

(The following is an editorial comment by C. Dixon Avery, editor of the Gazette-Register, Troy, Pennsylvania. We have reproduced the editorial feeling you would be interested in its content.)

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The Editor's Diary

I like the phrase that Wilkes College of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, uses in its bulletin: "Before you can make men doctors and lawyers, you must first make them men."

John Stuart Mill of several generations back in American history is attributed as the author of the phrase that 19-year old college likes to observe. The college was first started as a junior college of Bucknell as a result of the request of the residents of Wilkes-Barre wanting an institution of higher learning within its confines. That branch of Bucknell was started in 1933. And that was during the Great Depression of the United States. Where there is a will, there is a way!

No matter whether the educational program aims for professional status, or merely general knowledge, the thought persists: "first make them men." The knowledge that is gained, then, is put to good use — for the individual, as well as for his fellow men.

Sound moral fiber must be nurtured and matured and sharpened. What follows in the way of specialized knowledge then makes for good citizenship, and a fuller life.

If more stress was employed on this "first making them men," then there would be less "Bobby Bakers", "Hitlers", "Mussolinis", gangsters, law-

breakers. I did not say that these "characters" would be eliminated entirely from our society. I do say that their numbers would be lesser, and the entire moral tone and fiber of the community, the nation, would be wonderfully improved.

Wilkes College, it seems to me, is one of the few colleges, or higher institutions of learning, that is worthy and important in moulding our nation. It is one college that I would highly recommend as an educational institution to which both men and women should attend.

Wilkes College is a private institution. There are many in the United States. But, there are many thousands of public schools — primary, secondary and higher educational institutions. These public schools can, and have, obtained financial aid from the federal government. The private schools do not, generally.

Usually, the one who pays the bills is the one who calls the turns — do it this way, or else you get no money, baldly put. In the case of federal financial aid, that puts government into the educational field, first administratively, then, eventually, as sure as you read this now, in the curricula field.