TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I have mentioned the grading system at the College and the proposed revision of this system in previous articles. I feel that this topic needs further clarification for all those concerned.

In the past students have felt that the present grading system isn't refined enough - it doesn't distinguish between a student that has a 79 average and a student with a 70 average. Certainly a spread of 9 points between two students in certain courses represents a difference in scholastic ability to be recognized by different grades. Our present system makes no distinction and in a course worth 4 or more credit hours the inequity of our grading system is magnified.

Under the present grading system, letter grades from A to F are awarded in each course and these letter grades are converted to grade points by multiplying the credit hours allotted the course by a numerical value that represents the letter grade awarded. This value arrived at is the subject of revision and refinement by the new grading system.

Members of our present crop of undergraduates, at the Student Leaders Conference, expressed their displeasure with the present grading system and offered a revision in the system to further refine the grading. The revised plan calls for professors to submit grade points to the registrar instead of letter grades. An example of
the revised plan is as follows:

Course X - 3 credit hours

Grades range from 0 to 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade Comparable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>C- to C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>B- to B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-9</td>
<td>A- to A+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A failing grade would be given no grade points and would appear as an F on the record. It should be observed that as the credit hours for a course increase the refinement within letter grades will become greater.

One of the advantages of this proposed grading system is that professors who feel they are not able to distinguish scholastic ability under any system further refined then the present system can retain their present system of grading under the new grading system proposal. As an example, Professor Y would turn in grades of 0, 3, 6, 9, and F to the registrar that represents letter grades of A through F for his 3 credit hour course. Professor Z, who feels he can distinguish between a C-, C, and C+ student, represents the other extreme and would turn in a full array of grades from 0 to 9, plus a few F grades, of course.

There was no major disadvantage raised concerning the new grading system at the Conference but problems of a minor nature concerning the mechanics of operation were raised.

The students at the Conference were almost unanimously in favor of the adoption of the revised grading system while most faculty members at the Conference abstained from expressing an opinion. It was resolved that further study of the present and revised grading system be undertaken by the faculty. It remains for the rest of the student body to express an opinion concerning the proposed grading system revision so that the faculty have a more substantial idea of where student opinion lies, and also to encourage further action. Media for student expression, as the Student Council or the Knothole, serve the student interest in this respect.

D. R.

NIGHT PARKING PERMITS

College of Forestry students who qualify under Syracuse University's driving regulations may obtain permission to park on the Forestry Campus in the evening. Students who have a definite reason and need should apply for these permits with their Department Chairman.

These permits will be issued only if needed to enable the student to use College facilities in connection with academic studies or to work in the evening. They will not be issued to students living on campus who could just as easily walk. If they are issued, the permits will be subject to the following regulations.

1. Permits will be valid only when signed by a Department Chairman and by Mr. Haines in the Business Office.
2. They will be valid only after 6 P.M. Students will not be allowed on campus during the day.

3. They will have the student's I.D. number and car registration number on it.

4. Any misuse of these privileges will result in suspension of the permit by the College or by Syracuse University's Security Police.

NOTICE

DANCE QUESTION

Ballots submitted in response to the Student Council's questionnaire in a recent Knothole regarding future dance policy totaled only forty-four. Twenty-nine voted for two semi-formals a year, eleven wanted to retain present policy, and four listed miscellaneous suggestions.

However, due to this insignificant response, the Student Council has decided not to utilize this information, but to set up a committee which will decide on a dance policy. The goal is not to reap a profit at these dances but to provide a maximum in entertainment for the students.

A TALE FROM DOWN EAST*

Well -- Stoney Hicks was havin' his problems one year. First off, it was an awful dry spring, planted his corn, not much of it come up and what did, the crows et. He had the finest well in these parts 'till that stray cat fell in it and drowned. His barn burnt clean to the ground, kilt all his cows. And by the end of the summer, ole Stoney Hicks said "I'm so damn lucky, if I bought a pumpkin farm, they'd probably call off Halloween".

Well, winter was a comin' on so Stoney figured he best fill his larder so as he could last out the winter and all. So's out huntin' he went, and nearly for two weeks without seein' a thing. He decided ta try her one more day though. And on the way home whilst cutting across the south forty down where the little crik separates his property from Camden Pierce's, I'll be durned if he didn't spy a fox.

Well, he pulled up his shootin' iron, the one with the side by side barrels ya know, and was just about ready to touch her off when he spied another fox not more than ten feet from the first. Well, ole Stoney got so excited that his shot missed the first fox clean and hit a rock that sat betwixt the two foxes - and lord-a-goshen if that shot didn't split the rock in two killing both foxes. And, the kick from that there gun knocked Stoney clean off his feet and he fell into the little crik, hit his head on a rock, and was knocked unconscious. Well, do you know when he woke up, his left hand was on a beaver's tail, his right hand on an otter's head, and the pockets to his britches was so bulgin' with trout that a button popped off his fly and killed a patridge.

*Adapted from "Down East with Bert and I".
BOOKS FOR THE ROBIN HOOD BROWSING LIBRARY

Due to the generosity of Professor E. H. Ketchledge of the Forest Botany Department, the shelves of the Robin Hood Browsing Library now contain the twelve books listed below which deal with Darwin and evolutionary theory. Professor Ketchledge has donated these books to the Robin Hood Library "on permanent loan" with the hope that they might be helpful or interesting to the students.

We of the Robin Hood Society are very pleased that members of the faculty are interested in the upkeep and expansion of the Robin Hood Browsing Library and on behalf of the students of the College we wish to thank Professor Ketchledge for his generous contribution.

Huxley, Julian. "EVOLUTION. The Modern Synthesis"
Eiseley, Loren. "DARWIN'S CENTURY. Evolution and the Men Who Discovered It"
Simpson, G. G. "THE MEANING OF EVOLUTION. A Study of the History of Life and of Its Significance for Man"
Darwin, Charles, and A. R. Wallace. "EVOLUTION BY NATURAL SELECTION"
Barnett, S. A. "A CENTURY OF DARWIN"
Irvine, William. "APES, ANGELS, & VICTORIANS. The Story of Darwin, Huxley, and Evolution"
Smith, J. M. "THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION"
Darwin, Francis. "THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF CHARLES DARWIN AND SELECTED WORKS"
Darwin, Charles. "THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES"
Sears, P. B. "CHARLES DARWIN. The Naturalist as a Cultural Force"
Oparin, A. I. "ORIGIN OF LIFE"
Carter, G. S. "A HUNDRED YEARS OF EVOLUTION"

Gary Blank

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MOOSEWOOD'S NOTEBOOK

"Every man stands at the heart of the earth,
Pierced by a shaft of sunlight, --
And suddenly it's Evening."

Epitaph on headstone of infant in English graveyard.

It is so soon that I am done for
I wonder what I was begun for.