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LITTLE THOUGHTS FOR TODAY

Responsibility is one instrument—a great instrument—of education, both moral and intellectual. It sharpens the faculties. It unfolds the moral nature. It makes the careless prudent, and turns recklessness into sobriety.

—Wendell Phillips.

Rest is for the dead.

—Carlyle.

PARAGRAPHS

We think that the practice teachers would unanimously advise you that you not only avoid evil but also the appearance of evil! Do you wonder why? Well read the "True Story" in this issue.

Won't it be grand and glorious if our petition for a three weeks' Christmas holiday goes through?

From all we've been hearing, we'll certainly have to have a gym in order to provide space for all the frenzied basketball practices that are forthcoming.

Only twelve more days, girls! Maybe Carlyle was wrong, and though we will be the exact antithesis of the dead, we can no doubt rest—or frolic, which, you will agree, is more desirable.

NOT IN VAIN

If I can stop one heart from breaking,

I shall not live in vain;
If I can soothe one heart;
If I can ease one life the aching
Or cool one pain,
Or help one fainting robin
Unto his nest again,
I shall not live in vain.

—Emily Dickinson.

"I've got you in my grip," hissed the villain as he threw his tooth-brush in his suit case.

Honor System In American Colleges

The Present Day Importance of the Problem of the Honor System in American Colleges

ATTENTION
Note: This is the second of a series of articles on the Honor System being printed simultaneously in all the college newspapers in the United States beginning on or about November 20th. A series of five articles dealing with matters pertaining to the Honor System will follow. This release is being made by the Committee on the Honor System for the National Student Federation of the United States of America, with a hope that the students of this country will give serious thought to the problem of student honesty in our colleges, and that they will send to the Fifth Annual Congress of the National Student Federation representatives who have well-thought-out ideas concerning this matter. The Fifth Congress will meet at Stanford University on the 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of January, 1930.

THE HISTORY OF THE HONOR SYSTEM

Four colleges claim the honor of having been the initiator of the Honor System. William and Mary College claims to have begun the use of the system in 1779. South Carolina College (now the University of South Carolina) claims to have begun the use of the Honor System at its founding in 1801. The University of Virginia claims to have initiated the system in 1842. Finally, Washington and Lee University puts forth claims to having been the originator of the Honor System, their claim dating back to the administration of General Lee as president.

It is impossible to say exactly which of these colleges is in fact the mother of the Honor System. Probably William and Mary College did have some kind of system under which the students were placed upon their honor, and under which an Honor System prevailed in spirit. Perhaps the honor of the students was appealed to at South Carolina College from the time of its inception. But the preponderance of the evidence seems to show that the University of Virginia was the first institution to make definite plans for an Honor System, to draw up an honor code, and to adopt a definite plan of legislation, control, and system of penalties.

Washington and Lee's claim dates back to the administration of General Lee, following the Civil War. Therefore, the University's claim antedates that of Washington and Lee by a score of years or more. However, Washington and Lee can indisputably lay claim to having the oldest complete student Honor System in the United States, for at that institution the Honor System embraces every phase of student life. The Honor System originated in the South. It spread slowly at first, because it was a marked departure from the Old World idea of governing students; it was a pioneer step in the realm of education and progress. It is a significant fact that the system originated in this new democratic country.

After the Civil War the Honor System spread faster. Many other Southern Colleges began to adopt the system, and many colleges in other sections of the United States began to recognize its value and to institute it. From 1860 to 1890 the number of colleges using the system increased greatly. From 1890 to 1910 the number increased still faster. In 1911 more colleges adopted the system than in any other year up to that time. From 1911 to the present there has been a steady increase in the number of colleges that have adopted the Honor System. At the present time approximately 99% of the colleges and universities of the United States have it.

The system as we have it today is the product of a process of evolution. As conditions have changed, the mechanism and means of en-

forcing the Honor System have had to be changed in order that pace might be kept with progress. Today no two do or can have exactly the same Honor System on account of the varying conditions that are found in the different colleges.

The system, as it was inaugurated at the University of Virginia, came as a solution of the problem of handling the students. A laxness had grown up in the University with regards to student honesty. The Honor System was greatly needed. It was the product of the long-visioned idealism and the formidable courage of Thomas Jefferson, who was chairman of the first Board of Visitors of the University. When differences between the faculty and students were referred to the Board, under the leadership of Jefferson that body usually were very lenient with the students.

In short, the system was able to be inaugurated at the University of Virginia on account of the arrangement of the buildings, Jefferson's ideals of school management, the existing social conditions in the South at that time, and the strong Christian character of the professors at the University during its early history. Can there not be great worth in an institution that has existed in many excellent institutions for nearly a century?

Ode to Posture

Good posture is an asset
Which very few possess,
Sad to relate, the favored ones
Seem to be growing less.

We see the folks around us
All slumped down in a heap,
And the way that people navigate
Is enough to make you weep.

Some elevate their shoulders,
Some hollow in their backs,
Some stiffen up their muscles,
And some just plain relax.

The one who walks with grace and poise
Is a spectacle so rare,
That even down on gay Broadway
The people turn and stare.

If you would cut a figure
In business, sport or school,
Just mind the Posture Precepts,
Owey the Posture Rule.

Don't thrust your head out turtle-wise,
Don't hunch your shoulders so,
Don't sag and drag yourself around,
No style to that, you know.

Get Uplift in your bearing,
And strength and spring and vim,
No matter what your worries,
To slough won't alter them.

Just square your shoulders to the world—
You're not the sort to quit,
'Tisn't the load that breaks us down,
It's the way we carry it."

True Story

The cold grey dawn broke over the sleeping world. There was a thin silver coating of ice on every branch and leaf of the bare trees; and each blade of grass stood straight in its jacket of frost. The wind whistled around the corners of the buildings, and slid over the lead bricks of the pavements. It was a bleak, dreary dawn that made those disturbed by its coming light snuggle deeper beneath warm blankets and turn over for another nap.

However, the engine of Old Father Time never freezes, and before long the great church clock announced eight-thirty. A group of excited, gesticulating girls gazed before a second story front window awaiting the roar of a yellow bus which was to take them to perform "extremely old maidish duties" in a position they filled with importance (so they thought). The minutes ticked by slowly, and the fear of excitement grew as the bus failed to appear. Then in their furnaces of genius a fire was lit (on such a cold morning too—the wonder of it!),

and the sparks rained quite a logical argument—the weather was far too cold and the bus entirely too late to expect them to make the trip.

At nine o'clock there arose a great groan as the bus was seen puffing up the hill. The arguments in favor of remaining grew somewhat weaker now that their chariot (which they regarded as if they would the least which transported passengers across the Styx) stood at the door. A little hushed, the group trooped down stairs, and the first one that stepped out on the pavement immediately lost her balance and reclined awkwardly (we believe in being frank) on the ground. A shriek filled the air as the wind swooped down and they staged a stampede to the building.

Loud were the shouts of, "It's too late to go now!"

"We'll get there right in the middle of class!"

"I caught pneumonia sticking my head out the door!"

"If we go I'll be late to Latin."
With one accord the girls slid back into the warm building. Some dashed to the phone call Mr. Moore. It was a relief not to go out in such weather—and half of the pupils would probably be absent anyway. However, great was their grief and amazement when they were informed that each girl had been given a cent, and that theirs was a serious offense. No matter what havoc the elements wreak, the amateur teachers will no doubt journey forth to high school, henceforth, even if they have to use ice skates or canes!

"I hope you'll dance with me to night, Mr. Jones."
"Oh, rather! I hope you don't think I came here merely for pleasure."

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