred for the bright-colored team while Ione Driscoll made the total score for the Purple. This even the games with a series score of 1 and 1.

The boys' game was a slaughter for the Purple, although the first half ended with the close score of 6-4 for the Purple. The Gold boys played a good defensive game the first half, but seemed to lose control in the last half. In fact, their downfall was so complete that this half closed without a field basket to their credit, while the Purple had added 6 goals to theirs.

Thus far the Gold have a credit of 41 points to 36 for the Purple. These points are credited as follows:

I. Enty, P.—11.
Rosbach, G.—10.
Williams, G.—9.
Farner, P.—7.
Fero, P.—6.
Howland, G.—6.
Fox, P.—5.
Baker, G.—5.
Henshaw, G.—4.
M. Enty, P.—3.
Russell, P.—2.
Bedford, P.—2.
Donohue, G.—1.

The third and fourth games will be played on Friday and Saturday evenings of this week. If you are at all interested in a good basketball game, you want to see these games. There will be slight changes in line-up and there will also be more interest displayed in getting an "edge" by winning the third and fourth games. Be present.

An Opportunity for Art Study

Have you seen the new pictures on the walls of the high school study hall and of the various class rooms? These came to us from Albany. The University of the State of New York has a department called the Division of Visual Instruction. One branch of its service is to prepare a collection of lantern slides for many fields of study; another is to maintain a loan collection of high grade reproduction of standard works of art. These are in the form of carbon photographs, photogravures, and color prints neatly framed and ready to place on the walls of the school-room.

The small group of pictures shown here represent a variety of subjects and of artists. "The Sunset Evening Hour" is an English rural scene by Leader; "Crossing the Ford" and "Spring" are by the French artist, Corot; the "Landscape with Windmill" and "The Torrent" are by the Dutch artist, Ruysdael; "Night" is the production of another Dutch artist, Mead; and from our American artists we have "Niagara Falls" by Church and the "Portrait of George Washington" by Stewart.

In studying these reproductions of artists' paintings we learn not only to see more of the beauties of nature but to understand something of the thoughts and feelings, the joys, hopes and aspirations of great men who have looked at the world and lived in it.

An American art critic, John C. Van Dyke has said:

"You must look at pictures studiously, earnestly, honestly. It will take years before you come to a full appreciation of art; but when at last you have it, you will be possessed of one of the most ennobling pleasures that the civilized world can offer you."

It is not our place to become art critics, but we can study the world's masterpieces for the purpose of appropriating and enjoying our share of whatever they have to give us.

Mrs. John Cooper, of Binghamton, was in town over the week-end. Her daughter, Helen Cooper, has enrolled in the high school department.

Eclipse Seen in Houghton

Continued from Page 1

ness and totality had begun. One now took in the exquisite beauty of the total eclipse with the naked eye. Here, totality lasted one minute and forty-five seconds. During this time one of the most remarkable of nature's phenomena, the corona was visible. With the eclipsed sun as center, there shot out in all directions a halo of light which was very bright near the sun, tapering outward into a soft, filmy light with streamers which extended far into space. The western horizon was softly aglow with a rosy tinge which reminded one of sunset, only many times grander. The general condition of light was somewhat like a semi-bright moonlight night. Stars appeared in the sky near the zenith. The chickens went to roost, the mercury dropped about four degrees, and all seemed to be ready for nightfall; when suddenly a glare of light heralded the passing of totality, and those phenomenal appearances reurred in a reverse order till the sun was sufficiently uncovered to allow the regular routine to be re-established on the earth and in the sky.

Scientists and astronomers traveled thousands of miles to view this wonder of nature, but it was the privilege of thousands to see it from their own doorstep. But to whichever class one belongs this sight and the significance, ought to fill one with a more profound reverence for God and His mighty universe.

HOUGHTON LOCALS

Professor Molyneux was in Pittsburg over the week-end.

Miss Beulah Baker of Rushford, spent Friday with Laura Baker.

Carrol Hussey has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Hussey, for a few days.

We are glad to see some of our former students returning to school; Juliana Woods, Clinton Donahue, Frederick Howland, Frank Benn and Arnold Pitt have resumed their studies here.

The following new students have registered for this semester: In college, Esther Fish and Charles Leffingwell; in high school, Edith Walters, Roma Lapham, Helen Cooper, Irwin Matton, Stanley Spencer, Robert Silverstein.

