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The Knothole, February 20, 1963

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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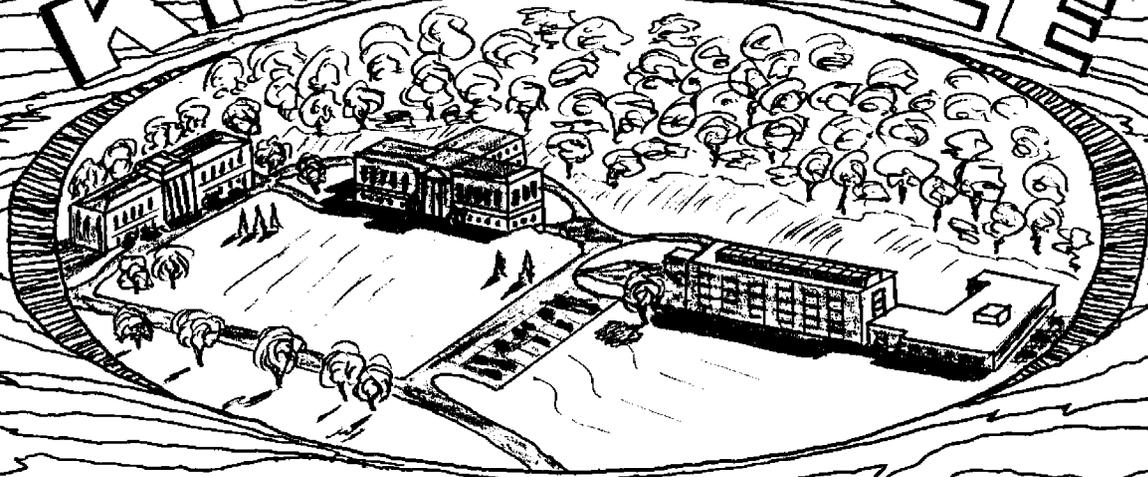
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OUR CAMPUS AS SEEN THROUGH THE KNOTHOLE



Editors: H. Chaphe, T. D. Fitzgerald, J. Locke, D. Riordan, P. Sarver, H. Welm

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TUITION

"The reason for the support of education out of the public treasury is that an important public benefit is produced....In these times there should be no question whatever that education beyond the high school for a great many young people is an essential to the public welfare and security as education of elementary or secondary level. To impose barriers to continued attendance in the form of tuition fees at the time of high school graduation, is as unsound as it would be to impose such barriers at the end of the elementary school or at the end of the fourth grade."

This sentiment expressed by John Dale Russell in 1960 put forth the contemporary argument for the application of the principle of free public education at all levels.

New York State, however, does not seem to subscribe to this idea. Figures from the Bureau of Census show New York State ranking 49th out of the 50 states in per capita appropriations for state supported higher education, percentage of state general expenditures for higher education, percentage of total state educational expenditures to higher education and percentage of personal income devoted to state supported higher education.

This would seem to be a very poor record for the state with the largest population (officially, at least, until the next census).

One of the arguments used in favor of the institution of tuition in the State University is that everyone can afford a small token tuition. However, the Education Policies Commission of the National Education Association said in 1957 that "The economic level of the home from which the student comes influences his opportunity

for college training. Pressures of family need often combine with the current high wages for relatively untrained beginners to push an able young person off the educational path and into a vocational blind alley."

A representative of the Division of Higher Education of the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, claimed in 1959 that "in spite of the generally rising family incomes, recent estimates indicate that from 175,000 to 200,000 superior high school graduates each year fail to continue their education primarily because of financial need."

In 1959 the average family personal income, after taxes, was under \$6,000. Average undergraduate college costs for room, board and tuition at 20 large public universities was just under \$1,000. These figures speak for themselves.

Let us examine briefly the devices which have been proposed to allow all students to attend college even with the imposition of tuition. First of all, we are told, there are scholarships. If scholarships are awarded competitively on the basis of aptitude, we will find only the rich or the gifted students in college. This will eliminate the students who are capable but neither rich nor gifted.

If the scholarships are awarded on the ability to pay, we run into the problem of what is a given person's ability to pay. This cannot be accurately determined since the financial responsibilities of families are so diverse. Some families have very high medical bills, some are supporting grandparents or Great-Uncle Joe, etc.

If the scholarships are awarded on the basis of need, the program becomes simply another welfare program with the accompanying stigma of the pauper.

There are just as serious objections to the loan program. A student cannot know what his future salary or obligations will be. Upon graduating, he will accept the most lucrative position and such occupations as teaching will be ignored. Also, a student with undergraduate bills to pay will not be as likely to continue in graduate studies.

