TRUTH WILL OUT OR WHY DANCES LEAVE WALKER

WHEN the Junior Prom Committee elaborated on the disadvantages of Walker Memorial as a locale for dancing the results were adequately a point which has been bothering many of us for some time. Especially during the last few months there has been a steady movement among women students to get rid of Walker and to themselves just why the larger dances always choose to go off the campus for a bigger floor. Up until now the Junior Prom Committee has been able to say that these questions have been little more than statement and restatement of the obvious fact that they just don’t like to dance in Walker.

Recently there have come from several quarters the rumors of a “back to Walker” movement which would make an attempt to demonstrate to the unmindful student the real advantages of keeping Walker Memorial the working social center of the Institute and of holding all Technology functions upon the campus. Those who would benefit from a greater number of activities in Walker have either overlooked the disadvantages of the one small building or, after the February fiasco, they have been unable to affect any changes.

Now the answer comes, voiced through the Prom Committee which, after consideration of all possible places for holding the dance, decided again on the Statler. In any case of a national crisis he would be better able to attend to his duties and make the Governor’s charges of laxity in financial and other administrative matters are true is more definitively stated. In a nutshell. He said, “The efforts being huddled in a corner to keep people from the center of a much larger building which would include a large dance floor, an auditorium, and lounges and activity offices without end. The last of room off the floor for orchestra, resolving line, and small gatherings has been included in the list of reasons why the Prom has decided to go outside of Walker for the fourth consecutive time.

There is one point which is probably as important as any of the others. The statement from Kolb in the name of the Committee is any drinking would be more refined and more limited where the guests would not be obliged to bring their own liquor in back.”

There is no doubt that one of the greatest reasons for students desiring to have dances off the campus is that they can have the service of a bar and can feel free to drink openly. The present status in Walker is a close analogy of the universal case during prohibition days. It is deplorable that the dances cannot even be sold and served in Walker for so doing would greatly improve the atmosphere and the whole situation. But if such a thing were suggested there would of course be much criticism, and we could never stand that.

SOCIAL WELFARE

A NEW EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

President Roosevelt asks for the creation of a new cabinet member, the Secretary of Social Welfare. The functions of his department are to advise on social welfare, assist in the coordination and administration of the Federal aspects of security programs, among other things.

The difference of this step is great. Not so very many years ago the thought that the government would legislate social security was far from the minds of the people of those days who never guided the nation. But today it has become so much a part of the existing scheme of things that the government has accepted the enormous responsibility and aged that a Federal department to take care of all the work arising under this function of government. In previous years indeed symbolizes an era of humanism which should prove to the liberal that small gains, constant insensible growth, and their final result is finally made apparent, just as in the calculus infinitesimals are added and a finite answer results.

The Tech.

Editor’s Note: The above communications have been reproduced exactly as received by The Tech.

INCOMPETENCE IN WISCONSIN

NOW that the sound and the fury are subsiding a few important points about the Frank-La Follette fight stand out.

It is next to evident that Glenn Frank was not dismissed because of incompetence or inefficiency administration. Of course, it is difficult for an outsider to form a well-substantiated opinion, but Wisconsin’s high position in the list of top states cannot be held solely because of the charges, true or not. Frank was ousted solely because Governor La Follette wanted him ousted. The board of regents did not act until La Follette had filled its ranks with his own supporters.

But unfortunately, Dr. Frank’s removal was only indirectly a result of these charges, true or not. He was ousted solely because Governor La Follette wanted him ousted. The board of regents did not act until La Follette had filled its ranks with his own supporters.

President Countz of Harvard summed up the situation “in a nutshell.” He said, “The problem seems to me to be whether or not this government of regents has the capacity, competence and independence to make a judgment free from prejudice of a political, or general nature.

As long as such a doubt can exist, “academic freedom”-freedom from unjustified interference-is not present.

OPEN FORUM

January 12, 1937

Paul Gallico, '38

Editor, The Tech:

Today I read with very great interest the stories in The Tech concerning military training at the Institute. I believe it is a great mistake to let any man think anything about soldiers, except having some military training if he is physically fit.

It seems to me that every man should want to learn something of this science so that in case of a national crisis he would be better able to serve his country. The average person especially today at the present time when International Relations are so uncertain. Although we all feel confident this Country will never again be involved in a war it does not hurt to be prepared.

The petition drawn up by the Freshman I think is ridiculous for the simple reason that they are not making their point at all. At the present time what they should take and what they shouldn’t, especially on a subject of this kind, are so uncertain that most people say, if we say ‘no body else does not wish to take military science there are other schools which have no military science and they are perfectly free to attend these other institutions.

If few nothing else, military training should be compulsory to teach men to work together in harmony, and to resist respect and cooperation with the men of other nations. I fear the results would be very cheering were the new system to be adopted in the United States.

I am of opinion that these conscientious objectiones are only trying to put out of a course or else their personal vanity is injured because they are being made to do something against their will. I think a man is pretty rotten who is not willing to give up three hours a week towards the defense of his country.

Sincerely,

Z. B. TAYLOR, '38

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