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The Final Exam . . .

WHEN we stood in line on the second floor of Johnson two or three years ago and received a welcome book, one of the first words of advice was "Above all, enjoy yourself." It was a good word of advice to the new-born collegian. The conventions and conditions he was walking into were to be disturbingly unfamiliar and there was a more or less uncomfortable period of adjustment waiting before him, but the book's tip was, in effect, not to let it get him down.

WHEN we stand in line next March or June or whenever, we will receive another book and it will say "By civilian standards, army life is hard, simple, and full of action." The cycle will have begun again. And there lies a lesson that might well be taught to the over-age and 4-F public as well as the mass of men already inducted into the army.

From conversation on the streets, in trains, on busses, the casual listener cannot help being impressed that cloistered college life has crippled those of who are awaiting call. One of the commonest remarks a certain type of soldier makes is "I wonder what college kids are ever going to do when they hit the army." A staggering number of people are in for a surprise when the answer reveals itself within the next few months.

The fact is that "cloistered" university life, instead of numbing the student to change and decaying his psychological resiliency, offers the ideal opportunity for him to strengthen his ability to adjust himself to any condition or surrounding. It gives him knowledge, polish, experience. Whatever the ethical consideration may be, one cannot take active part in campus political and social life for four years and still be said to be naive.

University men have been filtering into the army for some time now but the real test is going to come when the infantry reserves are suddenly dumped in. Then an awful lot of people are going to begin to eat an awful lot of words.

—J. J. M.

Four-Points for All . . .

WHAT student has never speculated on the pleasure of handing out four points? This pleasure will not be in the realm of the speculative much longer. Four points, three points, two points, and one will be dispensed after February 26 by all Oregon's students, for the "point system" is being inaugurated by the OPA as "spring style" for rationing.

The U of O, Oregon, and all the 48 states of the union are launching a great share-and-share-alike program. True there is no real shortage of food in this land of plenty. There is enough to meet all military, allied, and normal civilian needs. But today 127 million civilians with war fattened incomes, want to buy more, much more and much better, food than the 130 million consumed in 1939. There is enough for normal consumption, for lend-lease and for the military, but there isn't enough to indulge the increased civilian demand.

IN THE last war, "share the meat" campaigns and meatless days were used in the attempt to substitute persuasion for rationing. But, these cannot be depended upon when it is so important that the bacon go across to the boys in "Uncle's" forces and to the allies with less well stocked larders.

The point system will confer on every article a value in points in addition to its cash price. Every consumer will be allowed a certain number of points per week, and each will have the choice of using a point for two eggs, two ounces of butter, or a half pound of veal. One of the main virtues of this system, is its flexibility. The value of points can be changed at any time by a public announcement. Thus when an item is plentiful, consumers may be permitted to buy more. And when it is scarce, its purchase can be easily and effectively curtailed.

Point rationing is "the people's way" of safeguarding for everyone his share of the available food. There will be no "favorites" and no "discriminations."

—J. W.

Larsen Says--

If a pair of horns were displayed by every Nazi it would be much simpler for University students to spot them. As it is, most students finish their formal education with some weak notion about fascism's belonging to Hitler or Mussolini and a mass of uplifted hands.

It's easier to turn our wrath on the threat of Nazism if we can strap guns to our shoulders and march out to get Hitler and Tojo. We like to simplify big things into names or symbols like the Russian Bear or Uncle Sam.

In the case of our Nazi foe it is extremely dangerous to conceive of Hitler and Germany as being the only source or location of fascism. Our winning of the war means that we have repelled the threat of armed fascism, but does not insure protection from America's becoming a fascist country.

Fantastic? Let's hope so, if that will do any good. But let us not introduce Quisling thoughts into our thinking.

Fascism as we know it from Germany works with equal destruction in both peace and war. And it is the insidious, unnoticeable attacks upon men's thoughts, through a corruption of their values and best desires that makes fascism so dangerously unrecognizable.

This war is different, not only because of the immensity of its material destruction, but because ideas are weapons. Successful propaganda has misled and weakened the will of many people. Falsely the Nazis have built a faith in their superiority, and therewith a justification of their methods. With equal falsehood they have undermined the democratic faith of man's ability to rule himself.

Hate, racialism, suppression, cruelty, extreme nationalism, disregard for the worth of the individual, and repudiation of the very ideal of liberty characterize the ways of German fascism.

