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An Exhortation

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The writer is asked to put into five hundred words such advice or exhortation as may seem appropriate for the first number of the College paper for 1914-15.

Of the many lines along which advice might be given, let me press upon the attention of every student and especially of the new students, the fact that the business of the student is to study. A College is an institution for the development and stimulus of intellectual life. It seeks to give information, develop latent powers, to furnish culture, to broaden one's outlook and to increase one's sympathy in behalf of all that is true and just.

A College must have its social life and it ought to have its religious influence, but amid its multiplied activities, the student should never lose sight of the fact that he is here to study. Albion is a Christian College and I may run the risk of being criticised for saying that even in a Christian College we are not to forget that the substantive is the college and the adjacent Christian. Such a College is founded to promote learning and to stimulate intellectual activity, but to do it amid influences that are distinctively Christian and favorable to the healthy growth of the highest type of character.

Numerous activities, athletic, oratorical, social and religious, make their appeal to the

College student. The wise student will bear a part in these activities but will subordinate them all to the chief business that ought to dominate the life of every man and woman in College halls. That chief business is to do thoroughly the work of the curriculum and the class room and no amount of outside activities can compensate for careless, sloughy, low grade work.

First class work in the daily routine can ordinarily be done and yet leave ample time for reasonable participation in outside activities. Let no student fear that he may become what is commonly called a book worm. The species is rare. The writer has known some thousands of students in connection with Albion College for the last forty years and it is probably safe to say that he has not known more than half a dozen to whom could properly be applied the opprobrious term.

Somehow a very false impression finds welcome among students and that is that the star student seldom amounts to much in after life and that dullards in the class room are quite sure to shine in later years. Such cases do occur, but they are rare and exceptional. The Boston Herald called attention to this rather popular delusion and proceeded by careful statistics to show how foundationless the impression is.

Harvard lists her choice men in a special group and designates them as "First Scholars." The editor of the Herald examined the record of a large number of these first class men and found that in after years their public services, successes and distinctions were quite in harmony with the promise and prophecy of their undergraduate years.

It is because the unusual strikes us so forcefully that this false impression obtains. When the student, brilliant and successful in his undergraduate days, continues in the larger activities of life to manifest the same qualities, nobody is surprised. It is taken as a matter of course.

When the dull student, who does nothing well during his college course, continues to make a bungle of life, everybody takes it for granted as the thing that was expected. When, however, the fine student in the exceptional case makes a failure or the dullard braces up and wins success, all the world talks about it and is guilty of the too common habit of generalizing from few particulars.

But I must abbreviate my exhortation, so let me say again, the business of the student is to study. Religious activities are not at all likely to interfere with his success as a student. The greatest danger in college life lies along the line of things social, and the student who covets high rank and hopes to make his mark will frequently need to put the curb upon his social propensities. Social excesses and intellectual success do not go together.

Advertisers Take Notice

All advertisers who engage their space for the entire college year and who pay cash in full within two weeks of the appearance of the first issue will be allowed a liberal discount of 5 percent from the regular rates. We make this liberal offer to facilitate the work of collecting and also to enable us to meet our bills as they present themselves at the beginning of the year.

GUY FOX, Business Manager.

Faculty Members

Several new faces smile benignly at us from the faculty row.

Miss Edna Buchanan, a graduate of the Literary department of Albion college, is now filling Prof. Northrop's place as commercial teacher. Remembering her excellent work here as a student, we feel confident that the commercial department will have a successful year. Miss Buchanan is well equipped for her work, in that she can write both the Gregg and Graham systems of shorthand, and has had a year's experience as commercial teacher at Eaton Rapids.

Our new professor in oratory and debating is Prof. Willard E. Atkins of Chicago. He first attended Montana State College where he was enrolled for a year and a half. While there he was a member of the college debating team and winner of the Montana state contest in oratory. Immediately following his year as a student he became a teacher in the same school, and acted as debating coach. He then entered Chicago University. Prof. Atkins was a member of the debating teams against Michigan and Northwestern. In his four years of study to obtain his degree of Bachelor of Philosophy from Chicago, Prof. Atkins took three first prizes in oratory. His greatest success came in winning the Julius Rosenwald prize of one hundred dollars in cash. While a student at Chicago he became a member of Delta Sigma Rho. Political Science is also one of his specialties, and he has had a year of graduate work at Chicago. Indeed, we welcome him to Albion college.

Miss Ruth Parmelee, whose home is near Allegan, will hereafter superintend the winding of the maypole, and—other things. Miss Parmelee attended Kalamazoo Normal for two years and has specialized in gymnasium work at the summer school at Harvard University. While in Kalamazoo she acted as physical director of a class in connection with the City Social Service work. We are glad to have Miss Parmelee with us, and feel confident that her winning personality and sunny