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Fraternities Faced Early Opposition

College fraternities in 20th century America have gained a respected place on the campus, but only after considerable struggle.

At the University of Michigan, fraternities, or "secret societies" as they were called, met with bitter opposition at their beginning according to an 1850 faculty report to the Regents.

The report, now part of the collection at the U-M William L. Clements Library, warned that the rise of the secret societies threatened to undermine at least four of the most basic rules of the University:

"That organizations are illegal if their purposes are unknown to authorities;

"THAT STUDENT rooms should be accessible to University officers at all times;

"That no organized meetings shall be held without permission of the Faculty;

"And that no student shall, without permission, be absent from the premises after 9 p.m.

"In these societies, there are young men," continues the report, "of the most dangerous character who wield an influence through this means at which any parent might, with reason, tremble. They are artificial seducers, who are this day, standing between the Faculty and the deluded victim of their wiles."

HOW MANY "deluded victims" were there in the new societies? The faculty complained that "a large share of the members are individually honorable young men who have been personally deceived, and with whom we have labored for some days to bring to reason."

The faculty objections to the existence of the new phenomena are detailed in the letter. First, they did not object because the societies were secret, but because they were illegal Secret societies as such were not inherently bad.

The faculty readily admitted that "one of our faculty is a member of the Odd Fellows and another a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and these two have acted in perfect union with every movement of the faculty."

Further, the responsibility for the moral character of students, was entrusted by fathers to the Faculty and this basic pillar of the university had been undermined.

"THE MEETINGS of these organizations," continues the report, "are liable to become, and often are, lawless and convivial. They are held in private houses, beer-shops, and hotels and at hours when, by all law, honest folks ought to be in bed. The transition is easy made to the bar, the grocery, and the midnight haunt."

An impassioned call to arms and a stern warning brought the paper to a dramatic conclusion:

"These clans are now powerful enough to overawe nearly all the college governments of our country. How soon they will have obtained among us the despotic power of disorder and savagism, time, or rather, the sense and firmness of our authorities and the parents of Michigan, must decide."

College Student Enrollment Hits Peak this Fall

The long-predicted surge in college enrollment has finally hit Michigan colleges and universities this fall, according to a report presented Wednesday.

A total of 219,474 students have enrolled in credit programs at 73 colleges and universities in Michigan, an increase of 15.3 per cent over last year. The totals include 53,971 freshmen, a rise of 27 per cent, and 48,021 in junior colleges, a jump of 40 per cent.

These are some of the findings contained in a report prepared by Harris D. Olson of The University of Michigan office of registration and enrollment.

Commenting on the report, Olson underscored the sudden and dramatic rise in the total on-campus enrollment. The 15.3 per cent increase this year, he pointed out, is in sharp contrast with the annual increases in the last several years of about seven per cent.

To illustrate another way, the Michigan colleges and universities have about 39 per cent more students this year than they did five years ago.

The increased number of freshmen and junior college students, in particular, reflect the sudden surge in the total college enrollment, Olson noted.

The junior college enrollment soared by 40 per cent this fall, compared with the seven per cent rise last fall. The number of freshmen jumped this year by 27 per cent, compared with the 4.7 per cent increase last year.

Olson said that of the 219,474 students this year, 185,855 are under graduates (an increase of 16.3 per cent over last year); 27,041 are graduate students (an increase of 11.3 per cent); 6,580 are graduate-professional students (an increase of 6.8 per cent).

Of the 27,041 graduate students 21,723 are in M.A. programs (an increase of 13.7 per cent) and 5,318 are in Ph.D. programs (an increase of 2.4 per cent).

There are 137,334 men and 82,140 women enrolled in the Michigan colleges and universities this fall, Olson said.

Heart Group Plans Classes For Afflicted

"Heart of the Home" classes in work simplification and body mechanics will be offered in Birmingham for the benefit of homemakers with limitations of time, energy or physical capacity.

Classes will be held on Dec. 1 and 8 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Oakland County Heart Information Center, 296 Hunter Blvd., Birmingham.

In announcing the free classes, Mrs. Pell Hollingshead of Birmingham, co-chairman of the Oakland County Heart Information Center, stated that "while all persons can benefit from this kind of instruction, it has special meaning to people with heart or circulatory ailments."

"EXPERIENCE has shown that the classes have great value for many physically handicapped individuals as well as for those who must conserve their energy."

