## The University of Maine

# DigitalCommons@UMaine

General University of Maine Publications

University of Maine Publications

1928

# Aids for Freshmen, 1928

University of Maine

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ\_publications



Part of the Higher Education Commons, and the History Commons

## **Repository Citation**

University of Maine, "Aids for Freshmen, 1928" (1928). General University of Maine Publications. 193. https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ\_publications/193

This Monograph is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in General University of Maine Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

# Aids For Freshmen

A series of articles designed to assist the entering class in understanding certain phases of college life at the University of Maine. . . . . . .



1928

PRINTED AT THE
UNIVERSITY PRESS
ORONO, MAINE

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE P.	AGE
Honor Societies at the University of Maine	
By Members of the Societies	1
University Rules	
By Roy M. Peterson	10
The Academic System	
By James A. Gannett	16
Scholarships and Prizes	
By James A. Gannett	17

The four articles contained in this booklet have been prepared for the instruction of Freshmen in certain phases of college life at the University of Maine. The Freshmen should read these articles carefully and prepare for quizzes on them, which will be conducted as noted in the Freshman Week Schedule. The quizzes will be brief, and time will be allowed for discussion with the Section Leaders of any points not thoroughly understood.

# Honor Societies at the University of Maine

By Members of the Societies\*

This article is devoted to a consideration of the four principal honor societies which have chapters at the University of Maine. Each of the three colleges, which form the major divisions of the University, has such an organization recognizing excellence in scholarship. Thus the College of Agriculture has a society called Alpha Zeta; the College of Arts and Sciences, one known as Phi Beta Kappa; while the College of Technology has still another with the designation of Tau Beta Pi. There is also a fourth society of a more general scope than the others, called Phi Kappa Phi, which does not limit itself to any particular field but selects its members from all three colleges alike. In addition to the organizations already cited there are several societies on the campus which confine themselves to the recognition of high attainment in a single subject.

#### Рні Вета Карра

It would probably surprise most undergraduate college students to learn that Greek letter fraternities were first established for scholastic purposes. In the early years of their existence the members of these fraternities met together for debating and the practicing of orations and declamations. So strongly was the scholastic idea emphasized that the first fraternity established was devoted almost exclusively to these purposes and its membership was determined by the collegiate standing of the candidate. On December 5, 1776, at the College of William and Mary the first Greek letter society was founded and given the name of Phi Beta Kappa. For about one hundred years it stood alone in the field of scholarship recognition. The three Greek letters forming its name stand for three Greek words which mean "Philosophy, the Guide of Life."

<sup>\*</sup>The accounts of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi as well as the general discussion were prepared by James S. Stevens and Roy M. Peterson; the account of Alpha Zeta was contributed by Ardron B. Lewis; and that of Tau Beta Pi by Paul Cloke and W. J. Creamer, Jr.

The first meeting of the society was held in the Apollo room of the Raleigh tavern which Patrick Henry made famous by his great speech. Here was adopted the Greek motto, from the initial letters of which the society derived its name, and a square silver medal was made its distinctive emblem. This was later replaced by the familiar key.

Meetings seem to have resembled those of the college fraternities of today, although there was probably more of a literary element than at modern chapter meetings. Essays were read, orations spoken, and subjects for discussion debated. In addition a ritual, a grip, and all the other essential characteristics of a fraternity were adopted.

In 1778 a resolution was passed providing for the establishment of branches elsewhere to aid in the extension of the society. In the next three years several charters were issued, and chapters were founded at Yale and Harvard. Meanwhile, in 1781, the parent chapter ceased to exist. The society flourished, however, in the two New England institutions, which coöperated in establishing a chapter at Dartmouth.

As time went on and the number of chapters increased, the custom prevailed in all of them of holding formal meetings at Commencement time only, when the new members were initiated and an oration and poem by some distinguished member were listened to. It became a matter of course that all the honor men and other distinguished students in a class should be elected to membership. Down to 1881, all the chapters seem to have possessed the following characteristics, viz., the delivery of an oration and poem in public at Commencement time, and the holding of a business meeting in private, when the officers and members for the ensuing year were chosen, the former being graduates and the latter the best scholars of the incoming senior class.

The first attempt at holding a general convention was made in 1881 at the suggestion of the Harvard chapter. The next year, at a meeting held at Saratoga Springs, a constitution was adopted for the "United Chapters of the Phi Beta Kappa Society." It provides for a council consisting of senators and delegates, which meets every third year.

