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The Knothole, October 9, 1963

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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In the last issue of the "Knothole", there appeared an article concerned with the College of Forestry commencement exercises, or more precisely, the lack of such exercises. The impression one gets from speaking with past graduates of the College of Forestry, is that commencement has very little, if any meaning. It is my feeling that after four years of study, commencement should be a bit more meaningful for a graduating senior. Commencement is also one of the highlights for parents, in the educating of a son or daughter. Parents who have given and sacrificed so much deserve more than - as last week's article implied - simply being able to narrow down their son or daughter to one of a number of people on the opposite side of Archbold Stadium. Such a commencement has little personal meaning to anyone involved.

The fortunate part of this entire affair is that it can be easily remedied. Acknowledging the fact that the College of Forestry is in many respects dependent upon Syracuse University, it is an independent University in many others. Foremost among these is that the College of Forestry is a part of the State University of New York, which confers its own degree upon its graduates. For this reason alone, I feel the College should have its own graduation exercises. Let us suppose that the College of Forestry were to have its own commencement. It could be held either on the front lawn of the Forestry Campus, or if necessary, in Marshall Auditorium. Speakers could be chosen who have more in common with the graduating class of our College, than has been the case in previous years at the Syracuse University exercises. Seniors taking part in the commencement exercises, such as the valedictorian, would be more than merely names. A senior standing in his robe would know the other students
around him, they wouldn't simply be part of a faceless mob. Such a commencement would be purposeful and significant to all involved.

There are those who claim that a commencement is a meaningless waste of time. With these people I beg to differ. Commencement is the culmination of four years of study and hard work, and as such means something to a graduating senior. The value of commencement to parents, I think, can be best illustrated by the following example. Last spring I had the opportunity to attend the College graduation of a friend of mine. Throughout the entire commencement exercises, the parents of this graduating senior did nothing but excitedly watch for their son. Had they not been able to see him march through the auditorium and be personally presented with his diploma by the university president, the event would have been next to meaningless for them. Such a disappointment is likely to be the case at the University commencement, where the diplomas are not even awarded at the exercises.

I would very definitely like to see the College of Forestry have its own commencement exercises. If necessary, the students could be responsible for carrying out a large part of the preparation and organization of the commencement each year. This could become an additional function of the Student Council, or possibly the Senior Men's Honorary, or even a special Commencement Committee.

In conclusion, believe that commencement, the final event of four years of college life, should be a more memorable occasion than it has been in the past.

H. Rupp

COLLEGE TRADITIONS?

When I came to this College four years ago, I was very proud to be a part of such a great institution of higher learning. I was even more proud of the keen school spirit and deep feelings for traditions that the student body had.

In the past three years, I have grown even prouder of the fine academic standards of our College in keeping its reputation as a leader in the forestry field. However, I am deeply disappointed in the way that school traditions have slipped downhill.

The battle cry of three years ago "Get Off the Grass", is now scarcely heard. Somehow I always felt that the banding together of our students against our common enemy the "Cross Campus Kiddie", brought us a little closer together.

Dances at the College used to be fairly popular and had quite a good attendance. Now most dances are a financial loss and there has been consideration of abandoning them.

E. B. Nifkin, the College's legendary hero, is infrequently mentioned and seldom is his name called the first day in classes.

When I was a Freshman, Seniors used to leave convo first. Now in order to leave first, they must sit in the back of the auditorium.

Even the Bar-B-Q and Banquet bring out a scant 70% of the student body on the most favorable occasions.

If our College is to preserve itself as a distinguished group, both academically and socially, we must revive these past traditions and proceed to build up our school
spirit with great vigah. We must not slip into the obscurity of just another college at Syracuse; but must stand above the others as we have in the past.

A Senior

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COOPERATIVE GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

Applications for Cooperative Graduate Fellowships are now being received by the Graduate Office here at the College of Forestry. Cooperative Graduate Fellowships are awarded by the National Science Foundation to students who are studying for, or working toward an advanced degree. Competition for the limited number of fellowships is very intense. They are awarded on the basis of academic records, qualifying test scores, and recommendations. Presently there are only five people holding Cooperative Graduate Fellowships at the College of Forestry.

The annual stipend for Cooperative Graduate Fellowships is $3,200 per year with an additional $500 per year for each dependent. Each year the stipend is increased $200, so that the second year it will be $3,400, and the third, $3,600.

