

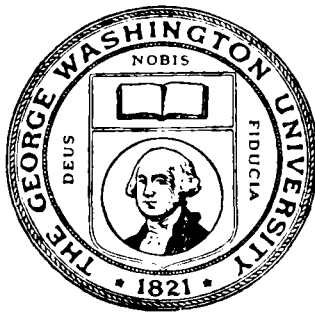
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JUNE, 1922

## UNLOCKING THE HEART OF AMERICA

By HUSTON THOMPSON

*Member Federal Trade Commission, before the Graduating Class of George Washington University, June 7, 1922, Washington, D. C.*

MR. PRESIDENT, MEMBERS OF THE GRADUATING CLASS, AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY:

This great event in your lives reminds me of a similar one which occurred in my own life some twenty-five years ago, the anniversary of which will be celebrated at a reunion within a few days.

Like the members of many other graduating classes of those days, we plunged into the vortex of life with some doubts, many emotions and lofty sentiments, and were soon at our daily tasks swallowed up in the confusion of numbers. Into this world of reality we carried the dreams of our undergraduate days.

One of the dreams which I recall particularly was inspired by the saying of one of the few really great men of the world. It was Aristotle, the teacher of Alexander the Great, who lived in the City of Athens three hundred years before the advent of Christ. Fancy yourself seeing that savant of old gazing into the future and predicting with a truly prophetic vision that: "Human slavery will not end until the advent of the Man of Iron."

Twenty-five years ago the Man of Iron had made his advent, and was stretching his colossal limbs over our nation in ever-growing proportion. It was reasonable to expect that the prophecy of Aristotle about the ending of human slavery was to be fulfilled. At least we entered the race of life upon this assumption.

As time rushed on, probably most of my fellow graduates and others of that decade consciously or unconsciously helped with feverish activity to add more cubits to the dimensions of this marvelous Man of Iron,—the embodiment of our machine-made age.

In that brief span of life we have seen the world made a whispering gallery through electricity; the face of Nature changed through coal and steam; the bird outrivaled through power generated by oil. Indeed, we have set up a Frankenstein civilization that seems to wear seven-league boots with which our spiritual selves are unable to cope. For the machine has lifted men from the soil and drawn them into the cities and tied them to its chariot, where day after day they do its bidding.

Moreover, as man puts his hand to the machine the monotony of it in the long run is apt to blunt the development of his spiritual faculties until his soul finally succumbs to the never-ceasing drive of the heartless master. Instead of our dominating this monster and making him responsive to our commands, he has perched himself upon our backs like the old man of the sea and drives us hither and thither until we ask ourselves, "Has the arrival of the Man of Iron really freed civilization of slavery?"

In America we sought to build up this Man of Iron by standardized mass production, believing that by this means we would free labor of its too arduous toil, supply the human needs, and thus bring happiness to all. Our fetish became efficiency, and the whirl of the wheels and the roar of the machinery called man closer to them until they caught him in their embrace and with their insatiable appetites demanded further standardization, even the standardization of human souls.

Analogous conditions exist in other countries. The British mind in raising up its Man of Iron turned its efforts not to standardized mass production, but to massive production,—heavy machinery, giant engines and big ships,—that would produce and distribute British goods, expecting by this means to tie the little island to her colonies, and secure for herself first place in the markets of the world.

Germany, on the other hand, took a different course. She went back into her laboratories and sought to build up her Man of Iron by applying science to industry, expecting by this means to increase and cheapen production so that she might dominate and capture the markets of the world. So absorbed did her people become in this task that the whole nation dedicated itself to building up its Man of Iron, until finally the hour arrived when he absorbed the builders and began to stalk across the world in search of others to satisfy his appetite, determined to capture by force what he had not already taken by brains.

Then we Americans did wonderful things. A wave of sentiment aroused us to such a degree that we wrenched this giant loose from our shoulders and put a bit in his teeth. With all the energies of an awakened nation we conjured together a thunderbolt, hurled it at the German Man of Iron, and shattered him into fragments.