The number of chapters is now 107. Charters are not granted, unless the students at the institutions to be chartered are pursuing a course terminating in an "A.B." degree or its equivalent. Women were first elected by the Alpha of Vermont in 1875, and

are now regularly admitted on an equality with men. This was obviously not intended by the founders, but fidelity to the test of scholarship required it.

There are at present more than 50,000 living members, about one third of whom are women. Among its members have always been found a large number of our most prominent citizens, and today many of the most eminent men in all the professions are proud of the privilege of wearing the society's badge.

In 1910 the society began in New York the publication of a quarterly periodical called the Phi Beta Kappa Key. It also established an office in that city with a secretary on a salary so that he may give his entire time to promoting Phi Beta Kappa interests.

To commemorate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its founding the society proceeded to raise an adequate endowment fund to be used for the advancement of scholarship and erected a fitting Memorial Building at Williamsburg, Virginia, where it originated.

The badge of the society is an oblong key of gold, on one side of which are engraved the letters "Φ B K," and a hand pointing to three stars; on the reverse is the owner's name and "S.P., December 5, 1776."

#### ALPHA ZETA

Alpha Zeta, the Agricultural Honorary Fraternity, was established November 4, 1897, at the College of Agriculture of Ohio State University by John F. Cunningham and Charles W. Burkett.

At present (1928) there are thirty-seven student chapters in as many states of the Union, besides several purely alumni chapters.

The supreme national authority is vested in the Biennial Conclave, to which each student chapter sends one voting delegate. The Conclave elects the High Council composed of the five national officers, who are alumni members of importance in agricultural affairs. The last Biennial Conclave was held in December of 1927, at New Orleans.

The Fraternity publishes a journal known as the *Quarterly* of Alpha Zeta. A weekly news letter called the *Impetus* was started last year by the High Treasurer, and met with the enthusiastic approval of the members.

There are four classes of membership, (1) Active (2) Alumni (3) Associate (4) Honorary. Any white male student receiving instruction in technical agriculture in an institution having a chapter of Alpha Zeta is eligible to membership, provided he has completed at least one and a half academic years of his four-year college course, and that his average grade places him in the upper two fifths of his class. He must also be of good character and personality and must show qualities of leadership, especially in agricultural activities.

It is the custom of Maine Chapter to elect the highest one or two men from a given class at the close of the Sophomore year, and to elect the other eligible students in the Junior and Senior years, those higher in scholarship usually being chosen first. High scholarship, however, is not a guarantee of election; Maine Chapter insists upon maintaining the worthiest standards of character, leadership and agricultural interest.

Meetings are held regularly twice a month, with special sessions when necessary. One hundred per cent attendance is the rule. Alpha Zeta men value very highly their association with each other in the work of the Fraternity.

The badge is a monogram of A over Z. The key, with a similar device, may also be worn by all four classes of membership.

The colors are mode and blue.

Alpha Zeta is an Honorary Fraternity, whose members accept the honor of membership as a sign of increased responsibility in working for the good of agriculture in general, and particularly for the best interests of our own College of Agriculture.

## TAU BETA PI

The honorary society of Tau Beta Pi was founded at Lehigh University in June, 1885, under the auspices of Prof. E. H. Williams, Jr. Its purpose is to confer distinction upon those students who have maintained a high grade of scholarship and to foster a spirit of liberal culture in the engineering students of the institutions in which its chapters are located. When a chapter is established it may confer its key upon its alumni and students of earlier years in analogy to a similar custom in Phi Beta Kappa. Associate membership may be offered to graduates of engineering colleges where there is no chapter, provided the recipient ful-

filled the regular eligibility requirements as a student. Honorary membership may be conferred upon prominent engineers, who are especially interested in engineering education.

Elections to local chapters are held twice each year. In the spring the highest ranking eighth of the engineering juniors are eligible for membership. The following fall the next highest eighth of the same class (now seniors) are eligible, thus making eligible the highest quarter of each class. In the fall the highest ranking junior is also eligible. He is known as the "Willard Scholar." Not all engineering students who are eligible are always elected, as it becomes desirable at times for the local chapter to impose other conditions and limit its membership.

There is a strong feeling in most chapters that other qualifications besides scholarship should be considered, such as a man's standing among his fellows, the service he renders to the University on student committees, debating teams, glee-clubs, publications, and possibly athletics.

