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In Charge of This Issue
 George H. Southard, III

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1923

SALARIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

A BITTER attack on American university education, hitting particularly schools like Technology, is the thesis of a recent book by Upton Sinclair, a well-known radical writer. Mr. Sinclair's grievance is that technical institutions and business schools have either consciously or unconsciously trained the student for the production and accumulation of wealth, neglecting in the process the vital social sciences involved in the distribution of wealth.

Most of the material he presents is argumentative but it raises questions. It is obvious to most persons that the Technology student is conservatively disinterested on social questions but conversely he is most enthusiastic when matters relating to salaries, promotions, and money-making are mentioned. This attitude leaves the student with an intense desire to make money and leaves him with a decided impatience when the social effects of his production of wealth are concerned.

If the engineer and business man are notoriously unsocial in their viewpoints on industry, they may under certain conditions accumulate the money they desire, but it is equally certain that they will become poor citizens in the process. If institutions consciously train their students merely for the production of wealth and even unconsciously make the students too eagerly desire wealth for themselves, then Sinclair would be right in accusing the colleges of producing bad citizens.

It leaves an open question of whether now or in the future the emphasis in education ought to be directed towards the end of a salary for the student or whether the duty of the school is training the mind for the solution of social problems.

CONSIDERATION IF NOT HONOR

IN the midst of the discussion of the feasibility of the Honor System comes the cry that the privilege of using the Walker Memorial Library is being abused, by permanently removing the books from the room.

The Walker Library is a luxury, not a necessity, at the Institute. There is nothing contained there which, if denied, would impede the progress of any student in his scholastic work. Its purpose is to provide a means of general culture and entertainment for those who desire them and judging by the number of readers who are always in the Library, it includes a considerable number of the student body.

That the purloiners of the books are few is a recognized fact. But that they are a potential means of lowering the moral standard of the student body and inflicting unmerited penalties upon many who are innocent is obvious but deplorable. The plea of carelessness or interest can no longer be employed with impunity. Gross carelessness and interest satisfied through improper channels, are always to be condemned.

Unless more consideration for the majority is shown, and books cease to disappear illegitimately from the shelves, the authorities in charge of the Library have threatened with justice to close it to the student body.

The Mechanics of the Army
 Ordnance Department, Advance R.O.T.C.

By Maj. C. A. Waldmann

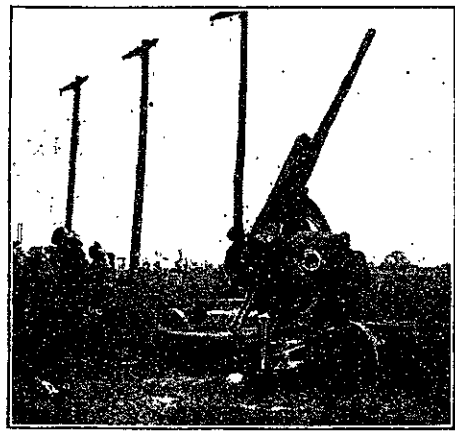
The Ordnance Unit of the Reserve Officers Training Corps is one of the five senior units established at Technology and is for the purpose of preparing qualified students for appointment as commissioned officers in the Ordnance Branch of the Officers Reserve Corps. In the event of a national emergency, such officers would be called to active duty for work in the Ordnance Department in connection with the design, production or procurement, supply and maintenance of Ordnance materiel. Their duties could involve work in the offices and factories behind the lines as well as service with troops in camp and in the field.

Produces Own Supplies

Ordnance materiel is the equipment with which an army fights and consists of small arms, machine guns, cannon, ammunition, gun carriages, tractors, tanks, self-propelled gun mounts, trench warfare materiel, and fire-control equipment. In general the bulk of the Ordnance Department's work is concerned with applying mechanical and chemical engineering to military purposes. Owing to the nature of the material handled it is not used commercially and hence but a very limited amount is produced by private industry in time of peace. It is, therefore, necessary that the Ordnance Department maintain its own factories and a personnel capable of designing and producing the materiel with which it is charged.

The factories of the Ordnance Department which are called Arsenals are large, well arranged, and equipped. In these arsenals are included machine shops, foundries, carpenter and paint shops, forge shops, press shops,

powder factories and the usual accessory departments required for their efficient operation. Among the foundries is a well equipped steel plant capable of turning out the extremely high grades of castings required in gun carriage manufacture. The machine shops include the highly specialized machine tools and equipment



Preparing for Future Raiders: R. O. T. C. students testing 3 inch anti-aircraft gun at Aberdeen.

necessary for machining the largest cannon, as well as the machining of the large parts used in seacoast carriages, and the manufacture of rifles and machine guns.

Maintain Ammunition Depots

After the ordnance is manufactured it must be cared for by the Department until it is issued to troops. This requires large storage depots in various parts of the country which are arranged in their layout and equip-



Rough Riding on Steel Bronchos: Self propelled mounts negotiating sunken road at R. O. T. C. Camp, Aberdeen

ment to suit the particular material being stored. As in the manufacture the storage and maintenance present problems involving special equipment for economical handling and periodic tests. Powder and ammunition present one special problem, small arms another, recuperators and motors another.

The facilities maintained for the repair of ordnance consist of certain repair arsenals, heavy mobile ordnance repair shops including complete shop equipment mounted on trailers and trucks, light repair shops which are complete small shops installed on trucks, and camp repair shops.

