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RATIONALISM?

"Fraternity Life", a small advertising medium, publishes an article this month entitled "Fraternity Rationalism" which attempt to prove that the present system of social fraternities is the best of all possible systems operating in the best of all possible manners. If a freshman were to accept the article as Gospel Truth, we fear his experiences would be somewhat similar to those of Voltaire's "Candide", although less exciting and extreme, perhaps.
 Most interesting of all the numerous clever arguments advanced is that in which the author refutes the charges of immorality. He writes:
 "The charge of immorality has been laid at the fraternity's door. It should be apparent to every thinking person that a fraternity man is no more immoral than a non-fraternity man.....Fraternity men play cards, roll the dice and engage in other games of chance even as non-fraternity and non-college men and boys do throughout the country. Fraternity men take a drink when they can get it even as non-fraternity men and non-college men do, and they usually do not have any more difficulty or any less difficulty getting it than do the non-fraternity and non-college men. The fraternity man is a human being, a very human being and this is why he acts, thinks and feels just like other human beings even though they do not belong to a Greek letter organization or never attended college."
 This is an old and often-repeated answer to the immorality question. We cite this particular paragraph merely because it is representative of the logic which is customary and traditionally brought to bear on the matter.
 It is, we believe, founded upon a false assumption.

In reality, it is not an argument but an explanation. It advances no evidence that fraternity men are good, but simply admits the truth of the charges, and then attempts to explain them. And the writer seeks to give the reader the impression that the explanation is so perfect and so satisfactory that the charges should be dismissed as ridiculous and un-called for.

He assumes that it is unnecessary for fraternity men to be better than non-fraternity men. He assumes that it is unnecessary for college men to maintain higher standards than young men who do not want to go to college. Both are very, very bad assumptions.

In the first place, members of fraternities are picked men. They are chosen by the various organizations supposedly on a basis of merit, personality, and character. They are impressed with the fact that it is an honor to receive a fraternity pin. They are taught that they are the cream of their class, and frequently they actually are. Freshmen who are not pledged by fraternities are regarded as deficient in some respect. They may or may not be, but such is the supposition. The average fraternity man assumes that they are inferior—otherwise, he says, they would have "made" something.

Is it not natural then, for an unprejudiced observer to expect more from fraternity men than from non-fraternity men? Should not the cream of the class be higher than the milk?

Furthermore, fraternities have certain ideals. When a man joins such an organization, he should be regarded as one who has expressed his approval of those ideals, who has determined to seek their attainment, and who will refrain from such actions as would cheapen them. Many fraternities boast of these ideals as the Rotarians do of service. The non-fraternity man has not identified himself with the ideals of a fraternity. He has not received the training and supervision which the fraternity is expected to give its new members. Should he be severely censured for a moral slip, as one boasts of higher ideals? All persons who are deficient morally should be censured, of course; but the fraternity man's answer to the charges of this nature is based on exactly the reverse of the assumption which the facts would warrant.

author of "Fraternity Rationalism" states that college men in general do exactly the same as non-college men. We do not believe this. Few people familiar with actual conditions in a university such as this deny that moral conditions are not higher among non-college young people. There is less necking, less drinking, and less gambling among university students than among other people of the same age. And there should be less, because university students, like fraternity members, are also a choice group. They are receiving educational advantages not accorded to all. They are being trained for leadership. They will be the cultured, responsible, citizens of their respective communities after graduation. If their standards were not higher than those of other people, it would be high time to summon the Watch and Ward society.

The conclusions which we believe logic necessitates are: (1) Fraternity men ought to be better than non-fraternity men, and sometimes they are. (2) College students should maintain higher standards than non-college people, and they nearly always do.

The author of "Fraternity Rationalism" draws conclusions which are exactly the reverse of those which a rational, unbiased person might be expected to reach.

Here are two editorials taken from The Cornhusker Countryman, monthly magazine of the College of Agriculture. They may well be read by students of all colleges.

Educational Exhibits.
 An excellent feature of the 1926 Farmers' Fair is the educational exhibits, which will be given more attention than ever before. The best means of showing the public what the College of Agriculture is doing is through the medium of educational exhibits. Each department will show some of the outstanding features of its work.

The public is interested in the work we are doing and they are anxious to see what is actually being done by the Experiment Station. It is the duty of every student and member of the faculty to exert their utmost efforts towards giving the visitors at the Farmers' Fair a favorable impression of the College of Agriculture. We are all thoroughly convinced that we have a wonderful institution and the public is anxious to be shown that we are right.

Each department must cooperate with the committees and be willing to compromise with the Fair Board in order to successfully accomplish the purpose of the Educational Exhibits.

Co-Operation
 One of the greatest benefits of the Farmers' Fair to the students in the College of Agriculture is the training they receive in cooperating or working together. The Farmers' Fair has grown to be the greatest student activity in the entire University through the united efforts of the student body. It could never have grown to its present magnitude

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through individual effort of the students.
 Our most noted agricultural authorities tell us that the solution of the majority of the problems of the farmer is through cooperation. Cooperation is being stressed in every phase of agriculture. The Farmers' Fair offers an excellent opportunity for the students to cooperate, in fact it is necessary that they cooperate in order to put across this gigantic undertaking. They are made to realize the benefits of working together.