Contrary to common belief there is a very direct relation between high scholarship and success in after life, especially if the high scholarship is accompanied by outstanding service in other college activities. You will find among your associates those who are inclined to poke fun at scholars. This attitude is perhaps justified in case a man comes to the University for the sole purpose of acquiring all he can for himself and rendering no service to his fellows or to the University in return. In many cases, however, this attitude is born of jealousy and the mistaken notion of the value of high scholarship. You will find a great many successful engineers who prize the Tau Beta Pi key as one of their most precious possessions. It would of course be an unworthy ambition for anyone to strive for high scholarship with the expectation merely of obtaining a good position or a high salary. Knowledge is power, and enables one to render better service in the day and age in which we live.

Tau Beta Pi holds a convention each year. During the recess between its sessions an executive council of four alumni from different chapters administers the affairs of the society. Twenty-six conventions have been held since the society was founded.

The fraternity publishes a quarterly journal called the *Bent* which was first issued from South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania in 1905. It is now published at Menasha, Wisconsin.

The badge is a watch key in the form of the bent of a trestle. It displays certain secret characters, and the name and chapter of the owner. The fraternity colors are seal brown and white. The official banner is a flag two units high by three units wide, with three vertical stripes one unit wide, the two end ones of seal brown, the middle one white bearing an official badge in brown one and one-fourth units high.

There are fifty-two chapters with a total membership of about 14,200; and the badge of Tau Beta Pi is found among all groups of successful engineers.

#### Рні Карра Рні

The society of Phi Kappa Phi was founded at the University of Maine, in 1897, principally through the efforts of Dr. A. W. Harris, then president of the University, and Dr. J. S. Stevens, now dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. It was established along broader lines than any honor society then in existence as it did not limit itself to the recognition of excellence in any particular field. In fact it gives equal weight as subjects of study to agriculture, engineering, law, medicine, languages, literature, history, and the sciences. Its prime object is to emphasize scholarship and character in the thought of college students, to hold fast to the original purpose for which the institutions of learning were founded, and to stimulate mental achievement by the prize of membership. It thus emphasizes especially the unity and democracy of education.

Undergraduate students of good character who have completed the work of the junior year with a high average in scholarship are eligible for election. According to the national constitution those elected must rank in the upper fifth of their class, and by local regulation the chapters usually make the scholarship requirements still more rigid. Persons who have won distinction in science, literature, or education are occasionally chosen as honorary members. The society admits to membership those belonging to other honor societies and women as well as men.

Phi Kappa Phi now has chapters in forty-four colleges and universities and one made up of alumni members located in Washington D. C. Its membership exceeds 13,000, many of whom are women. Because of the inclusive character of the society its members are active in all walks of life. An unusually large

number have attained prominence as scientists. Members from Maine have always been actively identified with the management of the organization, and two of the general officers belong to this chapter.

The society meets every two years in a general convention held in connection with the sessions of the American Association for Advancement of Science. Its executive office is located at Knoxville, Tennessee. Its official publication is the *Journal*, issued quarterly from the editorial office at Orono, Maine.

The badge is a flattened globe surrounded by the rays of the sun in eight groups, across which there is a band displaying the Greek letters  $\Phi$  K  $\Phi$ . The emblem worn by the members has the form of a key.

The discussion of honor societies in our Freshman Week program is not designed primarily to give the students information regarding these important societies. The chief purpose of this paper is to stimulate the members of the freshman class so that they may resolve to include among their college aspirations a desire to win some sort of scholastic recognition. The relative importance of scholastic pursuits in college compared to those which relate to social activities has been long debated and probably never will be satisfactorily settled. There are those who tell us that those students succeed best in after life who pay rather small attention to their class work and devote a large amount of their time and energy to outside activities. Much has been said in favor of an education which develops the young man and woman in a symmetrical manner and it is difficult to find serious objection to this theory. The task becomes a somewhat trying one when we try to apportion the students' time among the various occupations. It is, therefore, not the purpose of the writers of this paper to discourage participation in athletics, musical and dramatic organizations, and social life. Indeed, most college teachers would be well satisfied if the students would go after their class work with half the enthusiasm which they devote to athletics. After all, it cannot be denied that the main purpose for which education stands is the training of young men and women in intellectual pursuits. Although statistics bearing on this subject are not absolutely reliable, it will do no harm to mention the fact that several years ago the president of Cornell University made an investigation of the graduates of that institution with reference to their success in life. His report shows that those who had reached the top in various occupations were those who had taken high rank in college. Nearly all of the alumni of that famous institution who had reached eminent distinction were members of Phi Beta Kappa, or some other honor society, and, indeed, there were not wanting those who had stood at the head of their classes.

