

STATE COLLEGIAN

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THURSDAY, MAR. 4, 1909

EDITORIAL.

The Press Club has been permanently organized and will begin work at once. The field of usefulness for such an organization is very great. Its object is to send news concerning the college to papers throughout the state, and in that way make the college better known and at the same time make sure that news which is published is authentic. How much this latter point needs to be emphasized is easily recognized when one reads such paragraphs as the following in the country papers of the state:

"Last Thursday a number of students were injured and a serious accident narrowly averted in a class fight at State College between the freshmen and the sophomores. The freshmen had a special train to take

them to their annual banquet at Williamsport. There was a free fight in the attempt of the upper classmen to prevent the freshmen from getting away. Freshmen were tied to trees, locked in barns and freight cars and dragged by their heels across lots. The sophomores carried the fight into the coaches and kicked out car windows and smashed car seats. They put soap into the tank of the locomotive tender, which would have caused the boiler to "foam" and possibly caused an explosion if it had not been discovered. About half the freshmen class got away and held their banquet. The remainder stayed at home in a damaged condition under lock and key."

We can laugh at things like this, but when we think that they are very likely to keep prospective students from coming to State they become more serious. If the Press Club can overcome this evil of exaggerating, which seems to be very common among newspapers when they get hold of college news, it will have served a good purpose.

The Proposed School Code for Pennsylvania.

The General Assembly of Pennsylvania in the session of 1907 provided for the appointment of a Commission to codify and revise the laws relating to the public school system of the state. The report of this Commission was presented to the House of Representatives at the opening of the present session by the Hon. Harry S. Lydick of Allegheny County. It defines the common schools and the normal schools and establishes two colleges of education, the one to be a part of the University of Pennsylvania and the other a part of the University of Pittsburgh. Question has been raised and criticism heard because the proposed

code omits mention of The Pennsylvania State College, an institution formed by compact between the Federal and State government more than forty years ago and recognized as part of the public school system of the state by official appointment, by frequent legislation, and by increasing appropriations. The failure to include The Pennsylvania State College in the proposed school code was not due either to intention or neglect on the part of the Commission, but to the death of President Atherton and the interregnum which followed.

In order to fill the omission and to complete the Code, a proposition has been made to insert an additional article which defines the college as the state college of Pennsylvania and part of the public school system, and entitled to exercise all rights, duties, and privileges as such. The article does not change the existing organization of the college, but provides a summer session for instructing teachers of common schools in Agriculture, Manual Training, and kindred subjects.

It is hoped to have this definition of the college incorporated in the School Code before it passes either branch of the Legislature. The proposition is now in the hands of the Commission for endorsement before being presented to the House of Representatives.

The Pharsonians.

The trials for end men in the Pharsonians were held last week with the result that four new men were chosen—Nicholson, McCoy, Waha, and Carson '11 as substitute. The specialties committee is on the alert for any good stunts which can be used on a trip, while in the circle a desirable place as interlocutor is open for the right man. Anyone wishing to try for this latter place should hand his name to either Armstrong, Waha, or Hoffman.