

The Houghton Star.

I. P. A. ISSUE

VOLUME X

HOUGHTON, NEW YORK, APRIL 1, 1918

NUMBER 11

GREAT ORATORICAL CONTEST FIVE SPLENDID ORATIONS

CAPTAIN HEAD'S "CALL TO ARMS" GOES "OVER THE TOP"
HILL'S "ISSUE OF THE DAY" A CLOSE SECOND

The tenth oratorical contest of Houghton's I. P. A. was a red-letter occasion in the history of our League. Long had it been looked forward to, and worthy was it to be long remembered. Of the five orations, representatives of college Junior, Sophomore, and Theological and Music departments held the standards of their various classes. President Luckey was in charge of the arena and opened the evenings combat by a short talk. He said, "The best part of our oratorical contest is that every contestant is a winner. The only one who does not win is the one who does not enter."

Leona K. Head was declared winner, for her oration, "The Call to Arms." The great array of facts placed so lucidly before us; the logical consistency, the great emotion which the weighty facts gave us, embellished with unique rhetorical brilliance, tended to be the most convincing of the evening. As in last year's contest the same fact is clearly shown by the result, a winning oration demands constructive argument. Miss Head will be the first Houghton girl who has ever represented our I. P. A. at a State contest. The state convention will be held at Syracuse next month between Colgate, Rutgers, Syracuse, Houghton, Alfred and Cornell. May our sympathies and well wishes go with her.

Second prize was won by Lawrence Hill for his "Issue of the Day." It was surely a wonderful oration — sprightly in logic and genuine eloquence. Its splendid delivery won much well-deserved applause, as well as high credit from the judges of the evening.

George Laug's "Awake, O Church of God" was

the first oration of the evening. The tremendous responsibility of the Christian voter in the present fight against liquor rule was brought vividly to mind.

The "Call for Men" by Beatrice Hale was compact with thought and study of America's needs in the trying hour of War. Miss Hale's oration was especially well delivered.

Harry Meeker was surely on the job. "Prohibition by Legislation" was full of life and interest with plenty of real pep back of it. As could be naturally expected, "Meek" didn't let the crowd go to sleep — he told us how to get rid of King Alcohol in the right way.

An especial word of commendation should be given our judges. For thought and composition Rev. Stanley Wright of Central, S. C., Rev. Grace Sloan Overton of Cuba, N. Y. and Mr. Finley C. Hendrickson, Member of the Prohibition National Committee. The judges on delivery were Rev. Chas. Sicard and Prof. H. R. Smith of Houghton and Mr. L. L. Brown of Cuba, N. Y. who is one of our most enthusiastic Prohibitionists of the County. We truly appreciated the short speech he made relative to the National Prohibition Convention which he recently attended at Chicago. We are glad to have the privilege of considering Mr. Brown a friend of our school.

The music of the evening was furnished by the Misses Bullock and Sicard in two piano duos, "Sherzo Brilliant" and Wagner's "March de Tannhauser." Taken as a whole we can say the 1918 I. P. A. contest in every detail was more than worth while.

ATTEND THE BIG I. P. A. STATE CONVENTION AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

APRIL 12 AND 13, 1918

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BIG CONTEST

THE CALL TO ARMS

1st Prize Oration

We are fighting for Freedom, for the annihilation of autocratic wrong and the enthronement of universal righteousness. Our Nation's conflict is dual, against the Teuton across the Atlantic, and against his eternally-sworn ally within our own borders, the legalized liquor traffic. For two generations we have waged war against King Alcohol in a series of successive attacks, Though partially routed he still lives to devastate our homes, to murder our fellow citizens, to aid our foes and to trample upon our Flag.

We thought mere "temperance" would defeat the monster, but the pledge-signing system begun by the Washingtonian movement in 1840 failed because the influence of environment is too often stronger than self control. By a slow process we arrived at the conclusion that as long as intoxicating liquors were made they would be sold. The origin of the word "prohibition" came with the discovery that men cannot drink what they cannot obtain. We thought local option a merciful method of dealing with alcoholic rule, but it has ridiculed us with its ten thousand blind-tigers and bootleggers. Thereupon we were forced to realize that an option cannot be placed on an evil, that no wrong has a right to exist. We tried high license and it gave the traffic a golden opportunity to cry, "Behold my liberal revenue!" We tried State-wide prohibition. It was a step in the right direction, further substantiated by the Webb-Kenyon law. But the fact still remained that by the legislative method alone we could not expect victory.

