

Colleges Score Big Victory By Keeping Their Reserves

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Chips

MATING-TIME AT THE ZOO

If we do not count the Phi Psi house, friends, we may say that this campus has nothing even resembling a zoo. And now that the holidays are over, we had better start a little serious thinking on this subject.

Since gas rationing is here to stay, we are going to have to cook up our own amusement on a local scale. And what could be more amusing and more ridiculous than to take your date to a campus zoo to watch the humorous monkeys at play? What could be more ridiculous than this, may we repeat, unless you want to take your date to look at Bob Miller?

The zoo in Springtime is fully as romantic as the porch of the dorm the night before Christmas vacation. And speaking romance, remember this one point: EVERY ANIMAL HAS ITS MATE. There is the tiger, and it has a tigress. There is the lion, and it has a lioness. There is the bear.

So let's all get together on this thing, folks. I have just completed an interview with Professor Ben Carson who is eager to serve as Chairman of the Zoo Foundation Committee. Mr. Carson has a staff of five able workers who have volunteered to accept all donations of animals and zoo equipment. They are:

Becky Wait, Large-Animal Sub-Committee. Buffalo, elephants, giraffes, or anything else of similar volume. Just send them to the Theta House.

Larry Huwaldt, Undesireables' Animal Sub-Committee. Skunks, horned toads, wart hogs. Clean out your basement.

Fred Metheny, Miscellaneous-Animal Sub-Committee. Anything goes from moles to ant-eaters. Brother Phi Deltas not accepted.

Mary Louise Goodwin, Zoo-Accessory Sub-Committee. Beds, lawn chairs, playground equipment. Anything that will make life more pleasant for our dumb friends.

Dave Walcott: Brooms and Shovels Sub-Committee.

Time is short. But if we all work together, and forget our petty differences, I'm sure that we will find the results to be zooperb.

Bit by bit, plans for members of ROTC and the ERC are being released by officials who have inaugurated the program for keeping students in some kind of educational institutions for specialized training before calling them to active service.

As announced today by Dean T. J. Thompson, members of the ERC will be required to register next semester if they are to remain in that reserve. This announcement makes definite the plans for men in this branch until after the beginning of the second semester and every little bit of added definite information makes it that much easier on the men.

Further announcement that members of the advanced ROTC would stay in school until May, settles for a time at least another group of students' plans. Although this information is coming in by bits, even the bits are big bites for these men, since they haven't even been able to live from day to day with any rational thoughts because of their indefinite status.

One thing is certain, however. Colleges and higher education have won a moral victory as far as the armed services are concerned. Officials of our army, navy, and marines have realized the worth of college training as necessary for intelligent officers. Officials of the armed services have given the college man the opportunity to continue his education for a time at least since neither the army, navy, or marines can furnish this type of training in their programs.

Education has become one of the watchwords and backbones of this war. The value of education has never been recognized so much in any period of history, as it has been realized in this year 1942-43.

Not only have colleges scored a moral victory by continuing educational programs, but they have scored a victory by being able to keep their physical plants open through specialized schools being set up on the campuses over the country. If physical plants can be kept in operation during this emergency, the possibilities are that much better for returning to their regular college programs immediately following the war.

Since the armed services have decreed education for their future officers, it is the duty of the colleges over the country to provide this education. Present faculty members should be retained, new ones added if necessary and the budget for continuing the university should not be cut by the legislature which is now assembled.

But the most important duty at the present lies with the students themselves. The students must take advantage of the opportunity which has presented itself, and continue their education as long as possible, as diligently as possible. The word EDUCATION has become the battle cry of World War II. We must do everything in our power to keep that motto alive.

NYA-Unwise Economy?

Having strained the CCC and the WPA out of the national alphabet soup, congress will probably turn its attention on the NYA this session.

Although it has been suggested that the NYA be combined with the Manpower commission under Paul V. McNutt, public opinion seems to favor the complete dissolution of the agency and cessation of all its projects.