In 1917 Dr. W. T. Foster, then president of Reed College, published a book entitled *Should Students Study?* In one of the chapters he presents a study of certain statistics relative to the graduates of West Point, an engineering school, a school of forestry, and a number of colleges. In every institution studied it was found that in the main those who attained eminence in life were those who had been high-scholarship men. Dr. Foster, therefore, concluded: "Indeed it is likely that the first quarter in scholarship of any school or college class will give to the world as many distinguished men as the other three-quarters."

Another investigation made within the past year under the direction of Professor Hugh A. Smith of the University of Wisconsin brought similar results. The records of eighteen hundred alumni were studied, all of whom were at least fifteen years out of college. Here the committee making the study expressed the opinion that there was an almost invariable consistency between scholarship and success in life. Furthermore, if one will glance hastily over the names which appear in the various editions of Who's Who, he will be struck with the fact that a large proportion of these men are college graduates, and of these, members of scholarship societies are frequently noted.

In spite of such a unanimity of testimony the view has prevailed in certain quarters that in business life these statistics would not apply and that the man with low marks in his studies, provided he had devoted a large amount of his energies to various extracurricular activities, was likely to be the most successful. To test this theory the American Telephone and Telegraph Company made a study of the situation as it affects that great organization and examined the records of 2,144 Bell System employees over five years out of college. Here salary received was taken as the criterion of success. President Walter S. Gifford has recently published the conclusions of the study in *Harper's Magazine* and

shows plainly the importance of a creditable scholarship record. He says: "In general the normal expectation is that any college graduate entering business has one chance in three of standing in salary among the highest third of all the college graduates in his company. From this study, as illustrated by the chart, it appears that the man in the first third in scholarship at college, five years or more after graduation, has not merely one chance in three, but about one in two of standing in the first third in salary. On the other hand, the man in the lowest third in scholarship has, instead of one chance in three, only about one in five of standing in the highest third in salary. There is also nearly one chance in two that he will stand in the lowest third in salary." It is shown in like manner that men from the first tenth of their college classes have four times the chance of those from the lowest third to stand in the highest salary group.

It is thought desirable that students who are beginning a college course should be acquainted with the various scholarship societies; and furthermore we want you to consider seriously whether it is not worth while to make an earnest effort to obtain membership in the honor society towards which you would naturally look. The college deans or any other of the faculty members at the University will be glad to give you further details, or refresh your memories in case you have forgotten the essential features of this paper.

# **University Rules**

COMPILED BY ROY M. PETERSON

Every group, association or community of individuals in modern society is subject to the reign of law. Each is governed by laws, statutes, rules, or some like series of legislative enactments. As the University of Maine is a community of considerable size, it naturally has its own body of rules for the protection of its members, the advancement of their interests, and the promotion of efficient work. The students themselves have had a part in the past in the shaping of legislation under which the University operates, and it is the earnest desire of those in authority that they shall have a still greater share in the future. The present article is designed to make you acquainted with the more important of its rules, especially those that you will need to know about during your first year of study. More complete information will be found in a booklet entitled "Information for Students," a copy of which may be obtained from the Registrar. This should always be consulted when you are in doubt as to what to do.

#### CHANGING PROGRAM

It sometimes happens that a student does not register at the outset for the courses which he is best fitted to pursue. If, after your program of study has been made out and approved, you should think it desirable to modify this program, you should confer with your dean about the matter. If he agrees that a change in your program of study is desirable, you should go to the Registrar's office at once, secure a change-card there, and enter upon it the courses to be dropped and those to be added. Then proceed to secure the signature of the dean who made out your schedule originally as well as those of the instructors in the courses that are being dropped or added. Lastly you should return the card without delay to the Registrar.

It is important to note that no course can be added to a program of study after the first week of the semester. This limitation is necessary as the student who enters a class after several recitations or lectures have been held is at a manifest disadvan-

tage compared with the others. Likewise, if a course is dropped after the first week, it will ordinarily be ranked with the letter F as a failure. Hence, if for any reason you find yourself in a course which you do not intend to complete, you should arrange at once to make the necessary modification in your schedule in the manner that has just been explained. Should a student seriously neglect his work in any class, the head of the department to which it belongs is empowered to drop him from the roll of the class as a failure.

