

LATE DR. HOUGHTON

TO LIE IN STATE

Los Angeles Express 1/25/38

Paying a last tribute to a "buddy," the American Legion will post a guard of honor by the casket of Dr. A. D. Houghton, one of the 11 founders of the Legion, as his body lies in state Thursday in the rotunda of the City Hall.

The body will lie in state from 8 a. m. until noon and funeral services will be held at 1 o'clock at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, 615 South Figueroa street.

Dr. Houghton, a world famous botanist, a physician and a former city councilman, died Sunday at the Good Samaritan Hospital from a heart ailment from which he had suffered for over a year. He was 66.

Members of the American Legion particularly mourned his passing. Against the orders of six physicians, he traveled to the American Legion convention in New York City last summer to fight for the holding of the next convention in Los Angeles. He and the other delegates were successful, but on the way home he was stricken with the illness that was to prove his last.

Dr. Houghton was born in London June 8, 1871. He was educated at Oxford, the Royal Military School of Engineers and other British seats of learning.

He had lived in Los Angeles county for the past 36 years and was a member of the City Council from 1906 to 1907. After helping to found the American Legion he founded Los Angeles Post No. 8.

He is survived only by his widow, Mrs. Florence Gildersleeve Houghton.

Dr. Arthur Houghton, Legion Leader, Dies

Dr. Arthur D. Houghton, one of the 11 founders of the American Legion, and a famous botanist, physician and politician, died late yesterday of a heart attack.

The 66-year-old former Los Angeles City Councilman had been ill in bed since he violated the orders of six physicians and attended the American Legion convention in New York last summer.

He was stricken on the train returning to his San Fernando home.

As delegate-at-large from California, Dr. Houghton attended the New York convention specifically to fight to get the 1938 Legion convention for Los Angeles.

HELPED TO WIN

He helped to win that fight—but death came before he could see the fruits of his victory.

The doctor died at Good Samaritan Hospital at 3:30 p. m. yesterday. At his bedside was his widow, the only surviving relative.

In honor of Dr. Houghton the City Council today adjourned its session on motion from Councilmen Jim Wilson and Robert S. MacAlister. At the same time American Legion officials said they had been notified that every legion

post in the county would send delegates in uniform to the funeral, which has been set tentatively for Thursday.

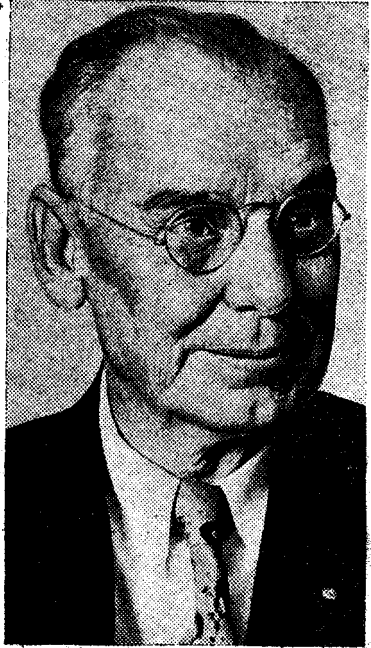
Dr. Houghton lived at 14714 Chatsworth drive, San Fernando, where on a 2½-acre plot of ground he raised rare flowers and conducted his botanical studies.

Between writing scientific papers, his later life was spent in Legion activities. He founded Post No. 8 in Los Angeles, after helping found the national organization in St. Louis in 1919.

In St. Louis, Dr. Houghton was one of the committee which drew up the Legion constitution. He was called into this work by Col. Theodore Roosevelt jr.

Born in London, England, June 8, 1871, Dr. Houghton was educated at Oxford, the Royal Military School of Engineers, and at other British seats of learning.

Soon after the turn of the century he came to Los Angeles, and in 1906 and 1907 served on the City



DR. A. D. HOUGHTON

*One of American Legion's Founders
Taken by Death*

Council as a reform candidate.

