The New Student in Germany.

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A small university-town in the south of Germany. Narrow, crooked streets between old gabled houses up and down hill. It is lunch-time. The students come pouring out of the old university building beside the towering Gothic church. They hasten to the centre of the town. It is nearly impossible to keep individuals in sight as they pass by. You will, however, easily perceive that they differ greatly in aspect, bearing and clothing from one another. Beside brawny, muscular figures who have certainly gone through hard times in the trenches, young, childlike faces over bodies grown too fast. Beside well-dressed youngsters with coloured caps others again, more advanced in years, in worn-out clothes which show that they have served their time as soldier's garments. It is summer, therefore they need no top coat. If it were winter, you would discover, to your surprise, that very many of them do not possess either coat or hat. All of them are lean figures. The swelled-up bear-student of old has vanished. Many of them look healthy, it is true. But others, and they are the majority, look pale and ill, and merry laughter is unknown to them.

Where are they hurrying to now? If you will follow them you will come to the students' home, in front of which long rows of students are standing, for they wish to share in the midday meal, and can only be admitted on giving of their cards. As soon as they have finished a hasty lunch, they will rise at once in order to make place for another student. A cheerful company that must be!

In the evenings to be sure you may still hear the old students' songs resound, and when a group of students come singing down the streets at night, you might believe that all is yet as of old. But that would be a delusion. An insignificant number of students only can nowadays indulge in the old romantic traditions, and even the academic student corporations which take great pains to keep up the old splendour suffer