Having completed the job, we rapidly climbed down from the exalted position where the ideals that inspired the founders of our nation had again stirred the heart of our America, and remarkable to relate, began once more to bow our shoulders to this juggernaut. And now, today, as you look upon the stage of life, you will see

His Utilitarian Majesty once more sitting in the seats of the mighty, while the classes and masses, automatically as it were, take their cue from him.

Let us poll some of the actors of the drama of life in which we live, and ask them what their contribution has been to the Man of Iron.

Come with me down into the legalist's office and propound the question to him. He will perhaps point with pride to his book shelves, where lie the voluminous output from our courts and commissions, consisting of about twenty-three thousand legal decisions and rulings a year. He will insist with some show of pride probably that the law is the foundation of civilization—even of the civilization of today.

Let us put the question to the medical man standing within the influence radiating from this great civilization, and with a far-away gaze in his eyes he will picture the wonders that medicine has accomplished in the tropics, the triumphs of modern surgery and the latest achievements of gland transplanting. Suggest to him that perhaps his is now a bread and butter profession, and, while possibly admitting this, he will claim that the order to which he belongs has added several cubits to the stature of this civilization.

But proudest of all is our modern business man who has been crowned above all others by civilization. He rejoices in being called the "hard-headed" business man and he will tell you with pride that he has brought it about, that this nation produces more than one third of the manufactured goods of the world; that it is the richest and most powerful country, and that he has helped to fill the pockets of this Man of Iron with gold until he possesses over \$3,000,000,000 of the world's medium of exchange.

And so we could summon the other builders one by one until there would be unfolded before your eyes the marvelous proportions of this materialistic conception of our generation. Who will deny that we are living in a marvelous age, that men have struggled harder perhaps than in any other civilization, and wrought greater things? But let us draw a little closer to these actors.

Separate that lawyer from the conventional appraisal, and catch him off his guard. Take the medical man who has gone through the routine college courses and with his scalpel has dissected the human body to the very bones of the skeleton, or witness yonder "hard-headed" business man seeking to expand his business to the ends of the earth. You will be struck by the fact that they seem to be gazing into a future where they fear the coming of a pestilence that walketh in darkness or destruction

that wasteth at noonday. If you will observe carefully you will notice that they are seeking for something and, as they seek, are turning their eyes in your direction.

Why, you may ask, should they turn to you? It is because this thing which they seek is synonymous with youth,—dulls with age and dies in the minds of those who have been pounded with materialistic thoughts. It is the thing which the older nations have lost and which causes them to look with longing eyes toward youthful America in the hope that she still possesses it.

It is the key to the soul, even of the Man of Iron. For the lack of a better name we call it Sentiment. I have no doubt but that it is still here in America, but the generation which is on the stage today has lost it. This is why it awaits the coming of youth—of you, on life's stage with an eagerness almost pathetic in its intensity.

I would not have you misunderstand what I mean by this word "sentiment." It is not that emotion which causes people to scatter charity that produces paupers. It is not sentimentalism, nor momentary mass emotion. It involves a cooperation of the heart and of the mind. It is that thing in the British Government which causes it to reach down into the civil service and mark him who benefits his country most in that great service, raises him to knighthood, or declares that whenever the humblest subordinate contributes anything of value, in a documentary way or otherwise for his country, that his name shall be stamped upon the work so that he shall be recognized.

It is that appealing force which has caused France to set aside a sum each year as a reward to the one performing the greatest service for the government, and when that award is about to be made, selects not the statesman nor the artist, nor the soldier, but causes the spirit of France to reach down into the peasant life and pick out a girl of nineteen years of age, whose father being an invalid and mother insane, left her their six children to care for. Cheerful and smiling, she tended to her daily duties of washing and dressing and feeding these children, and sending them off to school. And then, after working all day in a match factory, she returned to wash and feed and put the little ones to bed. For her cheerful, uncomplaining efforts to keep the family intact, and the home fires burning she was crowned by France as the one having done the greatest service for the nation.

