

REPORT ON REGISTRATION WEEK
from the Community Council

The following information was gathered by House Chairmen in meetings with the freshmen in their houses, and has been discussed by the Community Council. The sections marked with asteriks will be included in the report from the present Community Council to the incoming Council in March 1941 in the form of recommendations for the Registration Week of September, 1941.

Vagueness about courses:

- * 1) The freshmen felt that they had got into some classes which they didn't want because they had not understood thoroughly the contents of the course. Also, they had heard of classes since which they would like to have taken, but had not even heard of during registration week. This was discussed by the Council and it was decided that titles of courses have been too vague because of an effort to avoid too rigid definition of the program and to allow for any unforeseen alterations. It was mentioned that an elaborations of these titles would not only prevent elasticity of courses, but would tend to take the place of freshmen interviews with the faculty, whether singly or in groups. The House Chairmen and Faculty Advisors should emphasize the accessibility of the faculty and should see that the freshmen become accustomed to using them. It was suggested that a bulletin including descriptions of the courses would be of value as a reference record.

The policies to be adopted in relation to the question of defining courses will be discussed further the faculty.

- 2) The freshmen asked for definite assignments during the first week. This was considered an impossibility by the Council, who felt that the confusion and difficulties of the first week, insofar as they could not be eliminated by a more efficient registration program, were an unavoidable part of the transition to college work. The reading list already supplied is adequate.
- 3) Overcrowded classes have resulted from the failure of students to sign up for certain groups at the beginning of the year. They felt that it would reduce confusion on this point if class groups that required signing up be starred next year.
- 4) The freshmen thought that not enough was heard from various members of the divisions in the meetings with faculty. They would recommend that more emphasis be laid on each course offered than on generalizations by the faculty chairman. A minor point was that often faculty chairmen carefully introduced the faculty of their division and left themselves unidentified.

Advisors:

- * 1) Many freshmen were upset by the advisor's questions. It was suggested that Dr. Leigh or the E.P.C. explain the function of the advisors before the freshmen meet with them. The House Chairmen might help with this.
- 2) The faculty advisors are to be reminded to be specific and accurate in recommending courses and filling out programs.

Meetings and Miscellaneous:

- * 1) The House Chairmen are to be reminded to explain fully the purpose of the freshmen meetings with the faculty by divisions. This might also apply to the Orientation Meetings if they are continued next year.
- 2) The freshmen requested that division conferences be followed immediately by question periods. The Council thought that they were.
- 3) The schedules for registration week were hard to follow because of transportation difficulties. They did not allow enough time to get from Barn #1 to Fairview etc.
- * 4) Next year an old student will be asked to return early with the Chairmen of each house in order to facilitate the direction of freshmen to their roomsetc. This was done this year in such an informal way that in many houses it did not work.
- * 5) The Recreation Council party for the introduction of the freshmen to the administration and staff was not successful. Next year it should be better organized and House Chairmen should be made to realize and to carry out their responsibility as hostesses.
- * 6) Next year there will be more and smaller parties for introducing the freshmen to the rest of their houses, and to the rest of the community. Each house or group of houses will have a party; the time and group to be up to the discretion of the individual House Chairman.

In general the freshmen thought that Registration week had been extremely valuable and quite successful. The Council believe s that they might be able to evaluate it a little more successfully later in the semester, for many of the criticisms it received were invalid and demonstrated remnants of confusion rather than informed opinion.

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for the Community Council