THE CHANGING UNIVERSITY

WHAT KIND OF INSTITUTION MAY CALL ITSELF A UNIVERSITY?

Can faculties of archaeology and butter-making flourish side by side in this article

Frank Darwall valuates the relations between the University idea and current practice.


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THE DANGER OF INTELLIGENCE

Increasing emphasis is being placed on education in the modern civilized world. Leading educational authorities advocate the adoption of a wider knowledge, the development of free discussion, and the discarding of the old stereotyped vehicle that runs in the rut of yesterday. The students are becoming more cosmopolitan in their views; they are seeking life from new angles through new means of thought. There is an appeal to a reason rather than force. The old schoolmaster's bogy of the clown slave driver is becoming a thing of the past. The true wealth of the world is the knowledge that is being gained within their grasp by improvement in accessibility to books, to leading current opinions. The universal medium of the past has yielded youth a new era in music, in drama, and the spoken word. The cinema has shown them the luxury of civilization, providing them with an amazing wealth of emotional leisure, has introduced fresh ideas of life. There are few children to-day that will not go as long as there is a chance to attend the Waldorf Astoria, the Century, the Empire and the Savoy. Variety and excitement are essential features in the mental makeup of the modern youth.

But, after the development of intelligence comes what? Is creating dangerous desires in the young mind? Is it detrimental or beneficial? These are questions that lie in consideration of possible effects of new education. Political conditions change rapidly. So rapidly, that before one party can consolidate its constructive works, another appears and grasps the reins of government and either destroys or uses a misleading influence on these works. The searching for a quelling spirit of knowledge has always outstripped concrete social reform. Increased social amnesties are slow to materialize, because, although the average man may voice opinions ad lib, he thinks twice before dipping his hand into his pocket. Hence there is always a deliberate move toward temporary appearance to give the actual realization of that truth. This time lag between education and social reform appears to me to be highly dangerous. Educational methods are aimless, or rather should be aimed at elevating taste and desire, together with the provision of means whereby the individual can earn his living. Now, if you feed a dog on milk and water he will remain passive and docile, but give him raw meat and he will change and become active and savage. Although you may not be able to exactly control an animal, you can control its development. This analogy may not be clearly understood, a similar case is found in modern youth. New education creates a desire for better social amnesties and if the desire of the mass is not satisfied in the short run, community life becomes a less tenable thing. Desire exceeds reason and a social upheaval may result.

Sir Herbert Samuel, speaking of "War of Ideas," expresses a similar view. "A majority of misery and education is highly explosive. If the people are ignored as well as wretched, they simply become more wretched, but if they become enlightened, then it is only a question of time until they will be more wretched. There is an old religious idea, that the clerical support of the old idea of thought has been gradually weakening, that in some countries clericalism has tried to invoke superstition in order to control political and economic systems which the masses of people regard as hostile to their progress, so amounting to a dangerous element, add all this and flash point is near."

The unemployed youth, especially the unemployed student, has an infinite capacity for responding to idealistic appeals. The utilisation of a disaffected youth mass, which is ready to sacrifice itself to any cause that seems to change a change in current conditions becomes a formidable enemy of free institutions and a powerful ally of debasement.

Education can become a potent intoxicant if communal conditions do not measure up to the standards it demands. The importance of education has been observed by observation of educational systems used in some European countries, namely those of strict regulation of universities and state finance. The conclusion to be drawn therefrom is that in a "free" country the prudent statesman will endeavour to maintain an equilibrium between educational progress and social reform, and make every effort to lessen the true lag between the two. Neglect to do so is fatal, and the cumulative work of a decade may be lost in a morass of reaction.

M.L.B.

VOLTAIRE once said:

"If I had a son who wanted to write, I should warn his neck out of sheer paternal affection, but—Voltaire's been rotting in his grave these many years.

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-G. Capone's Cigar Sign.

EQUALITY

The idea of absolute equality forbids the rich as well as the poor to be satisfied in the status to and steal bread. -Anatole France

It is only by announcing rules about which it can be broken, only by limitation of an idea of material importance, that law can be made forever binding.

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BASKETBALL
N.Z. V. WELLINGTON
The championship plate of the Inter-Provincial competition at the Town Hall on Saturday afternoon is a keenly watched event. The Wellington team for this season has been carefully selected, and the visitors from the South Island are expected to put up a good fight.

DEPLAY PENUS SPEED
The game started early, with the visitors in the lead. The Wellington team, however, soon regained the lead and maintained it throughout the match. The visitors showed good team play, but the Wellington team's speed and agility were the deciding factors.

The Wellington team won the match by a comfortable margin, demonstrating their superior skills and teamwork.

LOCAL RUGBY
On Saturday, against the Athletic, the Rovers continued their winning streak. The Athletic were no match for the Rovers, who scored four tries to none.

The Rovers' forwards were particularly outstanding, with their powerful scrum and strong defense. The Athletic were unable to contain their opponents and were forced to concede the match.

The Rovers' victory was a testament to their hard work and dedication, and they look forward to the next game with confidence.

TABLE TENNIS
A Table Tennis Championship Tournament was held recently, with several entries. The competition was keen, and the winners were awarded certificates and prizes.

The tournament was organized by the local sports club, and the matches were held in the community hall.

The competition was open to all age groups, and the winners were expected to perform well in the upcoming national tournament.

The tournament was a great success, with many local players taking part and enjoying the friendly atmosphere.

In conclusion, the weekend was filled with exciting sports activities, and the community was encouraged to participate in future events and support local sports teams.

The weekend was a success, with many positive outcomes. The community is looking forward to the next weekend.

For more updates and information, please visit our website or social media pages. We hope to see you all next weekend!