

## APING OUR ELDERS

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students of promise. The fraternities controlling these activities are vigilant in appointing only their best men since they are aware that decadence means future dismissal.

■ Judged in its entirety the campus political set-up is disheartening. Immediate and far-reaching reforms are necessary if anything remotely approximating democratic government is to exist. It is barely possible that the adoption of a strong constitution for student government may eliminate certain of the evils of administration, but if the rule of the political machines is to be broken, even more fundamental reforms are essential.

The fundamental problem to be solved is the apathy of the student body as far as its government is concerned. If the numerous independent students could be organized into a coherent and unified party, then their demands for able candidates might draw the attention of the fraternity minorities now controlling the campus.

Such a possibility, however, seems discouragingly remote. It is far more likely that the fraternities will continue to run the campus politically. Since this is the case, there are only two opportunities for political reform. The first rests with the President's Council, strong governing body of all fraternities. Though of recent origin, the Presidents' Council already shows promise of becoming a powerful factor for progress and improvement of the University undergraduate life.

The danger here lies in the chance that the Presidents' Council, if it attempts to recommend candidates for the various campus offices will degenerate into a tool in the hands of undergraduate bosses.

The other alternative is that campus politics be brought out into the open, that candidates be forced to campaign, to deliver speeches. Under such a system it is possible that the fraternities will be forced to nominate abler men for campus offices than has been their wont in the past.

■ In other words, there is nothing wrong with campus politics as such. It is perhaps profitable for future voters of our nation to become familiar with the workings of political machinery. But, as the most honored and popular member of a University administration has suggested, let us have politics but not gang politics.

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