THE fraternity system at O. U. with its 23 social fraternities and 13 sororities encompasses so much of campus life that it has a tremendous effect on the university. What this effect is has been interpreted in many ways. Many questions and comments have been directed to Sooner by Alumni concerning the fraternity system as found on the O. U. campus.

To analyze the situation and thus present the findings to our readers, Sooner sought the opinions of six people on the campus who are in a position to watch the operation of the system as co-ordinated by the University administration.

The six invited to a luncheon to discuss the matter involving 3,337 campus Greeks were Paul MacMinn, dean of students; Dorothy Truex, dean of women; O. D. Roberts, counselor of men; Wendell Cates, president of Inter-fraternity Council; Mary James, president of Panhellenic Council, and Jack Biggerstaff, past president of Inter-fraternity Council.

Discussion was based on an article by Carey McWilliams which appeared in Commentary magazine, entitled, "Equality or Fraternity?" In the course of the meeting it was also attempted to point out an ill effect the fraternity system has on society. After reading the article, the general consensus of the panel of six was that McWilliams had related very heatingly to the idea of appealing to his readers' emotions by presenting all the bad points of the system as found in isolated cases, thus not objectively reporting on fraternities as a whole.

Several questions were discussed by the group. Answers given apply only to the University of Oklahoma fraternities and sororities.

The questions are as follows:

Do most fraternities and sororities have a clause in their by-laws which prohibits the pledging of Jews, as charged by McWilliams?

Biggerstaff: Nothing in my fraternity's by-laws prohibiting the pledging of members of the race commonly referred to as Jews. However, one must remember that Jews are members of a religious faith, not a race.

Cates: Nothing in my fraternity's by-laws concerning religion, social or economic status.

Miss James: My sorority has no restrictive clause about religion.

MacMinn: It depends on the fraternity's national policy and sometimes the local ground rules of the organization.

Biggerstaff: Discrimination on the basis of color is commonly practiced.

Do you agree with Dr. Max Conn of Lehigh University in his definition of prerequisites to membership in a fraternity as being in order: money, family connections, the type of preparatory school attended, "personality"?

Cates: No.

MacMinn: I have seen fraternities that have made those things important, but I would not say that is generally true. However, I think it is more prevalent among sororities than fraternities.

Biggerstaff: Naturally you want to know something of the background of a person with whom you plan to live four years.

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If you are in being made to conform with the principles of a fraternity, is the person hampered by being "cultivated instead of being allowed to grow"?

Cates: Yes. Allow them to grow, but guide him in his growth.

Biggerstaff: A person cultivates new friends and new ideas throughout life.

What are your justifications or objections to the selection process used by fraternities in choosing pledges?

Roberts: The University is interested in the welfare of each individual student, and has specially trained personnel to assist in the handling of these problems.

Miss Truex: Some sororities withold information about violations of rules. They want to handle the matter themselves, and seem to shield each other.

Biggerstaff: There are instances in which the particular house can take care of the violation itself. The fraternity is here to help the student correct his bad points. It is interested in the welfare of its members.

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Students Enter Politics

University of Oklahoma students are politically minded, and to prove it 36 have tossed their hats into the political ring. For them the next few months will mean either glorious victory or disheartening defeat.

By far the largest group — 30 in number — is the bloc seeking seats in the state legislature. Running for lower house posts are 26 Democrats and four Republicans from O.U.

On the county attorney level are six more students, three Democrats and three Republicans.

Of the largest group of O.U. students ever to file for state political offices, six of the candidates are seeking re-election.

Candidates for the house of representatives are:

R. K. Ball (D), Pontotoc County; Robert B. Bates (D), Oklahoma County; Jack Bevin (D), Pontotoc; Edgar Boyton (D), Oklahoma; Louis G. Bongman (D), Logan; Leonie Brown (D), incumbent, Pittsburg; Joe Cannon (D), Muskogee; Harold Dan (D), Oklahoma;

Jack W. Dresdell, Jr. (D), incumbent, Pottawatomie; H. G. Dickey (D), Tulsa; James Douglas (D), Bryan; D. J. Ferguson (R), incumbent, Pawnee; Floyd F. Hatcoit (D), Nowata; Don Hardison (D), Delaware; Paul Hartley (D), incumbent, McCurtain; George W. Higgins (D), Kiowa; Franklin G. Talley (D), Pottawatomie.

