

NOTED UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT ADVISES COLLEGE STUDENTS

"Student Activities Should Be Studious Activities", and "Students' End is to Study", says Dr. J. G. Schurman, President of Cornell University.

(By Jacob Gould Schurman, President of Cornell University.)

A man is more than his work. Wherever, therefore, human beings come together, to engage in work, other interests spring up, and expression and receive attention.

We say that the good citizen is the man who not only does faithfully his daily work, but who gives some care also to the interests of the community in which he lives and of the state and nation to which he belongs.

Some men and women devote more time to these public subjects than others. The man who pursues them to the neglect of his own proper work will find it difficult to secure or to hold permanently a position in the economic system of production and distribution.

Somewhere a line must be drawn between the two groups of competing claims. There is a happy medium if men can only find it.

What takes place in that state on a large scale finds its counterpart in the university.

The university is primarily a place to study. As an institution, study is what justifies its existence. But when young men and young women concentrate in an institution of learning, they quickly discover that they have interests outside the class room and apart from hours which they reserve for intellectual work.

To the latter class belong societies for the name and fame of the University, and all efforts which tend to promote a beautiful democratic and noble spirit in the academic community. Such a spirit is not only commendable in itself, but invaluable to the University.

It is not public service of that sort which the undergraduate has in mind when he speaks of student activities. That phrase suggests almost exclusively the life of athletes and social activities.

And while these are normal and proper interests for young men, and some of them for young women too, they have a tendency to crowd out a portion of the student's time and energy.

Sometimes, indeed, one finds it seriously stated and chimed in student publications, that an entirely proper reliance is much to be derived from these so-called student activities as from devotion to those intellectual activities which the university was founded to maintain and advance.

I have always regarded this view as utterly false and unscientific. And to give the student a sense of proportion and to recall him to his proper work, I coined a phrase a few years ago which seems to have lodged in the mind of our community.

I said that, essentially considered, the "student activities are studious activities." I meant of course to bring out in this somewhat epigrammatic way the vital and all important fact that a student was here to study, and that no other activity whatever could take the place of that fundamental duty.

It is through and by study that the university is to aid and benefit the student. A student who neglects that vital business for outside interests, arising perhaps that these are as bene-

ficial to him as study, is laboring under a great and fatal mistake.

A university is a place of study. The student, may, indeed, pursue other objects, but they must always remain subordinate in his main duty and purpose, if he is really to be a student.

Study is his vocation, sports, society, the theatre, etc., can never be more than an avocation.

Legitimate and commendable as means of innocent recreation and amusement, they are to be condemned when they distract the student's attention from his proper work, or divert from it time and energy which are needed for the successful accomplishment of that work.

As regards athletics a distinction must be made. The tennis in American universities today is everywhere to demand too large a portion of the time of those undergraduates who engage in intercollegiate sports for practice and training.

The two changes I should like to see in the field of athletics are these: first, a reduction of the time demanded of members of the team and crew, and secondly, a more general participation in sports and games of all kinds by students generally.

It may be that the athletics appeal more strongly to fraternity men than to other students, but I suspect that it is social distractions which, in the main, account for the lower standing of fraternity men.

Fraternities however furnish congenial conditions for social life. And social intercourse is a great boon in the life of young men. Here, as elsewhere, the problem is to use our opportunities and advantages without abusing them.

It is for fraternities to show that they can furnish the conditions of a normal and healthful social life, without interfering with the student's scholastic attainments, or weakening his intellectual ambitions and interests.

Besides athletic and social functions, the extra-academic activities of students run in a variety of smaller channels, among which may be mentioned undergraduate publications, literary, oratorical, and dramatic performances, political and ethical reform, the organized work of the Cornell University Christian Association, etc.

These all commend themselves in a measure by their intellectual, moral, or religious character.

To all of them I apply the same criterion which I have laid down in regard to social and athletic activities.

The university being a place of study, a student has no right to neglect his studies even for ethical and religious work or education, and much less to gratify an historic ambition, or to win the so-called "honors" of election to the editorial or managing board of some undergraduate publication.

