

# The Leaven and the Loaf in Our "Super High Schools"

By Clinton N. Howard

"Give me," said Woodrow Wilson, speaking to a convention of Phi Beta Kappa some years ago, "a group of interested students, and you may have your buildings and your faculty. I will produce a university."

The former president of Princeton need not have said that he would "produce" a university. Given the group of students, the university at once "is". The now famous quotation about Mark Hopkins on one end of the log and the student on the other, composing a university is another illustration.

This does not deny the presence of faculty in a university as being a necessity. The ideal university I suppose would be one where there was no distinction of a formal sort between student and teacher. The continental universities have in some measure reached this stage of academic development, but their's has been a different, a totally different history from our American "super-high schools."

Of the twenty-six odd hundred students now on the University of Oregon campus, I would venture the estimate that not more than fifty men and

fifty women are University students. The rest are what may be taken as "pass men and women", worthy enough, but much safer on the solid ground of a post-high school education than exploring the seven seas of thought and the unknown continents of science.

I plead not that the number of pass men and women should be diminished but that the number of limber thinkers be increased. These are the leaven in any university loaf.

If the seniors of this year are honest when they think over their four years, they will say that what has been said is true. In all the honor societies to which they have belonged, in all the social fraternities, in all the clubs in all the classes, there has seldom been more than a man in each often including the faculty who has inspired thought by daring to think himself.

These should not be mistaken for the merely "brilliant" man, who may after all be only a pass man. The real university man may be a plodder, he may even be stodgy; but he, whoever he is, who catches a glimpse of the great darkness that overawes our little patch of intellectual light has a claim to the name of "University man".

## Literary Gossip

PAT MORRISSETTE

The "back to Spinoza" movement started by C. Lloyd Morgan with his new book "Emergent Evolution" is not based on a stop watch or mental test although the man is a "theoretical" psychologist. The new wrinkle which Morgan adds is the first modern philosophical compromise between the "In His Image" bench and the science of evolution. To him God is the ultimate source of evolution. His book places him in the mid ground between Alexander and Bergson as to his philosophy. Biologically his attempt to establish an ultimate is in the same status as vitalism. Mebbe that's too strong.

"The Broom" has resumed publication and copies of the little periodical may be found in the University of Oregon library vault. No, I would not try to get it, Pauline. It's not that good at all.

Carlyle was a different man before he married. David Alec Wilson has found this out through extensive research and his work is appearing in September catalogues. That's funny. Can't understand it at all.

The "Scarlet Letter" might have been the background and source of "The White Rose" which appeared at the Rex theater last week. Only a similarity of course. A Dimmsdale and Hester Prynne in a modern form—with the talisman changed. An old theme in a modern setting, and things messed around a bit to make a good movie out of it.

The latest concussion of D. H. Lawrence (not speaking of the 400 page "Kangaroo") is a treatise on "Psychoanalysis and Morals." One learns that the soul must be in the solar plexus and that people ought to be good. His style remains quite startling, but the book will never leave England for the University of Oregon library. In contrast to Lawrence's labor, G. K. Chesterton has added a very sane book of essays to his works; "Fancies versus Fads."

The literary fatigue of John Galsworthy has been noted in the latest collection of his short stories entitled "Captures". "This is the Indian summer of his art," says one critic. Mebbe so. Another one says the changing tone is "the relaxation of a warm passion" for life. Yessir, Yessir. But no boners are in order until Herbert Crombie Howe has settled the question in Living English Writers.

Vote "Town and Gown" most popular book of stories on M. E. M.'s rent collection.

A recent oriental interpretation of Shakespeare "Othello" is being razed to death. Poor Smarajit Dutt took Shakespeare literally—just like it was written in the book and forgot to look into the Shakespeare tradition (which is a very, very different thing than Shakespeare right out of the book). No, No. Desdemona can't be compared with Sakuntala at all. Some say Dutt's book is a racial attack on the English language, while others are so brazen that they think Dutt's work is the first independent criticism of Shakespeare they have seen.

Speaking of the Orient, World Lit students might be interested to know that H. A. Giles has re-vamped his translation of "The Travels of Fa-Hsien," and that another volume of "Firdausi" has been put into the English language. There's enough of Firdausi in the library now, but th new version of Giles ought to be good.

Jazz! No less a critic than Gilbert Seldes has stepped out in defense of the American syncopation. "Carolina in the Morning" is hailed as one of the most characteristic of American songs. This tune has given rise to such poeti-

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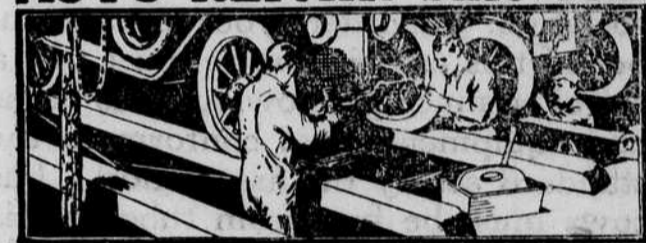
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