We have come to the proposition that national prohibition is the only logical solution of the problem; but the concrete process whereby National Prohibition may be secured is still left for decision and consequent action. We are face to face with the issue.

Four months ago amid wild jubilation of Dry forces besieging our National Capital the constitutional amendment prohibiting the "importation, exportation, transportation, manufacture and sale" of intoxicants was passed by the present Congress and submitted to the States for ratification. We were expecting War Prohibition, but the Federal Amendment came as a substitute. When the legislatures of twenty-nine more states cast favorable majorities for this ratification it will mean that National Prohibition is enacted.

The question naturally arises, "Is this amendment the permanent goal?" On the scale of a state-wide propaganda, constitutional prohibition has been inef-

fective. Can we produce any evidence whatsoever that constitutional prohibition on a national scale would be any more effective? In other words, is law its own executive officer? Did the Declaration of Independence enacted liberate the thirteen colonies from the British crown? No! Bunker Hill and Valley Forge are monuments of Liberty's edict enforced by the allegiance of life blood! Did the Emancipation Proclamation enacted give the negro slave his freedom? It did not! The North paid the pledge of that decree by giving its fairest to die for it! A political party came forward to champion the cause of the oppressed! And I challenge any and all advocates of non-partisan reform methods to bring to light a single instance where adamant might, organized and politically entrenched like the liquor traffic has ever been satisfactorily abolished from our nation except by a political party pledged to its destruction. Permanent eradication of the liquor curse can only come by a permanent, relentless Prohibition administration.

Either the present party in power must champion the issue, or we must elect a party to power that stands committed by state and national platform to absolute prohibition. And what is the attitude of the present administration toward championing the issue? Why has their action been a continual round of compromise? Why did the Democratic Committee in caucus vote for immediate war prohibition a year ago, and then complacently rescind their action two days later? Why did the Senate follow their example when voting on a similar measure? And why did the Senate forget about beer and wine when the Food Bill was passed? The only logical answer is that the present administration is not a Prohibition administration! Let them persist in evading the issue until 1920 and the scepter will be wrested from their hands and given to another who champions the most vital political issue confronting our country to-day--National Prohibition.

But has any Republican administration served us better? They have shifted the responsibility of King Alcohol's existence on the people! But how can the propaganda of Republicanism favor prohibition as long as that party is securing its largest campaign funds from the liquor traffic itself? Consistency thou art a jewel! Deny it if we can, despise it if we will, but ignore it we cannot! There is but one constitutional party in the field to-day that stands pledged to the absolute annihilation of Kaiser Alcohol. Let the Prohibition party catch a glimpse of 1920--and fight! To you American citizens rings the challenge! Can you jeopardize your own liberties, can you let ty-

rainy go unavenged? Drink is leading famine to our very doors! "This is the age of conservation," but willful waste is the slogan of the brewer. Is it not mockery to call our women unpatriotic when a loaf of bread is wasted, and allow the breweries of our land to annually waste grain enough to produce five billion loaves of bread? We buy sugar by pound installments while breweries are consuming fifty-four million pounds! Like Nero when Rome was burning we keep fiddling away while the liquor traffic worse than wastes enough food stuffs to feed seven million soldiers "over there," enough coal to run twice as many munition plants as we have now, enough money to pay our entire national debt, enough to contribute four billion dollars to the Red Cross, or to invest the equivalent of the wage of fifty thousand workmen in Thrift Stamps. Kaiser Bill does well if he sinks an American cargo every week--Kaiser Barleycorn submarines an American ship every thirty-six hours with 350 Americans and 9000 tons of food stuffs on board! How long shall we brilliant yankees play the part of "patriotic" fools? Until we see our armies defeated, the German foe in Columbia's realm and Washington in flames?

