

A Formidable Educational "Boom"

Culture used to "hum" around Boston in times past; now the desire for it is seen to "boom," not only in New England, but throughout the country. During the last six years the number of college students has increased from 187,000 to 294,000. Mr. Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the Institute for Public Service, has put his statistics into a prophetic form that positively causes alarm. But the past six years' rate of increase, where shall we be in 1950? Institutions do not grow naturally by such leaps and bounds as must be predicted from the present phenomena. In 1950 a proportionate growth would bring us 1,138,000 in 210 institutions where 294,000 were enrolled last year. "Where will the money come from to educate these larger groups?" he asks. Afternoon and night classes at colleges and extension classes away from colleges, he thinks, would ease off some of the demands made upon the institutions. Here are some little problems more multiplication worked out by Mr. Barnes and given to the press:

"The six-year increase since 1914 is equal to eighteen institutions the size of Columbia in 1914, or 100 colleges the size of Vassar. Taking the lower estimate for 1950, it means finding facilities over three times the total for 1920, at six or seven times the salary cost; it means adding 644,000 students or 200 colleges the size of Yale last year, sixty universities the size of California, 400 colleges the size of Oberlin, over 1,000 colleges the size of Williams, 1,400 colleges the size of Bryn Mawr. Even if these 210 colleges arrange to advance to 1,138,000 they will have reached only a small fraction of high-school graduates. . . .

"Of 210 institutions only fourteen had fewer students than six years ago, losing, all told, 668 students, of which Hunter College, New York City, lost 108; Ohio University, Athens, 126, and Yale 81. In numbers the largest increase in six years was by the College of the City of New York, 6,800; University of California, 6,200; Boston University, 4,700. The smallest increase in any of the largest public universities was 855 by Mississippi and 750 by Cornell.

"In percentage growth twenty-eight institutions more than doubled. Sweet Brier led with 334 per cent. Boston University came next with 333 per cent; Union, 324 per cent; College of the City of New York, 283 per cent; University of Arizona, 243 per cent; Delaware, State, 188 per cent."

The problem which confronts the country, says Mr. Barnes, has to do with "an attitude toward higher education which requires a far more extensive development of facilities than educational statesmanship of either public or private institutions has heretofore felt safe in proposing and promoting." But the money question which we saw last week as so acute in Germany as to make necessary the closing of certain ancient universities, will, in less degree, however, affect us. Mr. Barnes asks:

"Will the money come from taxation, endowment, private gifts, and larger fees? Will some plan of deferred payments be found by which students, out of graduation earnings, will pay the full cost of educating themselves? Where will the throngs be housed? Must present universities grow or more universities be built? Will higher education be taken to or near all persons who have the ability and the ambition for it through junior colleges and extension courses, or will college education be denied to those who can not afford to leave home and work while acquiring it? Is there any way to divert a larger part of this flood of young Americans seeking higher education into teaching where a shortage threatens even higher education itself? What, if any, racial changes must be made in purpose and requirements? These and similar questions can not be answered until employers, parents, and educators of youths desiring higher education have thoroughly discussed them. To stimulate such discussion is the purpose of this discussion upon which we are inviting comment and proposals by educational leaders."

Dr. Frank Crane, while not altogether facetious, suggests solutions that may be too much influenced by current politics. In the New York Globe he writes:

"This presents the most interesting problem of all problems. For the most important

crop we raise is men and women, and the most important thing in relation to them is their training.

"Must the increase in schools depend upon private benevolence? Will the state and nation feel the obligation to make suitable appropriations for educational facilities? Or will this throng of youth have to be denied and sent back home?

"One solution may commend itself to the politician. If we maintain our splendid isolation and refuse to combine with other countries in a pact to prevent war, we are liable at any time to be plunged into a conflict like the one we have recently passed through. Thus we can solve our difficulty by slaughtering our surplus youth.

"On the other hand, if we keep out of war

GROWTH OF 35 LARGE UNIVERSITIES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, EXCLUDING SUMMER AND EXTENSION STUDENTS, 1914-1920, ESTIMATED FOR 1950

Based Upon Returns from 210 Colleges and Universities to Institute for Public Service, Julius H. Barnes, Chairman

	Register 1919-20	Inc. 1913-14	Pred'ted 1950
PUBLICLY SUPPORTED			
University of California	11,893	6,213	42,958
College of the City of New York	9,071	6,767	42,871
University of Michigan	8,560	3,040	23,760
University of Illinois	8,549	3,425	25,674
University of Minnesota	8,275	4,537	30,955
University of Wisconsin	7,294	2,608	20,334
Ohio State University	7,023	3,194	22,983
University of Washington	5,958	3,148	21,698
University of Nebraska	5,286	2,147	16,026
University of Louisiana	4,933	2,264	16,253
University of Texas	4,418	1,927	14,053
University of Missouri	4,222	855	8,497
Pennsylvania State College	4,194	1,454	11,464
Iowa State College	4,034	1,575	11,909
University of Kansas	5,589	1,252	9,850
University of Cincinnati	3,513	1,512	11,070
Oregon State Col. of Agriculture	3,442	1,863	12,757
Kansas State Col. of Agriculture	2,961	304	4,480
University of Oklahoma	2,608	1,600	10,610
University of Colorado	2,096	835	6,270
State College of Washington	2,037	868	6,380
PRIVATELY SUPPORTED			
Columbia	9,144	2,210	20,194
Temple	6,490	2,965	21,315
Northwestern University	6,585	2,457	18,870
Pennsylvania	6,449	2,705	19,974
Boston	6,082	4,677	29,472
Cornell	5,765	750	9,515
Harvard	5,373	1,007	10,408
George Washington	3,798	2,188	14,738
University of Southern California	3,012	705	6,540
Georgetown	2,139	650	5,389
Tulane	2,602	1,145	8,330
John Hopkins	2,014	977	6,901
Smith	2,011	373	3,876
Yale	3,157	81 (dec.)	—

and quit preparing for war, we can easily save money enough to provide for our children."