This sentiment is the thing that moved one of our own merchants to come before a public body and say, "We merchants have been practicing the unlawful and uneconomic thing called commercial bribery, and have spent thousands of dollars in tying up

the salesmen of concerns to purchase from us in order that we may keep the business from a fellow merchant. I am so anxious to stop this practice for the good of our industry that I will be willing to take the odium of an order against me to cease this practice regardless of the financial loss so that by setting an example our industry may be purged of this practice."

It is the thing that caused a leading manufacturer not many months ago to stand out against a great combination of other manufacturers who joined with groups of jobbers to compel this business man to come into line and fix prices on an article of general use in this country, and gave him the courage to withstand secret attacks from every direction so that, as he said to them, he might live up to the laws of our land regardless of the consequences to his business.

It is this impulse that sometimes moves nations to do a wonderful thing—something which they never dreamed would return to them benefits a thousand fold, as it did when America returned the sum of \$24,000,000 to China which was the amount allotted to us by the concert of nations from China after the Boxer Uprising.

You will recall—for it is worth being recalled many times in order to make us realize the real constructive things of the world—that instead of taking these twenty-four million dollars, we turned them back, with the suggestion that China devote the funds to the education of her sons and daughters. This simple little act so stirred the sentiment of that nation that China opened up its soul and declared that it would send its sons and daughters with that fund to America to catch the spirit which would prompt such an act. And it has more than made good by placing in our universities for twenty years three hundred of the pick of the boys and girls of China. And added to this are the three hundred more sent by the provinces that make up that country. Today many of the earlier students are in high places in the Government of that awakening nation.

We know that there is an open door in China to America, opened by a little act of sympathy, which has done as much in a constructive way to establish a cordial relationship between these two nations as any other one act in the history of international relations.

Do not these instances which I have recited point the way to the thing which will unlock not only the heart of the individual and nation, but of all nations? Is it not the thing which will give us the key to unlock the breast of this Iron Man of ours so that we can put a soul in there, if there be not one there already, and

eliminate the slavery of our time—the heartless selfishness of the materialist. Does it not say to us that we as a nation, if we would respond to this sentiment, can no longer act in the Confucianistic spirit of negation, but that we must resort to affirmative acts as glorified in the Sermon on the Mount in our relations with the rest of the world; that we can not pass like the priest and the levite along the road and abandon those that suffer, but must lift them up, bind up their wounds, and set them on their way. And does it not also mean that when Macedonia cries to us we shall answer the call, and declare to the world that we are our brother's keeper?

And finally, when we have unlocked the soul of our modern civilization with this key, then the slavery of hesitation, the slavery of fear, and the lack of faith in others will fall away and we shall take this Man of Iron, bridle him and drive him, so that he shall become our servant and not our master.

Tonight, in the optimism of this hour, I salute this great class, call upon you individually and collectively as you advance to receive your diplomas and make your entrance upon the stage of life, that you will let sentiment open your soul, so that when the call comes to you, as come it will, to make articulate the soul of our country, you will answer with a thrill in every fibre of your being, "Present."



## ADDRESS TO THE GRADUATES

*By* PRESIDENT HODGKINS

On behalf of the University, its trustees, its faculties, and for myself officially and personally, I congratulate you. I wish you Godspeed.

Few of us in the faculty know of the sacrifices that many of you have made—sacrifices of time, sacrifices of money, sacrifices of pleasures—in order to complete the courses for your degrees; sacrifices that will result in large good for you; sacrifices, we trust, that will result in large good for the communities in which you live.

I am a graduate of this University myself, and therefore I am especially glad to welcome you among the alumni of our University. I am also glad that the graduating exercises of your University courses have been held in this hall—this Memorial Continental Hall of the Daughters of the American Revolution—this hall built to commemorate the labor and the sacrifices and the visions of those who made this country the Republic that it is.

