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Now Look Who Caused the Depression.

SINCE bankers began excusing their part in bringing financial distress to the country, startling pronouncements from them have become almost common, but an Associated Press dispatch from New York puts all the other statements to shame for their lack of imagination. Frederick H. Prince, "banker and stock-yards magnate," is the author of the absurdity, and the burden of his remarks is an attack on professors who, he says, are a "curse to the country."

To quote a paragraph of Mr. Prince's declaration will be enough to expose the man and his views: "You have only to think back the last ten years upon the difficulties into which we have drawn because of the influence of the professors to realize that the sooner we get away from their influence the better we will be."

Isn't that astonishing? It is disheartening enough to realize that there are people capable of looking on professors in such a light; but when it is a banker, a man to whom public monies have been entrusted, who makes such a statement, the utterance assumes the proportions of a crime.

Pushing aside the fact that Mr. Prince begs the question—and that not very adroitly—there yet remains the evidence of a mind bound in the narrowest of channels. It is difficult to imagine where the banker found the basis for his opinion, if it is an opinion. It is hardly possible, of course, that the statement represents merely a clumsy attempt to divert public attention from bankers to professors. In that case, the Associated Press would be open to censure for carrying the story.

But in any case, it might prove beneficial for Mr. Prince to make the acquaintance of an education. Perhaps then he would conclude with the rest of us that what the country needs is not fewer professors, but more and better professors. And fewer nitwit industrial bankers.

What, Ho! Another Challenge?

IF ARCHEOLOGISTS some centuries hence are lucky enough to dig up the published reports of the committee on recent social trends in the United States which have lately been released from the press, they should have sufficient information to study about this era of the civilization of the United States without bothering with any other material. The survey includes a thoro analysis of every field of modern social organization and thought by men eminent in the specialized problems and fields which they investigated and upon which they reported.

One of the striking points brought out in the condensed summary of some of the information is the emphasis which the various in-

vestigators place upon the departure from the philosophy of individualism in all phases of social activity. Not without irony is this conclusion reached by a committee appointed by President Hoover, not long ago expounding to the public the doctrine of adherence to the traditional American "rugged individualism."

But the conclusion is an important one in view of the immense amount of material advanced to substantiate the conclusion. One committee, studying the subject of government in its relation to society, in particular emphasizes this trend toward control of the individual and his actions by increasingly centralized authority in government. Side by side with this trend, however, the committee points out the adherence of the American people to the "religion of rigidity" in governmental structure. In other words, the citizens are asking and expecting the government to carry on these expanded and complex functions without providing adequate machinery to properly deal with these functions. Likewise the committee points out the "large scale continuance of corruption and governmental incompetence."

IN THE FIELD of public thinking and the agencies which control or influence that thinking, similar evidences of centralization of the institutions such as newspapers, radio, and moving picture producers is referred to. The individual not only asks his government to act for him, he expects certain agencies with immense resources to provide the stimuli for his thinking. As the committee report states: "Greater possibilities for social manipulation, for ends that are selfish or socially desirable, have never existed."

Despite the emphasis placed upon the need for more modern governmental institutions to cope with the modern situation, the committee investigating governmental trends places faith for the final solution of the problems in the existence of an educated and enlightened public which can prevent the abuse of centralized power without checking the necessary exercise of it. As the report puts it: "Corruption and extravagance in government are not so much causes as symptoms, and by the same logic are curable not by surface remedies but by more basic changes."

Similarly, for the possible evils resulting from dissemination of material designed to influence public thinking by agencies with concentrated control, the committee relies for the remedy upon an enlightened public capable of discernment between good and ill. From this enlightened public will come the controllers of these agencies of dissemination who will be unwilling to use the means at their disposal for any but the petter purposes.

THE REMEDIES seem idealistic, but they cannot remain so. The conditions as reported already exist. The possibilities presented are either that existing circumstances will be taken advantage of for the benefit or for the detriment of society as a whole. The choice of which alternative will be selected remains to be seen and in the last analysis rests upon the question as to whether or not the in-

tangible qualities of individuals making up society are sufficiently developed to meet the situation forced upon them by the tangible or material development of circumstances.

