The University's Baby Out on the Doorstep

SOMEONE else has been minding the university's baby, and as usual when trouble arises, the university carefully pretends to have no part in it.

For the past two days, students in a recent Sidewalk lecture protested alleged unjust eviction from the Emerson street Y.M.C.A., a Negro organization. The students are printed today. Much food has been arising, but the basic blame in the case rests neither with the boys nor the Y.M.C.A., but on the doorsteps of the university.

It is the responsibility of the university to provide adequate living quarters for its students, in its own interests if for no less selfish reasons. A boy may be under the control of the administration there is less chance for clashes with community interests, which inevitably cause bad feeling against the university in general. It should not favor one group of students and ignore another. But it does.

The administration has often smoothly evaded responsibility by pointing out that dormitory regulations exclude no student for race or color. This is brutal hypocrisy. On one pretext or another, factual history shows that the administration has treated Negro students in a discriminatory way.

The Emerson Y.M.C.A. has sheltered many of these students. Anonymity aroused by situations such as the present one make it most difficult for the occupant to buy the living years to find a lodging. The student is always on the receiving end of the kick.

Neither Evanston nor the Emerson Y.M.C.A. is entirely to blame for providing no group of students. What is the psychological effect on a student away from home, bitterly aware that neither the university nor the community is interested in his welfare? Certainly it does not breed respect for the sincerity or altruism of the men who run the university.

You can shut the door, Northwestern, but the baby is still on the step.

Primaries in the Raw: Practical Politics

ON THE EVE of a state-wide primary election day, it is cynically amusing to observe the complacent attitude of students such as political science majors and student-government advocates, regarding the political situation.

Their flippant indifference is just the reason why the Kelly-Nash outfit can continue to warp Chicago government and intimate its local future.

Chicago politics is the best laboratory in America for the politically awake and aware student. The need for such people is gigantic, but their response is nil.

Chicago is the place where anything can happen, and usually does. April 12 is the fireside day now. It is the day when all citizens have a chance to vote down an entrenched machine.

The primary is important. It is an ideal system of allowing the voters to choose between the candidates of a party, thereby becom- ing an elimination contest for the November finals. Political power is local, and the primary is the only time that a student has a chance to vote down an entrenched machine.

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The politicians will be out in full regalia on Tuesday to win by hook or crook. How many political science students have ever been around a polling place to watch prac- tical politics, as the politicians run it? How many even know a Chicago primary is being held next week?

Let the political science profs send their classes down to Chicago for a lab lesson.

Information Given

Editor, Daily Northwestern: The following are alleged difficulties which certain students at Northwestern university have experienced and for which they are briefly as follows:

1. Two or more Yellow boys: students at Northwestern university have more or less used the Emerson street Y.M.C.A. as a home and a place and a community center for many of their social activities. Many of the yellow boys have been forced out of the residence section. It has been the purposing of these yellow boys to provide decent rooms for decent people, especially young men away from home.

The YMCA has done this in Evanston. It is equipped, but small community type of YMCA building for the people of Evanston. There are nineteen rooms with accommodations for ten people, and accommodation for the time these rooms are all occupied, and there is a considerable waiting list of persons desiring renting our rooms. We also keep a list of homes in the Evanston area for those who wish to accommodate, and often send persons out to these homes when we are unable to accommodate them at the YMCA.

Must Keep Balance

2. Because of the Y.M.C.A. is an Evanston community project, by idea of the Evanston people, we feel that first of all it is bound to keep a reasonable balance between the types of people who come to live in our dormitory. There are two types of town citizens who desire to use our dormitory: a ratio of 1 to 4 is arbitrarily set up as a rule in the placing of students in our residence section, so that every four Evanston citizens seem to have a room. However, this balance is not always enforced, for many times there are seven or eight Evanston students among the students. At present there are nine students in residence representing Evanston. Most always the student is given the benefit of the doubt because of the difficulty in getting satisfactory accommodations in Evanston.

3. All the students who live in our dormitory section have regular work and wish to use the YMCA residence for living purposes. The original purpose for which they were organized. This year there have been many complaints come to me weekly about the unnecessary noise made by students who live in these dormitories. There exceeds and loud, and great, when they can have no place to go to. One student complained to me 11 p.m. for discussions, debates and card playing. Often times fraternity meetings are held in the rooms by students, and once or twice have been meetings by students. If these complaints were always investigated and the guilty parties were asked to be more quiet and to respect the rights of others. In most cases the students are very cooperative, and over the years we have had quite cooperation from the vast majority.

4. Recently it was complained that Joseph Dyer was often seen in the dormitory in high spirits and profane. I investigated and found that he was frequently the organization which is called the drinking factor. I called him in and talked to him, and the student who had requested him to be more careful, or to have to ask him to stay out of the section. He did not stay out, but also continued to come around and sometimes became a factor. Again and again I requested him to stay out; the desk man also requested him to stay out of the section. He went to Mr. Nims of the counselor's office and the police were called. Notwithstanding all this he continued to go in the dormitory. He would go in with William and Myron Payne who would let him in, but to no avail. Finally, I had Dyer arrested on a disorderly conduct charge. He was then ordered by the judge to remain out of the dormitory.

5. Later I found it necessary to ask two of the students to vacate their rooms. I felt them to be undesirable, due to the attitude they had taken in cooperating with the administration and membership fees as agreed. Both of these students continue to vacate their rooms, notwithstanding they were given reasonable time in which to do so.

From reports which came to me, and stu- dents who had been asked to vacate their rooms in the YMCA dormitory believed that they were not being treated equitably, and that they would congregate in the YMCA lobby and would talk against the administration. The students were allowed to do so, were they going to do. People coming through the door must hear them.

Must Keep Open

This matter was discussed with the committee of management and prior to making this statement, they voted to request that the student be allowed to vacate the YMCA at all, and ordered me to write them letters accordingly. Noti- ces by paying their rent and evict from using the YMCA were sent in the last three days. They, in whatever they feel like. Their attitude from the beginning has been that they must have their way, and I have no authority.

As I now feel I must write the matter over to them and get them to see the reasonableness of the position I have taken. I feel that I have a moral right to take care of the possession of privileges which have been absolutely re- fused to agree to give to them. They continued to agitate by writing letters which are statements are made, and at the same time continue to come into the YMCA.

Must Know Real Facts

I cannot believe that the fair- minded body of students of Northwestern university and the Evanston community will heed these unfounded reports and would actually have the YMCA to vacate and vacate in whatever they feel like. Their attitude from the beginning has been that they must have their way, and I have no authority.

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