

THE HONOR SYSTEM

Late last spring the honor system was drawn up, voted upon and passed by the student body, much to the disapproval of some who believed that they saw very evident grounds of its failing. Then early last fall the constitution being drawn up by the Honor Committee it was read to the incoming freshman class. The midyears that have just passed have been our first opportunity to see the honor system practically put into effect. Has it been a success? Have those lofty ideals, which are demanded by an honor system been fully realized to the satisfaction to those of us who are interested in its outcome? Have those obligations to which we hurriedly subscribed last spring in adopting the honor system been adequately met?

There is a clause in the honor constitution, which says that anyone who sees cheating going on in an examination is in honor bound to report it—to be exact the reporter has two choices, he can either persuade the offender to destroy his paper or he can report the offense directly to the Honor Committee, and have them take action upon it. To subscribe to the Honor System means, of course, to subscribe to this little clause that is inserted in it. Now it happens that of all the violations of the honor system, no one has reported a single case of infringement to the Honor Committee.

Those who have subscribed to the honor system apparently wanted it. They did not realize perhaps the great amount of moral obligation that it put upon them. To cheat in an examination is, of course, to violate the honor system and those of that class we will leave for the present, but there is on the other hand those who do not cheat but who see cheating going on, and yet do not report it. The business of reporting your best friend when you see him cheating is unpleasant business, to say the least. The mere fact that one did not accept information in some examination is no proof that he has heeded the honor system and fulfilled its requirements. He is equally as much an offender if he has seen violations of the system and has not reported it.

The honor system as we see it has

not been a success. What is its value, if it is only an honor system in name and has no significance upon the actions of the student body as a whole?

Preamble

The student body of the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, having accepted as a body, and upon their honor, the responsibility of protecting their members and the college against the stigma of dishonesty in the written work presented for academic credit, declare the following as the principle upon which their action in fulfillment of their responsibility shall be based.

The dishonest act of any student in the presentation of oral or written work will be regarded and treated as an act of disloyalty to the student body and to the college, and as putting a stigma upon the integrity and honor of both the student body and the college.

ARTICLE I

Section 1. On the first Tuesday in May of each year, a student committee shall be chosen to represent the student body, and to deal with all cases involving violations to the honor system.

Sec. 2. This committee shall consist of eight members; six women; two of whom shall be of the Senior Class, one degree and one certificate, to of the Junior Class, one degree and one certificate, and two of the Sophomore Class of the degree course, and two men, one of whom shall be of the Senior Class degree or certificate course, and one of the Junior Class of the degree or certificate course. The Senior Degree woman shall be Eastman Representative on the University Honor Council. Each member when elected shall serve for the remainder of his or her college course. Each year one Junior Certificate woman and one Sophomore Degree woman and one Sophomore certificate, one Junior degree or certificate man shall be elected for the coming year from the nominations made by its members on the Honor Council, twice as many names being proposed as there are places to fill. If the student president is not a member he shall be a member ex officio. The newly elected members shall take office at the beginning of the

following term. Vacancies shall be filled at the following student meeting. Six members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 3. The chairman of this committee shall be chosen by the committee itself and its choice shall be made from its senior members. The chairman of the committee shall convene all meetings of the committee and preside at all investigations conducted by that body. In June of each year, the retiring chairman shall call a meeting of the newly elected honor committee for the purpose of electing a new chairman, whose duty it shall then be to convene the committee at the opening of the fall term.

ARTICLE II.

Violation of the Honor System

Section 1. Examinations: The following acts committed during any written class-room work or examinations shall constitute violations of the honor system:

1. Any attempt to receive assistance from written or printed aids, or from any person or his papers, and any attempt to give assistance in any manner whatsoever. These rules shall hold both within and without the examination room during the entire time in which the examinations or test is in progress; that is until the time set for same has expired.

2. If, during the progress of any written class room work or examination, a student detects a fellow student in violation of the honor system, in the preparation of his paper, he may, before the close of the examination, advise such student that his act has been discovered and that his paper must not be submitted. In cases of this kind no report need be made to the honor committee. If, after warning has been given, the paper is submitted, he must place the matter in the hands of the honor committee.

Sec. 2. Essays: Presentation of any written college exercise, such as themes, essays, et cetera, purporting to be original work, but which incorporates the work of another without credit, shall constitute a violation of the honor system.

Sec. 3. Notebooks: Presentation

of a notebook containing or incorporating the work of another without acknowledgment shall constitute a violation of the honor system.

Sec. 4. Reporting of Violations: A member of the student body shall report to the honor committee any violations of the honor system of which he has knowledge, except in such cases as are provided for in Section 1, part 2, of this article.

ARTICLE III.

Section 1. (1) Any violation of academic honesty shall involve a reprimand by the council or a committee from the council and automatic exclusion from college activities for a year from the date of violation, that is, he shall not be allowed to represent the college in any activity, serve on any committee, or hold any class or college office.

(2) The council shall have the power to use the following additional penalties in accordance with the circumstances of the case, namely, notice to the parents, loss of credit for the course, posting of names on the bulletin board, and such further penalties as the committee shall inflict.

(3) The maximum penalty for a first violation of the constitution by any member of the senior or junior classes, and for second violation by any member of the sophomore and freshman classes, shall be recommendation to the faculty of his indefinite suspension from college.

Sec. 2. An affirmative vote of six members of the honor committee shall in all cases be necessary for conviction.

ARTICLE IV.

Section 1. The presence of the instructor in the examination shall be optional with him.

ARTICLE V.

Section 1. Every student of the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester taking the Certificate of Degree Course shall be required to read and sign a declaration of acquiescence to the constitution. Freshmen and others shall be required to read and sign same after matriculation. The responsibility for making the terms and conditions of this honor system understood by the new students shall be vested in the honor committee.

ARTICLE VI.

Amendments

Section 1. If it is desired at any time to amend this honor constitution, such amendment shall be presented to the student body at a regular or special meeting, and a copy of said amendments shall be posted on the bulletin board one week before the final vote is taken. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the total number of ballots cast shall be necessary for adoption.

ARTICLE VII.

Recall

Section 1. By petition of 25 percent of the members of the student body,

the name of any member of the honor committee may be presented for removal at the next regular meeting of the Student Association. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present shall be required for his removal from the honor committee.

ARTICLE VIII.

Section 1. This constitution shall apply to all members of the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, pursuing the Degree or Certificate course in all classes outside those held at the University of Rochester. Women students of the Degree Course while attending classes at the University of Rochester will come under the University of Rochester Honor Constitution.



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Franz Schubert was one of the torch-bearers at the funeral of Beethoven, whom he had met but twice, though he had lived in the same city for thirty years. On the way home from the cemetery with his friend, the composer Lachner, and another companion, a glass of wine was drunk to the memory of the great master who had just passed away. A second glass was proposed by Schubert to the health of the next man to follow. It happened to be Schubert himself, and not so long afterwards.

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