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"Down With Miss Nert"

The recent issue of Galley has in common with many recent student offerings in that organ a lack of practical suggestion which is characteristic of "constructive criticism."

It is evident that certain members of the community are dissatisfied with the Non-Resident Term in its present form. To this observer the major sources of dissatisfaction are the recently shortened length of the term and the difficulty of obtaining jobs which are suitable.

The problem of time has never been fully explained to the students, who are the ones who meet at every job interview the question "Why only nine weeks?" The problem was equally severe when Non-Resident Term was of ten weeks duration. It would, of course, be possible for a student to work eleven weeks by sacrificing part of this year's lengthy Christmas vacation and the few days between the end of NRT and the beginning of the Spring Term.

Many people feel that if we are to give up our Christmas vacation in order to be able to find better jobs, we should have the chance to add these days to our summer vacation. The term vacation is a misnomer for those who must work at whatever jobs are left over after our colleagues at other schools have had the four-week head start at finding work. Here lies the advantage of NRT in eliminating competition for what jobs there are. It is also a season in which life in a city is most pleasant and rewarding in terms of activities available.

I should like to know what percentage of the student body have to choose their NRT activity in terms of their financial position. I know that there are some students who must contribute substantially to their tuition costs; and there are others who must at least support themselves during NRT. If there is to be an increase in the cost of tuition, undoubtedly more of us will come to depend on NRT as a means of lifting the financial burden. Jobs which pay well are notoriously dull.... especially jobs available for nine weeks. We are encouraged to spend some of this time living away from home, to be independent... to take t this opportunity to live in another part of the country. A job clerking in a store, filing in a huge office, or working in a factory is valuable experience for one NRT, but after three or four NRT and summer jobs of this sort, the student is ready for a job which presents a different sort of challenge.

The NRT scholarship presents a feasible solution to this problem for one student. If the student body were capable of earning the funds for this scholarship in one year, we can hope that we shall continue to do so, and perhaps obtain the interest of individuals as well.

I hope this discussion will prompt concrete suggestions from other members of the community in regard to interesting paying jobs and a plan for lengthening either NRT or the summer vacation.

A.F.