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Editorial

WHEN, close upon the heels of one another, two well known critics of the administration came to the University for speaking engagements, not a few voices of apprehension were raised. The fact might be interpreted as a leaning on the part of the University towards the opposition, it was feared, and in a paternalistic government such as ours, where virtually all bounty emanates from, or is enjoyed with the sanction of, the powers-that-be, identification with the opposition can be dangerous.

The fears and apprehensions that we note above lead to several interesting observations, but we here intend to touch only upon that which, to our mind, appears most noteworthy: and it is that many people seem to have lost sight of the fact that a true university is a free market of ideas, and as such, must allow the free discussion of political issues.

Discussion is essential to the making of a sound decision. The pros and the cons must be known before a wise judgment can be arrived at. This is especially true to things involving the national destiny, which must be handled with extreme caution.

Yet, if the largest influential concentration of intelligent

and, it is still hoped, principled, men and women — the universities — shirk their complex duty of discussion and judgment and militant action, the determination of the national destiny is left, to a large extent, to the bakya crowds who fall easy preys to demagogues and cheats, who

**The University As A
Free Market Of Political Ideas**

vote for Congressman So-and-So, because he seems to be very likeable — always generous with his smiles and money— without regard to the fact that Congressman So-and-So attends sessions only once in a blue moon and has inexplicably amassed great fortunes during his tenure.

It is criminal to entrust so delicate and dear a thing as the national destiny — the future of our children and of our children's children to irresponsible hands. Yet this is what is happening every time university men and women default in their sacred trust.

It is high time that we realized and do something about this.

—M. S. G.

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