The idea of charging a student for the cost of his education seems to be backwards. It has been estimated that a college education increases a person's lifetime earnings by \$100,000 or more. Assuming this is true, the college educated person will more than pay the cost of his education in additional taxes. Should we do as the Russians do and pay students to go to college? Such an investment in the young "stock" of our nation would seem to be a sound business practice, and would undoubtedly pay large dividends.

Democratic Senator Ralph Yarborough from Texas stated in Congress that the G.I. Bill of Rights which made it possible for World War II veterans to attend college has already paid for itself and is continuing to pay at an estimated rate of five billion a year in added taxes.

We have been told that the tuition charge is economically necessary to help pay for the increase in educational facilities which will be needed to handle the demands of a student body which will triple in less than ten years. When the imposition of tuition is justified on economic grounds, it puts the state in the position of selling a product instead of providing a service. The state should not be in the business of selling education any more than it should be in the business of selling anything else.

We must also not neglect the fact that once we have accepted a tuition, it will be so easy for the charge to be increased a few dollars at a time until we suddenly realize the tuition is no longer a slight charge but a rather sizable one.

H. C.

A TALL TALE

There was a man one time could prophesy about the weather the best of anybody I ever knew. He lived out in Oklahoma, and there's a wind out there they call The Norther. This man he could tell to the second when the weather was goin' to change. And one day late in April he was lookin' at the clouds and sniffin' the air - and he took a notion.

Went down to a big frog pond there on his place. Sat down on a rock and started whistlin' right quiet-like till he'd whistled every frog out of the water and they were all sittin' there on the banks whistlin' back at him. Every now and then he'd wet his finger in his mouth and hold it up to test the wind. And finally he popped his hands all at once and hollared.

All the frogs jumped, and just as they hit the water that Norther struck. Froze the pond over solid.

The man went on home and next morning he came back with a scythe. The pond was covered with frogs stuck half-way down on top of the ice. So he mowed 'em. Raked up the frog legs. Packed 'em in a little ice and shipped 'em to Chicago. Made him quite a sum of money.

From: American Folk Tales and Songs by Richard Chase.

REFLECTIONS ON THE CHEATING PROBLEM

In the three and one-half years that I have been a student at the College of Forestry, I have heard quite a bit about the problem of cheating. It has been written about in the Daily Orange, we have heard about it in conversations with Syracuse University students, and we have seen a little of it ourselves. In fact during this period of time, I have been in two classes where a forestry student had been seen cheating. Two incidents in three and one-half years; two too many.

Last week many of my classmates and I were shocked (and angered) by the report that wholesdale cheating has been going on in one (or maybe even more) of the sophomore forestry classes. This is the first report of this kind that many of us have heard during our entire stay here at the College of Forestry.

This report has embarrassed many students, especially those, like myself, who have thought and believed that what is not uncommon at Syracuse University is non-existent at this school. This past fall at the Student Leaders Conference it was generally thought that the informal honor system which has existed at this college in the past would continue to be adhered to, and that a formal "Gestapo" system would not be needed. But last week's report by the President of the Student Council has made the representatives at this conference, as well as all those students who thought similarly, look like idealistic fools.

Now that this dream world of ours has been so rudely shattered by the actions of a few people who call themselves college students, we must begin to face the facts realistically. Mr. Amburgey's proposed program whereby honest students report to their class presidents any individual seen cheating is a solid step in the right direction. Most students would also agree, I believe, that any person seen cheating repeatedly should not only be reported to the Student Council, but the Council should also recommend to the Dean of Students that this individual be expelled from school.

Such a system has, of course, some undesirable characteristics which should also be acknowledged. The most painful of these is that the mere presence of such a program

admits openly to everyone that we have a cheating problem. This, of course, is humiliating for the entire college, especially the students. Such a system would also be offensive to many students in that it introduces the "big brother is watching you" attitude, requiring students to "rat" on their classmates. This could conceivably have a dampening influence on school spirit.

But even though there are unpleasant characteristics associated with such a program, the administration, faculty, and the student body must above all strive to produce graduates who are not only well-trained in their respective fields, but are also of sound moral character. If students who persist in cheating are not weeded out but allowed to graduate, the professional reputation of all graduates of this college could well be endangered by the discreditable conduct of a few individuals.

H. W.

BLOOD DRIVE NEWS

Remember! Date of Blood Drive - February 28th!

All together there are 207 signed up for this semester's Blood Drive.

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| G.F. ----- | 30.7% |
| W.P.E. ---- | 20.2% |
| P & P ---- | 18.9% |
| L.A. ----- | 17.2% |
| For.Chem.- | 14.4% |

Those G.F.er's are still leading.