It is a part of the education that you receive as students of the George Washington University that you are living in Washington during your student days. And in Washington this last year has been notable for many things that have stirred the patriotic emotions—notable for many things that bring forth that sentiment so eloquently portrayed to you by the speaker of the day. Beginning last November with the burial of the Unknown Soldier, followed by the convention on the Limitation of Armaments held in this very hall, and in more recent weeks by the unveiling of the Grant Monument and the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial—all of these are a part of that broadening influence that will make you better citizens of this country, better citizens of the world.

We can not live to ourselves alone. We must mingle with our fellow beings. To you who have tonight received diplomas certifying the completion of University courses, to you there is a call to duty. Note the phrase used in the conferring of the diplomas: "As with all the rights and privileges, so with all the duties pertaining to that distinction."

A century and a half ago, nearly, those in whose memory this hall was built felt a call to duty, a call to duty to make life better for themselves and for their generation, a call to duty that was to result in bringing good to the generations that have come.

And for you, too, all of you, there should be ever this call to duty.

This environment in which we live, this civilization that we have, comes from the efforts, the strivings, the labors of the strong in intellect, the broad in vision. Civilization is maintained, civilization is advanced by uplift, not by upheaval. It is your part to help in that uplift. As you go forth into the duties of life there may come to you times of trouble, winters of discouragement, days when you can scarcely see that there is any hope. And so it was to those in whose memory this hall was built.

But Valley Forge was followed by Yorktown. And so to you, victory will come if you have that character which we hope you have, that character which is the ideal this University seeks, that character which this University endeavors to develop in you.

For some of you the circle of influence may be small, for others it may be large. But be it a town or county, a state or the world, wherever and however you are performing your duty, it must be a duty that is advancing civilization in some way, that is an influence for the good of those with whom you are associated and for those in whose memories your lives are a molding power.

You are now joined to nearly ten thousand who have gone from the halls of this University in the hundred years that have passed since it was founded. We count on you to keep untarnished the name of the institution; we count on you to advance yourselves in moral and intellectual power, to live lives of force and growth, to be true citizens of this country.

And as I said in the beginning, so I say in conclusion: I congratulate you; I wish you Godspeed.

## STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT HODGKINS IN CONFERRING HONORARY DEGREES

HELEN NICOLAY

*Author, cultivator of literature and the fine arts*

Citizen of the District of Columbia, student of history and biography. In your books on history you have presented in delightful language facts about great leaders in this country, especially Lincoln and Grant, that give to the youth of the land information and inspiration promotive of true patriotism. You bring to your readers in all that you write the charm of a facile pen and of a well-trained mind, artistically discriminative.

For these and other services, on behalf of George Washington University, I confer upon you the honorary degree of Master of Arts, and I authorize you to receive a diploma and be invested with the insignia of the degree.

WALLACE RADCLIFFE

*Clergyman*

Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, Doctor of Laws of Washington and Jefferson College; Doctor of Divinity of Lafayette College. Minister of the Presbyterian Church, serving in Philadelphia, in Detroit, and for twenty-seven years in Washington. Prominent and influential in the councils of the church, as Moderator in various districts, and as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States; delegate of the church to councils in this country and abroad. Acknowledged authority on church doctrine and church government.

During the twenty-seven years you have lived in Washington you have brought the word of God to thousands upon thousands; never losing sight of the true spirituality of religion. You have ever been a student of affairs, and have shown the links and connections of the day's work with the teachings of the Christ. You have shown how man may best live the life of today so as to advance the civilization and culture of the world; so as to make real the spiritual that so transcends the material.

Because of the life you have lived, the doctrines you have taught, the spiritual good you have done, on behalf of the George Washington University, I confer upon you the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, and authorize you to receive a diploma and be invested with the insignia of the degree.

