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The Need of a College Eduaction

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The University of California has lately come into a bequest of \$1,500,000.

The Maine Legislature has appropriated \$45,000 for a central heating plant for Bates College.

The University of Breslau, Germany, has contracted with an accident insurance company to insure its students in science during their residence at the university. For this accommodation such students are required to pay each semester a fee of thirty-six cents.

The budget adopted by Columbia University for the next school year provides for a total expenditure of \$2,659,622.79. Of this sum \$1,832,718.79 is for the University proper, \$157,000 for Barnard College, \$634,814 for Teachers' College, and \$35,000 for the College of Pharmacy.

The Harvard, Yale and Princeton alumni and student publications are becoming impatient at the criticism which some graduates and others are making of the morals of the present-day student body. There has never been any dearth, they say, of half-informed and narrow-minded censors of undergraduate ethics.

THE NEED OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION FOR OUR PROFESSIONAL MEN AND WOMEN.

BY W. A. WRIGHT.

It has been a little more than forty years since our emancipation and since that time the race has made rapid progress. But the time is now at hand when the members of our race are called upon to take a more active part in the religious and educational duties of the world and all eyes are turned upon the boy and girl, man and woman, who are to-day pursuing courses of study in our different schools. The student of to-day is looked upon as the leader of to-morrow. With that idea in mind he should equip and fortify himself. The problems of to-day are much more complex than they were twenty years ago. Modern conditions have necessitated great and momentous changes; yet these changes have been brought

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about only so far and so fast as the skillful, trained, far-sighted and able men have worked out problems and unfolded great plans. Although our problems are greater in number and detail than those of our forefathers, yet the same high moral and mental qualities are required of us and are as essential as ever to make effective leaders and successful men and women. The curricula of the schools of our forefathers were not as broad as those of to-day, yet our forefathers took every advantage that was offered them. We should follow their example. After finishing our secondary training we should pursue a college course with one aim in mind—namely, to be leaders and to make us workers and not idlers and loafers. It is incumbent upon us to prove wherein a college education is beneficial to our race. We cannot efficiently lead unless we are educated above the high school course. If we are to instruct and lead the masses of our people we should be thoroughly trained in some profession. This is utterly impossible unless we have first completed a broad course of study so that we may always have some resources from which to draw. Hidden deep in the bowels of the mountain is the great reservoir, from which the tiny stream takes its way. Through the long, hot, parching summer months the little stream flows on, enlivening and blessing all along its track. No drouth can lessen its waters. No draught of the sun can drink it dry. And why is this? Because when rains were falling it stored for future use an inexhaustible supply. Thus should we do who are to be the leaders of a race. So should we in our youth store up for future need.

The well trained and resourceful element is becoming more and more the important factor in the large business corporations of to-day. The profession of the lawyer has grown as fast as the business of his clients; in fact it has outstripped their business, inasmuch as a lawyer is now often sought to give advice in regard to undertaking great enterprises. The important lawyer of to-day is no longer mere advocate and pleader, but a legal adviser, or, if you please, a legal engineer, who surveys and plans the way upon which the march of business is to travel. A prominent attorney and a trusted adviser of one of the large corporations said: "The great business lawyer of to-day is the senior advisory partner in important affairs." As in law so in medicine. The capping and bleeding and other primitive operations have in recent years given place to more sane and effective methods. In many cases the

theories of the profession have been entirely reversed. The herbs and roots are now put aside for the more modern appliances of science. We could not live in our large cities, nor carry on vast commerce, nor meet the many problems of modern civilization, if it were not for the microscope and the lessons that are drawn from it by the trained intellect of investigators. They must lead or we cannot follow.

In like manner the ministers of earlier days, with their long, drowsy sermons, and their fire and brimstone, would be at a loss if compelled to solve the problems and do the business of our large churches to-day. How could they look after and direct the subordinate church officers who carry on the Sabbath schools, missionary societies, Christian Endeavors, and all the other organizations that help to make up the modern church? The successful teacher of to-day must be often teacher and text-book as well. A connoisseur of human nature, he must be thoroughly conversant with the world as well as his books. He must have the power not only to pour knowledge in the mind of the pupil after the manner of Ichabod Crane, but he must be able to arouse, draw out and inspire like a Mark Hopkins.

With these various problems plainly before us, if our professional men and women don't take a college course, who will be able to represent our race in the higher realm of thought? There is to-day a large percentage of our boys and girls who have completed the academic course now pursuing professional courses. Let us have more of these. The demand is for well trained men and women. For a responsible position, the college graduate is always preferred to the man or woman who lacks a college training. Our problems are many and require keener insight and better trained minds than did those of our forefathers; and if we, as a race, do not urge and encourage college training for our people we shall never be able to move shoulder to shoulder with the other great races of the world in the grand march of civilization.