The chief end of the student is to study. So long as he is privileged to remain in the university, so long as these precious years of preparation for life are vouchsafed to him, his supreme duty is to study hard.

In man there is nothing great but mind. Colleges and universities exist for the training and development of the mind.

Let students never forget that everything else in their student lives are subordinate to that transcendent object. There are indeed ancillary activities, but essentially considered, student activities are studious activities.

Mr. B. A. Shupp, a graduate of the two year course in agriculture in 1916, has just been engaged a assistant to Mr. F. P. Knoll, Superintendent of the Creamery. Mr. Shupp was in the employ of the college creamery for about a year after his graduation, and was then called into the service in May, 1917, and since his release has been in the employ of the Zeller-Dunlop Company, Reading, Pennsylvania.

Mr. L. H. Dennis, state director of Agricultural Education in Pennsylvania, was here last Monday and met the classes in Vocational Agriculture and Vocational Home Economics.

Dr. W. H. Kilpatrick, of the Teachers' College of Columbia University, will be here tomorrow afternoon to talk to the classes in Vocational Agriculture and Vocational Home Economics.

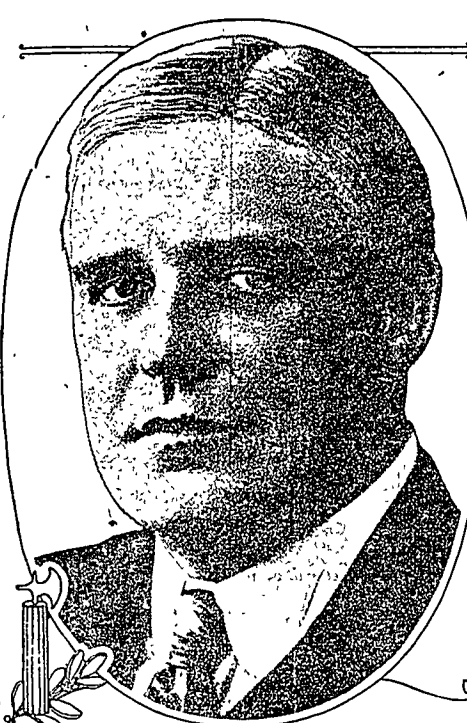
CREAMERY REPORT FOR OCTOBER IS EXCELLENT

The State College creamery has just paid the patrons of the creamery \$15,213.34 for last month's delivery of butterfat, amounting to 19,428 pounds. This sum was distributed to 258 dairy-men in the vicinity of State College. This was the largest pay-roll in the history of the College creamery and speaks well for the standing of the creamery in the community.

Sixty-seven milk patrons delivered 129,870 pounds of milk containing 1,100 pounds of butterfat.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Professor A. A. Bodland recently attended the Community Day at Spring Mills, Pa., on which occasion he judged the Holstein calves in the Boys' Club at that place. Much interest was manifested by the young people in the community. The large number of pure bred heifer calves introduced into the community by this method will be the means of a large increase in pure bred live stock in the vicinity of Spring Mills.



Governor William C. Sproul Who is expected to be at State College over Pennsylvania Day

925 pounds of butterfat. 191 cream patrons delivered 34,223 pounds of No. 1 cream containing 9,491 pounds of butterfat, also 10,158 pounds of No. 2 cream containing 5,122 pounds of butterfat. It is gratifying to note that during the past month there has been a large increase in the proportion of No. 1 cream.

The price paid for milk and for butterfat also compare favorably with the New York City prices for a similar period. The average price for four percent milk in New York City for the month was 59.7 cents, while the price paid by the College Creamery for butterfat was 70 cents per pound in No. 1 cream, and 68 cents per pound for butterfat in No. 2 cream.

The honor roll consisting of the ten patrons who delivered the largest amounts of milk and cream for the month is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes C. G. Dole, W. D. Halston, M. A. Dreihlbb, Chas Messer, Roland Spies, J. J. Treder, Frank O. Hoffman, Clyde Struble, Nunnis Gilliland, J. W. Hoffman.

There were also seven additional checks for amounts over \$100.00.

