

School Relations

The task of the School Relations Office is to tell the University story to Missouri's yearly 50,000 high school graduates, their school principals, guidance counselors and parents. The office seeks to provide the answers to who, what, when, why and how. That the job is getting done is made clear by a glance at statistics on last year's activities: Visits to the University by some 17,500 high school students; contact with 15,000 more junior and senior students at 531 high schools across the state, and the mailing of several thousand pieces of informative literature.

The School Relations Office is managed by Assistant Admissions Director Neil Freeland, who with one full time secretary has been carrying on the program since it was started by President Ellis in 1958. An assistant for Freeland has been added to the office this year, bringing the staff to three.

Freeland's office operates with a two-fold purpose; first, to explain the "what's" and "whyfors" of entering the University, but just as important, to help the Admissions Office appraise the adjustment of the freshmen during their first year at M. U. Working at both levels—the high school and at the University—Freeland uses contacts made by his office to serve the dual purposes.

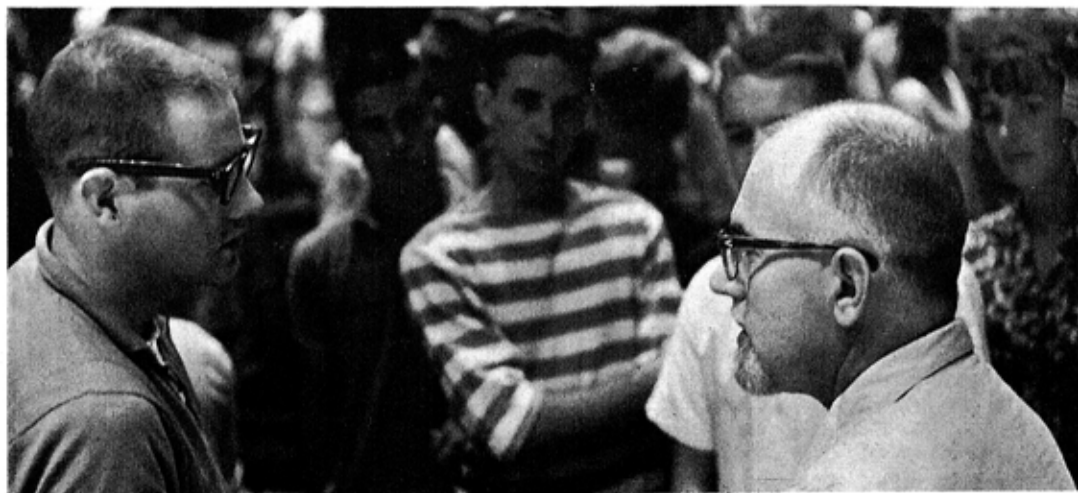
The informational facet of the School Relations program is a supplement to the high schools' own guidance programs. Freeland's main local contact with the high schools is through "College Day and Night Programs." There, during three 30-minute

sessions at each school, he explains and answers questions about the University. The students may visit representatives from three different colleges during these sessions, spending a half hour with each. The purpose of the University representative is to give service to the student regardless of where he or she plans to attend college. Parents frequently attend these Program sessions and every attempt is made to answer their questions relative to the program at M. U.

Last year, Freeland participated in some 88 College Day and Night Programs held throughout the state. This year's schedule, however, already lists some 96 programs. About 15,000 high school students are contacted in this way, as the smaller and neighboring high schools often participate in a College Day and Night center. These are scheduled by the Missouri High School-College Relations Committee. The high schools invite the colleges they wish to participate in their program. Without a single exception, the University of Missouri has been invited to participate in all College Day and Night Programs in 1961-62.

As part of the program, Freeland distributes literature on the University and also gives out addressed postage-paid postcards for requesting additional information.

Although the University has no faculty Speakers Bureau, as such, Freeland's office does try to satisfy requests received from P.T.A.s and other groups plan-



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ning panels and programs on selecting and entering the University.

