



THE FRANCISCAN 1964

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ST. FRANCIS COLLEGE

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WHETHER man walks on four legs in the morning, two in the brightness of midday, or three in the evening, he walks with other men. Whether hoping and striving under the humidity of a tropic Africa, or among snow covered mountains of the Andes, his hopes and his striving is with other men. He lives in inextricable communion with others. And his happiness, his meaning, is deeply involved with his understanding the nature of that communion and its relation to his particular place in the experience of the Universe.

Long recognized has been the linkage of understanding and education. Plato, Rousseau, Dewey, and countless dimmer lights along the road of thought have defined, redefined, and predicted the development of that relation. In the glow of all their thoughts has grown the idea of a university as an academy for the training of useful citizens, a bank for the storage of accumulated information, and an exchange for knowledge, experience, and insight. And in this process of creating, accumulating and exchanging, the university has become a microcosm of society. Man within this academic community has special rights, special duties, special problems. The right synthesis of these creates a milieu characterized by harmony.

This is our theme then: that St. Francis College is inheritor of the idea of a university. That in its parts it is mimetic of the structures and functions and institutions of the larger concepts of society. And that our communion with them, and our understanding of them, eventuates in a harmonious society.

In our particular case this harmony is colored by a spirit that goes by the name of Franciscanism, but in any case such an educational experience is, in the best sense, a preparation for life.