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The Shortcoming of Modern Universities

Last week the Right Hon. Vincent Massey, at his installation as chancellor of the University of Toronto, criticized two weaknesses of the modern university, the curse of bigness and the over-emphasis on vocational courses. Then he cautiously singled out perhaps the greatest shortcoming of the modern university when he said that the "unfit" should not be allowed to clutter college registrations. Speaking further the former Canadian high commissioner in Britain declared, "If modern democracy is to be served, the education of future leaders should surely not be impaired by the presence within a university of those who are not intellectually qualified for its privileges, and whose very numbers make it impossible for others to receive the attention they deserve."

But Vincent Massey went only half-way. The other half of the shortcoming is that many intellectually deserving students have no opportunity of filling those gaps left by the "unfit" students. They just have not the money to pay for their college educations. The biggest requirement for college today seems to be cash-on-the-table and not brains and potential ability. Yes, we have allowances for veterans who want to go to college and we have a few scholarships for bright students coming from high school. But why should a rich country like Canada need to depend on a war, or charity, to educate young people who have the required brains and not the money?

Many people say that any person with enough gumption can get a university education. It is also a common



Hi There!

right now you're taking hurdles in your stride... but the ones ahead are tougher!

Not only tougher! They're sometimes very unexpected! And the man who clears them safely and easily, while others falter, and fail the race, is usually the man who looked ahead...

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HEAD OFFICE WATERLOO, ONTARIO

Letters To The Editor

The Editor,
The Brunswickan.

Once upon a time a college paper had an Editorial Assistant who lived up a hill. Now this Editorial Assistant loved to look out on the campus through a very small knot-hole. Day after day he watched the comings and goings of people and soon became familiar with those who came within focus of his knot-hole. Then one day he stopped and thought, "Each day I see the same familiar faces—many, many people I have never seen."

So he sat down and wrote an editorial on college spirit.

D. H. PIMOTT,
Class of '40.

255 Regent Street,
Fredericton, N. B.,
Friday, Nov. 21st, 1947.

The Editor,

The Brunswickan:
Dear Sir—I object strenuously to the remarks published in your editorial column of today under the signature 'L.S.' insofar as they pertain to the Junior Class party.

As a member of the Junior Class I attended the party for a short time and as far as I could ascertain, most

saying below our southern border that any person can become the President of the United States... but the odds are roughly 140,000,000 to one against it. There is no need for a young man without the necessary finances to waste productive years struggling to get himself through college if he has the necessary mental abilities to be in college at all; nor is there any excuse for brains going to waste in this province, merely for the lack of training.

The University of New Brunswick should be open to any person with the desire and ability to learn. If more room is needed Vincent Massey's "unfit" should not be allowed to enter. What better investment could the people of New Brunswick make than that of paying fully for the university education of the "fit" young people of the province? We say that the resulting graduates, working here in an attempt to repay the people of New Brunswick for their education, would disperse the depressing fog that has enveloped the province for the past century.

of the people there seemed to be enjoying themselves. I also heard several favourable comments on the party following it.

It would seem to me that Class President Yeomans and his committee did a fine job in having an informal class get-together on short notice to which there was no admittance charged. I feel that such caustic criticism of their efforts is a blow below the belt indeed and should never have been printed in your editorial column.

If 'L.S.' desires to make remarks such as he did then would not the 'Letters to the Editor' column be the appropriate place for printing them?

I submit this, my own personal opinion, for your consideration.

Yours truly,
J. F. MacLAREN.

3637 University Street,
Montreal, P. Q.
November 15th, 1947.

The Editor,

The Brunswickan:
Dear Sir—Your Canadian Campus column of October 31st, leaves the impression that there has been little activity of the Progressive Conservative Clubs at the various universities. This is far from fair or accurate.

(Continued on page seven)

FEATU

Guide To Music Lovers

This annotated list of books on music has been prepared as a guide to those interested in music. All of these books are in the University Library.

In addition to the collection of records at the Art Centre at Alexander College, there are several albums of records in the Library which may be borrowed for playing at the Art Centre upon applying at the Circulation desk. An index of the collection is included in the card catalogue.

Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians is the standard encyclopedia in English, covering the whole field of music from 1450 to the present, with emphasis on English subjects. It contains many good articles by specialists on musical history, theory and practice, instruments, terms, individual compositions, songs, operas, as well as biographies of musicians.

Complete Opera Book by Gustav Kobbe, is one of the most complete of the opera guides, containing over four hundred scores for airs and motives, outlines of stories and critical comments.

Victor Book of the Opera is another good reference book for those who follow the opera broadcasts. It aims to include "all the standard operas regularly in the repertoire of the Metropolitan Opera Company, and the newer operas that seem to be of permanent interest." Illustrations and descriptions of Victor opera records are included.

Opera News, published by the Metropolitan Opera Guild gives items about the cast and productions of the current opera season. This periodical is weekly.

The Victor Book of the Symphony—by Charles O'Connell has become a handbook for all concert, radio and phonograph listeners. The author says his object is "to make good orchestral music more intelligible and therefore more stimulating and enjoyable" by interpreting the spiritual and technical significance of outstanding orchestral selections. Explanations and notes on the orchestra and its instruments are well illustrated, 70 composers discussed with biographies and notes on the best known works of each composer.

From Bach to Stravinsky by David Ewen is a history of music from the 18th century to the present in which each composer is presented by a leading authority on his music and his time.

More informal comments on the musicians and conductors of today may be found in Oscar Levant's Smattering of Ignorance. Discussions on Toscanini, Stokowski, Walter, Harpo Marx, George Gershwin, Aaron Copeland are presented in Levant's frank style. This book has been called by critics "not a searching analysis but an autobiography of a young man in the mill of American music."

Those who have followed Deems Taylor's radio talks will be interested in Of Men and Music. Mr. Taylor's comments on music and musicians of the past, present and future are very well related for the amateur, general audiences and radio listeners.

Sigmund Spaeth along with Deems Taylor, has been interpreting

(Continued in Col. 3)

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