

Penn State Collegian

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To the man first entering Penn State Government one of the hard things to understand is the Government of the student body. In at least the majority of preparatory schools, all might, power and majesty have been vested in the faculty, and any infractions of the laws of the place are referred for judgment either to that body directly or to the Dean of the institution.

Here however, the newcomer finds an entirely different state of affairs. While the student body is not wholly free from faculty jurisdiction, it is so to a great extent in most matters aside from scholastic standing. All our athletic principles such as the One Year Rule, have been adopted by direct student vote; and all such general principles as the One Year Rule must likewise be accepted or rejected according to the sentiment of the entire student body. Even the customs which a freshmen finds somewhat inconvenient and annoying, but which in the subsequent three years of his career he will discover serve a very good and worthy purpose, are not "happy thoughts" or vagaries, but have been duly deliberated and passed upon by those who have gone before.

The machinery of government is rather simple and easily understood. The Student Council, made up of the presidents of the classes and a quota of representatives from each class, is at once the legislative and administrative body. Its function is to consider recommendations and suggestions and to give them some definite form that they may be voted upon readily in a general meeting. Any problems in the way of government are referred to this body, and it suggests such new rules or such alterations to old ones as will, in its opinion, best remedy the existing difficulties. Also it has certain executive functions, and has the power of judgment in some cases of the breaking of college rules and regulations.

Closely allied with this Council is another body, the Student Board, a much smaller organization whose duty is to prevent, as much as possible, any friction between the faculty and the student body. Since it is a small body it is not infrequently also given the task of threshing out detailed and complicated propositions and reducing them to some specific form so that the larger Student Council may act upon them readily and without undue loss of time.

It is to be remembered that neither of these bodies can establish a rule of itself. The final Yes or No is with the general body of students, and every measure must be favorably voted upon before it can go into effect. This voting is done at Mass Meetings, either those which occupy the Wednesday morning chapel period weekly, or special meetings called by the president of the Athletic Association.

A fair example of the whole mechanism in working is to be found in the Honor System question which arose during the last term. The advisability of having an Honor System here was first taken up probably by a few men here and there, and soon received the attention of Student Council. That body turned the matter over to the Student Board, recommending that a definite system be worked out. Acting on this suggestion, the Board by the comparison of existing and successful systems, and by the insertion of such details as it thought wise, to meet conditions here, devised an Honor System. This was approved by the Council, brought up before the students at a special mass meeting, and was defeated by a small majority.

It might likewise be interesting for the newcomers to note that our Athletic Association is controlled entirely by the students and alumni. We are to be given credit for whatever progress has been made in the way of making our athletics perfectly fair and honorable; and we are equally responsible for any backwardness or slowness that may be shown in keeping abreast of the times.

From all this the importance of that regulation in the freshman's Commandments regarding his regular attendance at all class and mass meetings is evident. To be successful and efficient, this student government must be participated in by all concerned, and it is just for the purpose of giving an opportunity to take part that mass meetings are held. We believe that our government is good and efficient, and we trust that the incoming class will get into the spirit of the thing and do all in its power to maintain that worth and efficiency.

With the advent of another opportunity college year it is our desire to call to the attention of the members of the incoming class those things which will aid in their individual development and promote their advancement to positions of responsibility in the student life at Penn State.

Football, baseball, basketball, track, soccer, wrestling and lacrosse all tend to develop the physical powers of the man and success in any of these branches of sport will be the stepping stone to positions of responsibility. Success, however, does not always come with the first few weeks of trying and many good men have let their opportunity slip by because they lacked the stick-to-it-tiveness which usually stamps the successful athlete. Again the athletic ability of

many men is not sufficiently developed to warrant their admission at first to varsity athletics. To such men the various class teams offer a splendid opportunity whereby they may get the necessary polish for entrance to varsity circles.

While athletics play an important part in college activity at Penn State the literary side is equally important. Debating, the various student publications, the musical clubs, the military organization, the many literary societies offer splendid training to those who enter into them.

All branches of college activity at Penn State present the same opportunities to every man who enters. Prejudice plays no part in the chance which a man has in any department of athletic or literary activity. All start on the same plane; merit alone brings a man to the fore. Penn State is not only fair in her relations with the men of other institutions, but is equally so to those who claim her as their Alma Mater.

Don't be afraid to go out and try. If you feel that you have any ability in any branch of college work whatever, get in touch with those in charge; every man will be given a fair chance in anything he may undertake. To sum up in a few words, do something. No matter how little it may be it will advance both yourself and your college, whose welfare it is your duty to promote as a student of Penn State.

Continued from page 1

will be three stories high, having a ground, first and second floor. The ground floor will contain a blow pipe room, a store room for geological supplies and a number of small rooms. The first floor will be taken up with offices in the front and class rooms in the rear. The entire second floor will be used as a museum. This building will be built of brown stone as the base, and trimmed with dark brick. The heating pipes for the building will be installed under ground, thus affording additional space in the building itself.

Stock Pavilion

The stock pavilion which is almost completed is built of brick. It contains on the first floor rooms for slaughtering purposes, for refrigeration, etc. Above these are rooms arranged for class work.

In the plans for these buildings, provisions are made for additions to be added in the future as the increasing student body demands. All are being constructed of the very best material and the workmanship is of highest grade.

Penn State Grads Receive Degrees
 James Sturgis Pray, head of the School of Landscape Architecture of Harvard University, writes as follows concerning two Penn State graduates who have taken higher degrees with him: "You will I am sure, be interested to know that two graduates from Penn State, Mr. R. H. Wilcox and Mr. Karl B. Lohmann, have received our degree this year, and have done excellent work with us. We have particularly high hopes of their professional futures. I am sure they are bound to credit Penn State and Harvard."

Freshmen Notice

The Collegian in the near future will make a call for freshmen candidates for the paper. It is extremely important that all men wishing to try out for the staff respond to the first call.

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