If you get behind in your work and feel discouraged, see your dean at once and have a frank talk with him. He is anxious and willing to help you in any way possible.

#### ENTRANCE CONDITIONS

Students who are admitted to the University without having satisfied the regular admission requirements are said to be "conditioned." All entrance requirements should be made up as early in the course as possible. In the College of Arts and Sciences students are required to make up all entrance requirements before registering as juniors.

#### AUTHORIZED ABSENCES

One of the things which you should realize clearly at the very outset of your university life is the necessity of being present at all the exercises which are listed on your schedule. Absences from class are authorized only for a definite reason such as serious illness and trips made by university organizations which have been duly approved. If you should find it necessary for any reason to be absent, explain the reason for the absence to your dean and to the instructors whose classes you have missed. Attend to the matter when possible before the absence has occurred; otherwise give your attention to it immediately thereafter.

## UNAUTHORIZED ABSENCES

Excessive unauthorized absences may be considered sufficient cause for requiring the student to withdraw from the University. Absences incurred during the period twenty-four hours before or after a recess, vacation or holiday are not excused except for some very unusual circumstance. Such unexcused absences count double.

#### TARDINESS

Tardiness may count as an absence unless it is satisfactorily explained. Hence, if you enter a class after the attendance has been taken, you ought to explain the reason for the tardiness to the instructor at the close of class so that you will not be reported as absent. The student who frequently comes to class late cannot expect his tardiness to be excused.

#### LABORATORY DEFICIENCIES

All deficiencies in laboratory work due to absences, whether authorized or unauthorized, must be made up in a manner satisfactory to the instructor. Deficiencies, however caused, may be made up during the semester in which they occur, without expense to the student, if the facilities are such that this is possible and if this does not require the instructor to be present an extra amount of time or prepare additional material. If the deficiency is not made up by the time the course is next offered, this will be ranked as an F provided that an opportunity has been afforded to make up the deficiency.

## ARREARAGE RULES

In the college of Agriculture a student receiving a grade of E in a course is allowed one arrearage in it and is expected to take the examination the first time the opportunity is offered. In the College of Technology a student receiving a grade of E or "Def." in a required course is allowed one arrearage and must make up such condition before the course is again offered in a semester corresponding to the one in which it was taken, or repeat the course. A student once having applied for an arrearage must take it at that time unless excused by the Dean, or repeat the course.

#### RANKS

To indicate the quality of work done in the various courses, a system of letters is employed. High honors is indicated by A, which denotes work of exceptional excellence, while honors is indicated by B. Work below honor grade in quality is designated by C, which, however, is distinctly superior to that of D grade,

meaning passed unsatisfactorily. Below these ratings are E, conditioned, and F, failed, which do not give credit. In the College of Arts and Sciences E has the effect of a failure, and no more than thirty of the hours required for graduation may be of D grade.

#### MID-SEMESTER

In addition to the final ranks assigned at the close of each semester, grades showing your progress during the first half of the semester are given out. These are known as mid-semester ranks. You will naturally be interested in learning what your rank is to be at the middle of the semester. Do not ask your teachers, however, what grades you will receive, as they will not be reported by instructors but will be communicated to you at an announced time by your dean. These ranks are employed in determining the status of the student in the institution. A low average at this time may put him on probation and debar him from various activities as will be explained later.

### DEANS' LIST

The names of those students whose average is of honor grade, B or better, in the mid-semester or final ranks are posted by the deans. You should try, therefore, from the beginning to do work of such a high quality that it will entitle your name to appear in the Deans' List. If you attain this distinction, you will be exempt from penalties for excessive absences during the following half semester, and you will have the right to register, if you desire, for more hours of work than other students.

## FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Final examinations covering a half year's work are held according to a definite schedule during the last ten days of each semester. No books or papers, without the express direction of the instructor, may be brought into the room where an examination is being given. If a student has been unavoidably absent from a final examination, he may, by securing the consent of his dean, be examined when arrearage examinations are held in the fall immediately before the opening of school and during the week following the spring recess.

