

My small niece made a statement that I may have quoted in the hearing of some of you, but it expresses so good a philosophy that I should like to apply it to this campaign.

She was shivering over a big dish of ice-cream and her father said to some one, "You might soften Polly's cream a trifle and then it won't seem so cold".

"No", said Polly, "I like ice-cream cold - and shoes lace tight".

Well, I do too; don't you? I like things to have their own essential character in full. If it is a campaign - I want it to be a *real campaign* with the full character of a campaign - enthusiasm and efficiency.

I want to tell you why I am in favor of this Oberlin campaign and why I have already subscribed my ~~2.00~~⁵ to it.

In the first place - it is *not* because I have so much money that I don't know what to do with ~~this~~ \$285. My vocation is

that of a college professor! As a character in a play I remember observed about himself -

'Fore God, my intelligence
 costs me more money than my share oft comes to,
~~In these rare works.~~

In the second place - it is because I think the thing is worth doing, worth doing at an outlay of energy and sacrifice.

Our country needs Oberlin. And if Oberlin is to make the contribution to the country that it is fitted to make, it has got to have funds with which to do it.

Oberlin seems to me ^{to be} able in a quite wonderful way to do some of the things that thinking Americans all over the country are realizing the peculiar need of at this time. The country needs a sane and progressive outlook on many things that Oberlin can help with better than, as I believe, any other college in the country can.

Take as an instance, the spirit of internationalism.

Oberlin is peculiarly free from the narrow prejudices of provincialism - it is the most cosmopolitan college in the

country. The student body year after year is made up of men and women from every state in the Union and from a dozen to sixteen or sometimes more foreign countries. Living day by day with other ^{people} ~~students~~ from such varied homes, the Oberlin student has the opportunity to get a genuine understanding of the other races and localities and a sympathy with them that it is almost impossible to get anywhere else.

I have been on the faculties of seven different American colleges in all the different sections of the country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and in none of the others have I seen anything to compare with the cosmopolitan spirit that exists in Oberlin. ~~Some of~~

All of us who are interested in the attainment of what seems to be the most difficult of all goals - world peace - must realize what a tremendous help there is in the training of this spirit of internationalism in the two thousand students every year who attend Oberlin.

4
It may seem to some of us looking back upon the queer rules of the old days in Oberlin that Oberlin did not have the qualities I have spoken of of sanity and progressiveness. I should like to ask you whether, after all, that really is true?

I myself belong to those old days when a girl couldn't allow a caller to remain one minute after seven o'clock in the evening - I have a vivid memory of the interview I had in my first year at Oberlin with Madam J. about a caller who had staid fifteen minutes beyond seven while my own mother was in the room. It was all rather ludicrous. But when you think of what was behind it, your judgment about it is suddenly reversed. *Why was Oberlin so meticulous about what we girls did?* In reality, wasn't it just because she had been so progressive - had gone so far beyond what any other college did in the way of giving opportunities to women, that she had to offset criticism of her policy and protect the reputation of girls who were doing the unwonted thing in coming to college

at all? In the early days she had first to prove to a world sceptical about the matter, that girls could study the thing that men did and along with men - and still retain their refinement. Those of us who were students in the first decade of the twentieth century came at the tag-end of that old regime. It is true that by that time other colleges were admitting women and giving them far greater liberty; but that was only on the principle that those who inherit privileges, always use them more lavishly than those who have had to suffer and expend the energy to get them in the first place. The colleges that were giving liberties to girls not yet at that time handed out very freely to Oberlin girls, every one of them got those liberties from Oberlin. They got and used them in the same way that spendthrift sons of self-made, hard working fathers often get and use what it has cost their fathers much sacrifice to attain.

Now that the transitional days are over, Oberlin has discarded the old rules. Oberlin girls are as free as any co

lege girls (I do not include university women). They go to as many movies. They ^{may} dance every evening, if they like, with men in a hall provided by the college for the purpose - a thing that I think can't be matched in any of the great colleges for women - and they have as many and as big "proms".

It is certainly true that the girls at Oberlin used to be subjected to very stringent rules and that these rules were not discarded rapidly. And not in spite, but really because of this, women have a great debt to Oberlin. *I have the hardihood to claim here and there that* It was unquestionably through Oberlin's characteristic conservatism that she managed to put over the most radical thing that has ever been done in the whole history of this country for the education of women.

The first bachelor's degree that was ever granted to a woman in America was conferred by Oberlin in 1841 - there were three women who received the degree there that year. The first woman who was ever admitted to a Theological sem-

inary in this country was admitted in Oberlin in 1847.

What Oberlin has done for the education of women is only one ^{ance} inst^t of the marvellous ability that has characterized Oberlin from the beginning to put over progressive policies that other colleges have not even attempted - until after Oberlin gave the start and did the hardest pioneering.

The Colored question is another instance of the same thing.

Oberlin men faced the fact that America owed a chance of an education to its Colored inhabitants, and offered them a chance. Today there are exceedingly few colleges in the country that haven't followed Oberlin's lead. Oberlin gave the Negro a chance when he had no other chance. Now there are multitudes of opportunities for him and Oberlin no longer needs to make them a special item. The number of Colored students at Oberlin is not now great - in fact, it never was great - ^{he} ^{negro} has to show the same qualifications as every other applicant, to prove that he

is capable of doing work of college grade. No one is eligible to admission under the present regulations who did not do work in his preparatory course good enough to rank him in the upper third of his class there.

Oberlin is admitted only when he can prove that his average white high-school graduates are superior to
 I offer only one more instance of the same and progressive character of Oberlin - the conference on Prison Reform called in and by Oberlin last spring. This was the first Ohio State conference on this crying state and national problem.

If there were time, plenty of other proofs of the progressive character of Oberlin would be easy to find.

The genuineness of Oberlin's spirit of progress is shown by the fact that she makes changes in her own policy when the time for changes arrives. And yet she has the stability of a real vision of truth - she doesn't rush into changes till she sees the value that they are likely to have in the future as well as the present. Oberlin is a very different place now from what it was in 1903 when I took my bachelor's degree - (sorry to have away quite so

definitely how long ago it was). It has grown and improved in many ways in those years - none of the changes but has been in the direction of progress. *We have traditions at Oberlin and we revere them, but we do not follow them narrowly.*

I am sure that most former and present Oberlin students who study the matter will hold that Oberlin's point of view is fitted to give her the basic character that American education needs. But that ~~she~~ she is seriously hampered, in her attempts to serve the country by her present need of funds is clear.

She has many fine ~~material~~ things, - the largest college library in America, the largest Organ department of any Conservatory in the world, an art building that has been pronounced by critics as the handsomest in the United States, a faculty containing some of the great teachers of America. She is recognized as a college in the first class by every educational rating agency in the country. Yet there are serious lacks that can be supplied only by new funds

Due to the shrinkage in the proceeds from the Hill bequest there is now an accumulated deficit in the productive funds of the college of two million dollars.

Certain new buildings are imperatively needed: a recitation-building, a hospital, a women's gymnasium, laboratories, an addition to the library to take care of the books for which there is now no place, and new buildings for the Graduate School of Theology to replace Council Hall, which is condemned by the State.

It will take an additional two Million dollars to keep the salary scale where it is now.

How is this money to be raised?

It is put up to the alumni as a job they are asked to undertake. By dividing the sum imperatively needed - four and a half million dollars - by the number of alumni and former students with whom the college has been able to keep in touch, an in-

This will take another 2 million

for for endowment
The other 1/2 million -
scholarships
Construction
No exp -
Passion