In time of war, the production activities extend into thousands of private manufacturing plants throughout the country while the storage and issue problems are immensely increased due to the necessity of keeping the troops constantly supplied with fighting equipment, spare parts for repair and ammunition to replace that expended. These latter functions require the establishing of storage depots and dumps in all parts of the theatre of operations.

40 Reserves for Each Officer

At the present time there are approximately 250 officers in the Ordnance Department which number in the case of an emergency similar to the World War would have to be increased to about 10,000 or 40 for each officer now in the regular establishment. It is the desire that this tremendous increase be met from the Officers' Reserve Corps which means from the graduates of Ordnance Units maintained at the various institutions of learning.

Of the 132 universities and colleges, maintaining senior units of the R. O. T. C. there are only seven which have Ordnance Units: Yale, Cornell, Georgia Tech., Universities of Cincinnati, Wisconsin and California and Technology. This small number is due largely to the rigid technical requirements which cannot be met by the ordinary engineering school.



Engineers try to work toward a stage of perfection. They try to be practical. And so new schemes are constantly being worked out by students. Not the most ingenious of which is one turned over to the Lounger for purposes of exponentialism, whatever that may be.

The Lounger will try to set forth this truly Technological inception below. The arguments listed have been assembled in as impartial a light as possible, that each may be scrutinized with sincere skepticism.

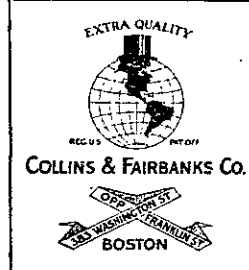
1. Tech students do too much indoor studying, including going to the movies to see Pola Negri.
2. We do not get enough fresh air. This is so even after allowing for the hot breezes we must endure in certain lecture rooms.
3. Our corridors are too crowded and are filled with more dust than the Sahara Desert after a snow storm. We are thus coerced to breathe impure air, although many of us try to purify it by smoking pipes and cigarettes to please the Faculty.
4. In view of the first three arguments, it will be seen that we are fast approaching a state of tubercularly. It is only a question of time before we all contract consumption, be it of food or otherwise.
5. But it is our duty to preserve the integrity of our intellectual leadership. Society must progress. Otherwise evolution would be an integral with a minus sign in front of it, which could not be.
6. Therefore, something must be done to prevent these circumstances. We must have more fresh air and sunshine.
7. To afford such necessities, why would it not be a good idea to cover up Eastman Court with a scaffolding of study tables whereat we could do our lessons in the summer months? This would eliminate smoking in the corridors. It would decrease murmuring in the class rooms. It would infuse into us the calorific brilliance of the sunlight. During the precipitation of rain we should be saved the necessity of using the Walker Shower baths.

At the Institute the only courses at the present time which comply with the requirements of the War Department as including sufficient subjects of value in Ordnance training are II, III-2, V, VI-A, X, X-A, X-B and XV-2. In all of these with the exception of VI-A it is necessary to elect at least one subject which bears directly on some phase of ordnance design.

The Advanced Camp in the case of the Ordnance Unit is held at the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, which is on the main line of both the Pennsylvania and B & O railroads between New York and Washington about 40 miles north of Baltimore.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground is the huge outdoor laboratory of the Ordnance Department where guns of all calibers and their carriages are subjected to firing tests; where road tests of vehicles including self-propelled mounts and tanks are made, acceptance tests of propellants, projectiles and fuses conducted and other special tests involving the actual firing and maneuvering of ordnance carried on. The Ordnance R. O. T. C. students from all of the above mentioned institutions with the exception of California attend the Advanced Camp at Aberdeen and actually take part in its various operations.

Owing to the technical nature of the work but a small part of the time at the Ordnance Camp is devoted to drill. The Training Schedules are arranged so that ample time is left for social and recreational activities for which the usual facilities are available.



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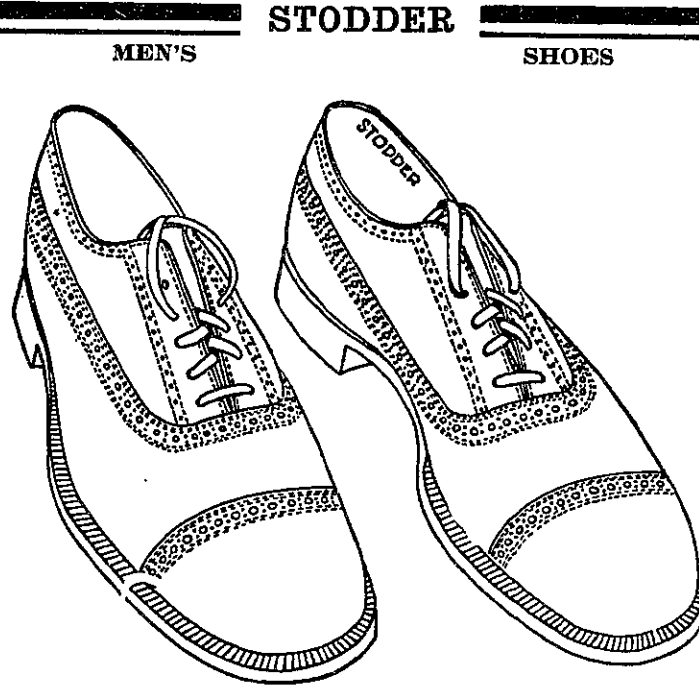
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