Certain looked-for economic changes are relied on by the Detroit News to meet the situation:

"In this matter of increases, when one stops to think of it, enrollment in educational institutions is not exceptional. Since 1914 many other things have increased—taxes and wages and exports and the wearing of silk shirts and general prosperity and the leisure of people who never had leisure before.

"Over in Kansas, surrounded by wheat-fields, is a little town called Olathe. The farmer boys and girls who graduated from the district schools found in the high school at Olathe an opportunity for higher education. Of late the institution has become especially popular, sharing that menacing growth in enrollment which Mr. Barnes observes. But the boys and girls no longer trudge in from the country or do they ride down on the farm-wagon. This year a ruling of the Olathe board of education forbade the parking of cars in the streets in the vicinity of the high school. The automobiles in which the farm boys and girls drive to school were interfering with traffic in the highways and had to be assigned to a special parking place in the rear of the building.

"The thing that has happened in Olathe affects the whole country and accounts for the condition which is worrying Mr. Barnes. But it would hardly be logical because a boy who worked on the farm in 1914 for \$1 a day this year gets \$5 a day to argue that in six years more schoolboys will be demanding five times

as much as today, or \$25 for their daily wage. There are probably limits to the growth of some things. And it is also pretty safe to predict that when it becomes harder to buy automobiles, soft clothing, and college education, only those will have these things who are willing to toil earnestly and long for them and to suffer some very real hardships before they win out. It may be then that present educational institutions will take care of the crowds as in former days."—Literary Digest.

THE CHRIST-LIKE UTTERANCE OF A GREAT CHRISTIAN

(R. R. Claridge, in Monthly News Bulletin of Texas Agricultural Department.)

The man who recently gave utterance to the following is still in bad with the place-hunting, time-serving politicians. He is not very strong with the two-by-four editors who exhibit their real smart lack of sense by making fun of him in the small-type columns of the daily papers. But there is still plenty of room for him in the hearts of millions of American people, who love him for the enemies he makes. His name is William Jennings Bryan, whose greatness belongs to the whole wide world; and here is what he recently said:

"War arouses all the brute in man and a flood of passion drowns all kindly feeling. War creates a profession that perfects itself into a science. War creates standards of honor as false as those which supported duelling. War teaches that revenge is a virtue and retaliation a patriotic duty.

"Those who are enriched by war propagate the most absurd theories, for what could be more absurd than the theory studiously spread abroad in the world for a generation that preparedness prevents war? This theory could never appeal to any but militarists and munition makers.

"Now that these blood-stained doctrines have been refuted by the most awful of wars, the world, groaning under burdens too grievous to be borne, may be willing to accept brotherhood as the only hope of peace, as well as the only escape from bankruptcy.

"Were the scribes of old any worse than the profiteers of today, who steal from the provisions basket and rob the wardrobe? Were they any worse than the business men whose policy of poisoning for profit made pure food laws necessary? Were they any worse than the employers, who but for the law would coin the lives of little children into larger dividends? Were they any worse than the men who plunder the wheat fields of the land by depressing prices just before harvest time?

"All dealings between man and man are either brotherly or brutal. There is no middle ground. One may be a very weak brother or a very feeble brute, but each person is consciously or unconsciously controlled by the sympathetic spirit of brotherhood or hunts for spoil with the savage hunger of the beast of prey."

ONE YEAR UNDER FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONAL PROHIBITION

On January 16, 1290, Constitutional Prohibition became effective throughout the United States. It was indeed a notable event that more than a hundred millions of free citizens should of their own election prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. Such an event was unprecedented in the annals of men.

A year ago the liquor interests of America were defeated, but still are defiant. They gathered an immense war chest of a billion dollars to defeat the operation of National Prohibition.

The war against sobriety was carried from the popular arena into that of the courts. Prohibition was attacked from every angle of vision in all courts up to the very highest. Worst of all in their assaults in the courts the liquor interests transferred their fight to the arena of the boot-legger and blind pigger.

The recent months saw the most extensive, best organized, most determined attempt at discrediting Prohibition ever witnessed. The closing of the first year of Constitutional Prohibition indicates that the crest of the fight against Prohibition along law violation lines has been passed. But the fight is by no means over. However, it is undoubtedly true that the law and order forces have the liquor situation better in hand at the present moment than ever before.

Nineteen twenty-one bids fair, should our law enforcement officials be adequately supported with funds for the work, to being the driest year in American history. The past year shows beyond question that the dry forces both in resourcefulness and determination, are more than a match for the wily liquor crowd.

Hold steady; keep up the good fight, and ultimate victory is inevitable.—American Issue.