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So What Seniors?

A NUMBER of college papers lately have been reflecting about the value of a college education, especially in connection with the imminent graduation of thousands of seniors who, as the commencement speakers are fond of saying, are about to go out to take their places in the great world. And what awaits them? Beach-combing or the reforestation army seem to be the most accessible fields open to the graduating seniors.

The philosophy of Horatio Alger, God bless his soul, though crude and cheap, had many features of the typical American attitude that anyone with ambition could start at the bottom and work up. The college education came to be a part of the process of working up, and a graduate of such an institution was in a fair way to finding his niche in the world immediately upon stepping from the college halls into the world of business.

What a beating that idea has taken in the last few years. Not only does it seem improbable, in fact well nigh impossible for the ambitious to start from the bottom and work up, but even the college graduate finds himself about on a par with the illiterate when it comes to working up.

SO is it any wonder that there is disillusionment on the part of the college graduate? And yet beneath all the cynical remarks that are made by the disappointed seniors who leave college and wonder about the value of the four years spent therein, there seems to be a feeling that it was worthwhile.

We shall not attempt to go into the reasons for this feeling. Perhaps it is a process of rationalization which tries to justify the four years spent in college. But we think not. It seems rather to be a feeling that things as they are are not permanent. There seems to be a feeling that eventually the college graduate will come into his own.

In a way it seems to us that this little jolt is a good thing. Perhaps it will help some to get away from the idea that a college education is primarily valuable because of the economic returns it will later bring. We have no quarrel with the idea that college is good preparation for future advancement financially, but there has been entirely too much of the bread and butter philosophy connected with colleges.

WE have no desire to see seniors starve and try to eke out a return on their educational in-

vestment by contemplating the beauties of literature, or reflecting on the wonderful economic and political theories they learned in college while they are literally starving in garrets. But we feel that a college education should mean, considerably more than preparation for a job.

We have little sympathy for the collegian who is always grieving because college courses are too impractical. We too believe in conforming theory to practice, but when a college becomes a place to learn a trade, or to study the ins and outs of the sordid workings of the business world, then those who want to develop something in their own minds a little removed from monotonous affairs of the world to which everyone must adjust himself anyway, will have to go elsewhere for their contemplations.

And so we say that all the cynical remarks about what to do with the parchment diploma, and how to put the cap and gown to practical use, are no arguments at all against a college education. We too think the college graduate will eventually come into his own, financially, but we claim that even a job in the reforestation army and a college diploma is better than a job in the reforestation army without a diploma, or should be. If it is not, it is possible that it is an individual fault more than the fault of a college education.

Our Favorite Grievance.

IF a last editorial criticism were to be made before the year runs out, we should choose for the objects of attack our favorite subject, compulsory physical education and compulsory drill. It is our earnest hope that President Roosevelt's contemplated economy plan will, as has been rumored, eliminate from college curricula the objectionable compulsory drill. We have always felt that besides being morally objectionable it would be difficult to prove that this expenditure of the federal government brings any real return for the money spent.

As for physical education, compulsory for women on this campus, it would seem that economy's dictates should make it advisable to drop this obnoxious and absolutely inane requirement. But in case it is not dropped for that reason, we still have faith that eventually it will be recognized that above all silly, useless, idiotic non-necessities in the college curriculum, this course of "study" stands pre-eminent. When college authorities realize that the value to be derived from physical exercise and sport is a spontaneous thing and cannot be "required," they will drop this requirement like a hot poker.

Purely a Rule Of Common Sense.

There has always been a certain amount of dissatisfaction on the part of students with the requirement that they must take at least two-fifths of their total number of hours in afternoon classes. This dissatisfaction is justified in the case of students who for good cause need to have their classes in the morning.

Prof. A. R. Congdon, chairman of the assignment committee is anxious that the students in general understand the reason for this requirement and co-operate in making it successful. He explains that the rule is not meant to operate arbitrarily on those who really have to work in the afternoon or for some other reason are inconvenienced by having afternoon classes.

But it is too clear to require explanation that all university courses cannot be offered in the morning. And it is also non-controversial that the great majority of students have nothing to do but go to school. The objection of such students to registering for afternoon classes cannot reasonably be honored.

