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Brain Factories?

HIGHER education has dallied too long in the revision of its methods and ideals, according to Dr. J. B. Johnson of Minnesota university, who spoke before the second annual conference of Nebraska schools and conferences this week end. Colleges must now put the student before the subject, and instead of modeling the student after a pattern, the school must seek to develop his natural talents, he declared.

During the past few years the educational system has come in for a great deal of criticism from educators, the college press, and others connected with the system. It is time now that less words and more work were expended on changing the system.

The term "brain factories," often applied to colleges and universities, has been in reality a misnomer. Higher education, under the old and outgoing system, did not in any way help to develop the brain.

Instead, as Dr. Johnson stated, the school sought to model the student after a pattern. Instead of giving him ideas on which to exercise his thinking faculties, it gave him only facts. After the student had learned enough of those facts to pass an examination, and after he had passed the necessary number of courses, he was given a degree and called "an educated man."

Under such a process, the only work to which the mind was put was to memorize the textbooks, lectures, and other materials of a course. The student was not given thought provoking ideas that required him to exercise that mass of gray matter known as a brain. Once his store of data was forgotten, he had nothing left from his four years in university.

UNDER the new system, which Dr. Johnson predicts, the student should learn facts only inasmuch as they are an aid to the thinking process. The emphasis should be placed on ideas. Instead of becoming a parrot, mechanically reciting the words of his instructor, the student should be shown how to exercise his brain.

For after all, it really makes no difference if one cannot recall the exact date of the Mexican War, but it does make a difference if one cannot

analyze the reasons, effect, and future significance of that war. It will cause no permanent injury if one does not know the date of founding of a political party, but it is almost tragic if one is not able to reason out the significance of their various moves. "The new era . . . will see the individual valued according to his contributions to society. . .," said Dr. Johnson. The college graduate can make no contributions if he does not know how to use the gray matter.

War in Washington.

SENSATIONS and more sensations for the side-show-loving American public. First it was the Dionne quintuplets, then the Hauptmann trial, and now John Public is being treated to a three ring circus in Washington as Huey Long and his opponents daily almost come to blows.

It all started last week when the vitriolic Hugh Johnson, former NRA head, decided that the ambitious political upstart from Louisiana needed a bit of squelching. Accordingly Johnson lit in with plenty of fire and succeeded in stinging the Kingfish so much that Long turned on his tormentors and opened war on the floor of the Senate on Johnson, the administration, and everything else in sight.

Senator Robinson attempted to stem the flow of Long's tirade, but the mild mannered solon from Arkansas was no match in the word battle. He was backed up by others, but Long continued to shout. The only man in the senate who could probably have beaten the Kingfish at his own game, Carter Glass, was forced to be silent because of his own criticism of administration policies.

And thus the battle is waged, with the opponents of Long looking for someone who can reply to him in kind. It all would be excruciatingly funny, if most of what Long says and does were not intended as another notch in the gun with which he is aiming at complete political power.

It is encouraging to note that colleges are beginning to turn a cold shoulder toward Louisiana State University, which Long is fond of terming "my" school. An invitation to participate in L. S. U.'s anniversary celebration was turned down by Washington and Jefferson with President Ralph C. Hutchinson explaining his stand by saying "we should hesitate to lend our support just at this time when the high purposes of the university seem, at a distance, to have been subordinated to the political objectives of Mr. Huey Long."

"We do not wish to judge at a distance, but we cannot believe in the position of a university which will submit for a moment to such a control and to such limitation of the freedom of speech and of individual thought."

If more people would adopt this chilly attitude toward Long and all the parts of his machine, his great political ambitions will be defeated and he will be sent back to his Louisiana backwoods.

The horizon is cloudy indeed if the nation allows Long to keep traveling the road on which he is going at a rapid clip.

"Subtle Curves . . . in New Formalis," says a headline in the Nebraskan. Anyway we hope so.

As a weather prophet the Daily Nebraskan would make a good hog-caller.

If the weather is beginning to get you down, remember the old saying that if you don't like the weather in Nebraska, just wait a couple of hours.

1935 ENGINEERS WEEK ELECTION WEDNESDAY

Nuernberger, Corder Run For Celebration Chairman.

Engineering student candidates for offices on the engineers week committee are Marvin Nuernberger and Walter Corder for chairman and J. Robert Pilling and Howard Cain for secretary-treasurer, it was announced by the student executive council of the college at a meeting Thursday. The four men were selected from representatives of the various engineering societies and on Wednesday, March 13, the engineering student body will vote on the candidates and select their officers for engineers week.

