

Other Editors Are Saying:-

EDUCATION A PRIVILEGE from McGill Daily

Dare we suggest to the students of this university that a university education is a privilege? It is a privilege because only one Canadian in twenty who graduate from high school receives this education, and especially so for the students at McGill since their fees defray only one-third of the cost.

Liberal theory says that wherever a privilege exists that privilege ought to be extended to all so that in reality there is no privilege at all. This is the ideal that man has been holding up before him for centuries but to which traditionally he has paid little but lip-service. University education is particularly a privilege because of the contribution it makes toward the good and happy life. It enables the student for a period of some four years to find himself, morally and intellectually, like a delicate sheltered plant, before setting out on life's road.

He can saturate himself with his own cultural traditions and select and sample the history and literatures of other peoples. And yet, we suppose, not more than one student in ten keeps that faith. Even if one believes that it is only for knowledge of how to make money that one goes to university, one still has an obligation to those who are unable to go. Indeed even a greater obligation exists since one makes such poor use of the privilege.

If one recognizes the real nature of his privilege, (and if the foregoing is corrected we cannot see how one can fail to recognize it) the privilege carries with it the automatic recognition of obligation, since a privilege is never a natural right. But what form does the obligation take. We suggest that the obligation is one that is owed to society.

The failure of our liberal society to inspire the university student with a recognition of his obligation to his fellow man is the effect of elevation to a moral maxim the view that in pursuing one's own selfish interests, one is promoting the common good. To the sensitive man such an ethic can never be anything but repugnant.

The only tangible way to pay one's debt is to enter the public service, where compensation regrettably is always something less than that in private industry for the same task. If the real significance of the university education were appreciated, training towards a better way of life, in which education must, by its very nature, play the dominant role—then the decision to accept one's obligation would be made freely and willingly. But for those who cannot accept such an obligation may we suggest that they devote something during their lives, ten years to the public service? P. K. S.

MORE SUPPORT NEEDED from the Varsity

Every year there arises a chronic complaint that too many of our young scholars leave our country and depart for the United States. Too often, the critics lament, our best university-trained people turn their backs on their native land to seek opportunity with our American neighbour. In scholarships, in post-graduate training, and in employment possibilities, the United States has much to offer, it is generally conceded.

If an increasing number of Canadian students and graduates take advantage of the richer facilities prevailing across the border, the fault lies not with them but with the conditions at home which make such migrations desirable.

Although the reputation of Canadian universities is a sound one, the fact is that Canadians are not sufficiently conscious of the value of education to support existing colleges let alone provide new ones. Canadian scholars encounter so little honor or opportunity at home that they are forced to go elsewhere to develop their talents.

Compared to American universities, Canadian universities are understaffed, they suffer from greater financial difficulties, and their facilities—books, labs, technical equipment—are inadequate. Attracted by the wider scope in the United States and by the greater public recognition of university training, many of our most promising schol-

ars, wend their way southward, sapping our own intellectual life and reflecting Canadian inertia to scholarship.

Universities in the United States and in Great Britain enjoy greater recognition by the public than do similar institutions at home. Even the non-academic public in those countries is more sympathetic to the universities than is the case in Canada. The generous endowments and philanthropic grants to universities in the United States and Britain indicate the greater interest shown in their hall of learning.

Chancellor C. P. Gilmour of McMaster University earlier this year, wrote:

"It will not do to dismiss the matter by saying that colleges are too expensive, or that too many people are being educated, or that no one is being educated properly. Universities are expensive, judged on a per capita basis, but the cost is trifling beside the sums squandered on needless indulgences or demanded by war. It may be that too many undergraduates are in college at the moment because of an emergency situation, but that does not alter the fact that it is impossible for too many people to have some contact with the universities.

If Canadians are not sufficiently aware of the value of education, the blame lies not entirely with the public. The universities themselves must take a more vigorous part in acquainting citizens with their work. John Q. Citizen must be made to feel that by supporting the university he is enriching himself, the community, and the nation.

Four Cadets Slumming Promoted with Spicer

Cadets Monkhouse, Williams, Tramley, Fulton, and Clark were promoted to officer cadets on November 9, when they were approved by a selection board consisting of Mr. Jack Murray (representing Dr. Trueman), Captain Bonneycastle, Lt. Commander Baird, Lt. Newton and Major Jones, of the University Naval Training Division.

Society seems to be on the decline these days, however, report has it that the Radio Club dance last Friday was enjoyed by all those who attended a so-called "good-do".

On the social calendar for this week? Well there's the SCM party and, for the chosen few—the Residence Formal. The latter will probably be the usual roaring success staged by the "Bunnies". To get a bit ahead of our story, this week following that there is the Ski Club dance, which if last year's performance is any indication will be an affair that as few as possible will want to miss.

Tuesday night marked the beginning of the entertainments for the visiting teams which are always staged in the reading room after the games. The Junior Co-ed's were in charge and are reported to have done a good job.

What's the matter girls—those who are majoring in Bridge seem to be in a minority in the reading room this year? If poker is going to take its place—well be careful of our cousin from across the border. They say its much cheaper to use money for stakes than using cigarettes.

There appears to be a new club raising its head on the campus it's called the Luncheon Club—and the motto of the eating place is said to be "pay when you serve yourself—if you feel like it". The meeting place of great minds (?) and if you like hamburgers and home made pies well (not to mention the social contacts) you'll find it cheap anyway.

Nat. Council Y.M.C.A. Released Of Moral Obligation

Word has just been received by the U-Y Club that the SCM National Secretary has released the National Council of the YMCA from its moral obligation. Since 1922 the YMCA had agreed after the SCM had withdrawn from "Y" affiliation, that the National YMCA would never organize a movement in Canadian universities similar to SCM. The UNB U-Y Club, which has organized at UNB in 1944, is the only YMCA University Club at present operating in any University.

U-Y is attempting to obtain national support for a movement to be started in all Canadian Universities. The main support for such movement it is hoped, will come from the National Council of the YMCA where the UNB organization is being studied now with a view to creating a national U-Y Movement similar to the Triangle Clubs an American University YMCA organization.

If such a University movement is established UNB will be credited with developing this service organization. Close contact is being maintained by the UNB U-Y Club with the YMCA. U-Y's members visit a national university movement comparable to the national U-Y Movement now established in over 150 Canadian High Schools.

"Such a national organization, if established, would not conflict in any way with the Student Christian Movement because the purpose of the two groups differ basically" a U-Y spokesman said recently.

S.C.M. REPORT...

Discrimination; Abstraction from Society; and the Particular Problem of Church Colleges.

(c) The task of the Christian in the University.

The task of the Christian in the University is to make plain to the members in the university that for his part all his actions are but attempts to discover and show forth what loyalty to Christ entails.

The SCM as a group of Christians should take action in the following ways: They should form study groups on the relation of science and christianity. The SCM should encourage and assist its members to work out an academic Christian philosophy and should make them aware that they are under obligation to do this and to relate it to their other academic studies.

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