College Press

THE LIQUOR JOKE
 (The Daily Kansan)
 "The liquor joke has been overworked in the last few years," a prominent faculty member said recently to a Kansan writer. "It is old, stale, trite. I would like to see it dropped from use by college publications."

And so would many other thinking people. The liquor joke has come down to us through the ages. But since the passing of the prohibition law it has ceased to be merely a joke. It has become deadly propaganda, undermining the public morale. It has sown the seeds of folly and sorrow in the minds of children. It has changed the drunken sot from an object of ridicule and contempt to a wit, the life of the party. It has wrapped him in an aura of alcoholic glory and placed a halo of mirth and good fellowship above his head.

College publications are not alone among the guilty. Newspapers, magazines, books, the country over have laughed at prohibition and at drunkenness. Now the jokers are coming to themselves with a sickening jerk—to find their high school boys wrecked in body, mind and soul; their high school girls with reputations shattered, hope gone; their mothers broken-hearted; their fathers helpless with despair.

The towns are filled with vicious-faced boys and dissipated girls with

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no ambition, no driving force in life. An education, a home, children, art, literature, music, comfort, happiness, friends, integrity, honesty—what do these things mean to them? Nothing. For tonight there's a "party at Pete's and he has some real Canadian Scotch. Will I be there? I hope to yodel!"
 A nation cannot laugh at a thing for six years, day after day, and then expect its young people to take that thing seriously. Town after town, city after city, during the past year has heard its laughter die away in a wall of anguish, in haunting sobs.
 Isn't it time to stop laughing? Let the college publications lead the way.

Calendar
 Friday, April 23.
 University Players—Temple.
 Co-Ed Follies—Temple.
 Phi Kappa, Spring Party—K. C. Hall.
 Phi Delta Theta—House Dance.
 Alpha Theta Chi, Spring Party—Lincoln.
 Delta Gamma, Spring Party—Roseville.
 Saturday, April 24.
 All University Mixer (Mu Epsilon)—Armory.
 Sigma Phi Epsilon—House Dance.

Alpha Gamma Rho—House Dance.
 Phi Omega Pi, Spring Party—Scottish Rite Temple.
 Delta Sigma Delta, Spring Party—Lincoln.
 Delta Chi, Spring Party—Lindell.
 Cosmopolitan Club Party—K. C. Hall.
 All Lutheran Club Mixer—Temple.
 WE ANNOUNCE ADDITION of 3 new Chrysler Sedans to our line of rental cars. Rates reasonable, special price on long trips. New Fords for rent as always. We will continue to give reliable service, night or day. Motor Out Company, 1120 P Street. B6819. 140

Subie Smart
 --our shop scout says!

New Spring Styles in Mottos at the Eastman Kodak Stores, Inc!

—even the framed sentiments insist on being fashionable, as you will see in this recently arrived collection of all that is new in motto-dom! There are lovely and unusual verses, beautifully illustrated and framed, for Mother's Day giving; friendship mottos that will be treasured for years by their recipients; mottos carrying messages that you yourself might read with profit each day; every sort! Despite their extreme attractiveness, these mottos are priced from only 50c to \$3 at the Eastman Kodak Stores, Inc., (formerly Lincoln Photo Supply Co., 1217 O.)

To Constantly Improve is the Aim of the Globe Laundry!

—you probably don't think Globe Service COULD be any better, but there are many little ways by which Lee Ager continually gives you more for your clean-clothes dollars! Take their new delivery motors for instance — doesn't it give you a thrill to think that YOUR bundle is being escorted with such pomp to and from its destination? This is just one instance of course, of the fact that the Globe Laundry constantly progresses. Try them with your next laundry, if you want to experience real satisfaction. Call B6755.

Store Your Fur Coats at Cadwallader's 1010 Q Street!

—there isn't a chance, says the weather man, that you'll need them again, so rush them down to Cadwallader's before the moths establish headquarters. Your most cherished coats are perfectly safe in Cadwallader storage, for their vaults are below freezing temperature, and this, says Mr. Cadwallader, is the only sure way of permanently discouraging moth life. Cadwallader's will also clean, repair, remodel, or reline your coat, so consult with them if you would be in readiness for next season. Located at 1010 Q street.

Friends in Need Are the Apex Cleaners and Dyers!

—even if your favorite frock was in the path of the overturned punch bowl, the Apex will quickly and skillfully remove all traces of the tragedy! And if you want your suit cleaned and pressed in double quick time, send it to the Apex. These expert cleaners and dyers at 123 S. 23rd St. may certainly be relied upon to do the sort of refreshing that will satisfy you: they may also be relied upon to charge you moderately! Phone B3331; P. M. Plamondon, president.

Two Value-Giving Apparel Sales at Ben Simon & Sons!

—if you want a clever spring coat, you may have it for only \$19 at Ben Simon & Sons! Well fashioned of charmeuse, tweed and satin are these coats—tailored, fur trimmed or elaborated with effective embroideries. And when you choose YOUR coat don't fail to see the group of specially priced dresses at \$12.90. In the lot are dresses for every occasion made of tulle, crepe de chine, tulle silk, flannel, jersey and other wash fabrics. Nothing cheap about them but their price, at Ben Simon & Sons!

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