In America fascism can develop just as it has for the people from whom we descended. It is a method of force, a disregard for the rights and welfare of all the people, a struggle for the perpetuation of privileges of special interests. It can come slowly and peacefully through a controlling influence of press and radio, passage of laws, suppression of the American "general welfare" belief.

In Germany, Italy and France, it should be noted, fascism was made possible by the strong support of industrial, land, and bank interests who wanted to maintain a peculiar advantage which they thought endangered by the growing needs of the people.

We can avoid such a miserable climax to our national economic distress if we actively cultivate a clearer conception of and belief in true democracy, and if we form a rigid opposition to the fascist methods employed by many short-sighted groups in this country.

American universities are fast equipping themselves for a training program which prepares students to fight for democracy. Equally important, though, is the need for education to live and think for democracy. Strong belief is absolutely necessary to withstand the underhanded methods of fascism.

A woman's whole life is a history of the affections—Washington Irving.

Small Talk

By LEONE LA DUKE

Ah ah, we know who was responsible for the much-discussed serenade last Saturday night; but Bill Rapson won't let us tell you.

Peggy Brattain, Alpha Xi Delta is taking the big leap soon; another good girl gone, fellas.

And Ros Morrell, Gamma Phi queen, and Tom Terry have at last found an apartment, so they are to be married any day now.

Glen Lay, Fiji, has hung his brass on a cuties ex-student, Bell Rae.

J. Spencer is going to be living, evidence of "How to Lose All Your Friends" if he keeps up the attitude exhibited in a recent column. Did you ever hear of tact, Joe?

By the way, it wasn't fair to blame "Dreamy Eyes" Fenton alone for the Holland chorus-girl party. There were three other frosh involved.

Beautiful blond Ellie Jacobs, Kappa frosh, leaves school, because of illness, and leaves all

the men breathless and unhappy . . . especially Blaine Burton, SX smoothie.

The "A.K.L." met the other night in the Fiji front room. For further info, see Hank Voderburg or John Emmerson. . .

And speaking of Emmerson—Jean Burrell, Alpha Phi frosh "really shows."

Helen Dorlis, Pi Phi frosh took Phi Delt Bob Ellis' pin Saturday night. . .

Janet Farnham only got seven green orchids for Valentine's. Not bad.

Phi Delt frosh Don Crouch has been added to the list of nominees for the most attractive freshman . . . And Bob Madison, ATO.

Bob Jackson, Pi Kap, is known as "The Fox" in all the best circles—and no one knows the inside story of the origin of it. . .

Laura Case, Pi Phi, took Gordy Child's Theta Chi pin!! . . . Bill McArthur, muscle man from "way back when" is back for a short visit—so we must run along now!!!



Parade of Opinion

By Associated Collegiate Press

Does a college education pay? Right now that question is uppermost in young American minds, more than ever before. Industry and business seem to be offering unusual opportunities to persons with little or no training, and those who have had higher education apparently have no better status than unschooled workers.

From a practical standpoint, however, actual statistics lead to a different conclusion. Men and women with college educations not only have more prominence in their vocational fields, they make more money. This statement is supported by a survey of positions and salaries of graduates of the school of forestry of Montana State University.

Graduates up to and including 1941 totaled 394. Of men graduated from 1910 to 1915, the weighted average income in 1941 was \$5,243, with a \$6,000 maximum and \$3,860 minimum. Men graduated from 1936 to 1940 earn an average of \$2,038, with a maximum of more than \$4,000 and a minimum of \$1,100. Those gradu-

ated in intervening years earn incomes averaging between \$4,750 a year and \$2,600.

These figures were compiled from 72 per cent of the total number of graduates, 84 of whom are in the armed services, and for 94 of whom records are incomplete. The 72 per cent sampling is well distributed and sufficiently large to be indicative.

Though wages have gone sky high this year, official government figures reveal that the average income of American wage earners for the period June, 1942, to June, 1943, is still only about \$990. In 1940 the average income for the entire country amounted to \$573, and for Montana \$579, yearly. This information is from "Trade and Professional Associations," a government survey compiled by C. J. Judkins.

Contrasting the \$579 yearly average income with the average income of forestry school graduates, which amounted to \$2,670, including the figures on very recent graduates, it is seen that these college graduates earn four times as much as the average man.