He was elected to the council on a recall move against an incumbent.

During his service on the council, "The Doc," as he was affectionately known, spent his time uncovering asserted graft rings and assailing lawlessness.

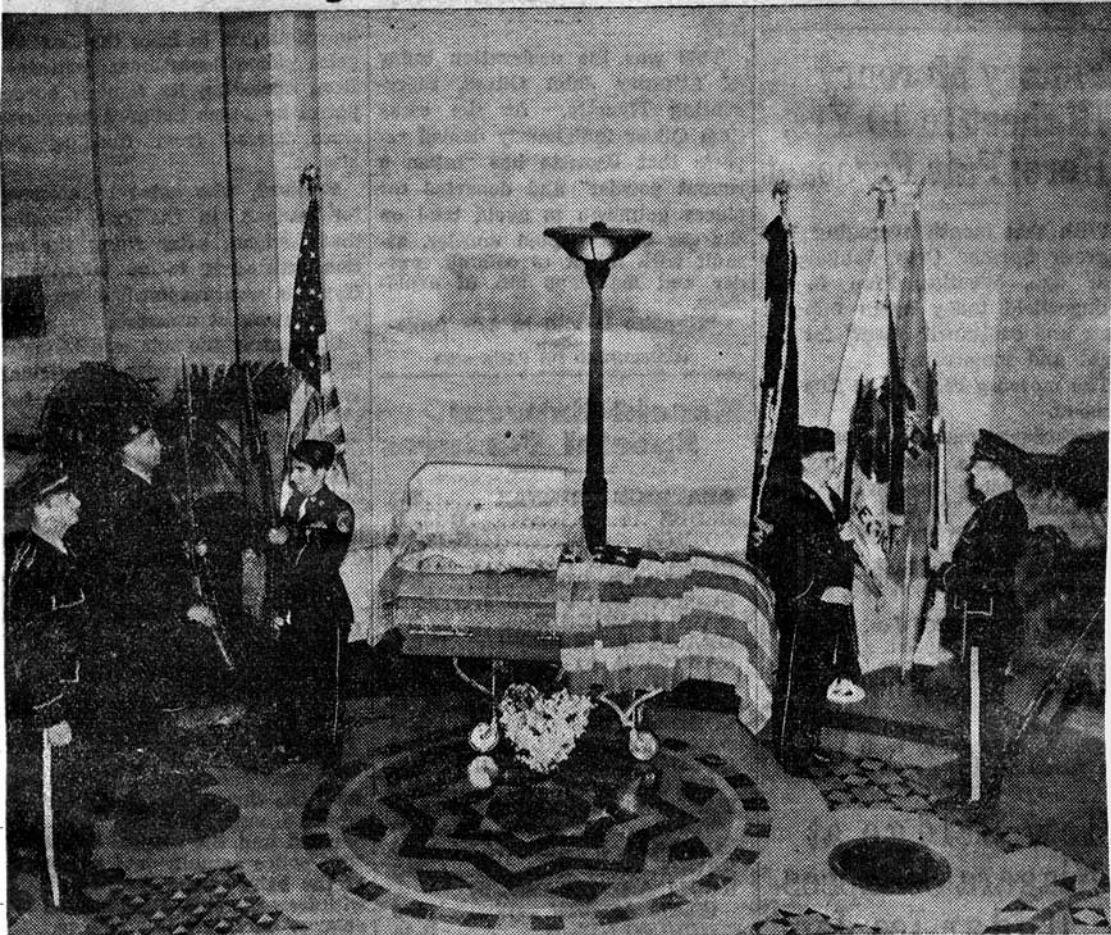
On one occasion, still remembered by city hall attaches, the doctor stood up in council meeting and pulled a fountain pen from his pocket. From the pen he withdrew a \$1000 bill, which he said had been given him by a lobbyist advocating certain measures.

As a result of this expose, a widespread paving scandal developed.

