

COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

December 14, 1943

NO DECEMBER FACULTY MEETING

Because of the holidays, the college faculty will not meet this month.

WEDNESDAY IS THE DAY

Mid-semester reports are due in the office Wednesday, December 15. Please!

REQUESTS

The Committee on Program and Curricula is meeting on Friday afternoon each week to discuss the matters brought to our attention by Chancellor Malott, and other problems having to do with our future program.

It seems to be the consensus of educators that the post-war years will make a very great demand on educational institutions, not only because of the large numbers who will come to our schools, but also because of the variety of new problems which we will face. This Committee is trying to face this situation and prepare the College for it. In this task, we desire and ask for the help of every member of the faculty. We hope that each member of the faculty will, without any hesitation whatever, give us any suggestions he may have, for if we are to meet the future needs of the College adequately we must have the best thinking of the entire faculty, and the plans and program decided upon must be those of the entire group of instructors. So, if you have a suggestion, please jot it down and send it to the College Office or to any member of the Committee.

The Committee has already asked through the departmental chairmen, that each department make a fresh study of its specific goals and send the Committee a statement of these goals, along with a description of the methods which the department employs or plans to employ to reach them. The Committee hopes that every member of the department will take an active part in drawing up these departmental statements.

Through this Communication, the Committee is asking the opinion of each member of the faculty on the following questions:

1. Are there any specific subjects, besides English Composition, which should be required of all students in the College? If so, what and why?
2. Are there any general or survey courses which we do not now have, which should be developed either in specific departments or in a combination of departments? If so, what and why?

Please send in your suggestions now.

OUR JOB

The principle of freedom to express ideas is sound now, in a period of emergency, as in normal times. But that freedom does not imply the desirability of a neutral attitude between what we feel is right and what is wrong. It does not divest the leaders in a university community from the responsibility for guiding the students and public opinion in the direction of what they believe to be right. During the past two decades our universities have suffered from a negative complex; our faculties have analyzed issues and balanced factors; they have exposed the follies and the vices of historical figures and movements; they have not emerged with a positive philosophy to which students and public might attach themselves. There is justice in the complaint of the undergraduate that his academic experience had not provided him with a faith.

Appreciation of values becomes most intense when they are in danger. It is likely that the present emergency will revive faith in our American way of life and enthusiasm for its preservation and development. The universities must take the lead in this resurgence of conviction, which alone can give to the nation a unifying force.

---Pres. Charles Seymour, Yale University

CHRISTMAS -- 1943

May we use this Communication to wish everyone of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. All of you are working harder than ever before. The problems of living are not easy, and the war adds its burdens to soul as well as body. May we suggest, however, that this Christmas has in it more hope for all mankind than did last Christmas and that we may well be more determined and assured.

This office is very grateful for the conscientious, willing, and faithful service of the faculty. For this and for all your helpfulness, many, many thanks. Again, a Merry Christmas to you!