Let us strike now for Democracy, Right and Prohibition! Let us fire the shot that will be "heard 'round the world!" Let the call to arms be answered by a free people! "Millions for defence but not a cent for tribute!" Millions for our army, millions for our navy, millions for the Red Cross, and millions for Liberty Loans, but not a cent for booze! Let American blood again tingle an indictment as from the lips of another Patrick Henry: "Taxation without representation had its George Washington, negro slavery had its Abraham Lincoln, and the detestable traffic in alcoholic liquors may profit by their example!"

Let the prohibition forces unite none other than on a political basis. And soldiers, from yonder heights behold your foe, King Alcohol, Knight of Autocracy--Dictator of Subserviency! Legalized Outlaw, Pro-German Traitor! Un-American, unchristain, inhumane! How shall we advance againght him?

Let us continue deluging Congress with telegrams, protests and appeals for war prohibition. Let them know that we want it, that we must have it! Let the present administration realize that this is a day of opportunity.

Let the Anti Saloon League continue centering fire on the state legislatures for the immediate ratification of the federal amendment. But let the League first of all make the state of their home exemplary in this -- Ohio, wet by constitution and wet by statute

Let the Women's Christian Union remember the days of the old crusade and meet the defiance of the Viper by organizing politically and casting their ballot with the Prohibition Party. Let the Intercollegiate Prohibition Association answer the call to arms by mobilizing for immediate action. Let them fight for uncompromising political party prohibition. Let us have a mighty political awakening with every Chritain patriot balloting his convictions. Let the Old Bugle resound again, proclaiming that the heroes and martyrs who have fallen in the cataclysm of a stern fight for political righteousness "have not died in vain but that in a larger sense America shall under a coming administration have a new birth of freedom for the philosophy of the party, by the party, and for humanity has not perished from the Nation."

And fling it out from the steeples! It is time for Liberty Bell to ring once more. It is time for the lighting mobilization of a hundred million patriots who shall battle until Triumph alights on a star-decked Old Glory and Freedom shall scatter her laurels from a saloonless Republic to a triumphant world.

Leona Kathryn Head.

ISSUE OF THE DAY.

2nd Prize Oration

Today we are intensely interested in the war. Numbers of young men have left home relationships to take part in the great conflict. They have sacrificed personal ambitions, they have surrendered cherished hopes, to engage in the struggle for right. Anxiously do we consider the dangers which confront us; and in so doing, we may perhaps forget, in a measure, the matters of interest to the political world. These, too, essentially concern us as a nation. They must be faithfully considered, for in them are involved the principles of justice, liberty, sound government, and right living. We, the responsible people, cannot avoid meeting the issues, and it devolves upon us to meet them squarely.

The evil nature and blighting influence of intemperance is already clear to your minds. For many years, men and women have fought unceasingly against the liquor traffic. Victory has been their vision. The work has steadily increased until twenty-seven states have adopted the no-license plan. Since the outbreak of the war, the liquor organization has suffered still more severely. A partial control of the food problem has limited the supply of grain. The liquor-issue has been brought to a climax by a proposed National Prohibition Amendment. We are facing living

definite facts; consequently, great responsibility is upon us.

True, we must save and sacrifice. We must stand for the principles of democracy. War is calling for these things. But there is another call, another question confronting us. A proposal regarding the adoption of the National Prohibition Amendment is before us. Do we feel the thrill? Have we considered its significance? What will we do with our responsibility? The question is at hand for consideration. Although it is before us as a people, it is important that every man do his duty, and every woman rise to the occasion. This makes it a personal question, involving a personal responsibility. You, the members of the audience, men and women, should consider it your duty and exalted privilege to take your stand for this vital issue, and to co-operate with the champions of truth in this mighty lift of humanity toward the skies. I appeal to you as an intelligent, honest people; as fellow-citizens and voters; as men and women; to carefully consider and act wisely in dealing with this problem which calls for a nation's good. The influence of the people will direct the vote of the legislature. Women, here and now is an opportunity to show your colors. Men, this your privilege to act as faithful leaders and defenders of wives, mothers and children which you love. As individuals, as political parties, as the people of the Empire State, push for National Prohibition.

Do you ask why? I answer by submitting to you four questions.

