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In Charge of This Issue

S. H. Caldwell.....Charles Rich

Monday, February 5, 1923

A TRANSITION POINT

THE gradual transformation manifesting itself at present in student affairs, has been the cause of quite a heated and extensive discussion among alumni and undergraduates alike.

It would seem that the majority of the criticism has been made from a rather limited viewpoint and too much stress has been laid upon specific instances, rather than upon an examination of the problem in its entirety.

It must be admitted that the careful preservation of time-honored traditions is a laudable ambition but the fact must be kept in mind that there is such a thing as becoming ultra-conservative and clinging to old customs merely because the moral courage is lacking to admit that they are no longer in keeping with the trend of events.

Needless to state, there is always the possible error to be guarded against, that the "liberal" element will overreach itself in its fervor and do an irreparable amount of harm, but it is a risk which must be run.

The fact must be honestly faced, however, that a change of some sort is inevitable and puerile attempts at counteracting by caustic criticism are in the end as ineffective as preventing the passage of time by breaking one's watch.

The World's Affairs

Foreign

Feb. 3. The populace of the Ruhr district is becoming reconciled to the occupational forces, although the industrial leaders have as yet shown no signs of weakening.

The coal deliveries remain about the same. To date, 200,000 tons have been taken from the Ruhr, in comparison with 460,000 tons, which the French were supposed to receive.

The German government presented to the French reparations committee today a note which hinted at new negotiations on reparations. The note requested a commission to investigate Germany's ability to pay.

Feb. 4. Turkey must accept or reject the treaty today. Ismet Pasha has been non-committal as to the Turkish attitude, but there is hope felt at the Lausanne conference that Turkey will sign.

Feb. 3. An army of 40,000 troops under General Hsu Tsung Chi, is marching on Canton to reclaim the city for Dr. Sun Yat Sen, who was ousted from the presidency of the South China Republic last June by General Chen Chiung-Ming.

National

Feb. 3. The debt funding commission turned over to President Harding today, the plan for funding Great Britain's war debt to the United States.

Feb. 3. Urging participation in the affairs of Europe, Senator King of Utah, in an address before the Senate this afternoon, claimed that the time had come for the United States to give up her policy of isolation and to aid in putting an end to the turmoil in Europe.

Feb. 3. The Panama government has notified the State department that in the negotiations for a new treaty to take the place of the Taft agreement, the right of control over foreign commerce will be asserted.

COMMUNICATION

To the Editor of THE TECH:

The question of caps and gowns which is now being considered by the Senior Class, has recently been very much obscured by discussion of personalities rather than the question at hand.

Viewed from the standpoint of the graduation exercises, caps and gowns will tend to raise this occasion to the status of the memorable affair it really should be.

NOTICES FOR UNDERGRADUATES

The night editor in charge of the next issue of THE TECH is J. P. Ramsey, Jr., telephone University 6053-R.

The T. C. A. Office will be closed at 4 o'clock today, tomorrow and Wednesday, on account of the Nash meetings.

Editor's note:

The article on "Course VI and Its Alumni" will be continued in the next issue of THE TECH.

mailed to them. The students can take this step of wearing caps and gowns in betterment of these exercises, it is the prerogative of the faculty to handle other arrangements toward the goal of better graduation.

Persons attending these exercises often make sacrifices in so doing, especially the parents of the men who live at far distances, and they should at least be shown as dignified a ceremony as is usually associated with graduation.

Technology Alumni, unlike similar bodies of men from other colleges and schools, do not attend the final exercises of the Senior year for the graduating class, and in this way renew acquaintances with fellow classmates.

The fact that the inauguration of President Stratton is to be held closely attendant upon the exercises of the Class of 1923 make this an especially auspicious time for the decision to wear caps and gowns.

President Stratton heartily endorses the idea for the graduating class to be dressed in the uniformity of caps and gowns, having expressed this sentiment to more than one member of the Senior Class.

Should graduation from a school teaching the engineering profession be less formal than that from any school of the other profession? The answer to this question lies in the fact of a rank comparison of the professions.

This communication is an attempt to clear up the personalities befogging the discussion of the adoption of caps and gowns. The position of the class officers in the matter is that at a meeting of these men held in November the idea was brought up and after a discussion on the matter, a committee was appointed to investigate the idea.

Previous to calling a general meeting of the class, the idea was presented to a special committee of about 40 men in an effort to find out the sentiment of the men in the class.

AT THE THEATRES

COLONIAL: "The Perfect Fool. Ed Wynn.

COPLEY: "The Truth About Bal-lads." One of A. A. Milne's, well done.

HOLLIS: "Lightnin' ". Rather dry comedy at an inn on the border of California and Nevada.

KEITH'S: Vaudeville.

MAJESTIC: Shubert vaudeville.

PARK: "Robin Hood." Douglas Fair-banks in a picture that is excellent entertainment.

PLYMOUTH: "Just Married." Very snappy comedy of newlyweds on shipboard.

ST. JAMES: "Grumpy." Boston Stock Company.

SELWYN: "The Guilty One." Pauline Fredrick, last week.

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question to a vote of the class by written ballot. It might be said that the vote of the men at the meetings was overwhelmingly in favor of the idea.

The referendum of the whole class on the question is to be held next Thursday, February 8, and will be conducted in a manner similar to the class elections. This vote will decide the question definitely for the class of 1923.

It is hoped that the members of the Senior class will be thinking about the matter and arrive at a decision and express their decision by the referendum.

B. P. LANE '23, Secretary for the Officers of the Class of 1923.

To the Editor of THE TECH:—

Regardless of the merits of the present "Cap and Gown Controversy," the "mud-slinging" and underhanded tactics which have characterized it are not indicative of the mental balance one might expect from Seniors and Alumni.

As a flagrant example, I submit the letter given to THE TECH, signed J. S. Ward '22. I am reliably informed that Ward did not write the letter, nor know that it was to be written, and that his first knowledge of it was after its publication.

We are also informed that our class officers tried to "put something over." Of course they did! Officers are elected to initiate and lead. It is far better to have to restrain officers than to push them, and ignorance of parliamentary procedure should not be confused with dirty politics.

If we must fight, let's do it with clean hands!

Very truly yours, F. P. SQUIBB '23

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