

But some one may say: "In universities where the session is short and the requirements are severe, so many demands upon time rank before the claim of the college paper that the maintenance of a worthy sheet becomes impossible." This objection has not even the merit of being plausible. True, no student can (unless he be a prodigy) excel at his books, at athletic sports, in public speech and with his pen. But he can, if he has good health, stand well in his classes and do something besides. Indeed, every undergraduate should, for his own sake (leave alone the reputation of the college), extend the range of his interests beyond the lecture room and the examination hall. Not ten per cent. of those whose names are enrolled on the books have the force and agility of good athletes. Not more than twenty-five per cent. are likely to develop eminence in debate. And of the large majority remaining there are few who cannot, if they make the effort, help forward the college paper in some way or another. The required poems, stories, and essays must always be short, and if no leisure presents itself during the session there is still the long vacation. The *jeux d'esprit* which are written for amusement during the summer will furnish the editor with stock-in-trade for the winter.

In the conduct of a successful college paper much depends, of course, on the various editors and managers. If possible the ablest undergraduates should be drawn into office, and they will be when each post sheds lustre upon its occupant. Thucydides says truly: "For where the rewards of virtue are greatest, there the best citizens are enlisted in the service of the state." Let me apply this general statement to a single instance. I once studied at a university where the editorial positions were highly coveted and could be only reached after a severe apprenticeship. Owing to the marked degree of undergraduate interests, four journals, a daily, a weekly, a fortnightly and a monthly, flourished. In the same house with me lived a freshman who wished to get a place on the daily and cheerfully submitted to the training which his candidacy involved. He began like other aspirants as volunteer reporter, and during the first half of the year he snapped up all the "unconsidered trifles" of college news which he could find—writing trial paragraphs too. "Copy" was dropped in the editors' box at midnight daily, and the freshman went out each evening a few minutes before the box closed with his "personals" and paragraphs. Four months long he collected and wrote, and then found himself among the rejected. A further sifting process winnowed the chosen before they reached the lowest grade of the editorial staff. Now my friend and others like him worked hard because they were trying to reach a coveted position.

Having thus expressed my own conviction that no real headway can be made with a college paper unless it is supported by the pens, the subscriptions and the sympathy of all undergraduates, I come to a few important details. First, assuming that only one paper is in question, how often should it be issued? The answer, I think, must take the shape of a formula, and moreover of a negative formula,—on the one hand, not oftener than can be justified by the quality of the material; on the other, not so seldom that readers lose interest during the interval between numbers. To be more precise, the publication of a daily sheet is only practicable in three or four of the largest university centres. At the other