L.S.U. YEARBOOKS

On his recent trip to Louisiana State University, Professor Duerr received from the student body of the School of Forestry and Wildlife Management copies of their 1962 yearbook, "The Annual Ring" and their Summer Camp yearbook, "The Log". These are a gift to the students of the College of Forestry and have therefore been placed on the Reserve Shelf of the library. Any student interested in looking through these publications may ask for them at the library desk.

The Editors

THE KNOTHOLE

S. U. N. Y. College of Forestry

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The last issue of The Knothole just arrived, somewhat late, yes, but arrive it did. Always look forward to it, of course; the highlight of the week for us out here. BUT....Paul and the rest of the boys keep razzing me about you foresters-to-be at Syracuse, and I am getting a bit touchy on the point myself: WHEN WILL ONE OF THE OLD WOOD TECH PROFS JUMP ON YOU CHAPS FOR THE FUNDAMENTAL ERROR IN WOOD TECHNOLOGY IN THE KNOTHOLE MASTHEAD FOR 1962-63? ARE THEY TOO BUSY "ENGINEERING" TO REMEMBER WHAT A PIECE OF BOARD LOOKS LIKE? If so, some of you youngsters should give them a few pointers on what a board looks like! Even Babe knows that a board in tangential view cannot conceivably have a knot showing a radial cut with the groin perpendicular to

the tangential surface. Or at least none of our boards out here do. But then, I suppose we all have our foibles, and perhaps you Engineers do things differently these days. We still like our kinds of boards, though, so you must excuse Paul and the crowd for being a mite critical.

Yours for WPE 6 with a microscope!

E. B. Nifkin

Editors note: What about this, P. S. & H. C.

INTRAMURALS

The schedule for the Intramural Basketball League is as follows:

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| Wednesday, Feb. 20 | ----- | Seniors vs. Freshmen |
| Thursday, Feb. 21 | ----- | Sophomores vs. Intellectuals |
| Friday, Feb. 22 | ----- | Juniors vs. Seller Dwellers |
| Monday, Feb. 25 | ----- | Juniors vs. Intellectuals |
| Tuesday, Feb. 26 | ----- | Seller Dwellers vs. K |

All games begin at 5:45 P.M.

WINTER WEEKEND NOTE

Five foresters are members of the Syracuse University Hockey Association. Help make hockey a varsity sport - support your team. Saturday, February 23rd S.U. vs. R.I.T. at the State Fairgrounds Coliseum. Game time is 1:30 P.M. Buses leave Men's Gym at 1:00 P.M.

(Selected from The Poems of Robert Frost)

Fire and Ice

Some say the world will end in fire,
 Some say in ice.
 From what I've tasted of desire
 I hold with those who favor fire.
 But if it had to perish twice,
 I think I know enough of hate
 To say that for destruction ice
 Is also great
 And would suffice.

6.

Dust of Snow

The way a crow
Shook down on me
The dust of snow
From a hemlock tree

Has given my heart
A change of mood
And saved some part
Of a day I had rued

Contributions from Moosewood's Notebook #12

DO DADDYLONGLEGS DRINK?

The season is certainly dry when the daddylonglegs are put to drinking red ink!

Every night after the lantern is lighted, I am visited by half a dozen or more of these long legged striders, who seem to be attracted by the lantern and appear to enjoy running over everything in sight.

Several nights ago, I noticed a "daddy" strolling around near my red ink well. He nearly ran into one corner of it and then, reaching up, he pulled himself up on top and straddled the inky pool with his eight slender legs. He carefully began to lower his body toward the crimson surface, pawing meanwhile at the air with his feelers¹. Finally he struck "Water" and brought his feelers up into his mouth, evidently "licking his chops" to see how he liked it. The result seemed satisfactory, for he lowered his body down so that it barely touched the surface and remained in this position for several minutes.

While he was thus engaged, another of the same species came along and bumped into him. Now there were two! The new arrival was bent on "jumping the claim"; and the original discoverer rather meekly withdrew to one corner of the reservoir and calmly cleaned his "whiskers" with one long foreleg, running it back and forth as though he had a napkin and was wiping his mouth. No, he didn't appear to get drunk nor did he curl up and die.

The following night no adventurers climbed the wall to sample my ink, and I thought it best not to record the incident - it does sound rather stretched - but the next night brought the whole tribe back again. No less than five daddylonglegs climbed up on top and with their total forty legs all tangled up tried to drink all at once. One leg would move slightly and that would stimulate the other thirty-nine to action. Three of the five finally managed to monopolize the well, while the other two tried vainly to break in. Whether the ink principle is harmful, neutral, or beneficial is still a mystery.

--Wm. M. Harlow, Ranger

¹"Feelers" are actually the front pair of legs.