First, we should add the proposed amendment to our National Constitution because it points directly to higher development of our people. Glimpses of contrast between the temperate and intemperate in individuals, homes, and communities give undisputed evidence to the fact that a higher standard is attained in home, communities, business, and social life, where the people are free from the influence of strong drink. The enforcement of the amendment, when adopted, involves the cessation of the manufacture of intoxicating liquors for the purpose of alcoholic beverages. Consequently they must follow a building up of the waste places. We cannot doubt the fact that there is marvelous opportunity for the improvement of our people in their moral, intellectual, and physical existence. Business, organized society, and nations have recognized this, and have acted in accord therewith. The principle involved in intemperance is clear. "The corrupt tree cannot bring forth good fruit."

Second, the states should be ratified by the amendment because it involves a moral bearing which we

cannot afford to disregard. In our personal consideration of national problems, it is supremely important that we take into account the influence that any issue is likely to have upon the home; for the home is the heart of the nation. Justice demands a reconstruction of government sanctioned influences, which so vitally affect our young people. The United States Government has sanctioned the liquor traffic. What has been the result? Have young men and women realized any benefit therefrom? We must answer exactly the reverse! This being true, is it not your duty to establish in place of the legalized trust, some system or organization that will be beneficial? In the tomorrow of time these young lives will constitute the men and women of the nation. Their character, then, depends largely upon the influences of today. Though our nation is strong, and our people are brave, we have a noble work yet to accomplish. Liberty, in a broader sense than that for which our fathers fought, pleads with us to be free from the curse of intemperance. Indulgence still lingers in the ambitions of men. It is the germ that kindles the fires of passion, and leads men and nations to their fall. Not only are lives hanging in the balance, in our own land, but the world is looking to America for an example of wise conduct. What standard shall we hold to view for the world to gaze upon? A sure foundation for our Republic, namely, temperance principles, through Nation-wide Prohibition, by means of the adoption of the proposed amendment, is our only hope of precedence, successful perpetuity, and progress.

Third, we should contend for the adoption of the amendment, because it will prove a financial advantage over the past. The city of Boston, Massachusetts, received over one million dollars in license fees during 1916. Its expenditures, because of pauperism, insanity, and crime, attributable to the liquor traffic were about \$4,298,000, over four times as much. In the light of this, and other reports showing a like proportion, where is there any profit in liquor revenue? If our country continues business on this basis, bankruptcy, sooner or later, both in a physical and financial way, is the inevitable result. But when it reverses the plan: uses its food and property for the energizing and protection of the people, the change will bear fruit an hundred fold.

Fourth, we should take our stand for the amendment, because the United States Congress and House of Representatives have passed it by more than a two thirds majority vote. These men, the leaders in the legislative branch of our government, in their consideration of this issue, have signified by their action

that they deem National Prohibition to be a wise and profitable measure.

Moreover, several states, including Mississippi, Kentucky, Virginia, South Carolina, North Dakota and Maryland have already ratified the amendment with a large majority vote. By this we are assured that the truth is working its way into the hearts of the people. In the face of these activities, however, the liquor forces are confident that they can prevent the ratification of the amendment within the six-year limitation. This means that the dry forces must act quickly. All that is necessary for our defeat is to let the liquor men control the majority of one house in each of thirteen states! Our part consists in controlling the majority of both houses in each of thirty-six states. But it can be done. Right must win. Discouragement now is a crime. It is our business to see that New York -- the greatest state in the Union -- does not fail in her part of the great battle.

"Strike while the iron is hot" was never uttered at a more opportune time than the present. Victory is at hand. The attack is surely made. We have but to make the rush "over the top," and the enemy must surrender. In proportion to the light of truth shining upon us is the responsibility to meet the demand. That demand is liberty and justice to the oppressed. The God of the universe is pleading. Humanity in accord, is imploring us -- citizens of this State of New York -- to be among the number who shall bring this issue to a triumphant and glorious termination. Friends, will you heed the call?

Lawrence Hill

THE HOUGHTON STAR

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Editorial

THE SPIRIT OF VICTORY

"That America may be strong" is our slogan. To that devotion, to the dynamic vision of that spiritual strength enthroned in the life fiber of our nation we are consecrating anew "our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." The spirit of the I. P. A. means the spirit of success, service and sacrifice. We are keepers of a sacred trust indomitable as Gibraltar, unflinching as adamant we must stand. A hundred thousand strong our trained student leadership fighting that Columbia may vanquish all her enemies. A new chivalry, a new gallantry asserts itself. It is the volunteer spirit whose oath of allegiance means sacrifice, whose service flag may be an iron cross -- but whose recompense is the holy of holies of triumph. Principle never dies. Its persecution but adds glory to its glory.

