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The 80 Per Cent.

Much has been said regarding the teaching profession and the members of that profession. Writers and thinkers everywhere have bent their efforts at least once in their lifetime toward an attack on education and educators. Most of them are true, many are practical, and few are noticed. Probably one of the truest observations of the present state of affairs is contained in a current issue of the Saturday Evening Post. Mr. James Weber Linn records in his article, "Practice What You Teach," a conversation between a professor and a dean. The indictment of the college instructors contained therein is edifying.

The professor in the article is portrayed as an average and typical college instructor. The dean makes all of the indictments of the present system. The conversation wends its way to a point where the dean wants to know if the Professor has any human curiosity at all.

"All you have," he says, "is only a restless, deep-seated, passionate, intellectual curiosity. Do you really imagine that 80 percent of our young Main Streeters are like you in that, or that they ought to be like you?"

He accuses the professor of being typical of all of his colleagues in that he does. He charges him with believing that the primary purpose of a college is to develop scholarship. His pupils do not agree and so, the dean says, professors think the American college system has failed. It has failed, according to the dean, only in that the students have not had their self-interest changed.

Says the dean, "We are not all agreed that our primary purpose so far as the 80 percent are concerned is not to interest them in scholarship but to provide them with a finer culture. Perhaps I exaggerate our timidity when I say that we do not dare to agree on this." In agreeing on it taxpayers and benefactors would have to be insulted by hiring new instructors. So the colleges prefer to muddle along.

"Although the colleges are complained of, they continue to flourish and to provide a sufficiently agreeable existence for many thousands of men and women who could hardly earn as much, in as pleasant company, in any other way as by teaching, and why should these teachers risk having to go to work? What other profession is so non-competitive? In what other profession is incompetence for and inattention to the job rewarded by permanence of tenure achieved by attention to recreation?" "I do call research recreation."

Then says the dean, "What we want are not brilliant students but independent thinkers; men who are genuinely interested in the best that has been said and thought in the world, not exclusively interested in little bits of it here and there; men who are all the more interested in the normal undergraduate because they know themselves to be far from unusual . . ."

There are many, of course, who will not agree with the philosophy of the dean in question. There are many who will insist that the ten percent who are real scholars should not be sacrificed for the rest. There are many more who will declare that it is only by scholars that the knowledge of the world is added to. But if the principle upon which our government is founded is correct, and if education is to follow the precepts set down by that government, then attention must be directed toward the satisfaction of the 80 percent.

There are too many teachers who are scholars and too few scholars who are teachers. Too few of the really brilliant men can teach and impart their knowledge to their students. Too few of the professors regard their students with other than a feeling of contempt. The present attitude of students can be charged directly to the teachers. Students do come to be taught and do come to learn, but when they discover that they must learn from dry lectures and from dry textbooks their interest flags and the process of getting an education becomes a battle between the student and the instructor.

And so the whole problem reverts back to our present educational system. So long as grades and examinations of the competitive type are allowed to hold the power and the whip hand, just so long will education stay in its rut. So long as the staid and conservative educators oppose any new experiments just so long will those experiments fail.

Some day soon the educational scheme under which we labor at the present will have to be revised. Some day soon the educators will realize that the system is failing. They will recognize that they are not accomplishing their purpose. May the day be not far off

Deferred Pledging.

Sororities and fraternities are apparently regarding with apprehension the future, with its plans for dormitories for both men and women and the accompanying probability of deferred pledging. As Chancellor Burnett and Dean Heppner have assured the students, these developments are yet in the remote future.

The fact that the campus must wait for a long period of time for these dormitories and deferred pledging, however, may be regarded not so much with a feeling of relief as with gret. Aside from the inconveniences, financial and otherwise, incident to a change of policy in regard to pledging, can anyone doubt the advantages of such a system once it is in operation?

The rational observer of the annual rushing fracas must be somewhat impressed by the inconsistency which appears in the pledging of rushees. The Greeks stress to their prospective members the momentousness of the decisions they are about to make in selecting a group with which they will be intimately associated for four years of college life. Yet in spite of the importance of this decision, the Greeks exert all manner of pressure on the rushees to make the decision within three days of frenzied, almost insane activity.

Certainly this is one of the most glaring deficiencies in the fraternity system as constituted. The fraternity enthusiast tells of the many wonderful advantages which the fraternity provides and impresses the pledge with the value of membership in a Greek group. That such advantages exist is not to be denied, but that they are seriously impaired by a system where men get into uncongential groups because of the haste and superficiality with which the selecting process is conducted must also be admitted.

The fraternity and sorority can be and in many instances is more than a mere boarding and rooming house. Its influence on its members can be enormous and whether it will exert an influence toward snobbery and worthless activity, or will lend constructive help to its members toward scholastic and true social achievement is a matter of the individual fraternity.

There is most certainly a difference in degree, however, with which the various groups do promote such influences. What then of the freshman who comes to school and in the limited time judges unwisely the group with which he affiliates? Either he is influenced and moulded into the general type of his group, or else he is dissatisfied and unhappy and fails to get the primary benefit which the fraternity and sorority has to offer, companionship and friendship.

A number of pledges would probably always be misfits in any case. But that there would be very evident advantages in a system where freshmen students were unable to pledge for a semester or even a year, during which time they could gather an idea of the reputation of a Greek lodge and a better knowledge of the type of individuals who belonged, seems apparent.

The fraternity and sorority would also benefit by the ability to make well considered decisions concerning the pledges they adopted. Perhaps under such a system the true advantages of fraternity and sorority life would become more outstanding and be discerned more readily by the cynics who claim that all a fraternity or sorority is just another boarding and rooming house with a Greek name.

