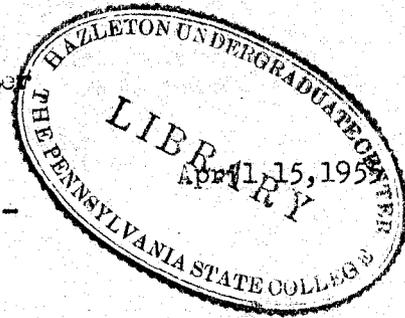


BULLETIN

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LIBERAL ARTIST OR ENGINEER?

By Larry Kowalski

There is an age old argument waged between students here at Penn State over which is more beneficial -- an engineering or a liberal arts background. While we do not choose to belittle our colleagues in the engineering curriculum we have taken the liberty to present in this article a few of the arguments used by the liberal arts student to further his case.

The student who is today in the arts and Letters curriculum is receiving that very kind of education which more and more people are daily concluding is essential in our modern society. These students are given a general background in the social economics and political problems that confront our society, are instructed in their possible solutions, are acquainted with the scientific discoveries of the world about them, are given an insight into themselves and their own improvement, and are trained to better their association with their fellow man both collectively and alone. Along with this, their students pay particular attention to their major fields which are emphasized but not overemphasized as they train themselves for their future career.

History with its insight into the past, its explanation of the present, and its prediction of the future; psychology with its analysis of the actions of the people, its probing into the solving of their mental problems, and its description of the human mind and its functioning; English, with its training for future correspondence; speech, with its preparation for future discussion; philosophy and logic, with their methods of activating the mind; sociology with its treatment of social problems; political science with its inspection of the political systems of the world--all these and many more combine to prepare the liberal arts student for all the problems of his society. He is both a "Jack of all trades" and a "Master of one."

The trend in our modern society is towards this general education, and away from the new specialization which it has been found, leaves serious defects in students. More and more colleges are requiring that engineers follow the pattern of their liberal arts colleagues and study subjects like literature and history.

It is inconceivable that a world of only engineers could succeed today. The limited - even though perfectual - range of their knowledge would be readily evident. On the other hand a colony of only arts and letters students, while facing a few difficulties, would by the very nature of their broad training be able to exist and eventually prosper.

"THE QUIET ONE" SHOWN LAST EVENING

Last evening the College Arts Society presented their final movie of the year-- "The Quiet One"--in the Main Lounge. Despite the bad weather a fairly large audience enjoyed this drama as well as the added attraction, "The Olympic Elk" which was a Walt Disney nature film. The College Arts members wish to thank all those who cooperated with them by attending the movies that they had shown this year. The crowds have been larger than previous years, and they hope your interest will continue to grow. The two previous movies were: "The Titan" and "Volpone."