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FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1927.

COMPENSATION

For every action there is a reaction, and for every gain there is a compensating loss. That in compressed form is a summary of Emerson's famous essay on Compensation.

In probably no other walk of life do we find the truth to this essay so prominently displayed as in college and university. Here in the short space of three or four years—one student generation—cause-and-effect relations and development of individuals along one line to the detriment of development along other lines can readily be watched.

Probably the most striking illustration of this law is found in a comparison of the scholarly inclined student with the activities and athletics students.

In college the activities boy or girl who wins out in the race for membership in the various societies, or finally succeeds to official position on the many student enterprises such as publications, college and departmental weeks, social functions, and so on, gets all the glory. The columns of the student paper mention his name frequently and his younger fraternity brothers look up to him as a "coming" or possibly even a "big" man on the campus.

The athlete not only gets a lion's share of publicity in college, but he gets a mighty big slice of state and national publicity besides. He is a campus hero, a town hero, often a state hero, and some times even a national hero.

At the same time the humble scholarly inclined student who is concentrating on the very things for which college and university were originally founded, and the very things which are still the fundamentals of college and university, finds himself mentioned, unheralded and uncheered. In fact he often finds himself shunned and avoided by many students. At the best he is considered a crank with a loose joint somewhere, and slightly unbalanced. He is not a social lion because he can not dance, and because he often lacks that greatest of all essentials—a clever line of piffle talk. He just doesn't rate.

Now let's run along about 20 or 25 years. The big activities men and women are probably somewhere in some line of business. They may have achieved some measure of financial success, but they haven't caused the world to sit up and listen much. They probably rate well socially, they make good husbands and good wives, but that is about all. They could have accomplished almost as much without even going to college.

The athletes—well that's a tender subject. Some of them achieve success because they were wise enough not to disregard too much the real serious side of university life, but a large number of them are never heard of again except when something happens to them, and an enterprising reporter finds out they were on the varsity back in '99. If success in modern life depended on physical wellbeing entirely, and not on brains as it does, they would probably clean up big in the world because they surely concentrated plenty on the physical while they were in college, oftentimes to the neglect of the intellectual which is the prime purpose of university.

And then the scholars—those dull uninteresting people who somehow plodded along back in college.

We find their names in Who's Who among the great thinkers, the great scientists, the great writers, the great teachers and the great leaders of the nation and the world.

They are having their inning, their glory, their mention not only in the ephemeral press of the time, but in the permanent record books of science, art, literature, and other enduring and abiding higher pursuits of mankind.

It's the old story of compensation. The activities boys and the athletes had their day in college. They concentrated on the things of the moment, to the neglect of the more worthwhile things. In later life they paid the price. The scholars paid the price in college, and reaped their reward later on.

The Prom Girl idea will be all right if they don't get ambitious and decide to have more than one a year.

THOSE JOBS

A professor and a graduating senior were discussing a short time ago the line of work which the senior was planning to enter after graduation.

The occupation the senior has chosen happens to be entirely different from that which the professor had expected the student to choose. The professor was quite surprised. Thinking, possibly, that consideration of salary may have been in part the reason for the unexpected choice, the professor asked the senior what his pay would be. He was more surprised than ever to find out that the senior, although he has had the position arranged for nearly a year, did not know just what his salary would be, nor was he worried very much about it.

Other people would also probably be surprised if a friend of theirs had agreed to start working for a corporation without knowing definitely what his salary would be. It may possibly even be foolish on the part of the senior to so disregard this important item of his future employment.

But on second thought it is apparent that the senior is probably wise in not concerning himself much with the initial salary he is to receive, for the following reasons:

1. There is prejudice enough against college men without aggravating it with misinterpreted concern over salary.

2. The corporation for which he is going to work employs so many thousands of people that it already has an established scale of salaries.

3. His ultimate salary will depend very little on his initial rating.

In spite of a slight weakening of prejudice against

college men as they slowly prove their worth in the business world, there is still a lot of antagonism. A large proportion of the officials and managers in business are still from the ranks of those who never had the opportunity of going to college. A still larger proportion of fellow workers were never able to go to college.

It is a wise policy, then, for the college graduate to forget as much as possible about his college training. If he shows it off, either by indiscreet talking or by ill-considered demands for high initial salary, he is only arousing natural feelings against himself, and will have a harder time of it as a result.

The second point about a standard salary scale in the corporation is a thing that just has to be accepted. Nothing much can be done about it even though a man is a college graduate. The corporation probably has a salary scale for green college graduates. The senior will receive that scale, whatever it is, and any negotiating of his own will not change it.