It would seem that Greekdom should look with hope toward the campus of the future with its freshmen dormitories making possible a system of deferred pledging.

Student has sore feet. Student decides to go to university doctor. Student has morning classes. Student goes to doc in afternoon. Doc is not in. Student gripes.

Two Fine Men.

Younger faculty men should find a great deal of inspiration in the lives of those two venerable professors—Professor A. L. Candy and Professor Laurence Fossler. Both have just passed the milestone which marks three-quarters of a century of existence and both, to phrase it in current jargon, "are still going strong."

For the major part of their lives these men have been teaching students to think. Their part in campus life has been infinitely more than the process of instructing students in the science of mathematics or the study of Germanic languages. They have always been willing to give friendly counsel and timely advice to students they have known. There is nothing prosaic about such an existence. Their influence has been a factor in the moulding of at least two generations of students at the University of Nebraska.

Their eyes have seen the growth and development of this campus, both in a physical and academic sense. From year to year they have studied the changing attitudes of students. Their work has not been a monotonous routine. It has been more than that—infinite more. Their lives have been given to the building of human minds. Certainly many other professions would have been far more profitable, far more sensational, and probably more colorful as far as outward appearances go. But to them their greatest joy has come from their relations with members of their classes. They have been happy in a life of service. Professors Candy and Fossler are to be congratulated—they are two fine men.

Do You Like Open Spaces?

This paragraph is written to fill up space. The writer proposes to say nothing in this paragraph and he expects no wise cracks on this statement. It is entirely possible to write several paragraphs and say nothing as widely experienced readers well know. There comes a time in the life of every editor when ideas refuse to come forth and this one of those occasions. They are not as rare as are supposed. Or maybe that's wrong. At any rate this should be enough to fill up this space and besides this space would look awfully funny with nothing in it but maybe that would have been better.

TREND OF THE TIMES

by GERALD BARDO
 The Garner for president boom nose-dived in Georgia. The democrats down there went fifteen to one for Roosevelt. Speaker Garner wasn't on the ballot, but Judge G. H. Howard was running with the intention of lining up the states at Chicago for him.

Scarface Al Capone will be in Chicago a while longer, but in the Cook county jail while granting a stay which permits him to remain there, the United States circuit court of appeals refused a rehearing. At must now appeal to the United States supreme court and undoubtedly he will because his sentence of eleven years and fifty thousand dollars fine is not attractive.

Pioneers used to use guns to hunt with; guns were necessary to secure food. Guns are used to hunt with today.

The people who use guns most are soldiers, policemen and gangsters. But occasionally civilians anger as did a University of Missouri student the other day. He seriously wounded a fellow student.

It is not surprising that such instances happen. Most anyone can get a gun in the United States. You can buy an automatic pistol most any time in any town. Many people have a revolver or pistol in their home. Some people carry an automatic in their automobile. The guns are small and easily concealed.

We have laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed weapons, but too often the weapon is used before it is found to be concealed. And I suppose it is too late now to suggest the licensing of firearms. There are many folk though who wish they had never had a gun.

Distasteful is the news that comes from Shanghai saying that Chinese are threatening to enter the twelve and a half mile neutral zone and that Japanese are preparing to hold them out. Peace had appeared closer with last week's negotiations. Little firing had been done along the front. At Geneva the recently created "pacification committee" may have to sit a long time as it expected to continue work until Japan and China are pacified.

Regarding Senator Norris' two triumphs in two weeks Time remarks, "In Senator Norris' patience there is an Oriental quality which takes no heed of time to accomplish its purpose. For a full decade he worked to enact the 'lame duck' amendment. His advocacy of anti-injunction labor legislation is of almost as long standing."

DEAN RELEASES SCHEDULE MAY SPRING EVENTS

(Continued from Page 1)
 activity of May 5. An open house will be held by the engineers from 7:30 to 10:30 in the evening. Willard Dann has been elected to have charge of the program of the annual engineering event.

University day will be Friday, the day after Ivy day. Classes will be dismissed at 11 o'clock in the morning so that college conventions may be held thruout the campus. University field events will also be held.

The Farmer's Fair is scheduled for Friday, May 7, and all of the students in the agricultural college will be excused from attending classes. The Farmer's Fair is the big event of the agricultural college during the year, besides competition in agricultural products and displays a carnival is the annual climax to the affair.

Pre-med day also occurs on Saturday and pre-med students will make a trip to Omaha to visit the medical college. All pre-med students will be excused from classes.

During the following week, on May 20, the annual competitive

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drill for students in military science will be held from 1 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Students registered in the R. O. T. C. unit are excused from classes to participate in this event.

All university class activities will be suspended for Memorial day ceremonies May 30. The 61st annual commencement will be held in the university coliseum on Monday, June 6, and the Baccalaureate sermon will be preached on Sunday, June 5.

TUESDAY SCHEDULED FOR FULL REHEARSAL

(Continued from Page 1.)
 the scenery under the supervision of Norman Hoff is rapidly nearing completion.

The Omaha performance will be held in the Brandeis theater under the management of Joy Sutphen, April 16 and the Hastings trip is scheduled for April 13. The latter performance will be staged in the Hastings auditorium. Frederick Daly, Nebraska alumnus, has been instrumental in bringing the show to the mid-state city.

There will be five different changes of costumes for the choruses in the show: an opening number, Cornob-Tassel dance, a snowflake chorus, a pajama number and the grand finale.

Characters for the show have their lines well in mind as individual practices have been held with Herbert Yenne for the last week. Choruses have been practicing and

the pony chorus made a public appearance at the state penitentiary on a program presented by the inmates March 17.

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 beckons to . . . well it beckons . . . AND
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