William L. Jones (D), Okfuskee; D. H. Laing, Jr. (D), Tillman; Wayne Lollar (R), Texas; E. C. Montgomery (D), Major; Richard S. McDermitt (R), Cleveland; Lloyd Recoler (D), Kiowa; Bob Reynolds (D), Ottawa.

John W. Russell, Jr. (D), incumbent, Okmulgee; James M. Sandlin (D), Carter; Gene Stipe (D), Pittsburg; John L. Wheatley (R), Washington; Kenneth J. Wilson (D), Oklahoma and David Wood (D), incumbent, Muskogee.

Those filing for county attorney offices are Jack Amick (R), Grant; Tom Brett (D), Cleveland; Harry Fender (R), Wagoner; Clint Livingston (D), Love; Tom Morford (R), Alfalfa, and Gene Ritter (D), Carter.

E. E. "Jake" Hill, left, and Paul McClung, both seniors in the School of Journalism, relax prior to taking over the reins of the campus newspaper, The Oklahoma Daily. Jake will edit the paper during the summer, with Paul serving as an issue editor. Paul has been appointed editor for the fall semester. Another terrific group is graduating jointly with editorship is membership on the Oklahoma Memorial Union Board of Managers. Paul is also feature writer for Sooner.

Mass Production Graduates

The colleges and universities haven’t quite worked out an assembly line for turning out graduate students, but they certainly do have mass production these days, largely because of the “GI Bill of Rights” and the accumulation of young folks from war years who had to take anywhere from one to five years out of their educational programs.

The senior class at the University of Oklahoma this year numbered about 2,000, and the commencement exercises were so grandiose that they had to be held in Owen Field, since no building on the campus was large enough.

Anticipating the large output of qualified youth, many big industrial firms have been scouting graduating classes since the first of the year, and up to date the properly qualified students have encountered no difficulty in getting jobs.

Most in demand are those who have studied technical subjects — commercial, engineering, chemistry, selling, accounting or business administration, according to W. A. Roseman, research director of the Texas Employment Commission, who reports a lively demand in the southwest. Bachelor of Arts graduates can also get jobs without much trouble, he says, but they will have to look around a little more thoroughly.

In Ohio there are more journalism graduates than places to fill, says the employment specialist at Ohio State. Radio student also seem to be in surplus. So the picture is mixed.

Anyhow it seems that business, industry and the professions are due to receive the largest amount of new blood transfusions they ever had.

Editor’s note: The foregoing editorial appeared in the May 6 issue of the Oklahoma City Times under the title “This Year’s Crop of College Graduates.”

Mothers Give Scholarships

Nine scholarship funds, each one in the amount of $100, have been raised by the Mothers’ Association in a new project for the University. The Association formerly sponsored Rochdale Hall, a cooperative dormitory for women, but this was abandoned when it proved impractical.

Association districts are on concurrent lines with congressional districts. There is one out-of-state district. Each district has been reported, raising a total of nine scholarships among them.

This money will be awarded to students selected by a special faculty committee, consisting of Miss Dorothy Truex, counselor of women; O.D. Roberts, counselor of men; Mrs. A. L. Ortenburger, special assistant professor of zoological sciences, and Dr. Glenn C. Couch, 51hs, 37ms, dean of the University College.

Districts reporting and those in charge of the drive were: Out-of-state, Mrs. David Devonald, Chicago, $100; District 3, Mrs. D. W. Hampheyes, Cushing, $100; District 2, Mrs. S. P. Ditmars, (Jewell Ringer, ’38a) Muskogee, $100; District 5, Mrs. Merle Smith, Guthrie, $200, and District 6, Mrs. S. L. Wilhite, Anadarko, $100.

More than 100,000 pressed plants are in the Bebo herbarium at the University of Oklahoma.