

REGINALD HEBER HOWE

BORN: Quincy, Mass., April 10, 1875. PARENTS: Reginald Heber Howe, Susan Adams.

SCHOOL: Noble and Greenough's School, Boston, Mass. ¹⁸⁹³⁻¹⁹⁰¹

YEARS IN COLLEGE: 1897-1901. DEGREES: S.M., 1922; Docteur de l'Université Sorbonne, 1912.

MARRIED: Marion Appleton Barker, Brookline, Mass., Sept. 19, 1904. CHILDREN: Susan Appleton, Oct. 23, 1905; Richard Ollerton, May 4, 1915.

OCCUPATION: Headmaster.

ADDRESS: Belmont Hill School, Belmont, Mass.

IN the twenty-five years that have elapsed since graduation, Heber Howe has crowded the careers of three men. Most of us find it difficult enough to hold down one job. What shall we think of a man who can combine successfully teaching, research work and coaching? As a coxswain Heber always did put us to shame. He writes:

"After being for three years a non-resident teacher at Middlesex School, I accepted the permanent position of master of natural science, which position I held until 1920. In July 1904, I traveled throughout the west, and in the summer of 1905 I visited nine countries of Europe. My other summers were spent in Rhode Island, until I established a summer camp school for boys at Fitzwilliam, N.H., known as South Pond Cabins. In 1905 I raised a fund to build the Thoreau Museum of Natural History at the Middlesex School, a building including an exhibition hall and a laboratory.

"During these years at Middlesex, I specialized for an avocation in the study of lichens, and published through various media some three hundred pages on biological research of one kind or another. In 1910 I was extended a botanical research scholarship by the New York Botanic Gardens, but was forced to give it up on account of overwork.

"The most important event of this period, if not of my life since graduation, was my sabbatical year, which extended from July 1911 until September 1912. In July I went with my wife to Newfoundland to collect lichens, returning in time to sail on August first for England. We spent the summer in Normandy, going to Paris in September, where I entered the Sorbonne. I spent the winter completing 'in residence' my work for a doctor's degree on lichenological research, published my thesis, and received the degree of Docteur de l'Université (in Natural Science) in the spring.

"We lived in the Latin quarter, and while I studied, my wife and small daughter enjoyed the wonders of Paris. Outside of my family I saw most of Russell Greeley, who painted (God bless him!) an oil canvas of my wife, which is as refined in setting and soft in coloring as his early work for the Class gave promise. The portrait has been universally admired. I spent many pleasant hours with Professor W. M. Davis, then exchange professor at the Sorbonne, and attended the Yale dinner of the Harvard Club of Paris which had its birth that year. We returned home by way of London, where I spent six weeks in further botanical study at the British Museum of Natural History.

"Three other events of interest to me during this period were: first, the birth of a son; second, my withdrawal from partnership in the boys' summer camp known as South Pond Cabins; and lastly, my appointment to the secretaryship of the Middlesex School. During these years, only by the most constant and painstaking care from Dr. George C. Shattuck, was my health, seriously affected by overwork in Paris, restored to its normal frailty.

"During the past ten years, two important changes have taken place in my life. In 1920 I spent a sabbatical year in research work for a Master's Degree at Harvard, in the Department of Entomology at the Bussey Institution. During that year I was in charge of the Freshman rowing squad, and coached the 1924 Freshman crew. At the request of the Harvard University Rowing Committee, Middlesex School extended to me another year of absence, and I held an instructorship in the Department of Physical Education, while continuing my research work, and was appointed Director of Rowing. During that year I coached the University crews, as well as the Freshman crews. At the end of that year, I resigned from Middlesex School to continue as Director of Rowing, but did not coach the 'Varsity or Freshman crews. The policy that I inaugurated was to make the usefulness of rowing at the University of recreational value to a greater number of students.

"Though appointed for the following year as Director of Rowing, I resigned to found the Belmont Hill School, at Belmont, Mass., which was opened in September 1923, President Eliot making the opening address. Since then, as headmaster, I have conducted the school with the help of a very active executive committee, my wife, and an unusually conscientious faculty. The School is now entering upon its third year. Two members of the Executive Committee are Middlesex School graduates. The main building

was dedicated, at my request, to Dean Shaler, and a recitation building to Frank Bolles, both of whom I remember at Cambridge with affection. During 1924 I raised a fund which built for the School a natural history museum. [George C. Shattuck, M.D. has served on the Advisory Committee of the School, and John W. Hallowell is one of the incorporators. Thus 1901 has had a definite interest in the school.] As an avocation, I have continued research work in biology."

PUBLICATIONS: (Books) *Middlesex School in the War* (Editor), 1921; *The Education of the Modern Boy* (Co-author with Dr. Alfred E. Stearns, Dr. Samuel S. Drury, Dr. Endicott Peabody, W. L. W. Field, Dr. William G. Thayer), Small, Maynard & Co., 1925.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES: Harvard Club, New University Club, Boston; Entomological Club, Cambridge. Boston Society of Natural History, Société Linnéenne de Lyon.



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