

Penn State Collegian

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The call of the President of our country to all Christians to unite in prayer to God for peace in Europe met with general response among all followers of the Prince of Peace. This call will not have completely served its mission, however, unless it shall have impressed upon all thoughtful people the importance of prayer in general and the necessity of continued intercession to Him who rules the counsels of nations that peace may come.

Prayer is an instinct. Wherever men have believed in a Higher Power—and such belief has always been universal—they have not waited for an argument to prove the possibility of entering into converse with such a Being, but have taken for granted and acted upon the privilege of so doing. An ancient historian has said that you could travel the world over and find cities without wells, without letters, without kings, without wealth, without schools, without theaters, but a city without a temple or where people did not pray you would never see.

Prayer for the Christian is a most rational exercise. It is for the religious life what original research is for science, by it we come into direct contact with reality. Prayer for the Christian is never an effort to bend the will of God. It is never an effort to persuade God to do something He would rather not do. It is rather an expression of the belief that all humanity is one family and that that family has reached its highest ethical development when the members of the family become unselfishly interested in one another.

"It is not strange therefore that sometimes the Father for the sake of securing the highest ethical development should wait before doing a good thing for some of his children in one country until some of their brothers in another country should have time to see what brotherhood means.

A call to prayer to American students has come from the Council of North America Student Movements. While thankful to God that our own country is spared the horrors of war we should be reminded of the hardship and privation that the students of Europe are suffering. John R. Mott, the great student leader, has sailed recently on a mission of mercy to the students marooned in the countries of Europe. In a foreword to the call of prayer to

American students, he says: "The living God is the source of triumphant spiritual love and energy. History and experience show that He manifests Himself with loving power in answer to the prayers of His children, who call upon Him with pure hearts and in a spirit of faith and true humility.

The situation occasioned by the Great War presents the largest and most insistent call to intercession which has ever come to the students of America. The highest office of friendship is to help our friends in the deepest things of life, and the deepest things of life are those which have to do with preserving a right relation between man and God and between man and man. Among the different ways that American students can help their fellow students in lands now at war, there is none which will compare in vital importance with that of wielding the force of prayer."

"For what are men better than sheep or goats That nourish a blind life within the brain, If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer Both for themselves and those who call them friend? For so the whole round world is every way Bound by gold chains about the feet of God."

Any freshman "Regulating who wants to Freshmen" know what is expected of him has only to read his "Freshman Bible" to find out. The rules are old; they have never been too carefully observed.

The Hazing Tribunal is going to do something more than beg and preach. It is going to carry out the regulations. One way for the 1918 men to make a good start is to live up to the things required of them before they are brought face to face with the alternative.

But that side is largely negative. The more pleasing phase of the matter is this: do something positive. The idea of the college is not merely to make the Freshman wear a green cap and be deferential to his elders. What State wants is that he shall be loyal to her, that he shall work for her welfare; that he shall go out into the world a few years from now a better man, because of what his college has done for him.

The 1918 student is here not to be repressed, but to be developed. When the Student Council laid down certain rules years ago, it was not because of an arbitrary desire to curtail the pleasures of the first year man, and when the upperclassmen advise the newcomer, they do so from a sincere wish to make his collegiate life more valuable.

If there is anything in Music which the spirit at State is wanting, it is in the matter of music. For some season or other this branch of our college activity has been neglected; and when a comparison is made with other schools, we cannot help feeling a little shame at having neglected so important a feature. In the "Songs of Penn State", recently compiled by T. N. Robbins, the quote of our songs is small enough,

and yet quite a few of these are wholly unfamiliar to most of us. Why? Probably because we never got together on them; undoubtedly because we as a student body do not take enough interest in the matter to help the cause along when some one does bring us face to face with it.

There is nothing distasteful about getting together and singing. In fact those of us, who were here before the practice of campus singing died an untimely death, will agree that there are few memory pictures more pleasant than those of a group of men sitting on the Auditorium steps at twilight and singing the good old songs that everybody knows. Song, real song, comes from the heart, and there is no better way of developing spirit, of making men bigger, broader, truer, than to get them singing.

If we get singers, songs will come as a matter of course. We have quite a number of songs that will bear practice, and others that could be served up as brand new as far as most of us are concerned. In addition to these there is a large class of general college songs which are bright and melodious and which we should all know.

The things we lack is the most essential detail,—spirit. We must wake up to our possibilities and learn to sing, and to make singing a success, every man must chip in and help. Let us start something, fellows, for we want music!

Thirty-five promotions were made in the faculty of the Pennsylvania State College, at the meeting of the Board of Trustees held June 8, 1914. Eleven of these were in the Department of Agriculture: A. W. Colwell was raised from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor in landscape Gardening, and E. S. Worthen received a similar promotion in agronomy. In the Engineering department G. F. Eckhard, C. E. Govier, and J. W. Hale became Associate Professors; Chester Allen and R. A. Caughey were made Assistant Professors, and five assistants this year became instructors. Four promotions were made in the mining department, C. E. McQuigg becoming an Associate Professor of Metallurgy. In chemistry the most notable change was that of J. B. Churchill from Assistant Professor to Professor of Industrial Chemistry. There were two promotions each in the Department of English and Mathematics, and one in physics and botany. L. M. Burrage was made Assistant Professor of French.

Forum is held once a week at the Cottage. "Penn State Ideals" was the subject of an address given by Dean Holmes at the second meeting, Tuesday, September 29. At the first meeting of the year Miss Lovejoy gave a talk on the European war situation.

We have a real live nurse at the Cottage. Miss Ella V. Foresman, of the Presbyterian hospital, Pittsburgh, has been appointed teacher of home nursing and nurse for the girls. What fun it will be to become ill now. No more worries about trays.

Telling why they were glad to get back to school, several girls, representing each class made the first Y. W. C. A. meeting both interesting and instructive. The program of the meeting Sunday, September 27, was given to discussions of the different phases of the Y. W. C. A. Each senior then told why, if she were a freshman again, she would join the Y. W. C. A.

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