DAVID LEWIS

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EDITORIAL

N SPITE of what people may say to the contrary, in spite of even the arguments which they may append to their statement, we strongly maintain that university students do think. We may perhaps, upon pressure, admit that only a small number indulges in this rather precarious pastime; but even then our contention remains unrefuted. For thinking,—deep, analytical, critical thought,—will, we are convinced, always be the pursuit of only a few. Education, even university education, may augment the number, but it can never substantially alter the proportion.

This is not an indictment against education. It is merely a recognition of a regrettable but unalterable condition. We believe that this has been the state in the past, we think that this will be the state in the future, and hence we are not discouraged with the present. There is on our own campus a large number of students to whom life is more than a mere procession of collegiate Beau Brummels and Greta Garbos, to whom attendance at the gridiron or at the dance hall is merely a recreational pastime and not an all-absorbing concern. There are undoubtedly some in whom the ominous rumbling of our social life, the disturbing upheavals in our political world, and the doubting scepticisms of our speculative philosophies have awakened intellectual curiosity and sympathetic interest. There are those to whom forests are more than potential timber, and rapids more than potential water-power; to whom the vicissitudes and pleasures of life present fields for interesting investigation, and engrossing analyses. These feel the need for some forum where they can exchange their intellectual and emotional experiences, where they can present to their fellowbeings their clarified conception of some bewildering phenomenon or some haunting passion. And it is to fill this need that the "McGilliad" makes its appearance.

We, at the university, are both at an advantage and at a disadvantage. It is true that we are not in such poignant contact with realities as are those who have already stepped

into the actual fighting arena. But it is equally true that this distance gives us a more objective perspective of conditions and events; our observation is more unbiassed, and our criticism devoid of so much self-interested prejudice. We can occupy ourselves with theoretical dissections which will give us a basis for future pragmatic applications. We, at the university, have learned the great value of pure science, and of unadulterated speculation as a means of clarifying the atmosphere, and of eliminating traditional misconceptions.

A little consideration of the above rambling and inadequate remarks will clearly demonstrate the great value of such a publication as the present. We ask professors and students of all faculties to cooperate with us, and we are certain that the periodical will do justice to our university, and will prove a useful organ of intelligent opinion and criticism.

The editorial policy is simply that there be no policy. It is the desire of the editorial board to make this magazine a representative university publication. There are in our midst conservatives, liberals, and labourites, idolators and iconoclasts, traditionalists and ultra-modernists, religious adherents and religious sceptics, idealists and materialists, patriots and cosmopolites. Every opinion and class is represented in our university population, and every opinion and class will obtain equal and unprejudiced consideration from the editors. All that the editorial board requires of a contribution is that it have literary excellence, and be devoid of any wilful offensiveness. There is nothing we should welcome more than to have side by side articles of divergent views and of diametrically opposite opinions:

It is obvious from the above statement that the editorial board can never be responsible for any opinion expressed in the pages of the "McGilliad." The editors intend to introduce as little censorship as possible, and desire this to be clearly understood by all concerned.