Polls will be set up in the hall of A. M. building, the board said, and voting will take place from 8 to 5 o'clock during the day. The board asked that "every engineering student vote in order that the chairman and the secretary-treasurer might be representative of the entire college. The officers are important since this committee has complete control of engineers week activities."

Of the candidates, Nuernberger, Wakefield, is a C. E. '35 and a representative of the A. S. C. E. He is Blue Print editor, chairman of the executive board and a member of Sigma Tau and Pi Mu Epsilon. Corder, Lincoln, is an E. E. '35 representing A. I. E. E. and a member of Sigma Tau. Pilling, Omaha, an M. E. '35, is a member of A. S. M. E., former Innocent and past Corn Cob president. Cain, Lincoln, chemical engineer, '35, represents A. S. C. E., of which society he is president. He is also a member of the executive board.

The chairman and secretary-treasurer elected Wednesday will select other members of the committee, which in the first part of May will have charge of general plans for engineers week, and the engineers' banquet, convocation and picnic.

Mabel Lee Named to Conclave Committee

Miss Mabel Lee, professor of women's physical education at the university, has been invited by the American Child Health Association to be a member of its advisory committee for the eighth annual health educational conference.

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Bizad Executive Council. Meeting of the Bizad Executive Council which was scheduled to be held Tuesday evening has been postponed until March 19.

ENGINEERING TOUR TO COMMENCE APRIL 15

Weiland Announces That Trip Is Not Required for Graduation.

The engineering student inspection trip, sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, will be held during the week preceding Easter, according to present plans for the tour as reported by Prof. W. F. Weiland of the mechanical engineering department. The trip this year is optional for engineering students and will not be required for graduation as in former years, Prof. Weiland stated.

The tentative plans call for a visit to the power plant at Keokuk, Ia., and industrial plants at Chicago and Milwaukee. Around thirty are expected to make the tour.

Students Planning to Teach Must Register

All students planning to teach the next school year who have not completed their registrations with the Department of Educational Service (the Teachers' Bureau), 305 Teachers College, are urged to do so immediately. Further delay may mean loss of opportunity for placement. R. D. Moritz, Director.

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JENNESS SPEAKS ON HYPNOTISM MONDAY

Psychologist to Appear at Sigma Xi Monthly Meeting.

Speaking on "Recent Developments in Hypnotism," Dr. A. F. Jenness of the psychology department will give a brief resume of current misconceptions regarding hypnosis at the monthly meeting of Sigma Xi society at 7:30 o'clock Monday evening, March 11 in Morrill hall auditorium.

Various experiments on hypnosis by Dr. Jenness and also those carried in collaboration with Dr. Chas. L. Wible of the department of physiology and pharmacognosy will be discussed and summarized.

In a recent volume on "Hypnosis and Suggestibility" by Dr. Hale of Yale, the experiment work of Dr. Jenness is spoken of very highly, E. N. Andersen, secretary to the society, stated. The meeting is open to the public.

LEGISLATIVE GROUP HAS THIRD MEETING

Mrs. O. E. Schultz Speaks At Discussion Club Tuesday.

The third meeting of the girl's legislative discussion group will be held Tuesday afternoon at 1 p. m. and Mrs. O. E. Schultz, wife of State Senator Schultz, will address the group on "Who's Who and What's What in the Legislature." All girls interested are invited to attend the gathering, and it is especially hoped that the democratic group will be present this week. Anne Pickett is in charge.

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- The University of Nebraska is bringing to the campus the greatest musical attraction on tour.
- You will hear the best in music. The program includes excerpts from three great operas "Tannhauser," "Tosca" and "Faust." These are the important acts in these operas and include many numbers with which you are familiar.
- World famous artists are in the casts including the celebrated Maria Jeritz, the beautiful young Coe Glade and the charming Edith Mason. Others include Giuseppe Bentonelli, Carlo Morelli, Joseph Royer, Helen Ornstein, Myron Duncan, etc.
- The all-star program also includes a special performance by the ballet. Ruth Page and her corps de ballet will stage in "Gold Standard," an ultra-modern ballet. The dancers also will appear in the Bacchanale in "Tannhauser."
- The great orchestra direct from the Civic Opera House, Chicago, will fill the coliseum pit and be under the direction of Isaac Van Grove and Leo Kopp, the company's leading conductors.
- Fine ensemble work by the choruses of Chicago Opera will be a fine part of the varied program.
- The beautiful scenery for which the Chicago Civic Opera is famous is brought to Lincoln for this super-production. These massive sets require the hiring of a large crew of stage hands and will transform the huge coliseum stage into a spectacle of beauty.
- Marvelous lighting effects make for spectacular stage settings. The entire production will be under the personal direction of Harry Beatty, famous Chicago Opera technical director.

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