## HAROLD LINDSAY AMOSS

*Bacteriologist and immunologist*

Bachelor of Science and Master of Science of the University of Kentucky; for a time a student in the Medical School of George Washington University; later, Doctor of Medicine and Doctor of Public Health of Harvard University. You have used your knowledge, you have used your genius in research, for the benefit of humanity. You have served as a teacher, you have served as a medical officer during the World War, where you attained the rank of Major. You have been on the Scientific Staff of the Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research, where you have reached the rank of Associate Member in Pathology. You are soon to join the staff of the Medical School and Hospital of Johns Hopkins University. For fifteen years you have been a contributor to various medical journals of valuable articles on subjects in your fields of research.

In recognition of these and other services you have rendered, on behalf of George Washington University, I confer upon you the honorary degree of Doctor of Science, and I authorize you to receive a diploma and be invested with the insignia of the degrees.

## JOANNES GENNADIUS

*Diplomat, scholar, author, encourager of learning*

For many years you have served your native country most illustriously, and so serving, have served the whole civilized world. Entering the diplomatic service of Greece at an early age, you have been its representative at Constantinople, at London, at Vienna, at the Hague. You have been its delegate at many conferences and congresses. After being in active service long beyond the usual age, you were retired with the permanent title of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the first class.

Recently you have been called from retirement and sent to this country on a special mission.

You have received decorations and honors from your own country and from many foreign countries. You have recently shown your interest in learning and in culture by presenting to the American School at Athens your magnificent London library of upward of fifty thousand treasures of literature and art.

In recognition of this and other services and because of your career, distinguished in so many ways, on behalf of the George Washington University, I confer upon you the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters and I authorize you to receive a diploma and be invested with the insignia of the degree.

## HUSTON THOMPSON

*Lawyer, teacher, public official*

Bachelor of Arts of Princeton University. Student in Law, practitioner of law in Colorado, lecturer in Law in the University of Denver, Assistant Attorney General of Colorado, Assistant Attorney General of the United States, member and for a time chairman of the Federal Trade Commission.

As you have risen, through merit, from position to position, you have ever shown that broad grasp of affairs, that accurate judicial judgment that can be had only by a mind trained, by a brain well stocked with facts. Ever interested in education, you have been a constant friend to this University since you came to Washington fifteen years ago. You represent the type of public official of which this country is proud.

In recognition of these and many other services, on behalf of the George Washington University, I confer upon you the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, and I authorize you to receive a diploma and be invested with the insignia of the degree.

**SUMMARY OF DEGREES CONFERRED AT  
COMMENCEMENT, JUNE 7, 1922.**

IN COURSE

<i>Columbian College</i>		
Bachelor of Arts.....	115	
Bachelor of Science in Medicine.....	2	
<i>College of Engineering</i>	—	117
Bachelor of Science—		
In Architecture .....	1	
In Chemistry .....	5	
In Chemical Engineering .....	2	
In Civil Engineering .....	4	
In Electrical Engineering .....	1	
In Mechanical Engineering .....	5	
<i>Teachers College</i>	—	18
Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor's Diploma in Education .....		28
<i>Medical School</i>		
Doctor of Medicine.....	11	
Nurses' Certificate .....	7	
<i>Law School</i>	—	18
Bachelor of Laws.....	118	
Master of Laws.....	11	
<i>College of Pharmacy</i>	—	129
Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy.....		1
<i>School of Graduate Studies</i>		
Civil Engineer .....	1	
Master of Science.....	16	
Master of Arts.....	36	
(3 with Master's Diploma in Education)		
Doctor of Philosophy.....	9	
(1 with Doctor's Diploma in Education)	—	62
Degrees in Course.....		373
<b>HONORARY</b>		
Master of Arts.....	1	
Doctor of Divinity.....	1	
Doctor of Science.....	1	
Doctor of Humane Letters.....	1	
Doctor of Laws.....	1	
	—	5
Total number of Degrees conferred.....		378

## SUMMARY OF REGISTRATION

	<i>Registration</i> 1921-22	<i>Registration</i> 1920-21
School of Graduate Studies.....	320	229
Columbian College .....	2,183	1,968
Engineering College .....	545	540
Teachers College .....	367	307
Medical School .....	151	113
Law School .....	1,045	898
School of Pharmacy .....	21	14
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	4,632	4,069