To be concrete, a true test of the efficiency of the American educational system is imminent. Has the public merely been educated to know facts, to get along in the economic world, or has it been taught to interpret those facts, to realize the significance of events, and to act in such ways as may be necessary to protect themselves and others from detrimental influences? If there is no realization of what is going on, if the public is blind to the significance of it, then it will be natural to expect continued and increasing abuse of the concentrated power which exists in every phase of society.

If the public is dull and stupid, it can only expect unscrupulous members of the public to mould its opinions for evil purposes. It can expect to be governed by other unscrupulous members of society bent on serving their own ends and no others. It can expect its concentrated financial institutions to use the power which they must almost necessarily have for private and not public purposes.

No doubt everyone is weary of challenges, but the report of these "social trends in the United States" can hardly be called anything else.

Maybe They Can Find Out.

One of the pending bills in the legislature in connection with the university provides for the state auditor to examine the accounts of funds pertaining to student activities, athletic associations, field houses and stadiums connected with the University of Nebraska and state normal schools. One of the great mysteries to most students has been what connection the athletic department has with the university, and what policy, if any, governs the use of funds for various student activities.

It seems an anomaly for the athletic department, which technically has no connection with the university, to furnish funds for the carrying on of many student activities, and be the sole judge of how much these various activities shall get according to how successful the football season is.

Perhaps the legislature will find their labors fruitless in case they pursue such an investigation, but it might be enlightening to the student body to learn where the money which certain student activities get comes from, and where the money which other student activities make goes to. We trust that if they audit the funds, they will publish the results.

To the question "Have you ever been in love?" 56 out of 203 freshmen women at the University of Syracuse answered: "Many times."

A redheaded students club has been organized at the University of North Carolina.

Contemporary Comment

Take It Easy, Children.

When a prominent and popular campus administrator remarked the other day that he knew of at least fifty undergraduates who were confident they could take over the reins of this university and assume authority in adequate fashion of all the regulative work involved, it is to be feared that an altogether true observation was put forth.

The only criticism we would make of the statement is that it minimizes the situation in limiting the number of such self assured and confident individuals to fifty. It is more likely that some phases of this unfortunate undergraduate attitude are being nourished in the minds of 5,000 students on the Sprague campus.

Of late years it has become popular to disapprove of all measures adopted by the administration in relation to the control and supervision of student life—academic, social or athletic. True, it is not a phenomenon purely local in effect. But it has become so popular and widespread here as to be obnoxious and positively detrimental.

It is essentially a childish hang-over of high school and prep school days to allow to continue unabated this idea that everything done by the administration contains some element conducive to the seizure of the "vested rights" of the students. The age of revolt serves its purpose at a certain period of life. College without a doubt is a part of that period. But the average undergraduate's newly discovered intellectuality does have its limits and certainly it is overstepping its bounds when it proposes to dictate to an experienced group of administrative authorities every move they should make.

—Syracuse Daily Orange.

HOLLAND SUBJECT OF VAN ROYEN'S TALK

(Continued from Page 1.)

buying is established here where the prospective buyers are seated in an auditorium facing the canal on which boat loads of produce are brought before L. M. Dickering begins at the top price, such a method being termed a "Dutch auction" in our country. Each man has an electric button before him which he may punch at the time the pointer on the bidding board before the group reaches the price he desires to pay. The man who signifies his desire to buy first naturally receives the produce," the instructor declared in conclusion.

Junior Officers Attend Smoker Wednesday Night

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tended a smoker held by members of Scabbard and Blade, honorary military fraternity, at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house last night.

Former Faculty Member Visitor on the Campus

Prof. W. H. Thompson, formerly of the teachers college faculty and now of the Omaha Municipal university, was a visitor on the campus last week.

Instructor to Columbia To Do Graduate Work

Miss Gertrude Goering, instructor in commercial arts, has gone to Columbia university for the second semester where she plans to do graduate work in the teachers college.

More than two-thirds of the students enrolled at the University of Paris are Americans.

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