Further contact is maintained with the high schools through literature sent to the guidance departments. Counselors are kept abreast of changes in admission policy, the University calendar, scholarship, and other pertinent information. Literature is sent to prospective students and their families when they request it.

Besides this contact with schools at their local level, contact is also made when the students visit the M. U. campus—for a variety of reasons. An estimated 15 to 20 thousand high school students visited the University last year to participate in competitive athletic events, University Day, music, speech or drama festivals, Band Day, 4-H Club weeks and other interscholastic events. Here, they get the opportunity to perform in competition or be evaluated in accordance with nationally recognized standards of achievement, as well as to become acquainted with the University.

University Day, in October, a non-competitive event, gives them further contact with the University. During University Day the students get a chance to see, through conducted tours, the many facilities, the administrative and academic operations and the various social and cultural aspects of college life at the University. They also get a chance to see displays and demonstrations and to hear about courses and work performance in the different divisions and departments on the University campus. They get another chance to obtain information about admission and enrollment procedure as well as information on college and university costs and sources of financial aid. Last year, some 3,200 high school juniors and seniors took advantage of University Day to learn more about their State University.

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Aids

The University of Missouri provides an opportunity for a fine college education within the financial reach of the average family. Fees paid by its students are among the lowest of any of the major universities. However, rising living costs have increased the cost of obtaining an education, and the conservative student finds that it costs about \$1,150 a year to attend the University at Columbia. A majority of the students are sharing with their parents the responsibility of financing their education and a few work their way through college entirely by their own efforts.

The average student can work up to 15 hours per

week and still accomplish good academic work. If more outside work is necessary, the student is advised to lighten his academic load so that his scholastic record will not suffer. The diligent freshman can expect to earn about \$35 to \$45 per month, and the upper-classman a little more than this.

The University provides many jobs for students and assists them in finding employment in town. This is done through the Office of Aids and Awards, of which Allan W. Purdy is director. About 2,200 students are working in various campus jobs. (There are about 400-500 jobs for students in downtown Columbia.) Students who do not need financial assistance are advised to devote their time to their studies and leave the jobs open for others who need them. Women students do stenographic and clerical work, library work, serve in cafeterias, and numerous other jobs. Men work in research laboratories, on the farms, in cafeterias, and assist with general maintenance of the University plant. They also work for numerous business firms downtown.

Some students need to borrow during the first or second year but more frequently students need a loan in the third and fourth years. Loan funds are available at the University for students who need to borrow a normal amount. (At this time, \$1,500,000 is out on loan, and available funds are light. Although there is no deadline, applications for loans for next September should be made by June.) Small emergency loans for short periods may be had with no security being required. Larger loans for longer periods require the co-signature of the parents, guardian or other responsible adult. Most of these funds are loaned at 4% simple interest, but some are available at 2% interest. Loans are also available at the University under Title II of the National Defense Education Act of 1958.

A number of scholarships are available to high school graduates and to college students who do especially good academic work, and who are in need of financial assistance. The Board of Curators has established approximately 500 freshman scholarships and awards, 100 sophomore scholarships, and 32 scholarships for graduates of accredited junior colleges in Missouri. In addition many other scholarships and awards have been donated by business firms, public organizations, clubs, friends and alumni to assist worthy students. Most of these scholarships carry a stipend equivalent to the Incidental Fee for the period designated in the award.

The University of Missouri Alumni Association in the past year has contributed \$4,000 to be used for student loan purposes; the money, deposited with the United States Student Aid Fund, increases in value to guarantee a total of \$50,000 for use by University students as they apply to local banks for educational loans. The alumni, through the University's Achievement Giving program, also maintain 40 scholarships at an annual cost of \$6,000. Inquiries about part-time employment, student loans and scholarships should be addressed to the Office of Aids and Awards, 123 Jesse Hall, Columbia, Mo.

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In addition, the Future Farmers of America Convention drew 1,700 boys to the University, the Future Homemakers of America annual convention drew 1,900 girls to Columbia, and 3,600 students participated in High School Band Day. Other events drew similar numbers to the campus in Columbia.