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Our Chemistry Department and Life's Problems

Professor J. M. Molyneux

The greatest values which a college should offer to its students as a trained mind, true culture, and an enlarged vision of the meaning of life's problems,—all these are rather intangible commodities. The man in the street is hard put to it when he attempts to measure such assets by a purely utilitarian yard stick. However, there are certain fields of college training the immediate value of which is evident to the most casual of observers. The chemistry department may be best treated as belonging to this type of college training; although I would be the last to admit that it does not also impart a certain cultural distinction of its own to the reasoning faculties of any serious student.

Nevertheless, it is, and should be, the practical turn of science on which we ought to place the greatest emphasis. As represented by the types of individuals trained, the visible products of a chemistry department are chiefly three in number. First in prominence, though not necessarily in importance, we are obliged to place the lover of pure science. By this one I mean the person whose mind is most contented when it is most concerned with the more abstruse abstractions and hidden mysteries of nature.

It is yet another type of individual who would carry his scientific knowledge and training out into the modern world of industry and action. Here, the intelligent youth will readily find a market for the talents which he may possess; for no large manufacturing plant of the present time can afford to be without its corps of trained chemists.

Last but hardly least, we would consider that type of person who, having heard the piteous, distressful cry of suffering humanity, desires a thorough working knowledge of chemistry as a basis for his medical training. It is here, if ever, that entirely material values are transmuted into the pure

gold of spirit and worth. Have you not read how the Master himself walked through this earthly life, healing at one and the same time, the physical and spiritual ailments of men? Pray, what consideration prompts us to place such loving emphasis upon St. Luke's title of the "Beloved Physician"? The fact that a competent physician is capable of healing a man's body, at once and unwittingly places him also in a certain position of influence as regards that man's spiritual diseases. This truth is as old as the world itself.

It is in the last named capacity of service that the chemistry department of this college most desires to address the world. Our resources and limitations are such that we can hardly hope to produce that type of trained specialist who, as Carlyle says, "scale the giddy Alpine heights of science." But after all we are so much the less distinguished if we can assist in preparing Christian young men and women for work in the medical field both at home and abroad. Even now, there are enrolled here quite a number of prospective recruits for that branch of service.

It is in this regard that we want to report the permanent establishment of the chemistry department in the north end on the first floor of the new science hall. The school has, just this fall, furnished us with two fine new chemical desks of which President Luckey can justly be proud. Long handicapped by the lack of natural gas for laboratory work, we are certainly very happy now in the possession of a new gasoline gas machine. These additions are lending fresh impetus to the life of the work. Although we now have much of the equipment necessary for the rudimentary work in the science, we do not on the other hand, possess the necessary equipment for a great deal of advanced work of the thorough nature we desire to give.

Perhaps we should hardly dare to presume to improve upon the recent much heralded scientific discovery of a method whereby the dross of quicksilver is changed into the pure shining gold. I would, least of all, desire to offend those who possess that much sought after chemical element, in excess. But if there be any such within the reach of my words can they dub it mere presumption which would offer by a form of Divine Alchemy to change the material dross of ordinary gold into a far higher, more spiritual kind of element capable of this dual service to the physical and spiritual needs of humanity?

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Even in the army there is considerable inconvenience connected with moving. On the 13th of April we received orders to pack everything but bed sacks. This was merely an indication that we were likely to move. We used the sacks for the following night, and disposed of them on the morning of the 14th. Barrack bags, containing equipment not carried in packs, were piled outside for transportation, and packs were made in preparation for leaving at notice for any place on the globe. We were then put to work at sweeping, scrubbing, mopping, and cleaning everything within the regimental area. We spent the night in the bare squad room awaiting orders. An order came at midnight which was somewhat surprising; it was an order to get sandwiches, fruit, and coffee at the mess hall.

Moving orders came about three o'clock in the morning, whereupon we fell in and marched out into the night, not knowing where we were going or when we were due to arrive, but nevertheless suppressing a bit the excitement. We entrained and proceeded a little way when we were held up by a wreck. The report coming to us was that three were killed and seventy-nine were wounded, of the 305th Infantry. We arrived at New York and the fellows with whom I was, took the ferry "Washington", which lay to in the harbor until about mid-afternoon when it landed at the Cunard Line Wharf and went aboard the Peninsular and Oriental steamer, Kashmir. She was a steamer 480 feet long and with a beam of about 56 feet, was manned by dirty, scantily dressed East Indians, and a few Englishmen.

We remained at the wharf until the next morning, April 16th, when a little tug towed us out into the channel and we steamed out across the bay. There we lay to until the other steamers assembled—about a dozen in number—when, with a convoy of several destroyers and a battleship, we moved out to sea. Standing on the decks we took a last look at the old Liberty Statue and watched the land of liberty until it faded away in the distance. Then turning we set our faces toward the land of LaFayette and thought on the days when the Liberty Division should test its metal over there.

(To be Continued)

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