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YOUTH AND THE CHURCH

religious opportunities.

people in general.

Yet here is a student who says ity, and has thus been honored by his that the church hinders him in his own group. Considered in this light, religious development. What foun- there can not be much objection to dation can there be for an assertion calling the societies honorary. This that the church not only fails but is conception of the honorary feature detrimental in the accomplishment is the one most widely accepted, I of its own aim? believe.

Take a look at the thing which Now the objection may be offered he churches are doing for their that the members chosen are not young people. The Sunday School really representative of their fraterand some form of young peoples' nities. This may be true in cases, society take care of the so-called and if so it is a matter for the paryoung peoples work. The notion of ticular fraternity to deal with in too many of these organizations as the protection of its own prestige.

Changes do occur that may later association of representatives of dif raise some unnoticed fraternity man ferent groups.

who has not thus been honored. If there must be some definite aim The Daily Nebraskan assumes no above the member of the honorary, for the society to appease the criesponsibility for the sentiments ex- but that is nothing against the sys- tics, very well, but the true value ressed by correspondents, and re- tem. At the time of selection the of this definite purpose will be erves the right to exclude any com- man ranked higher, just as it is fully realized only as it furthers the numication whose publication may highly probabble that some members cause of mutua' association discussed for any reason seem undesirable, of the Innocents now rank higher in the last paragraph.

Except by special arrangements, in the service of the University, but And last, the greatest proof of the ommunications cannot be published may in later life be celipsed bby some value of these organizations, and

takes in judgment do occur, even in the fact that year after year stu-Since the question of class honor- the selection of men to the highest dents are eager to be elected to their aries has received so much attention bonors obtainable.

in the editorial and news columns of The second objection to the hon- keenly disappointed when they fail No. 142 (1 The Daily Nebraskan the past two oraries, and perhaps the greatest, of election

weeks, the editor will no doubt per- has been that they have no definite And then what harm do these ormit the student opinion column to be purpose, seeming to exist without ganizations cause after all that they

used for the same discussion, espe-cially in view of the general attitude of the Nebraskan against suppres-sion of thought among the students. The comments in the Nebraskan The comments in the Nebraskan to be deluded by the common habits on this question, with the exception of thinking of the times, which deof some of the interviews, have been mand something definite, material opposed to the honorary system as a and graspable, forgetting, it seems, whole. Nothing has been said for that there are many things which the other side of the question, which cannot be thus isolated, and crystalassuredly must exist from the very lized. The mere association of these representatives of the fraternities nature of the problem. The question of the honorary stat- would be justification enough for is together with some discussion the existence of the honorary socieconcerning their usefullness has ties, which serve as a meeting ground een the kernel of the whole dis- for the representatives of the fraussion about the honoraries. The ternities and the non-fraternity body. contention of The Daily Nebraskan If this has not been the case it is nager is that class organizations are not in a fault in the administration of the fact honorary. This is true if by societies, and not in the system. We

"honorary" is meant that the mem- have only to look into the business The statement was recently made bership in these societies is conferr- world to see the same sort of organby a senior to the effect that the ed for past accomplishments on the izations. Witness the Rotary club, church had been negative rather than campus, and is to be regarded as a Lions, Kiwanis, and others which are positive in its influence on his reli- reward for such work. But such is an outgrowth of the spirit of mutual

assuredly not the case because the gious development. The church, he selection is not on this basis, and can felt, had provided social rather than not be in the case of the freshman and sophomore secieties, which are Such a statement leads one to con- formed during the freshman year. sider what the function is which the shursh claims to fulfill and to man church claims to fulfill and to mea- to the senior societies, which are sure its success in accomplishing this avowedly selected in this manner. purpose among students and young But in the underclass honoraries

Student Opinion

anonymously.

or "honoraries," the basis of selec-To say that the church attempts tion is not past accomplishment, but to provide opportunities for spiritual rather representation of the fraterdevelopment through religious chan-body. The men chosen for membernels would probably be agreeable to ship are, in theory, supposed to be the churches themselves as a state- the most representative that the indiment of their purpose. In our city vidual fraternities can put forth. the Christian religion is offered al- The group, in selecting its members, most exclusively as the effective way in which to secure that development. We have a majority of students who profess to believe that such is the profess to believe that such is the orary as a matter of fact because the member is representing his fratern-

non-Innocent. That is all part of of the respect in which they are the uncertainty of life, and mis- held by the student bbody lies in

membership, and many of them feel





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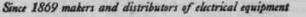
Since the industry is manned by many types, the result of your work will depend a good deal on the success with which you team up. The qualities that win are not only efficiency attained by the light of a study lamp, but that all-pull-together spirit of the athletic field.

This point of view may be useful to the man who has wondered whether campus activities, with all their striving and stern testing, their setbacks and their triumphs, have any counterpart in after life.

the interest of Electrical Development by an Institution that will be helped by wha :ever helps the Industry.

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to the method of developing spiritual life seems to be to familiarize their members with the usual platitudes concerning our daily life, the duties of cheerfulness in friendship etc. Coupled with this evidently superficial program of studying the way or religion is a program of social activity designed to attract the boys and girls and make them realize that the church is up to date. Hence we have annual banquets, parties at the manse, monthly dinners, and luncheon preceding the Sunday meetings as chief and foremost among the endeavors of the societies.

Very often the persons in charge of the religious study are persons with no special qualifications or preparation except their willingness to be of service. Under their leadership little of value is accomplished in the way of helping the young man or woman to realize the value or the sphere of the spiritual in its relation to the rest of life.

Anyone who knows colllege students knows that there is among them a desire and need for spiritual life. Religion, its relation to life, its meaning, its possibilities, its powers, its fundamental basesthese are the subjects of many a dormitory dialogue whereever youth is gathered together. Yet few of the churches seem to realize this interest and fail to help their young people in facing such fundamental problems. Instead of first establishing the fact of Christianity they assume it and reason from that premise after a fashion, not taking cognizance of the fact that every individual must think the matter through for himself before he can adopt it as a way of life.

The result is that those students who are awware of their own problems in their true light do not turn to the church for help in thinking. Others who do stay by the church scome superficial in a degree and simply take what is given them as far as intellectual matters are concerned. From the church they get the idea that the way to live a religious life is to give dinners and subscribe to finance campaigns,

The church in attempting to hold on its young people too often seems to have become clouded in its conception of its true sphere and even to have mistaken the needs of the young people themselves. _V. V.



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