

October 21, 1927

"Now Who's Collegiate?"

Who is more likely to win something worth while in life's race, the "college grind" or the dapper young collegian who goes in for social life and "contacts" and makes his studies a secondary aim? For a long time the students of our higher schools have had taught to them -- not by the professors, but by the flashy young men who were leaders among the undergraduates and by some of the old graduates who had been among the "good time boys" and later had gone out and struck it rich -- that college study doesn't pay. Make friends, mix in the college life, get all the experience you can -- that is the key which will open the door. Don't spend too much of your time with the books.

Prof. Hugh Allison Smith of the University of Wisconsin decided that it was time to check up. So he looked into the records of all graduates of the university for 45 years. Here is what he found: Of each 15 honor graduates, 14 have attained success in a marked degree, while but one in 46 of the remainder of the graduates -- below the honor men -- had been as successful. Read this conclusion:

"If a student belongs to the highest tenth of his class, in general to the group marked excellent, his chances of achieving a career in life distinguished by the approval of his fellow men are 40 times as great as they are, on the average, if he belongs to the lower nine-tenths; and further, the probabilities of his being found in lists like 'Who's Who' will be fifty times as great."

That may put an awful crimp in the advocates of the glad hand, the coonskin coat, and the big megaphone, but it is a mighty good thing for young men and women standing on the threshold of life to know. -- The Milwaukee Journal.

How Does That Compare?

A Bulletin investigation of a group of our own alumni made a few years ago showed similar findings. Of a dozen exceptional students it was found that two had not made good; of a dozen college drunks, only two had made good. So much for material success, which is, of course, only a minor consideration. Our Who's Who is God's Book of Life. President Coolidge had some nice things to say about our conception of education in a recent speech at South Dakota State College. For instance:

"We must come back to the query contained in the concentrated wisdom of the ages, 'What shall it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?' All of our sciences and all of our arts will never be the means for the true advancement of our nation, will never remove us from the sphere of the superficial, will never give us a civilization and a culture of worthy and lasting importance, unless we are able to see in them the outward manifestation of an inward reality....."

"Our colleges must teach not only science, but character. We must maintain a stronger, firmer grasp on the principle declared in the Psalms of David, and re-echoed in the Proverbs of Solomon, that "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge."

What Will You Do For The Team?

If some spiritual misfortune keeps you from offering Holy Communion for the team, at least you can say the beads. Prayer for others has this powerful advantage: we get such by-products of prayer as cannot be dissociated from the doer of a good deed -- and among these personal fruits is the grace of contrition that will enable you to receive the Sacraments eventually -- say, around Christmas time. You will find a pair of beads blessed and waiting for you at the pamphlet rack.