

# Individual, Not Group Problems Cause Drop-outs

Each college drop-out needs "custom-built" help, according to Associate Dean James H. Robertson of The University of Michigan's College of Literature, Science and the Arts.

"When the letter of dismissal comes, for whatever the reasons, we should not consider it a social stigma but as a price paid—by the institution as well as by the student and his parents—for unrecognized or unresolved difficulty or weakness," Robertson stated.

"TEARS, recriminations, pleadings and indignation are no help."

Sometimes the institutions "fall into the error of imposing a single convenient stipulation on students who flunk out," said Robertson in discussing the failures among the nation's college students, particularly those who are high in ability and carefully selected.

But what makes a college drop-out in the first place? A surprising variety of causes, he explained.

"Far and away the chief cause is personal unreadiness. Students coerced by social and parental pressure into attending college or into entering a college not of their own choosing bring with them none of the requisite willingness to study.

"ANOTHER FORM of unreadiness is the marked immaturity of the freshman who has had little chance to handle personal responsibilities in the past. Overindulgence in social life is another invitation to failure," Robertson observed.

"Even lower in the category of the transients are the 'goof-offs'—the cavorting, casual, cavalier time-wasters who do not have even the saving excuse of an 'activity.'

"Another transient type is good old Joe, the dormitory's doorman, the willing workhorse, the perennial fourth for bridge, the eager ear for every bull session. The procrastinator is even more common," Robertson noted.

THEN THERE are those students who come to college with a "vague and airy purpose" or a too-early commitment to a specific professional goal. Unrealistic dreams and rebellious attitudes also can damage the potentially able students.

What can be done? "We need custom-built help for each individual failure," Robertson asserted.

The letter of dismissal has proved to be "a blessing in dis-

## Sweater Style Short-Sleeved

Have you seen the short sleeved sweaters that got their start on the West Coast and came East? They're in all the leading stores now and are selling well.

Shirt-jackets, or short-jacs, are being seen more and more. The hip-hugging shirts worn outside the trousers add a neat touch to the waistline of a sports ensemble.

guise" for many able but unready students. They needed a time-out from college and "getting and keeping a job or completing military service often provides the necessary self-discipline and sense of purpose. When they come back—in six months, a year, two years—the change in attitude is marked," Robertson stated.

ON THE other hand, "immediate reinstatement sometimes makes sense, provided the student has the ability and has failed for reasons already resolved or quickly resolvable. The majority of good risks for immediate readmission are usually freshmen who simply underestimated the competition."

But the most difficult students to advise are "those who have tried and tried but are simply overmatched. To head off further hurt, if not tragedy, such students—and their parents—need to consider transfer to a less demanding school and to find the courage to make this move," Robertson said.

# Fashions for Teen Boys Feature Conservatism

The good word is that teen-aged boys in the know have taken to conservatism.

This trend is especially conspicuous in the teen's choice of suits. The classic three-button natural-shoulder model is the current king of the high school campus.

However, the high schoolers have added their own special touches to ensembles. "Skinny" ties, no more than an inch at their widest point, worn with striped shirts, are used by the boys to enliven their black, olive and brown suits.

And even though their affections have switched to roomier belt-supported trousers, they still prefer the pants uncuffed. Also, they will wear their trousers a little longer.

THE BUTTON-DOWN collar shirt is the big favorite. The boys like them in both white and colored oxfords as well as in brightly striped broadcloths. Blue is the favorite solid color.

In stripes they go for red, blue or black on white grounds. The sizes of the stripes vary from unobtrusive pin stripes to spaced chalk stripes and broad tape stripes.

When it comes to shoes, teenage choices are as unpredictable as the boys themselves. Some groups shuffle along in tapered-toe Continental boots and Italian-in-

spired slippers, while other hew to the line in classic brogues and the plain-toe cordovan bluchers alternated with time honored "penny loafers."

THEY ARE apt to have some of each category in their collection. Sneakers, nevertheless, seem to be the common denominator, and they are worn with chinos, "wheat jeans" and other wash slacks.

In rounding out his back-to-school wardrobe, the high school fashion plate will select his sport jackets in a traditional conservatism, cut, too.

The always necessary flannel blazer is virtually the same as last year. Worn in all colors, the leaders are blues and blacks with some new camel shades and non-olive greens coming along strong.

High school boys will take a new tack in their tweed and shetland sport jackets this fall.

Cut on the same conservative lines as their suits, the shaggy jackets will lean more to medium shades as opposed to the darks of last year and will be bolder pattern, too.

## Shoes Show Clues

Look at old shoes for points of wear as clues to whether they fit properly. If linings are badly worn, it could mean they're too loose. If the tips show excessive wear, the shoes could be too short.

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