

The Spectator—The Art of Getting By.

"PICK YOUR PROF., or the Art of Getting By," is the title of a little pamphlet issued by the Institute for Public Service.

It contains much useful information to the youth of our land, and will help them to avoid nervous breakdown from overwork at college.

There are all sorts of interesting things to do at college if one can dodge work. There are tennis, basketball, boxing, football and other amusements where one can wear a sweater with a big "U" on it. Then there are larks of evenings, card parties, food feasts and escapades.

One can get some fun out of working on a college paper, joining the various clubs and Greek letter societies. One can go to Rushes, be a good dancer and a star fusser.

If it were not for the teachers and classes, college would not be such a bad place.

In order to avoid the peril of becoming a grind, one should learn the art of Picking His Profs.

(1) Sound out the students during your first few days at school. You can easily ascertain the disagreeable teachers who make a fellow work.

(2) Lecture courses are nearly always snaps. Kid the Prof. along and make him do all the talking.

(3) Almost every Prof. has some vanity or weakness. Find it out and work it.

(4) Learn the first few lessons perfectly. Once you get your reputation established you can pull the wool over the teacher's eyes easily.

(5) The most dangerous kind of Prof. is the kind that makes you honestly want to learn. Shun such. The first thing you know you will become a shark and lose caste entirely with the regular fellows.

(6) Study the art of flattery. If you can find a Prof. who likes to show off, the rest is easy. Always laugh at his jokes. Pay him compliments, the rawer the better.

(7) Learn your Prof.'s hobby. Whether you care about it or not, ask him questions. Get him to talking. Thus he will take up all the time in the class room and forget to mark you.

(8) Cultivate facial expressions of childlike innocence and interest. Let the Prof. see you look up at him as a Hottentot looks up to his idol.

(9) If the Prof. is a bit shy, and you see you are not making a hit, visit him outside of the class room and ask him question on his hobby. Get him to recommend books to you and let him see you write down the titles in your notebook. You've scored. You need never to refer to them again.

(10) Ask the Prof. to repeat what he said yesterday, and appear to listen with rapt attention.

(11) Gauge him. Estimate him. If he likes profuseness, use a lot of words. If he prefers conciseness, affect a laconic air.

(12) Encourage him to talk about himself.

(13) Find out what games he plays, what fiction he reads, what shows he likes, what stores he patronizes, and let him discover that you have the same tastes.

(14) Bluff. Put your best foot forward.

(15) If you do not know anything about a subject, and you are asked to recite, don't hesitate. Start right off talking. Keep your eye on the Prof. Pretty soon you will see he is interested in some point you touch. Then hang on to that and let the rest go.

(16) Argument is sometimes good, sometimes dangerous. Watch the Prof. If he is intolerant and dictatorial, agree with him always. If he prides himself on his ability to arouse discussion, give him plenty of it.

(17) Make a list of questions nobody can answer and spring them on the Prof. when you get a chance.

(18) The course of college life is boredom. Driven by this you are likely to get interested in study if you are not careful.

(19) A great many Profs. are honest, alert-minded, earnest and intelligent. They are self-disciplined and hence know how to discipline you. Avoid these. There will always be found some fop or egotist. Pick these. They are much more easily handled.

(20) Learn how to cram. You can then idle your way through the term and cram like sixty along toward the end and Get By.

These twenty hints ought to help.

College is usually an advantage. A diploma framed and hung up in your office is an ornament.

If you master the art of Getting By at school you will have a good chance to Get By the rest of your life.