

Students should not coerce students in any matter. And it may be taken for granted that a Science dinner that does not so commend itself to the students as to command complete financial support is lacking in some respects. Make the Science dinner what it ought to be and bring to bear upon those who will not attend the disfavor of an intelligent and tolerant public opinion and the necessity for a compulsory fee will disappear.

Regarding the action of the University authorities on the matter it is to be presumed that they act upon the request of a majority of the students concerned. But in some respects it appears that their action is of doubtful wisdom. To increase the fees of Science students for the purpose of ensuring support for the annual dinner of the Engineering Society is to put on this function the stamp of the approval of the governing bodies. Through this action the dinner becomes a feature of college life for which a fee is demanded by the University. The dinner fee must rank with those other fees levied upon students who use University apparatus in laboratory work. And as such its purpose and the responsibility for its addition to the cost of a course in Science should be distinctly avowed in the Calendar of the School of Mines. We are not so sure that it would not be quite proper for the authorities of the School of Mines to take over the management of the function in question and levy a fee for its support. But to leave the control of the dinner in the hands of the students and allow them to introduce features which some of the students do not favor is in principle wrong, and is moreover unfair to the students who do not wish to attend owing to these features. The Arts reading room and the Engineering dinner are features of college life that are of value to all students. But the principle of student management and University compulsory collection of fees cannot be defended. We talk of self-government amongst the students. But if actions are to harmonize with professions the fees to support optional student activities should be collected by students.

FRATERNITIES AND THE UNIVERSITY.

At Princeton, President Woodrow Wilson has inaugurated what is known as the "squad" system. It is one of Mr. Wilson's aims as head of a great university to train the men who come under his charge for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. "I am not an educator," says Mr. Wilson, "never have been one or want to be. I despise the mere accumulation of knowledge. But I want our students to feel the formative influence of the university in their lives. I want to make them good citizens in this democracy. They can't get that from an exclusive association with a small coterie of congenial spirits. They must have contact with many kinds of men and have a chance to know their professors and instructors. All college men can't be great scholars but they can all be good citizens. I have all my life looked on education as a public question, intimately connected with the welfare of the state." The fraternity which flourishes so remarkably amongst the students of institutions across the border tends to narrow the circle of men with which its members come in contact. Members of a certain society come finally to