ENGINEERING NOTES

Mr. C. M. Skoogland who graduated from the Department of Electrical Engineering last June, has accepted a position as assistant in Electrical Engineering and is now teaching in the Laboratory. Mr. Skoogland has been with the Pennsylvania Railroad on Signal work since he graduated.

Mr. Phillip R. Cloke, a graduate of Clarkson School of Technology at Potsdam, N. Y., has joined the Laboratory force in the Department of Electrical Engineering. Mr. Cloke has had considerable experience with the General Electric Company at Schenectady and with the Public Utilities of Northern New York.

The Sims Company of Erie, Pa. has presented the Mechanical Engineering

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The Letter Box

Schenectady, N. Y. October 29, 1919 Editor of the COLLEGIAN State College, Pa.

I am enclosing a clipping from the Schenectady "Union Star", concerning a custom in vogue at Union College in regard to clipping, which I am hereby requesting that you publish together with this letter, in the COLLEGIAN. For reasons which you are acquainted with, I am sure that you will be glad to do this request as it will doubtless be helpful in filling up space, but such is not my motive for sending it. My sole purpose in writing and requesting that you publish this is that, in such a way, it will be brought before the student body and possibly adopted, even if in some what changed form.

Personally, I believe the idea has much to commend it. For one thing, at least as far as my observations run, the custom now in vogue at Union College, formerly in force at Penn State, of cutting a Freshman's hair practically only when forming the company of a young lady, was regarded more in the nature of an honor than a punishment by the student, doubtless something in the line of the old idea of "suffering for the good of the body".

On the other hand, if this idea should be adopted the attitude toward a haircut would die out (give him a "rest" for going with girls instead), as any Freshman with any pretensions for the "college spirit" in him would die (or at least learn the Alma Mater) rather than be seen on the campus with a haircut for such a reason.

For the reason mentioned above, I might add that some of the students at Union have informed me that it is part of the duty of the Soph to try and make the Fresh forget "cutting it up" and trying to get him fussed and

encouraging him by clipping the scissors in his ears. I will be glad to furnish any further details you may desire. The beauty of the thing is that even the girls can use it on the "cutters of the green", though it might be wise to change the penalty slightly. The content of the clipping is as follows:

"The Union College Sophomore Class has installed a 'policy of terror' on the hill with members of the first year class as their unfortunate victims. On Monday, the terrace counting room the second year men permitted to cut the hair of all Freshmen who could not recite all three verses and the chorus of the college Alma Mater in spite of all the physical and mental interference which the sophomores could bring to bear upon them at the time of the recital as a result all sophomores have been going around the campus for the past few days armed with clippers, scissors and in some cases with razors.

The first victim was deprived of his locks yesterday morning after the chapel exercises. He was the only one out of over twenty prospects who was found guilty of a lapse of memory. Later in the morning and in the afternoon, almost every member of the Freshman class was stopped and required to speak their piece. Three others failed to do this, so they were forced to abandon their locks.

It is an unusual feature of college life to see the Freshman class persisting in their refusal to learn the

Alma Mater. All of the upper classes are always behind the sophomore in any such attempt to enforce the college traditions.

Hoping for a quick return of the old-time "pop", enthusiasm, and spirit," I am Sincerely yours, ARTHUR R. LEINBACH '19.

"QUO VADIS" CLUB IS FORMED AT PENN STATE

For the past week, plans for the establishment of a chapter of "Quo Vadis" at this college, have been taking on a more definite shape under the chairmanship of D. G. Lynch. This organization is national in character, having been first established at the University of Missouri ten or fifteen years ago, and is very popular in the west and middle western colleges, in many taking the place of campus honor societies.

The requirements for membership in this organization are that the applicant must have "beat his way" to college athletic games to the extent of 1000 miles.

The following men are those most interested, and who have qualified for membership: Hugo Herold, "Bill" Martin, "Duke" Harlow, "Bob" Higgins, "Bob" Edgerton, "Casey" Jones, "Don" Dauch "Dutch" Brown, "Ivy" Brown, "Pat" Ryan "Ted" Stewart, Osborne, Morris, Lightner and McEadden.

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