There is a path. The vulture's eye has not seen it; unworthy feet have not touched its white threshold; the heart that knows not the accent of pain, lives on the other side of the world from it. There is a path. Its sands are marked by footprints of saints and heroes who have died the death angels might envy -- yea, footprints of an army whose banner blazons Truth's fiery words, "I believe that by the measure of my strength I am accountable for the evil things that are; that to the utmost of my powers I am charged with the better things that are to be." Sacrifice is the spirit of Victory.

"For humanity sweeps onward where today the martyr stands,

On the morrow crouches Judas with the silver in his hands.

Far in front the cross stands ready, and the crackling fagots burn,

While the hooting mob of yesterday in silent awe return

To glean up scattered ashes into history's golden urn."

We are anticipating that our April 15 number will be a "Star" of increased brilliance. It will be a Houghton Seminary number with school spirit and real Houghton inspiration on every page of it. In fact all remaining issues will have something interesting in store for our readers.

"Exchange" friends, we are eagerly expecting to hear some comments from your columns concerning our status quo. Let us be genuine friends and ex-

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change suggestions. "Alumni" friends, write us once in a while; tell us what you are doing. Did it ever occur to you that Houghton is just as interested in you as you are interested in Houghton? Tell us if you would like an Alumni number of the "Star" and what newsy ideas you have. Several other departments which lack of space has crowded from this issue will soon be blossoming forth in all the glory of stars at springtime. We hear that our "organizations" have some events of importance to report for us, and "Athletics" are waking with a thrill of jubilation from our baseball fans. We would be glad to welcome an especially exciting season in athletic activities.

Locals

Ruth and Helen Douglass recently came to Houghton to visit friends. Friday night a party in their honor was held at the Dormitory. Helen returned home Saturday but Ruth will remain a few days longer.

Harold Luckey has come home from Geneseo for Easter vacation, bringing with him a friend, Mr. Dudley Gorden.

A party of students went on a hike Saturday to a sugar camp in the woods.

Luckeys entertained a crowd of young people Saturday night.

A number of students enjoyed a party at Fero's on Friday evening.

We are wondering where the resemblance lies when Miss Freeman walks beside Mr. Bruce at church and thinks she is with Miss Farmer.

Leona Head's brother, Rex, of Youngsville, Penn'a, has been visiting her for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Crandall and family found themselves well settled in their own home Saturday night.

Mr. Morgon visited Miss Houghton Saturday and Sunday.

The funeral of Mrs. Geo. Waldorf was held in the Seminary Chapel at two o'clock Sunday, the great number who attended showed with what respect she was regarded in this community. Rev. A. W. Hall preached the funeral sermon.

Mr. and Mrs. Win. Daniels from Penn Yann, N. Y. have been visiting his brother Fred Daniels for a few days.

Prof. Hester has returned from Burr Oak, Kansas where he was summoned by his father's death.

Pres. Luckey attended the Allegany Conference at Akron, Ohio last week.

Le Roy Fero is home at present.

Miss Ruth Douglass was the guest of Mildred Parmele Thursday night and of Winnifred Fero Friday night.

On Friday evening two mixers were held, the men's at the Seminary and the ladies at the dormitory.

Beatrice Hale was the guest of Almeda Hall Friday night.

Ruth Douglass, Ruth Luckey, and Dorthey Peck were at the dormitory Friday night for supper.