Another service offered to parents and prospective students is a conducted tour around the campus via bus, to acquaint them with University facilities. This Service Tour can be arranged in advance by calling or writing Mr. Freeland's office, Room 228, Jesse Hall, Columbia, Mo.

The second, and equally important, phase of the School Relations Office's functions concerns evaluating the adjustment of the freshmen on the University campus and an appraisal of the University's and high schools' guidance programs in helping the students make the transition from high school to University life. In April, some 20 principals, assistant principals, and directors of guidance, attended the fourteenth annual Freshman-Principal Conference at the University. The theme for the conference was "How Can The University Better Serve Missouri High School Graduates?" To answer this, the consultants in attendance spent two-and-a-half days on campus attending sessions, touring the campus, inspecting Univer-

sity facilities and interviewing freshmen who had graduated from their respective high schools.

Freeland's office sponsors this Conference and makes every effort, well in advance, to supply information and data to those attending. Names, addresses and photostats of records and study programs of students from the conference members' home high schools were even provided so they could compare the students' high school work with their college work. The names and campus addresses were provided so that personal contact could be made with the former students. The 20 conference members interviewed a total of 227 of their former students and ten conference members attended 17 classes in which their former students were enrolled.

Following the conference, Freeland polled the group and compiled the answers to questions on the conference itself, campus living, accommodations, conference sessions on academic advisement, the testing and counseling services at the University, campus tours, meals and the Student Health Service. He also asked for general conclusions from the group. This information will be used to plot future School Relations Office activities as well as to inform various University departments and services as to their effectiveness.

At the local level and on the campus, there is a strong liaison between the high school and the University—a liaison designed continually to improve high school-college relationships, to help the students make the adjustment from high school to the University, and to help the University continually improve its services to the people of Missouri.

C. of C. elects Byron Spencer

Byron Spencer, A.B. '15, a Kansas City lawyer for more than forty years and one of the leaders in the long campaign to bring major league baseball to the city, was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce in October. Mr. Spencer, a senior partner of the firm of Spencer, Fane, Britt and Browne, located in the Power and Light Building, served a term on the city council from 1930-34 and has been active in politics and civic affairs for many years. Commenting on his selection, Mr. Spencer said the job offers a challenge and a chance to push Kansas City ahead on the road to progress. An editorial in the Kansas City Times stated: "Under its new president, Byron Spencer, the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce is looking forward to a year of concentration on primary objectives. He thoroughly understands the Chamber operation and is credited with the ability to separate important issues from trivia. His special interests have been government, streets and highways, and keeping major league baseball in Kansas City." A native of St. Joseph, Mo., where his father practiced law for many years, Mr. Spencer received his law degree from Columbia University. While at M. U., he was chosen for Mystical Seven. He practiced law with his father until the latter's death in 1920 when he joined a Kansas City law firm. When that partner-

ship dissolved in 1938, Mr. Spencer formed a firm which, after a 1952 merger with another law partnership, became the present firm—one of the largest in Kansas City. He is counsel and a director of the Nichols Wire and Aluminum Company, Davenport, Ia.; general counsel and a director of Mid-Continent Casualty Company, Tulsa; and a director of the Kansas City Power and Light Company. He has two sons, Byron Jr., B.S. in Business Administration '51, of St. Louis, Mo., and Richard H., LL.B. '52, of Kansas City.

Large gathering of engineers

The best attendance at any affair held at the St. Louis Engineers' Club this year—350 persons present—was recorded on November 1 when M. U. alumni from the College of Engineering held a Ladies Night program. Principal speaker was University President Elmer Ellis, who discussed "Changes Around the Columns." Also on hand to greet the alumni were Engineering Dean Joe Hogan and Dean Emeritus Huber O. Croft. The new University movie was shown. The Engineers Club was host to the Missouri alumni at their attractive facilities located at 4359 Lindell Blvd. Among the guests were parents of present students.