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AN AMERICAN GOOSE-STEP.

The Columbia Spectator of Columbia University reports the reply of Dean Hawks of that institution to the recent assertion of Major General Robert Lee Bullard that American universities are principally responsible for lack of discipline in the youth of the country. The Spectator also quotes Chancellor Brown of New York University. The opinions of these two men are representative of those of most of the students and faculty men of the universities of the nation The Spectator article:

"Answering the assertion of Major General Robert Lee Bullard, that he found one German soldier worth three allies and that American universities were principally responsible for the lack of discipline in the youth of this country, Dean Hawkes said that this type of discipline was nothing but an American goose-step.

"'General Bullard talks simply as a professional soldier' said Dean Hawkes. 'Discipline is well enough at West Point and in the army ,and General B u l l a r d knows best about that, but America needs no goose-step on the campus.

"'I cannot deny that sometimes our college men seem a little under-disciplined. But in compensation, their initiative is better developed.

"'I think General Bullard overestimates the rank discipline takes in time of peace. Other qualities are fully as attractive.'

"At the same time Chancellor Brown of New York University asserted that German discipline would be an expensive commodity for this country to import.

"General Bullard made his assertion in an interview with the New York Evening Post. The retirement of General Bullard from active service will take place in January.

"Chancellor Brown continued: 'Other things besides discipline are of equal or even greater importance—the cultivation, for example, of a sense of and practice of individual responsibility."

Further indication of the fact that American universities are not, and should not, be conducted on a basis of strict discipline, is found in the Ohio State Lantern for December 8. There was reported in that paper the reasons advanced by a number of students from foreign lands for their coming to America to study.

"The greater freedom and opportunity for personal independence in America were reasons given by foreign students for their coming to this country, in a round table discussion at the International Student Forum meeting Saturday evening," says the Ohio State Lantern. And later:

"Esa S. Haddad, Ag ,3, was attracted by the American spirit and freedom. Personal independence appealed to Takashi Fujimoto of Japan."

If foreign students look with longing eyes to American universities because of the independence to be found in them, then why should that independence, which attracts men to study, be eliminated by an attempt to inculcate more rigid discipline in the undergraduates?

"The best government is no government" is a phrase often quoted, and often misquoted. But it surely applies here. Freedom in the advancement of the world's learning can hardly be promoted by strict supervision of the actions of students —in order to make them better soldiers. Rather, the students should be "trained for peace."

The College Press

COLLEGE IGNORANCE

Notwithstanding the amount of education which college students receive, their lack of knowledge on matters of general information is astounding. The results of a test on world geography which was given to 112 students in the second and third years of college at Leland Stanford University prove the truth of this contention as well as contributing materially to sources of mirth.

For instance, Auckland was located by three persons as being in Greenland, due to the association with the auk which is a habitat of that country. Another strange answer placed Budapest in India, doubtlessly because of the god, Buddha. Sweden was named as the country ownig Johanesburg, and Germany, Zurich, both of which answers may be attributed to the sound or derivation of the names. The Hague,Brussels, and Christiana were given as the capital of Denmark.

Other questions were concerned with estimates of nautical mileage to six well known ports, relative location of cities or countries according to latitude and longitude, and the last required the drawing of an outline map of North and South America.

The nautical estimates were the most difficult and on the whole the most poorly answered group, although the tendency was to underestimate rather than overestimate distances.

Of the 112 answers upon the corresponding locations of Milan and Vladivostok, 104 were incorrect. Forty of the maps bore a general resemblance to the American continents, but only ten placed South America southeast of North America.

There were thirty-six questions in all. One student succeeded in answering 27 correctly, rating an average of 75 per cent. Two others attained an average of 70, while 16 secured a 50 per cent grade.

These results merely go to show that while college people may know all about Darwin's theory of evolution, and be perfectly able to compute a coefficient of corelation with correctness, they may be blissfully ignorant of facts of the most common knowledge. — Syracuse Daily Orange.

SCORE ANOTHER FOR 'GATOR.

Beginning January first, the Florida Alligator will receive telegraphic news service from the Collegiate Press Syndicate. In the wide range of exchanges which the Florida Alligator receives from colleges over the English speaking world, the predominating feature is the rapid increase of outside or "off-campus" news. Many of the larger college papers are now giving their readers some sort of wire service, and the Florida Alligator must keep abreast of the tide of progress.