After serving on the council, Dr. Houghton became assistant chief police surgeon here and when the war broke out he entered the medical corps.

A school day romance beginning more than 12 years ago in Chicago culminated in the Illinois city today when Dr. Arthur D. Houghton, formerly a city councilman of Los Angeles, was married to Miss Florence Gildersleeve, niece of Supreme Court Justice Henry A. Gildersleeve, and a leader in society affairs in the eastern metropolis. Returning from their wedding trip, Mr. and Mrs. Houghton will make their home here.

American Legion Founder Honored in Death



Lying in state in the rotunda of the City Hall, the body of Dr. A. D. Houghton, one of the 11 founders of the American Legion, is shown today being guarded by a guard of honor of Legionnaires.

Dr. Houghton, a Los Angeles physician and noted bontanist, died at the age of 66 of a heart attack. After lying in state, the body was taken to St. Paul's Episcopal Church for the funeral services.

Lynn Houghton

DR. HOUGHTON CASKET WILL LIE IN STATE

L.A. Examiner
JAN 25 1938

Since retiring from the active practice of medicine, Doctor Houghton had given most of his attention of recent years to botanical experiments at his San Fernando home, 14714 Chatsworth drive.

At the time of his death, he was entitled to add to his name the distinguished initials, A. B., A. M., M. D., F. R. H. S., and Ph. D. In 1929, he was honored with a fellowship in the Royal Horticultural Society of England.

City Hall Honor for Former L. A. Councilman and Founder of American Legion Thursday

DIVERSIFIED INTERESTS

Called "Doc" by his intimates, the distinguished decedent lived and practiced a turbulent life. In politics, he was a stormy petrel—always involved in sensational activities, especially in exposing irregularities. As an enthusiastic Legionnaire, Doctor Houghton likewise was always in the thick of the fray.

Preceding funeral services at 1 p. m. Thursday, the body of the late Dr. Arthur D. Houghton, who died Sunday afternoon, will lie in state at the City Hall from 8 a. m. to noon.

And his forays into the botanical field were marked by his discovery in 1911 of a "purple orange." He boasted he was one of the few persons who could grow orchids in an open flower bed.

An American Legion guard of honor will stand by the casket in the rotunda of the City Hall, it was announced yesterday.

He authored "The Cactus Book," considered an authority on cacti.

Funeral services will be conducted at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, 615 South Figueroa

Doctor Houghton leaves the widow, Mrs. Florence Houghton.



DR. ARTHUR D. HOUGHTON
Former Councilman Mourned

Council Adjourns as Mark of Respect

JAN 25 1938

On motion of Councilman Jim Wilson, seconded by Councilman Robert S. MacAlister, the City Council yesterday adjourned as a mark of respect to the memory of Dr. Arthur D. Houghton, who died early yesterday.

street, with the Right Reverend W. Bertrand Stevens officiating. Private cremation services will follow.

The Council ordered the drafting of a suitable resolution of condolence. Doctor Houghton served as a member of the Council a number of years ago.

LEGION FOUNDER

Doctor Houghton was widely known in various circles. He was one of the eleven veterans who founded the American Legion and was once a member of the Los Angeles City Council. The 66-year-old physician had also won acclaim as a botanist.

Final Tribute Paid

Dr. A. D. Houghton

Herald Aug 15 1907 55

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In accordance with one of his last expressed wishes, funeral services for Dr. A. D. Houghton, 66, former city councilman, one of the 11 organizers of the American Legion and noted for many other activities, were conducted today.

His body lay in state in the rotunda of the City Hall for two hours, and an honor guard of legionnaires whom he had known during his active life paid him their final tribute, prior to funeral services in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 615 South Figueroa street.

On Christmas Eve, Dr. Houghton knew that death was near and he called to his bedside Louis Goodman, former commander of the Los Angeles Post No. 8, which Dr. Houghton organized. To Goodman he imparted his desires and gave complete directions for the funeral services, which were followed today.