For those who do have good rea-

son for registering for morning classes only, the assignment committee is only desirous of hearing their reasons and placing them accordingly. Professor Congdon assures these students of sympathetic consideration. He makes it clear that the assignment committee has no intentions of arguing or attempting to force students into afternoon classes. Their only interest is in adjusting the individual registration to the necessities imposed by the curriculum and of securing the co-operation of each student for the benefit of all.

Among Our Souvenirs.

WITH one more issue of the Nebraskan to appear this year, we are reminded that our say is about said. We shall regret giving up this daily grind, even though at times it has been a rather burdensome task. After working for four semesters on the "rag" staff, it will really mean a lot to give up a connection which has been an ambition, a job, and a pleasure all in one. When we think of Nebraska university in years to come, we are sure that the mental picture in our mind will give a prominent place to the old U hall basement office where the "rag" staff works nearly every afternoon and evening.

From 2 o'clock in the afternoon until nearly the same hour the following morning for five days each week, someone is on the job of getting the Nebraskan to press. No other extra-curricular activity on the campus requires such continuous routine work, but we firmly believe that no other activity on the campus returns such a measure of satisfaction nor such valuable training as does the work on a campus daily.

It is primarily the news editors, managing editors, and assistant business managers who bear the brunt of toil and keep late hours for the benefit of "our public." The former work from eight to twelve hours every third issue, and put in plenty of time on the other issues of the paper. The managing editors are responsible for the news which appears and must spend a lot of time finding out what is going on on the campus. The assistant business managers like the news editors sit up till the wee small hours supervising the last stages of putting out the paper.

THE editor will cherish among the remembrances of his work on the Daily Nebraskan the friendships which have grown up as a result of working with people who have put so much into the work of publishing this paper. In particular we will never forget the semester of work as managing editor when Lawrence Hall served in the same office. It is an experience as rare as it is enjoyable to work with a person like Hall who never fails to co-operate and who always is willing to do work he is not supposed to do. Carrying on the same spirit of co-operation, Hall has written many of the editorials which have appeared in these columns during the past semester.

There have been times, of course, when editorials came hard, and we have frequently been as bored by writing what is printed as you have been in reading it. There have been times when criticism has rather offended us. But on the whole, no one has taken personally any of the comments which have been made. We have

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appreciated the spirit which has been shown and have tried to show the same spirit of impersonal reference even when we have criticized severely.

There have been a few, a very few to be truthful, who have been gracious enough to compliment the editorial writer occasionally. Some have spoken, a few have written. We shall keep among our souvenirs those two or three letters of commendation as pleasant reminders of the fact which we have often doubted that some do read what we write. It has been a tonic on "bad days" to realize that occasionally something has been said which has aroused interest or friendly agreement. We thank you sincerely now for the encouragement you have given.

FIRE TEAMS TO CONTEST

First Aid, Hose Coupling, Ladder Raising Will Be Events.

AMES, Iowa.—Picked teams of municipal firemen will compete in first aid and hose coupling and ladder raising contests on the afternoon of the final day of the Iowa fire school at Iowa State College, May 23 to 26. Teams representing the Fort Dodge, Keokuk and Waterloo fire departments have been entered in the first aid contest. A half dozen four-man teams will take part in the hose coupling and ladder raising contest.

Thief Enters Theta Xi House Sunday Morning
 Nineteen dollars in cash was

stolen from the Theta Xi house, at 1844 Washington St., Sunday morning. The thief entered the house thru the back door, spoke to the house cook, went upstairs and left before anyone could give a warning.

90 SEEK MASTERS DEGREES

Oklahoma A. & M. College Plans Commencement May 26.

STILLWATER, Okl., May 22.—(Special)—With 462 candidates for degrees, 90 of whom are expecting the master's degree, the thirty-eighth annual commencement exercises will be held at the Oklahoma A. & M. College Friday, May 26.

Dr. E. H. Lindley, chancellor of the University of Kansas, is the commencement speaker; and the degrees will be presented by Dr. Henry G. Bennett, A. & M. president.

Wash chiffons in a soap solution. No rubbing will be required, just rinsing up and down. Don't have the water too hot.

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