

comes from a country where equality is a watchword—if nothing more—and liberty is the right of everyone, criminals included. Pep, energy, aggression, and noise are his contributions to be placed on the altars of Oxford.

But the Englishman has his own ideas on a great many points and only his innate tact and courtesy, which renders him respectful and tolerant of any point of view, enable him to maintain his position so consistently and good-naturedly in the face of our cheer-leader tactics. But maintain it he does, and Oxford is still Oxford.

This great University, together with Cambridge, is the center of English cultural life. Its student body is unique and prescribed by social dictums which are entitled to our respect, if not our emulation. To the Englishman a gentleman is a man of leisure who can spend his time in intellectual and cultural pursuits. Manual labor, above all things, is beneath him. Should he, by any chance, have to earn his living he can enter various professions as law, medicine or church, and still keep caste.

Oxford, as it happens, draws in two large varieties of British students. First, and by far the most important both in numbers and influence, are the sons of the upper class. They have a very fine cultural background. Moreover they almost invariably are drawn from the great English public schools or from institutions built on these lines. The English "public" school is, of course, a very exclusive private boarding school. The curriculum at such an institution is quite different from that of the present day American high school. These public schools are conservative in the extreme, still cling to the classical tradition and are Episcopalian in religious affinities. Latin, Greek, mathematics and literature form the background of the studies although of late a certain amount of science is slowly finding its way in. But the outlook of a student prepared in such a school must of necessity be wholly different from that of the American, trained in the American high school, which is what the English would term a "day" school. Here every conceivable subject is taught and the student rubs shoulders with boys from all nationalities, faiths and social strata.