IN THE GREAT WAR

extraordinary speed and carried the puck perfectly. In a criticism in the *Horae Scholasticae* in 1916 he is called "the fastest man on the ice since Hobey Baker," and he still holds this rank.

Dick had a good mind but was handicapped by being a slow worker. He was utterly faithful and thorough, however, and these qualities would have given him sure success. Besides his capacity for work he had a very real feeling for beauty in books and in the world about him. In 1916 he was awarded the Stewart Douglas Robinson scholarship.

In the life of the School he was an extraordinary combination of silence and power. He was like a sphinx, but a sphinx that radiated goodness. Modest and shy, as captain on the ice he spoke very little, yet was an adored leader. What he said to his intimates became known through the School. But better than concrete expression was the silent influence of the modesty and sweetness of character which was clear to all who even looked at him.

One thinks of Dick as an outdoor man, a lover of the woods and of the edge of things. At School he took long solitary walks and runs. When still a very small boy he learned to row and sail a boat skillfully, showing an adventurous spirit that sometimes alarmed his family. When later he grew up to a twenty foot knock-about, he loved to cruise for days, either alone or with one companion. He had the pioneer spirit that finds its expression in fearless adventure in the great outdoors. What an explorer he would have made!

In 1916 he attended a military camp at Plattsburg. On April 23rd, 1917, he left School to join the American Field Service in France. He drove a camion for six months, taking ammunition to the French front. He then enlisted in the United States Army at Gondrecourt, France, November 20th, 1917. After joining the machine gun company of
of the highest, and he stood among his comrades as a perfect soldier.”

His platoon sergeant says: “As his platoon sergeant and coming from the same part of the country, I became well acquainted with your son and assure you of my sincerest admiration of Richard, as a man and soldier. Although but recently in the service and giving promise of rapid advancement he gladly and willingly offered up his life on the altar of his Country and died with a smile, as honorable in death as in life.”

His father tells this almost miraculous incident: “In France, after many visits to the battlefield where he fell, I finally stood on the very spot of his fall, according to a drawing given to me by one of his companions whom I found in hospital, and there I picked out of the mud my last letter to him, which closed with the words: ‘in spite of all the turmoil and death in which you are living, you can be at perfect peace in the arms of your Heavenly Father.’”

Citations.

“The Brigade Commander cites for gallant conduct the following officers and men of the First Infantry Brigade, who courageously met their death while in combat with the enemy during occupation of the Montdidier-Noyon sector: . . . . . Corporal Richard S. Conover.”

“The Division Commander cites the following officers and soldiers for gallantry in action and especially meritorious service: Corporal Richard S. Conover, M.G. company 18th infantry, who was killed in action near Cantigny, France, May 27th, 1918.”