To be eligible to apply for a fellowship, a student must be a citizen of the United States and have been admitted to Graduate status by the College of Forestry, or will have been so admitted prior to the beginning of his fellowship tenure.

All applications must be received not later than November 1, 1963 by the Dean of Graduate Studies. The fellowships will be awarded on March 15, 1964.

Additional information as well as application forms can be acquired from Dean Heiberg, Dean of Graduate Studies, in Room 200, Bray Hall.

MONDAY - Oct. 14
UNDERGRADUATE SMOKER
7:30 P.M.
MARSHALL LOUNGE

All interested students are invited to attend this event. The program is designed to acquaint the undergraduate with the Graduate Program here at the College of Forestry.

The evening will begin with a short talk by Dean Heiberg, Dean of the Graduate School, about the Graduate Program in general. Following this, students will have an opportunity to discuss the graduate programs within each department here at the College with the professors from the various departments. At this time, each student may pursue his interests in a particular phase of the graduate program by directing his questions, comments, and discussion, to the professor most concerned with that phase of graduate studies.

Those students contemplating graduate work, as well as those unfamiliar with the advantages and opportunities of taking an advanced degree, will find this smoker especially valuable.

Refreshments will be served.

H. Rupp
for Alpha Xi Sigma
WAS IT UP TO PAR?

Our fall blood drive came to a close last Thursday; one hundred and fifty donors donated one hundred and forty-nine pints. The Red Cross was very pleased, in fact, the head nurse remarked, "If we could receive one hundred and fifty pints every day, we operated, our cupboard would never be bare!" Your contributions are well appreciated especially if you found the experience anything but pleasant.

There are, however, serious doubts about how good a job we actually did. Many are disappointed.

There were one hundred and fifty-one donors from a reserve of over eight hundred healthy men and women. Is this the type of spirit you should inspect from our College? Fifty-four pledges never kept their appointments. What kind of men are they? The faculty made a poor showing. What influence does their participation have on student spirit? There are many other considerations, not the least of which was the poor job done by your blood drive chairman, but this is all the past.

Our next donation date will be February 27th, and instead of waiting until spring registration to start the drive we're going to start this week. Let's set an absolute minimum goal of two hundred pints. And let's have some help.

We need six to twelve men who can scrape up five minutes here and an hour there during the next five months. We need men who are concerned with our blood donation program. Please contact me via student mail boxes; leave name, address, and phone number.

Nelson Hoy
Blood Drive Chairman

TO: "Knothole"
FROM: Forest Zoology Club

ZOOCYLOGY CLUB MEETING

The Forest Zoology Club will hold its second meeting on Friday, October 11th, at 8:00 P.M. in Room 222, Marshall Hall.

Dr. Daniel Thompson from Cornell University, and director of the N.Y.S. Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, will give an illustrated talk on Elder Hunting by the Point Barrow Eskimo.

All students are invited to attend, and refreshments will be served following the program.

Leslie Monostory, President
SOME FORESTRY SONGS

SONG OF THE PROSH FORESTER

1. I said, "I'll go to Syracuse, Syracuse,"
   And when they asked me "What's the use, what's the use?"
   I said, "Just wait four years and see,
   When I have studied Forestry.

CHORUS

Silviculture I will master
I will put out fires faster,
I will learn to use the compass and the calipers,
I'll learn the names of fish and bugs, fish and bugs,
Of birds and butterflies and slugs, flies and slugs,
And the names of trees will never bother me,
When I have studied Forestry.

2. The second year I'll spend in camp, spend in camp,
   And thru the Adirondacks tramp, 'ondacks tramp,
   And I'll pitch my camp on Barber's Point,
   Where they say you loosen every joint.

3. One day I met a lumberjack, lumberjack;
   He up and slapped me on the back, on the back,
   And he says, "Young man, to wear my pants,
   You'll have to have  experience.

(1915) by Prof. Shirley Allen

FOR SALE:

Austin Healey Sprite, White 1962, Good Condition, Low Mileage, Low Price,
Tonneau Cover, Ski Rack, Dunlop Tires. See Mrs. Frazier (Dean Jahn's Office) or
Call Chip Smith, 475-9006.

4 CHECKERMEN

COOKS
&
CUTTERS

BALL

Informal

OCTOBER 11th -- 50¢ Stag -- 8:30 P.M.
75¢ Drag

MARSHALL AUDITORIUM