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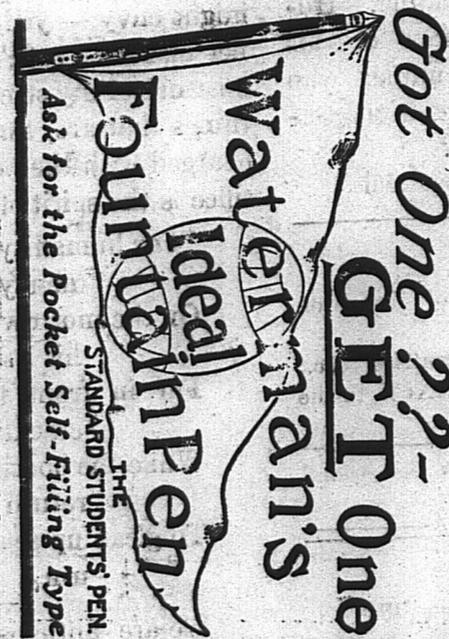
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Jolting Breezes

One of the Dorm girls met Miss Bullock at the foot of the stairs.

Dorm girl— "Who sees you oftener than I do?"

Gracia— "I don't know unless its Bev."

Francis— "I see you have some new popular sheet music."

Miss Spersel— "Yes! It's title is 'Home Sweet Home.' Did you ever hear it?"

Even the moon can't give his wife any cash on pay day of late. He only has four quarters, and needs them to get full on. How we need War Prohibition!

They say the Erie Railroad refuses to transport corpses of late, because they won't guarantee getting them to their destination before the resurrection. Hurry up and join the I. P. A., or your speed limit will be no more attractive than the Erie!

A New York daily says, "Divorce breaks up more homes than Drink." We wonder how long since drink has broken up any divorces.

Wilbur Clark paid a visit to Houghton Hall one evening of late. A very pleasant time was being spent when suddenly in a burst of overwhelming laughter Mr. Clark kicked over the stove and several links of pipe came tumbling down. After a hot time the stove and pipe were put together but the effects lasted for several days. Mr. Clark will be open for appointment for taking down stoves and cleaning chimneys after April 1st.

In Biology Class.

Teacher— "Is there a connecting link between the animal and vegetable kingdoms?"

Bright Student— "Nothing but hash, as far as I know."

As told by McKinney at the Rose Party
A tramp at the door of a benevolent woman's home was asking alms. As she said—

"I'm giving you this not because it is a duty, but because it pleases me to do so."

And he replied— "Couldn't you make it a quarter and thoroughly enjoy your self?"

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When the feet are bare the whole body thinks. -- Egyptian Proverb.

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Sam Slacker's worst fault was the fact that he occasionally imbibed too freely. It was a wet day, both inside and outside for Sam. Rain was pouring down in torrents. He stood under the eavespout. In vain a friend tried to get him away from the deluge. He resented.

"Save the women and children," was his plea, "I can swim."

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Students' Philosophy

Jake Never Rush lived in Missouri. He rode a mule. Jake wasn't a very swift individual. The mule was less swift. One day Jake was sent ten miles to the nearest city for a doctor. One of the neighbors was sick. The doctor owned an automobile. Jake wagered it wouldn't run without a mule team to pull it. But it did run, and like Peter of old, Jake "followed afar off."

The Doctor reached his destination ministered to the sick neighbor and on the way home met Jake half a mile outside of town. Mr. Mule had balked. Interia was the word. The Doctor stopped his car. From a medicine case he procured a bottle, and applied its contents just back of the mules ears. Heels flew into the air. Jake landed in the road. When fully recovered he watched the mule disappear around the next corner like a streak of lightning. He eyed the doctor and questioned slowly,

"Say does that air stuff in the bottle cost much?" The doctor said that it was quite inexpensive. "Well," Jake commented, "Maybe if you'd try a little of it on me I could catch up with the mule."

Moral: That bottle contained pep. If you haven't joined the I. P. A. apply for a perscription.

It is surely pleasing that so much interest in the Literary Contest is alive. Since our discussion of it in chapel March 22, possibilities are surely waking up. We have three poetical entries already and unmistakably in the words of Prof. McDowell "the glory of these spring days will soon be bursting forth into verse." Students who have won previous literary prizes according to precedent do not compete for them again. Everybody has an equal chance to win. That makes the substantial worth of a contest. We are expecting some huge surprises along the line of new literary genius. We have sufficient ability in that way to make competition strong and interest high. Especial commendation should be given the friend of our school, Mr. H. R. Barnett for his interest in the immediate contest. Students really appreciated his short talk in chapel concerning the first idea of the Silver Cup and its place in the interests of our school paper. Let us work to make this contest a spectacular event of this school term.