The honor guard, changed every 15 minutes in the rotunda, was drawn from Post No. 8, Police Post,

Star Post, Professional Engineers Post and Los Angeles Railway Post of the American Legion.

HONOR GUARD LIST

The men who made up the guard were:

Post, No. 8—George F. Case, Robert Kirten, S. S. Smithyman, C. Stout, C. H. Mitchell and Ben Duncan.

Star Post—Joseph Bryor, Richard Miles A. W. Lachlan, G. A. Morford, J. H. Davis, Ray Rowe, Arthur Seth, William Kalkoff and P. R. Borden.

Police Post—V. B. Redmond, Thomas Alsup, Fred R. Laughlin, Al Cantim, C. B. Sylvester, W. R. Neilson and C. Destiche.

Professional Engineers Post—J. A. Doyle.

Los Angeles Railway Post—Leo L. Leasman.

At the simple funeral services in St. Paul's Church, the Rt. Rev.

W. Bertrand Stevens, bishop of the Episcopalian diocese of Los Angeles, presided. Joseph L. Fainer attorney and close friend of Dr. Houghton for many years, delivered the eulogy.

Rifles cracked in military salute and a bugle sounded a last farewell as Dr. Houghton was buried at the Oakwood Cemetery.

More than 100 political, civic, military, medical and scientific leaders were named honorary pallbearers yesterday by the widow, his sole survivor, Mrs. Florence Gildersleeve Houghton, and the active pallbearers today were:

Bill Main Reignald Fernald, Harvey E. Defty, Lou Goodman H. O. Wheeler and C. H. Mitchell.

Dr. Houghton was noted as an authority on cactus, having written books on the subject. He was the founder of horticultural societies, and on his two and one-half-acre plot of ground at 14714 Chatsworth drive, San Fernando, he carried on his botanical experiment.

He served in City Council from 1904 to 1906.

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BIOGRAPHY OF DR. ARTHUR D. HOUGHTON

(Prepared by the Los Angeles Municipal Reference Library)

Famous as one of the eleven founders of the American Legion, Dr. Arthur D. Houghton, botanist, physician, and politician was born in London, England, June 8, 1871. He was educated at Oxford, and the Royal Military School of Engineers.

Dr. Houghton came to Los Angeles shortly after the turn of the century, serving as a member of the Los Angeles City Council from 1902 to 1906. Later he served as assistant police surgeon for the City.

In June, 1913, Dr. Houghton was married to Miss Florence Gildersleeve, neice of Supreme Court Justice Henry A. Gildersleeve, of Chicago, Illinois.

During the European War, 1914-1918, Dr. Houghton served in an intelligence unit of the United States armed forces.

In May, 1919, he was a member of the committee which drew up the American Legion constitution, and upon his return to Los Angeles he founded Post No. 8 in that city.

Among other interests of "Doc", as he was known to his friends, was his devotion to botany. In 1929 he was made a Fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society of England. The University of California conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. At this time he was a member of the faculty at that university.

Dr. Houghton's special plant interest was cactus, and after his retirement he cultivated one of the largest private cactus gardens in the Southwest at his home in the San Fernando Valley. He was the author of The Cactus Book.

On January 23, 1938, Dr. Houghton died at the age of sixty-six of a heart condition aggravated by his attendance, against his doctor's orders, at the American Legion convention held in New York in the previous summer. As a delegate at large he helped get the 1938 Legion convention for Los Angeles.

Signal honors were paid Dr. Houghton at his death. On January 24, the Los Angeles City Council adjourned in his honor, and later his body lay in state in the City Hall with an honor guard of Legionnaires. Funeral services were held in St. Paul's Cathedral. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery.

Sources of Information:

Hollywood Citizen, January 27, 1938
Los Angeles City Council Records
Los Angeles Examiner, January 25, 1938
Los Angeles Herald & Express, June 23, 1913; January
24, 25, 1938
Los Angeles Times, January 24, 25, 1938