Created in the lean days of depression, the NYA has provided work and training for young people not enrolled in school besides giving student aid. Senator Byrd, attacking the inefficiency of the NYA, stated that 12,000 supervisors were on its payroll, while only 53,000 beneficiaries still claimed government help through this channel. This shows an average of four trainees to a supervisor.

This waste may be true in some sections where manpower shortage and the war boom have provided jobs for former NYA workers, but in the nation's high schools and colleges, thousands of students still look to this agency as their only means of self help. On the L. S. U. campus alone \$29,970 has been allotted to NYA workers, and more than 300 students earn from \$10 to \$20 a month through part-time jobs. If government funds were withdrawn, these students would be unable to remain in school.

If a majority of the men are called to armed forces, university funds might be sufficient to cover those workers who remain on campus for the duration, but at this point the government does not seem to have made up its mind just what is to be done about students in the Enlisted Reserve corps. Until this "now they're leaving, now they aren't" attitude is settled, no one can estimate the effect the abolition of the NYA would have on working students.

When the CCC and the WPA were abandoned, workers dismissed had little difficulty in finding other jobs in industry. The NYA student is in a different position. His field is limited to part-time hours and proximity to the campus. Most of the NYA workers enrolled in school this year expecting that NYA help would continue at least through June. To cut off funds abruptly would be to break faith with those young people who have nowhere else to turn for help.

Since the armed forces are taking so many men from school, those students who are able to finish their education will be doubly valuable to the country. To end NYA help would be to hinder this necessary educational program.

Let the 78th Congress reduce NYA appropriations, cutting out non-student aid if necessary, but let NYA jobs remain in high schools and colleges at least until a satisfactory substitute work program has been instituted—The Reveille, Louisiana State University.

The Saturday Letter

By Raymond Manchester

The Civilian

Pity the poor civilian! He is sour because of sugar shortage, weak because of meat shortage, jumpy because of coffee shortage, unionized because of tire shortage, lean because of fat shortage, cold because of fuel shortage, cold because of fuel shortage, ignorant because of news shortage, shabby because of clothing shortage, frowsy because of barber shortage, smelly because of soap shortage, and ostracized because he can't buy tooth paste. Commiserate with him because he is peepless, hapless, glamourless, and umphless. Support him because he is spineless, aimless, and thoughtless.

Too young, too old, too decrepit, too familyized, too toothless, too flat-footed, too rheumatic, and too cross-eyed to be invited to join any of the various military units—he parks his sugar card, his gas card, his classification card, his fuel card, his coffee card, and his identification card in his inside jacket and roams the high road and the low road and areas unchartered, declaring in raucous voice that he will do this, do that, do thus, do so, and win the war, the peace, the medals, and the plaques. Wild as a hawk, crazy as a loon, and nutty as a hickory tree, he haunts the foreground, the background, and the middle distances, proclaiming to all and sundry who may be beneath the stars above and over the earth beneath that he will "Show 'em, 'by Gum, or know the reason why."

A glutton for abuse, a sucker for exploitation, a target for jests, a victim of circumstances, he rejoices that he can give his hot water bottle, his lawn mower, his potato-boiling dish, his bed springs, and his coal shovel to the scrap drive and thereby help make the world safe for a fellow who wants to call the umpire a deaf, dumb, and blind highway robber or refer to his chicken-raising neighbor as a plain, low-down, unprincipled scoundrel.

Morale? Say! He has more of it in his little finger than a quince has of pucker or a pickle has of warts. He is the concentrated essence of morale itself. He—well, never mind.

Just remember to write his name high when the scroll is made and put him down among the charter members when the Honor Legion is organized. Pity the poor guy, yes, but salute him also as a patriot, a gentleman, a scholar, and a fellow who wishes he could buy a cigar that could be depended upon not to burn merrily down one side and curl up like a cabbage leaf.

Raymond E. Manchester
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