The classes are presented by Mrs. Ruth Kettunen, consultant in homemaker rehabilitation of the Michigan Heart Association. In the first class, Mrs. Kettunen follows the theme of "take it easy by the way you use your body," which includes discussion and demonstrations of sit-down work, work levels, and the selection and use of household equipment.

The second meeting is devoted to kitchen layout, work centers, storage arrangements, and the application of work-simplification principles to specific jobs.

MRS. HOLLINGSHEAD emphasized that the instruction is concerned with useful technique for life and work, and that no medical advice is given in the class meetings.

Registration may be made and further information obtained from the Heart Information Center. The "Heart of the Home" program is made possible by the Michigan Association through funds contributed to the Michigan United Fund.

Auto Crash Victim Improves Condition In Area Hospital

Richard E. Howard, 1457 Club Drive, Bloomfield Township, injured in a traffic accident at Maple and Telegraph on Nov. 3, was listed in fair condition at William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Wednesday morning.

Howard, 19, sustained a concussion in the mishap as he attempted a left turn from Telegraph onto Maple Road.

Daniel Weiswasser, 49, of Detroit, driver of the other car, and a passenger were treated for minor injuries at Beaumont and released. When first admitted to the hospital, Howard was listed in serious condition.

Notes bear interest only when so stated.

Cost of Running Cities Compared in '64 Census

(Special to The Eccentric)

A new report, just released by the Census Bureau, sheds light on how much is being spent by residents of Birmingham for local government operations, as compared with such spending in other cities.

The report, which is the first of its kind since 1957, details revenues, expenditures and the amount of outstanding debt for more than 1,250 cities throughout the United States.

The figures are contained in a 287-page study based on data gathered in connection with the 1962 Census of Governments.

IT SHOWS that the cost of local government operations in Birmingham, exclusive of education, amounted to \$154 in the year for every man, woman and child in the city.

The comparable cost elsewhere in the United States, in cities of similar size, 25,000 to 50,000 population, came to \$79 per capita. For all the cities, large and small, the overall average was \$89.

The money was expended for sanitation, hospitals, roads and streets, police and fire protection, public welfare, public housing, libraries and the various other services required by the local community.

NATIONALLY, the cost of such municipal operations amounted to \$11.5 billion, which was about 33

per cent more than in 1957. Increased costs were incurred in almost every city, as public payrolls and the price of materials went up.

Higher taxes, special fees and miscellaneous charges were imposed in an effort to offset the rising costs. Most localities by such means, have been able to cover their current operational needs.

FOR BIRMINGHAM, the report lists general revenue in the year of \$94 per capita as compared with the \$134 per capita that was spent, exclusive of education.

Some \$80 of this revenue came from local sources and the rest from intergovernmental payments. To finance their expenditures for capital improvements, most cities have been forced to go deeper into debt.

The outstanding debt in Birmingham was equivalent to \$112 per capita, according to the report. In cities of similar size it averaged \$106 per capita and, among all cities, large and small, \$231.



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Cranbrook Music Guild Schedules Second Concert

The second concert in the Cranbrook Music Guild series will be held Tuesday evening at 8:30 p.m. in Cranbrook House, Bloomfield Hills. Sheila Stephenson, pianist, and Rodney Stenborg, harpist, winners of the 1964 Grinnell Auditions will present the program.

Miss Stephenson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip G. Stephenson of Huntington Woods. She attended the National Music Camp for four years as a scholarship student, having played viola with the Interlochen High School Orchestra in a performance for the late President John Kennedy in Washington in 1962. She has performed with the Michigan Youth Symphony and just recently was soloist with the Plymouth Symphony.

Miss Stephenson is a first year scholarship student at Juilliard School of Music in New York. Her earlier training was under the direction of Missa Kottler, Detroit pianist. At Juilliard, she is studying with Sascha Gornoditzki, a lifelong friend and contemporary of Rodner.

RODNEY STENBORG is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Stenborg of Detroit and a graduate of Curtis Institute of Music. In 1962 he was a Fulbright scholar in Germany. At the present time Stenborg is working on his master's degree in opera and voice at the University of Wisconsin.

In 1964 Stenborg was the Belle Isle Vocal audition winner and appeared with the Detroit Symphony in the summer series.

Dennis Sawagut, a graduate student at the University of Michigan, will be the accompanist.

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