

THE GUILFORDIAN

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EDITORIAL

Someone has divided society into three strata, comparable to the three layers of a loaf of bread. These groups are "the lower crust, the crumbs and the upper crust." A student body might be divided into three roughly defined groups, the incompetents, the indifferent competents, and the progressive competents. At Guilford College, each of the three groups is at a disadvantage. Circumstances are against them. Now to the point.

According to the head of the education department, there are approximately as many students whom one might term incompetent as there are whom one might term progressively competent. It is the indifferent competent and the incompetents that we shall deal with first. An institution that has in its charge students who are not doing a creditable amount of scholastic work is wasting the time of the instructor, is taking the money of the student without giving said student an equal value in return, and is wasting the time of the student. There is no justification of this state of affairs.

Moreover, the student whose time is wasted is a menace to his own safety as well as the safety of those around him. It has been said that an idle mind is the Devil's workshop. It is indeed true that misdirected energy and thought, is dangerous. Like the boiler that is fired constantly and is not allowed to expend the pent up energy under the influence of a sane governor, the student whose thoughts are allowed to follow a course with only the view in mind of diverting idle hands, is likely to adopt a costly form of amusement, to his own harm and that of his neighbor. His influence over other students is not the least harm that can come.

The expense of the student has been mentioned before. The student at Guilford College, according to those who are in a position to know, pays only approximately one-half of the expense that he incurs. The endowment of the college pays the remainder, gratis. Hence, when an indifferent competent or an incompetent remains in school, he is dissipating the chance that someone of the less fortunate progressive competents might use and thereby benefit himself and society. In other words, he is occupying a place to which he has no moral right. The influence is obvious. Some way should be devised whereby the progressive competent could secure the place that is being dissipated.

When such so-called students are allowed to remain in an institution the standards of such an institution are necessarily lowered. It may unconsciously happen; anyway it does happen. When a faculty labors long and patiently with such a group of

persons it sooner or later comes to feel that it must adopt the work taught, to what the student is able to do, or to what the student is willing to do. Here is where the harm comes in. Such a continued state of affairs eventually begins to tell in the type of graduate which the institution turns out. Then it follows that, if the graduates of an institution fail to make good, the reputation of the institution begins to start on the decline. The conscientious student, who has earned his degree by measuring up to an A-1 standard is then placed in an unfair position. On the other hand, the progressive competent (i. e. the prospective student) is not attracted to the institution. Indeed the progressive competent who is already in the institution feels that, since the passing grade can be made with little real work, he is not by duty bound to do a great deal of work.

The writer of this article holds that a college has a basic purpose of existence. That purpose is to put a student through a course of thinking, and to teach the student to do systematic thinking. This is a brief definition of its purpose. This granted there are existent evils at Guilford College that should be corrected. The writer does not attempt to designate all of them. A suggestion however, is in harmony with the nature of this article.

Why could not Guilford College institute the regulation which is extant in the best schools of the south? That rule is to turn adrift such students as do not measure up strictly to a set standard. This might be in regard to passing an established amount of scholastic work. The type of work required might be so rigid that it would necessitate the major part of the student's time and thus cut down his extra curricula activities to the ideal amount. Indeed the student standard might be so fixed that those who did not measure up in discipline, scholarship, or in competence and expenditure of labor would have no place here and shortly Guilford would be pervaded with an atmosphere of genuine work. The present semi-disorganized training in thinking would be displaced with a course that would attract a type of students that the present group could be if it tried.

Miscellaneous Program Given by Zay Society

At its regular meeting last Friday the Zatasian Literary Society was entertained by a miscellaneous program. The first number was the reading of a quaint, humorous poem by Thelma Pfaff, which was well received by the society.

The next number was a piano solo by Zelma Hollady, "Napoleon's Last Charge," arranged by Pollard.

The third and last number was "Campus Cracks" by Elizabeth Lev. ering and Ella Mae Friddle. From this the members of the society got some very humorous insights on some of the happenings on the campus.

PROF. GEORGE P. WILSON DISCUSSES NOBEL AWARDS

(Continued from page 1.)

winner in Literature. He is the son of Norwegian peasants, but has lived in the United States nearly all of his life. He won the Nobel Prize in literature for the year 1920 with his novel "Growth of the Soil." Of this novel H. G. Wells says, "It is one of the very greatest novels I have ever read."

Professor Wilson suggested the following as possible American Candidates for the literature prize in 1926: Edith Wharton, Booth Tarkington, Edgar Lee Masters, Eugene O'Neill, Robert Frost, Sinclair Lewis, and James Branch Cabell.

In Oregon one may be fined from \$25 to \$75 for throwing away between May 15 and October 1, "any lighted tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, matches, firecrackers or other lighted material, on any forest land, private road, public highway, or railroad right of way within this state."

OPEN FORUM

The letter appearing in Open Forum this week comes from Edwin M. Wilson, Headmaster of Haverford School, Haverford, Pennsylvania. His communication is printed in full and is self explanatory. It is hoped that this article will be followed by others from thinking members of the Alumni and student body.—Editors.

January 12, 1925.

My Dear Sir:

In the autumn of 1925, I had notice that a group of men interested in athletics at Guilford College were moving to improve the athletic situation in the College as they saw it. I was solicited for a contribution, which was to go into a loan fund to enable promising athletes to come to the College. I was too much occupied to pay attention to the matter and ignored the communication.

I also had notice of the meeting held at the College on December twelfth. As a former baseball captain at Guilford, I felt that I would be entitled to sit in that meeting if it were possible for me to be present. Since I could not attend, I wrote a letter to the President of the College, outlining my views about this movement and asking him to see that the content of the letter was presented to the meeting.

I now find in my mail the following communication. It is long, but I ask that you print it in full, if it has not already appeared in Guilfordian.

January 1925.

To All Guilford College Letter Men, Dear Friends:

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, the following resolutions were adopted at a called meeting of the Guilford College Letter Men's Club. Now it's up to us, each and every one, to make a success of this undertaking, not only in finding good athletic material of good scholarship and in influencing to come to Guilford College next fall; but also in purchasing season tickets and selling season tickets to the Guilford College athletic games about 20 in number. The Greensboro people tell us that if Guilford Letter Men will do their part and get behind this proposition 100% for a season ticket, to prove your faith and your loyalty to Guilford College athletics. Please vote, sign and return this letter at your earliest convenience and do your part to let Greensboro know that Guilford College Letter Men are backing Guilford athletics 100% strong. Other college Letter Men are rallying to the support of their colleges; what is your answer to this appeal of old Guilford?

Respectfully,

L. E. Warrick.

Secretary, Letter Men' Club.

The resolutions follow: Whereas, the Greensboro memorial stadium presents a splendid opportunity for the development and expansion of Guilford College athletics; and,

Whereas, it is expedient and necessary to have a special organization to promote and manage the Greensboro part of Guilford College athletics; Therefore it is hereby proposed:

First, That the Guilford College athletic association continue to manage and control athletics at Guilford College, having charge of all schedule and contracts, and all receipts with disbursements, in connection with athletic games and activities at Guilford College and return games, as heretofore;

Second, That the Guilford College Letter Men's Club take upon itself the management and direction and control of the Greensboro part of Guilford College athletics, and to function as follows:

(1) to arrange the schedules at Greensboro and return games, and to make and execute all contracts pertaining thereto;

(2) to sell season tickets and take charge of all receipts and disbursements in connection with said schedules and contracts;

(3) to furnish free admission tickets to all said schedules at

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