#### PROBATION

Occasionally because of poor work students are placed on probation. This term means literally a "trial," and indicates that the student is in a precarious situation and liable to be dropped from the University unless a marked improvement is shown in his work. If at any time you fail to pass courses amounting in the aggregate to eight or more hours, you will be automatically placed on probation. In the College of Arts and Sciences D counts as a partial failure, as each hour of work with a rank of D is considered as equivalent to three-quarters of an hour of work which is ranked as an E or F. Thus four hours of D would be the same in effect as three hours of E or F. Furthermore students may be placed on probation by the faculty or the Committee on Administration for work or conduct that is generally unsatisfactory. To secure removal from this class it is necessary to make up all the unsatisfactory work or complete with satisfactory grades half a semester's work.

#### FRESHMAN "TRIAL" LIST

Some freshmen are admitted to the University "on trial." Students who are on trial may be dropped from the University at any time when their work becomes unsatisfactory. If on the other hand their work is entirely satisfactory they will be removed from the trial list and placed in good standing.

#### ELIGIBILITY

Ranks notoriously low will prevent you from remaining at the University; ranks which are somewhat better and not low enough to put you out of school may nevertheless prevent you from participating in athletics and other activities of the campus. In order to represent the University in public exhibitions or contests, whether athletic or not, or to serve as an officer in a student organization or on the editorial board of a publication it is necessary to be eligible by attaining a certain scholastic rank. One who is on probation or under discipline, or who is carrying less than the minimum number of hours called for by his curriculum, or who has failed to pass in more than five hours of work is not eligible. In any of these cases you would not be able to represent the University in either athletic or non-athletic activities. Nor

would you be eligible if deficient in more than one and a half of the units required for admission to the freshman class.

#### ATHLETICS

Members of athletic teams must be certified by the Registrar as being eligible before they can participate in games and trips. All schedules and contracts for games are approved by the faculty Committee on Athletics. Any student who desires to compete in athletics outside of Orono during the school year, otherwise than as a member of a regular university team, must first obtain the consent of this committee.

#### Non-Athletic Activities

Similar rules are in force for activities that are not athletic in character. Musical and dramatic societies, publications, and the various organizations that use the name of the University are under the supervision of the faculty Committee on Eligibility. Those who participate in these activities are subject to the rules of eligibility and are liable to terminate their connection with such boards and societies at any time on account of unsatisfactory progress in their studies. The committee supervises the finances of the various organizations thru the appointment of advisers from the faculty and approves the plans for entertainments or exhibitions not of an athletic nature.

#### BUSINESS

Students are not permitted to engage in business operations on the campus indiscriminately. If either by yourself or with others you should desire to undertake any such enterprise, you would need to obtain a license from Mr. Pierce, the chief accountant of the University.

#### SUMMONS

Finally, when you receive a request for information or a summons from any official of the University, it should have your immediate attention.

# The Academic System

By James A. Gannett

There are several methods of conducting classes and reckoning grades at the University of Maine. As these methods differ from those used in high school, it is well for the new students to understand them at the start.

In some classes recitations are held daily with short written examinations every two or three weeks and a final examination at the end of the semester. The short examinations are called "prelims." In certain classes oral quizzes are held weekly in addition to short written examinations. In a number of departments the instruction is in the form of lectures, and written notes are taken by students. There may be no examination over the course until the end of the semester.

The college year is divided into two semesters of seventeen weeks each. Grades are given out four times each year as follows: at the middle and end of the fall semester, and at the middle and end of the spring semester.

In ranking a student at mid-semester each phase of the work is taken into account. The daily recitations are averaged, the "prelims" are averaged, the quizzes are averaged, and results are combined to determine the mid-semester standing. Each phase of the work is given a proportionate value, perhaps each part counts one-third or one-quarter, depending upon the number of divisions of the work.

Mid-semester grades are entered on the records and are given to the students by their respective college deans. In case the grades are unsatisfactory, the dean discusses the student's work at some length and endeavors to offer helpful suggestions. Midsemester grades are also sent to parents twice each year and fall mid-semester grades are reported to the high school principals.

Final grades at the end of the semester are computed in the same manner as mid-semester grades except that the final examination is included as an important factor of the semester's standing. Final examinations may count one-third or one-half in determining the final grade. In a lecture course, the notes are graded and averaged with the final examination.

At the end of each semester final grades are recorded and are given to the students at the Registrar's office.

