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EDITORIAL

The following is from the "New Student" of October 11. From a student's view is the editorial comment on Mr. Edman's article correct?

"Something unaccountable happened to Richard at college . . . His education began to take." And that was the beginning of the trouble.

This student has been chosen by Professor Irwin Edman, for an article in the October *Century*. Richard Kane typifies the liberal arts student who, toward May of his Senior year, comes looking for advice as to his career. All he is clear about is what he does not want to do.

"The problem of giving Richard advice would have been simplified if he were a genius. He isn't. . . . He is a dilettante, an amateur, what he once ruefully called himself, a 'Nearly.' He knows good prose when he sees it. . . . But he has neither the flair nor the faculty of a writer. He loves poetry without being in the least a poet. He 'gets' philosophy without being technically agile nor spiritually profound. He admires scholarship truly, and yet has not the patience or the exactness of a scholar."

And so, having been spoiled by college for the Bibbit life, after graduation he is one of those who are living in two worlds, one dead, one powerless to be born. "They drift from one job to another; they come back on haunting, wistful visits to the campus. They are failures practically and spiritually . . ."

It seems, then, that the liberal college ruins, not the genius, but the mediocre man. How? Remy de Gourmont, years ago, wrote sanative words on the subject; they appear in his book, *Decadence*.

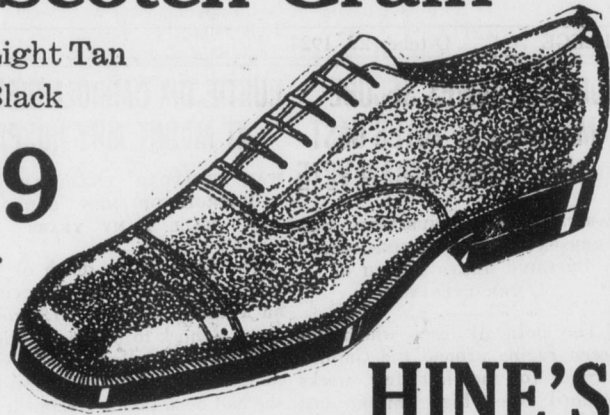
"Life is a series of sensations, bound together by states of consciousness. Unless your organism is such that the abstract notion (the word descends toward the senses the moment it has been understood; unless the word Beauty gives you the visual sensation; unless handling ideas gives you a physical pleasure, almost like caressing a shoulder or a fabric, let ideas alone. When a miller has no grist, he shuts his sluices and sleeps, or goes and takes a walk. He never dreams of running his mill when it is empty, and wearing out his stones grinding air. Education is often nothing but the wind raised by the whirling of the bolts, and felt as words."

Richard and the rest of us didn't choose the ideas which concerned us and leave the others; we were fooled by professors' talk about there must be some magic in all of

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them. So we criticised them all; we had an opinion on everything; it was our duty.

The end was a hopeless fuzzi-mindedness; the loss of a healthy sensibility, which could reject the poison which was another man's food; the corruption of mental integrity.

He doesn't really like poetry and philosophy themselves; he likes them in the college atmosphere. That's where his "higher life" is rooted; he can't pull out the roots.

Professor Edman makes good suggestions as to what the colleges can do about it. What can the student do? Well, he must realize that it is the nature of the colleges, despite all possible reform, that there is a certain conflict between the interests of even the best teachers and of students. The student must wrestle with his teacher, refuse to be taken in by oleaginous chapel speeches, test ideas by himself, refuse to be snared by the very subtle pedagogical tricks of the priesthood of the "eternal verities." He will live dangerously, above the college, ready to drop it at any time, ready to use it only as it serves him.

THE FUTURE IS GROUNDED

(Continued from page one)

catch the vision unless he is in touch with the infinite."

In regard to night dreams, Mr. White stated that the elements which make up these dreams come from the experiences and thoughts of the past, stating that they are "simply the calling up of past thoughts and experiences" from the substratum of consciousness.

"One cannot think of something that has not come into his experience," affirmed the speaker. "Day dreams may be controlled, night dreams depend on the previous experiences of the individual. Dreams are simply a desire to recall and recognize the experiences of the past. A sensory experience may set into motion a train of thoughts. One's dreams are more or less an index to his experiences

DEPARTMENTAL NOTES

By Katherine Shields

Miss Ricks reports that the following new books which were ordered lately, have arrived and will soon be accessible. They are mostly reference books, ordered for the use of the different departments. Those included for the department of Home Economics are:

- How the world is clothed F. G. Carpenter
- Embroidery and Design J. H. Drew
- Costume Design and House Planning E. P. Izor
- Aunt Martha's Corrier Cupboard M. & E. Kirby
- Chats on Old Lace and Needle work Mrs. Lewis
- The Secret of Distinctive Dress M. B. Picken
- Good Taste in Home Furnishing M. A. & H. B. Sell
- Clothing, choice, care, cost.

Much interest is being shown in the ductless glands, as a result of Professor Lea White's lectures on Psychology, and for those who are interested in this subject, several on these glands have been included in the list. These are:

- Glands Regulating Personality Berman
- Diseases of the Thyroid Gland A. E. Hertzlre
- Internal Secretion of the Ductless Glands Swale
- Other books of interest include: The Russian Immigrant... Davis
- Revue Hispanique Foulche-Delbos
- The Riddle of the Rhine Lefebuer
- Tutankhamen and Egyptology Mercer
- Russia and Peace F. Nancen
- Nouvelles, Les Deux Maitresses A. de Musset
- Poesies Nouvelles A. de Musset
- Premiers Poesies A. de Musset
- The New Poland Phillius
- Life of Pasteur Vallery-Radot
- New Masters of the Baltics A. Ruhl
- The Gospel of the Working World H. F. Ward

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