By JUDI TRAVIS

Professor George Williams during the Foundation Lecture entitled "Some of My Best Friends Are Students," gave many perceptive and enlightening observations on college students as he has known them since his university days in the Twenties until the present. By understanding the interests and eccentricities of college students of the last three decades, said Williams, we can gain insight into this generation.

Roaring Twenties

The young man who went to school during the "Roaring Twenties" found himself living in a fascinating United States of America. It was a period of breaking away from British culture, and the fermentation period of some of our "Greats"—Hemingway, Faulkner, Eliot, Pound. Cultural awareness and gaiety characterized this decade.

Two Student Groups

Two distinct groups of students, mutually antagonistic, were to be found. First there were those of the "Old School," instilled in the puritanical tradition and very orthodox in their views, especially those concerning morality and religion. Their antagonists were the "Young Rebels," who struck out against everything the older generation held sacred. Their credo was liquor and sex for fun's sake. Williams maintains that we are more intense in our attitudes toward the vices, thus removing all enjoyment from them.

Politics in Thirties

When the Depression of the Thirties hit, a distinct change swept across the campuses. Instead of art, politics held the student interest. Students were a more sober-minded group. If you sat in on a bull session, the topics discussed were likely to be the improvement of social conditions, religion, and a general questioning of values.

The Forties were the war years, and no one thought about much else. When the war was over, the young men who came back to school under the GI Bill were mature, alert ideal students. Mr. Williams looked a bit wistful at this point.

1950's Different

We of the 1950's, enjoying post-war prosperity, are different from any other group. First, and perhaps worst of all, is the fact that the majority of us conform. There are no distinct divisions as in the 20's. Everyone is pretty much like everyone else.

Second, we are more immor'al, meaning there is a lack of personal honor. Lying isn't frowned upon too much, and irresponsibility is something to joke about.

We don't even drink merely for fun anymore.

Less Hypocrisy

The picture isn't all dark. There is less hypocrisy now than formerly. We tend to be tolerant of the weaknesses of others. This point Williams interjected a very pertinent remark about Rice Girls. They tend to be aloof, intelligent and less fortunate sisters, he said, when in reality the Holler is more than this, only snobbish.

Student Today

Student Today Campus

The student today is cynical about social ideals and reforms. Church is indeed the old center of interest, but this was particularly good.

There is also a proclamation toward the older generation which is customary and good; if this didn't exist there would never be any progress. Because of the threat of Communism and nuclear war, we are insincere and afraid.

Religious Interest

Interest in religion, especially as an escape hatch, has revived, but interest in improving the situation (i.e. politics) is almost nil. Paradoxically, as immorality in

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creases, so does religious interest.

**Treadmill To Oblivion**

We are afraid, yet apathetic. Perhaps these were the most pertinent comments made by Williams concerning today’s student. Williams predicted that apathy, complasence, and conformity will put us on a treadmill to oblivion.

Discussion after the talk was provocative. Among the topics tossed around were Lamar Girls, the Beat Generation, the future of the U.S. education, and politics.

After the lengthy applause given him, Mr. Williams remarked that there was much truth in the title of his lecture, “Some of My Best Friends Are Students.”