# Scholarships and Prizes

By James A. Gannett

What financial aid may I expect from the University? Are high grades in college worth while? These questions have puzzled more than one college freshman in the past and probably will puzzle members of the class of 1932. In many of the larger universities and colleges the question of financial aid is answered by the award of scholarships and prizes. There are at least two types of scholarship awards: the first is the award which is based on some special attainment as, for example, the highest rank in the freshman year, or the highest rank in English; the second is the award given to aid some student with satisfactory grades, who though not necessarily brilliant is thoroughly deserving and without funds to meet his expenses. In some institutions which have received large and generous gifts, scholarship aid is available for practically all students who have not sufficient funds to meet their college bills. We are not so fortunate here at Maine as to be able to offer financial assistance to all students who make application for aid, or who find it difficult to meet their bills; but the scholarships and prizes which we have, though limited in number, have been created thoughtfully and are designed to assist students who come to college with the avowed determination to secure a college education and with a genuine interest in their courses.

The scholarships and prizes at Maine—about thirty-five in number—are divided into three groups; the first two of which are available for undergraduates; and the third, the smallest group, for graduates. The first two groups are about evenly divided into two classes; the first class consisting of scholarships which are awarded for some special attainment along academic lines, the second class in which the award is based on financial need as well as general standing and character of the student. Both classes of scholarships offer a tempting challenge to the man or woman of the class of 1932 who is in need of financial assistance.

One scholarship is awarded to the freshman who has the highest rank during the first half of his first year in college; another is awarded to the freshman man or woman who attains the highest rank for the year. Another prize is waiting for the woman who

shows the greatest improvement in her work during her freshman year. A scholarship of fifty dollars is given to some member of the freshman class who is interested in track athletics and who needs financial help. His scholastic record must be satisfactory. There is a sophomore essay prize and a junior scholarship award and several senior prizes. Scholarships and prizes are awarded for excellence in debating, biological chemistry, agriculture, sociology, mechanical drawing, and English, including the freshman course in composition and literature. There are scholarships and prizes which apply only to the students in the College of Agriculture; and also awards for students in the College of Arts and Sciences; and again special prizes for students in the College of Technology.

One of the most interesting scholarships at Maine and one which challenges each man of the freshman class to make of himself a man of usefulness to his class, his college, and his country is the William Emery Parker scholarship given in memory of William Emery Parker of the class of 1912. "Bill" Parker, as he was affectionately known by almost the entire student body, stood for honest athletics and a clean life, and as captain of the football team played hard, fast and fair, and led his team to the State championship. This scholarship is awarded annually to that male student of the sophomore or junior class who, in addition to being above the average rank scholastically shows most clearly those qualities of manliness, honesty, and constructive effort which characterized the college career of the alumnus in whose memory the scholarship is given. The William Emery Parker scholarship is worth striving for.

The scholarships and prizes described above are of pecuniary value in terms of dollars and cents. They all have their place in college and university life. There are, however, here at the University of Maine two awards of unusual interest which are not pecuniary in nature, nor of material advantage to the recipient, so far as college expenses are concerned. These two awards are the Washington Alumni Association watch for men and the Victoria Weeks Hacker watch for women. The Washington watch, which is the gift of the Washington Alumni Association, is presented to the member of the graduating class who in the opinion of the faculty and students has done the most for the University during his college course. During the years in which the Washington watches have been awarded they have been given to men prominent in

student life in athletics, and in the Christian life of the student body, but in nearly every case the award has been made to a student who stood for the best things in college life. The watch for women, given by the Portland Club of University of Maine Women, and named in memory of Victoria Weeks Hacker of the class of 1919, is presented to the woman member of the graduating class who, in the opinion of the faculty and students, has done the most for the University during her course. With a knowledge of these gifts in view, let every member of the freshman class resolve that he or she will be a deserving candidate for the award.

A study of the list of scholarships and prizes in the University catalog will prove interesting and it is not too early at this Freshman Week for each member of the class of 1932 to say to himself, "I am going after that scholarship," and "That prize shall be mine." A scholarship earned through honest effort in keen competition with other classmates is worth the effort and is a just reward.

Of particular interest to the freshman are the following scholarships and prizes, as they pertain mainly to the first year students:

THE CLASS OF 1905 SCHOLARSHIP. The income of a one thousand dollar donation by members of that class shall be awarded to a man of the freshman class pursuing a regular curriculum, whose deportment is satisfactory, and who attains the highest rank in the mid-year examinations.