The third point concerning ultimate salary is one little appreciated by many people. The first essential to success in any occupation is probably a real interest in the work. And the second is a lot of hard work. Ability is taken for granted in large part. Recognized ability is in large part only that fraction which others see as a result of the interest that individual shows and the effort which he puts forth.

If a man after sober estimate of the situation decides that a certain business is the one he wishes to enter, and then puts forth every effort to master that business, the initial salary he receives while learning the business will have only slight bearing on his ultimate success. In fact he is probably better off if he doesn't worry about his salary at all, and accepts it simply as a reward for the services which he is rendering. A high salary is somewhat like happiness. If you seek it direct you are disappointed at every turn of the road. If you concentrate on other things, it comes as a natural consequence.

In Other Columns

Student Suicide "Wave"

For weeks the tenderest sensibilities of millions of newspaper readers have been wounded by recurring newspaper reports of a "suicide wave" among young college or high school students, 26 such cases having been thus connected in this country since the first of the year.

We believe that many of our readers must have wondered, as have we, whether the insistent emphasis upon the "suicide wave" was justified by the facts or would not ultimately lead to the charge that the newspapers have recklessly spread the suggestion of self-destruction and influenced weak or morbid youths to their mad acts. In none of the reports that we have read has there been any evidence that the suicide was impelled by a common suggestion. On the contrary, each case that we have seen described seemed to be either a complete mystery or to have assigned to it causes which were wholly individual.

It comes, therefore, as only mildly shocking that the statisticians of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company completely riddle the theory of a "student suicide wave", showing by figures gathered during 15 years among 90 percent of the population of the country that there is nothing strange or unusual in the number of suicides of persons of student age this year. Indeed, according to these statistics, the number of suicides of persons between the ages of 15 and 20 this year, as during 1926, is under the usual average.

We need not moralize on this matter, for the possibilities of harm in scare suicide wave stories are perfectly obvious to any newspaper man. The power of suggestion through imagery created by the printed word is a very well-established principle in psychology and if the newspaper stories that we have read have not, as appears to be the case, started an epidemic of self-destruction among morbid youths it should be a matter of congratulation.

Anyone who knows the news field in this country is well aware that it is a simple matter to create stories of alleged general conditions by associating isolated cases picked up by wire among the people of the country. If all the cases of legs broken by short falls among more than a hundred million people should be connected in the news daily for a week or a month timid people might be so frightened that they would hesitate to walk across a room.

It is absurd and extremely mischievous to call a number of suicides a "wave" when vital statistics indicate that the number is less than ordinary.

—Editor and Publisher

Out of the Ditch

No students can spend four years on a college campus and not learn something. But what do they learn and to what use are they going to put it when they face the task of bucking Old Man Reality?

Is the fellow who went to work as soon as he took his high school diploma going to make more of a success than the college graduate? He will surpass some of them to be sure. But many college graduates will surpass him. What is the percentage and is it great enough to justify everyone taking a college education?

A story was once told that illustrates a good point:

A young fellow, just out of college, returned to his home town for a brief visit with his parents. His father was a contractor. Labor was short and the young fellow went to work in a ditch to fill in the ranks.

A bulking fellow next to him had known him before he left for college.

"Well, John," he said, "four years ago you worked in the ditch with me. Then you went to college. Now you are back in the ditch. What good does an education do you if you have to come back to where you started? I am just as well off that way without an education as you are with one."

"There is just one difference," replied the young fellow. "I can climb out of the ditch and you can't."

—The Oklahoma Daily

Scholastic Freedom

Freshman students at Yale who maintain an average of 80 percent or better are no longer required to attend classes according to schedule; they are permitted as many "cuts" as they desire. This is quite a novelty in college administration. Most of the eastern colleges have introduced a system allowing freedom of attendance to seniors and in some cases to juniors who are satisfactory scholastically, but the extension of this system to freshmen is somewhat of a surprise.

At Nebraska a number of professors teaching advanced courses have introduced such a system without particular authority. They usually call the roll, but they neglect to report absences to the administrative offices and they take no account of absences in evaluating the students' work.

This system has much to recommend it. Mortals are lamentably prone to balk at that which they are forced to do and to enjoy anything done voluntarily. Compulsory class attendance for juniors and seniors who have shown sufficient responsibility to maintain a good average seems a bit futile, for if these students are ever to realize their responsibilities they should do so in college.

