

The College Enigma: The Sophomore.

"The Sophomore is our least responsible student. The enthusiasm and the docility, perhaps, of the Freshman year has somewhat lessened. The end of the college course is still three years away. The goal towards which it leads is far and indistinct. The Sophomore is not under pressure."-- Alexander Meiklejohn, late President of Amherst College, in "Freedom and the College."

The Cruel Test.

This heartless educator, who was conned by his board of trustees for insisting upon educating his students, proposes this test for the Sophomore:

- "1. Can he and does he read books?
"In books is gathered up the culture and knowledge of the race. A boy who has not learned to go to them, to live in them, to understand their meanings, is not, in method at least, upon the highroad of education.
- "2. Can he express his own thoughts in writing?
(Look over the last English marks.)
- "3. Can he speak clearly and accurately?
(Ask him for a definition.)
- "4. Can he listen to and understand another's speech?
(Get his foolish questions.)
- "5. Has he a sense of fact, distinguishing from facts the mere suggestions which are not yet established?
(Seventy per cent of any fact is sufficient -- and sixty per cent if the professor is broad-minded.)
- "6. Can he derive an implication, draw an inference, and see what implications and inferences do not follow?
(He draws plenty of favorable inferences.)
- "7. Has he a sense of values by which to feel, to appreciate to recognize the things worth while from those not worthy of our choosing?"

Drawing an Inference.

To prove the value of this remarkable test of former President Meiklejohn, study the Sophomore history of any Senior class and of any group of alumni. Pick out the kind of Senior you want to be, and shape your Sophomore year accordingly.

Kind Words.

"Dear Father: Thanks very much for the copy of the Religious Survey. It is an invaluable contribution to religious education. You would do a fine service to Catholic education if you could find it possible to send the pamphlet to every Catholic secondary school in the country."

Philip R. McDevitt,
Bishop of Harrisburg.