CENTRAL DISTRICT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP, thirty dollars, is awarded to a sophomore pursuing a regular curriculum whose deportment is satisfactory and who attains the highest rank of his class during the freshman year.

THE ALPHA OMICRON PI ALUMNAE PRIZE, ten dollars, given by the Bangor Alumnae Chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi. The award is made to a woman student showing the greatest improvement in her work during her freshman year. The record at the Registrar's office showing the comparison of grades of the fall semester with those of the spring semester will furnish the basis of award.

THE PHI MU SCHOLARSHIP, thirty dollars, will be awarded each year to a woman student whose scholarship and conduct are deserving and who is in need of financial assistance. The selection will be made by the president of the University, the president of the sorority, and the faculty Committee on Honors.

THE PENOBSCOT VALLEY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS. Two scholarships of fifty dollars each are awarded to two male students selected by the president of the University, the executive secretary of the General Alumni Association and the faculty Committee on Honors, who are found

to be worthy students, in need of financial assistance, and have satisfactory scholarship and conduct. If possible, students whose homes are in the Penobscot Valley shall be selected for the award.

The Joseph Rider Farrington Scholarship. The income of \$1000, a gift of Arthur M., Edward H., Oliver C., Horace P., and Wallace R. Farrington, all graduates of the University of Maine and sons of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Rider Farrington. The following order of preference is considered in awarding this scholarship: (a) To any direct descendant of Joseph Rider and Ellen Holyoke Farrington, or any one whom three of such descendants may select; (b) To any student bearing the surname Farrington or Holyoke; (c) To the student in the junior class of the College of Agriculture who attains the highest rank in studies and deportment during that year and who shall make application for the scholarship.

STANLEY PLUMMER SCHOLARSHIP. The income of \$1000, the bequest of Colonel Stanley Plummer of Dexter, Maine. Awarded to needy and deserving students selected by the Trustees. Students born in Dexter, Maine, shall have the preference; but if there are none such, any needy and deserving students may be selected.

THE TRACK CLUB SCHOLARSHIP, fifty dollars, is given by the Track Club to some member of the freshman class who needs financial help. He must be a man interested in track athletics but need not necessarily make his "M" in his freshman year. His scholarship must be satisfactory.

The awarding of this scholarship will be in the hands of a committee composed of the president of the Track Club, the coach of the track team, and the chairman of the faculty Committee on Honors. The winner will be given the scholarship upon his return to college at the beginning of his sophomore year. Applications for this scholarship must be made in writing and sent to the president of the Track Club before May 1.

WILLIAM EMERY PARKER SCHOLARSHIP, in memory of William Emery Parker, class of 1912, the income of a fund of one thousand dollars donated by Hosea B. Buck, class of 1893, is awarded annually to that male student of the sophomore or junior class who, in addition to being above the average rank scholastically, shows most clearly those qualities of manliness, honesty, and constructive effort which characterized the college career of the alumnus in whose memory the scholarship is given. It is to be awarded by the Committee on Honors with the approval and agreement of the President.

New York Alumni Association Scholarships.—Scholarship No. 1, fifty dollars, is offered for excellence in debating. In case the effort in debating does not justify this award in any year or years the amount shall be accumulative.

PRIZE OF THE CLASS OF 1873. The income of \$1000, the gift of Russell W. Eaton, of Brunswick, a member of the class of 1873. Awarded annually to that member of the sophomore class who is able to show the greatest improvement in mechanical drawing during the first two years of his college course. It is expected that candidates for this prize shall have had no training in mechanical drawing previous to entering the University.

CONTRIBUTORS' CLUB PRIZES, of twenty-five and ten dollars, are awarded to the undergraduate students submitting the best contributions to the Maine-Spring, subject to the rules set by the club for each year.

THE HENRY L. GRIFFIN PRIZE IN ENGLISH COMPOSITION, of ten dollars, in honor of the late Rev. Henry L. Griffin of Bangor is awarded by the Department of English for excellence in the freshman course in composition and literature.

THE WASHINGTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WATCH is presented to the member of the graduating class who, in the opinion of the faculty and students, has done the most for the University during his course. This award is made as the result of a secret ballot by the students and passed upon by the President and the faculty.

THE VICTORIA WEEKS HACKER WATCH, the gift of the Portland Club of University of Maine Women, is presented to the woman member of the graduating class who, in the opinion of the faculty and students, has done the most for the University during her course.