—The Lincoln Star

Notices

FRIDAY, MARCH 11
 Palladian Literary Society
 Seniors will be in charge of the program for the open meeting Friday at 8:30 p. m. Everyone invited.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19
 Chess Club
 Meeting of University Chess Club, Saturday at 7:30, Y. M. C. A. room Temple. All students interested in chess are invited.

Lutheran Club
 Lutheran Club meeting, March 19, 8 p. m. Faculty Hall, University Temple. Prof. O. W. Sjoren, speaker. Musical numbers. Refreshments. All Lutheran students cordially invited.

MONDAY, MARCH 21
 Lutheran Club
 Lutheran Club Lenten Meditation Monday evening, March 21, 7 p. m., Room 204, Temple Building, theme "The Crisis of the Cross." All Lutheran students are asked to attend.

One Year Ago

Dr. R. H. Wolcott, of the Zoology department received specimens from the laboratory of demonstration material from the Mexican National Museum at Mexico City. The specimens were large tropical spiders, and were received in return for material sent from here.

A rule limiting the "probation week" of all fraternities to fifty-four hours, was passed at a meeting of the Interfraternity Council. The rule further provided for the submission by each fraternity of its probation plans, for approval by the newly-formed executive committee of the Council. A motion to strike out this part of the rule was lost. The amendment to the Constitution which provided for the creation of an executive council of six members, within the Council organization, was also passed as a part of the Council's program to further regulate fraternities. Members considered the passage of these two pieces of legislation the most important steps taken by the Council in recent years.

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Talks of eating at the



Dinner—What Do You Eat?

Let us suppose you have decided to eat your dinner at the Central Cafe—whether about noon or after five o'clock in the evening.

You find the entrance at 1325 P Street always open. The doors are not fitted with locks and, consequently, never have been locked since the hotel building was remodeled several years ago, a terrazzi floor laid, and specially constructed equipment installed.

You may perch upon a chair-backed stool at one of the three counters or be seated in a comfortable chair at a roomy table for four persons, laid with immaculate linen. The service is equally prompt, courteous and efficient in either case; and prices the same.

A recent mimeographed menu will give you some idea of what you might have eaten that day at the Central; and although the bill is changed daily, or twice daily, it will give you an inkling of what you can eat today or tomorrow.

Spring Vegetable Soup to start your dinner, 10 cents. Your choice of ten ready-to-serve three-division plate dinners, at prices ranging from 35 cents for Baked Veal Loaf with Spanish Sauce, to 55 cents for Diced Chicken with Green Peppers on Toast, or 65 cents for an Extra Cut or Roast Prime Ribs of Beef Au Jus; but mostly dishes at 40 and 45 cents.

These prices include Bread and Butter; but Coffee or Milk are 5 cents additional. You may choose a Relish at 15 to 20 cents, a Salad at 15 to 45; and Dessert at 10 to 35 cents.

Thus a very satisfying dinner may be eaten at the Central and not cost over a dollar. In fact, very many persons who are not heavy eaters seldom have their check reach that figure. Still, if your purse and your appetite crave more, the Central is always ready to serve you.

(To be continued) 1325 P

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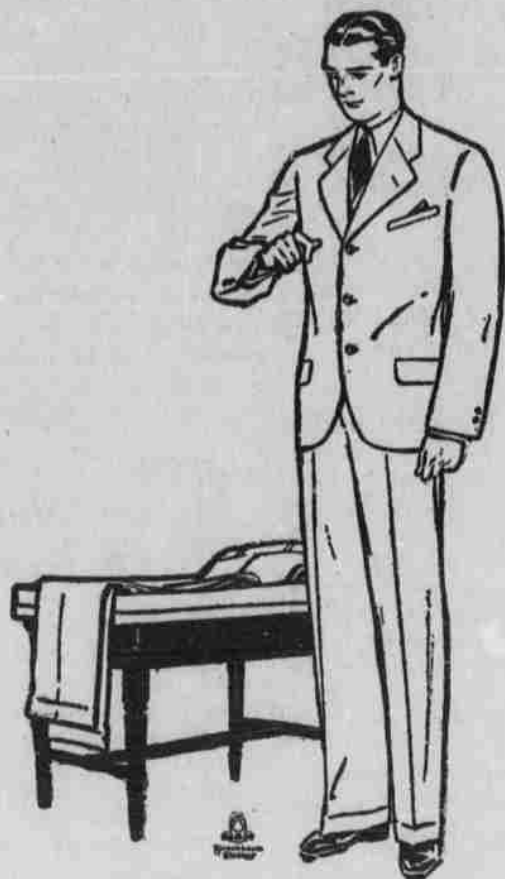
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