

to the contemporary world and to bring his developed power of thought to bear on the issues of that world.

3. To experiment with this pedagogical technique as one means (a) of promoting that sense of intellectual unity which general education seeks and (b) of stimulating that process of self-learning, which comes from out-of-class discussions where a group, such as the entire senior class, considers large, live issues together.

The college bulletin continues: "The procedures of the course will be adapted to these ends and in particular to a high level of adult, public education. The same will be true of the content of the course, which covers the entire range of liberal arts subjects, and stresses not the divisional separations but the interrelationship of the humanities, sciences and social sciences.

Each senior will be required to subscribe to both the daily and Sunday editions of the New York Times or the Herald Tribune. Reading assignments will be drawn from significant pieces in the periodical literature, government publications and other current publications of general consequence."

The Great Issues class meets as a whole three times a week. The principal presentation of a subject is made by a guest lecturer invited to Hanover each week. His talk is preceded, the day before, by an introductory "briefing", usually by a selected Dartmouth faculty member, on some illustrative aspect of the issue, e.g. its history, its breadth, its place in contemporary politics, its press treatment, its pressure group interest, and so on. On the morning following the evening lecture, the Director of the course conducts a large-scale discussion session of the class with the guest lecturer and others participating.

In addition to the assigned readings and the class sessions, there is what is called a public affairs laboratory connected with the course where the seniors are given first-hand experience and individual instruction in the analysis and use of such contemporary information resources as representative newspapers and periodicals, the literature of organized groups and government publications of various sorts. In that laboratory, public affairs projects are undertaken, in the manner of an experiment in physics or chemistry.

I had the good fortune this winter to be a guest lecturer at this course and it was a stimulating experience. I have seldom received such a cross-examination after a statement - even from a Parliamentary Committee. Nor have I ever been more impressed by any experiment than by the work going on, the projects, in the Public Affairs laboratory.

The course this year was divided into the following subjects:

- What is a Great Issue?
- Modern Man's Political Loyalties.
- The Scientific Revolution.
- The International Aspects of World Peace.
- The American Aspects of World Peace, and, finally,
- What Values for Modern Man?

No Dartmouth student could graduate until he had successfully completed this course as well as his assigned project in the laboratory.

I may be wrong, but I have a faint recollection that the only compulsory requirement in my day for every student in my own