COLLEGE HYPOCRISY

Recently among some of our more "enlightened" magazinists such as the "American Mercury," articles have appeared commenting on the type of people who receive honorary degrees from our institutions of higher education. According to these students of American idocy it is our Rotarian politicians and businessmen as well as possible donors to the college finance who receive the honors for the most part. As soon as a man offers a new idea or his words are in the slightest degree radical, his chances for an honorary degree have disappeared, no matter how great or important his contributions to the world.

Such a policy is disingenuous nonsense. We stoppage their mouths in disgrace and thank whatever god there be in fervent times that they are not such Stuart Time. They condemn before they have investigated the conditions surrounding the presentation of honorary degrees. Advertising is considered a good thing in the business of business and it should not be scoffed at when applied to the college system. Presentation of honorary degrees usually receives fairly wide publicity in the newspapers, and the majority of newspaper readers are conservative—perhaps too conservative. Few people who send their children to college wish to be taught any new theories that crop up, and if they see that a college is honoring people whom they personally will not tolerate, they do not feel any great sympathy toward the school. In order to obtain students a college must not go too apparently against the conventional ideals of the day. Moreover the financial aspect must be considered.

A college receives only a small part of its expenses from those whom it is in the business. It is dependent on a large degree on gifts from the more well-to-do people of the country. This group as a whole is quite conservative, and it must not be alienated, or the college will be financially embarrassed more than even its average student. In the more apparent features of the college's actions, therefore, no hint of any radicalism that would reflect upon its present supporters must appear.

Hypocritically as it may seem, it would be almost tragic for the average college to honor men whose work is not approved by America's rather mediocre public opinion. Many parents would be afraid to send their children to such schools and the college of people who financially support the college would be alienated. College radicalism has to confine itself to the less incriminating features of collegiate activity than the presentation of honorary degrees.

As We Like It

Saturdays Children

Judging by the fact that Maxwell Anderson and his wife are at the top of the society newspaper's "hot list" just now, it can be safely stated that "The Burnt Nation" is a hit. Every block or so there was a group of young people dallying in the streets. Not that "Raven's Children" had nothing to do with it. It was just that there was an enjoyable little slice of the common man in that picture which interested the masses in a way the "Nation" never even tried to.

On Sunday morning, Mrs. Cogswell, a sight which usually made Prudensions stare, was several blocks distant from the scene of the action. "Oh, how I wish I were a young person," she said. "It was such a fine sight."

TELEPHONY, TOO, HAS ITS BIG GAME HUNTING

Many a man in Bell Telephone work feels the thrill of the Marco Polo from time to time, because he may be raking down the solution of a problem meaning greater convenience and conservation for the customer. Perhaps it is hard to reduce the amount of precious metal required in the conduct pipes on telephone transmitter systems.

Or it may involve some far-reaching questions of management, the supervision of men and women, the need for a particular apparatus, the development plan which plant and personnel are to go to be ready for the needs of a growing community. The business of telephony is a continual hunt for the better way.

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