Throughout the country the viewpoint is spreading that educational institutions should strive to arouse in the student a proper interest in the welfare of the nation and a sense of responsibility in its government. The state of Florida has made huge investments in the education of its youth. It has a right to collect interest on this investment in terms of an enlightened and productive citizenship.

This tendency of college papers to enter boldly upon the field of public affairs and to acquaint their readers with the happenings in other institutions of higher learning, rather than be content with merely chronicling the events within the narrow limits of their own campus, is entirely in keeping with the present trend of broadened interest.

Since the World War, papers all over the country have been forced by public demand to carry a larger portion of national and international news. When Corporal Jones of Gainesville, Florida returned from France he talked glibly about the boulevards of Paris, as though he had lived on them all his life. When he picked up the hometown paper, he wanted to read about the bonus, the peace conference, Japan, the latest sea planes, and the German mark. The story about Deacon Smith spending Sunday in Micanopy no longer seemed to satisfy. The corporal's family and neighbors had also become less provincial; the war had introduced them to a new world.

The college newspaper of today that is satisfied with reporting only the happenings of its own campus and never touching upon events and achievements in other collegiate circles is understanding the interest and intelligence of the American college student.—Florida Alligator.

Twenty Years Ago

The girls basketball team met the team from Lincoln high school with the final score of 86 to 16 in favor of the high school girls. " The way those tall maidens from Lincoln high school intimidated our basketball girls would bring tears from a stone. They were too big, too fast, as the score well attests."

Two prizes were offered by Chancellor Andrews to the debating teams. One prize, known as "The Chancellor's Prize," was to be given to one of the teams that debated against one of the out-of state opponents, if it won. The amount of this prize was thirty dollars which was to be divided among the members of the team. The other prize also of thirty dollars, named the "University Prize," was to be given to the other team if it succeeded in overcoming its opponents.

The junior cap committee, whose duty it was to sell a sufficient number of the '06 headgear to lift the outstanding junior debt, incurred the previous spring at the famous freshman bonfire, reported a general apathy among their classmates concerning this proposition. According to the complaint of this committee to whom the unpleasant task of soliciting orders was signed, the juniors were very chilly in their support of this measure, which had been agreed upon by the major part of them as a means of raising this debt that had been a millstone around the neck of the class all year. The article concluded by saying that they would be able to get the caps a few days longer, and "it would be well for them to brace up and order a headgear."

The much-disputed football game between the freshman laws and the sophomores to decide the interclass championship was to be played at last. The game promised to be exceptionally good, not only because of its deciding the championship, but also because of the animated spirit and litigation between the two classes that had been smoldering for the previous two weeks.

Calendar

Friday, December 19.

Palladian Party—L. P. Hartly, 2345 R. Street.

Omega Beta Pi—Fall Party—Lincoln.

Notices

The Department of Geography will give a special film on "The Story of Steel" in three reels tonight at 5 o'clock in the Geography lecture room, Nebraska Hall 210.

Publicity Staff.

Y. W. C. A. publicity staff will meet Thursday at 5 o'clock in Ellen Smith Hall.

Freshman Council.

There will be no meeting of the Freshman Council Thursday.

Christmas Party.

A Christmas party and a Kid party will be held at the Grace M. E. church, 27 and R streets, Thursday at 8 o'clock. Bring a ten cent gift.

Catholic Student Club.

There will be a special meeting of Catholic Student Club at K. C. Hall tonight at 5 o'clock.

Delian.

Delian Christmas party will be held Friday at 8 o'clock at 1337 R Streets. All friends and alumni are invited.

Students will save themselves a great deal of time and inconvenience by purchasing their railroad tickets now at the Burlington City Office.—Adv.

Freshman Council.

Regular Freshman Council meeting and supper Thursday at 6 o'clock in Temple 101.

Sigma Tau.

Meeting of the Sigma Tau at 7 o'clock Thursday in M. E. 206.

Christian Science Society.

The Christian Science Society will meet at 7:30 Thursday in Faculty Hall, tonight.

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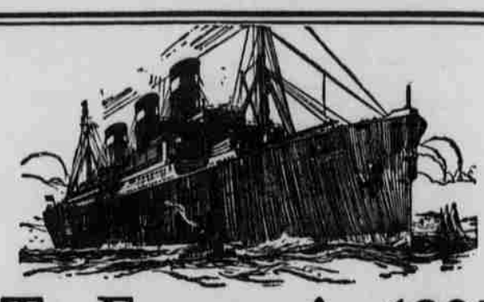

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