

# Just Think What Brainpower Can Do

**A** BIT of encouraging news is that competition is increasing among colleges and universities to recruit students with exceptional brainpower.

These institutions always have sought smart people, but prominence given to recruitment of brawn for athletic enterprises has given the impression that only those with muscles could become heroes and command high pay.

Graduates with high mental acuity might not receive as much pay at first as a speedy athlete, but they may get it longer and get more.

Experts have said people seldom develop and use fully the potentials of either mentality or muscles. A serious student may have read a library full of books and be capable of solving complex problems without being able to perform simple home maintenance chores.

An athlete may be able to lift bar bells twice his weight above his head and be unable to hold down a job loading trucks.

Just as colleges and universities

are looking for outstanding students to enroll as freshmen, businesses are combing the senior classes to find star performers for their production teams.

If as much attention and publicity were given to rewards and opportunities offered for brainpower as for brawn, there might be more motivation for students to develop their latent talents.

While we fail to utilize fully the mental capacities that we as a society possess, we know there is much more to be discovered.

Extrasensory perception (ESP), clairvoyance, precognition and telepathy are psychic phenomena known to exist, but they remain a mystery. Last year a psychic in Ohio foretold an airline disaster that killed 274 people and recently an Oklahoma woman predicted the eruption of Mount St. Helens volcano in Washington state.

These people can't explain how they do it, but there is reason to suspect that the human brain could become as effective as a computer for

filing, correlating and retrieving information.

It requires little effort to fill our minds with useless data, which may be converted into meaningless conversation. Instead of thinking, we may devote our time to repeating scores from the sports page or lines from our favorite TV shows.

Non-thinkers may contribute to production by their work, but their jobs usually are the result of someone's thinking.

A psychology professor at Colorado College recently described the human brain: "It has several billion circuits. It can operate four hours on the energy from a single peanut. It is completely mobile. It occupies less than a cubic foot of space. And it's produced by unskilled labor."

A lot of people who are proud they are not too lazy to work may be too lazy to think. That could be a major cause of our nation's difficulties. If Americans would start thinking more, perhaps they would put an end to waste and excessive bureaucracy in Washington, D.C.