

And everyone not overwhelmed by such an experience emerges with greater strength of character, better skill and keener foresight. To sum up: a crisis is necessary (a) as an integrating and co-ordinating force; (b) as a stimulant to intenser and more careful activity; and for (c) better adaptation.

Now examinations are little crises in a student's mental life. They are foreseen and serve as a stimulant. They are tempered to the student's capacity and are therefore unharmed, but meet a psychical need of his mental growth.

One more requisite which is necessary to a student's completed psychical nature is confidence—confidence firstly in self and secondly in others. Confidence here means a feeling of self-power over others. Knowledge of one's self-power is obtained only when self as the motive force is compared with either a task to be done or some other self-power. And by similar comparison is acquired the idea of the self-power of others. Out of the knowledge of self-power comes confidence. So that we may say, meeting difficulties makes us know ourselves, and overcoming difficulties gives us self-confidence. And examinations which are the first noticeable difficulties that students face, give usually the proper basis for self confidence. In this way examinations can give the basis for confidence in others whom we do not know. Of course examinations are not infallible tests, but they will continue to be employed until some better means supplant them in furnishing bases for that confidence.

Now the more subjective aspect of examinations need be known in order to know what kind of examinations will truly profit a student and also to know what are fair conditions under which he may be examined.

A part of the student's feelings have been given to show that examinations meet a psychical need. Now it may be mentioned that examinations are a struggle for the survival of self. The examinations presuppose certain qualifications to be possessed by the student. These qualifications are those to be examined. The students suppose themselves to possess these qualifications, so that in this way the qualifica-