

Penn State Collegian

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To bring up the Classmeetings matter of attendance at classmeetings again seems foolish and lacking in originality. Yet conditions are such that it is imperative that this question be once more gone over and called to the attention of the general student body. When only 135 at the most out of a total roll of between 400 and 500 think it necessary to attend a meeting of their class to act upon matters of general interest and of importance to the college as a whole as well as to the class itself, there is something wrong somewhere.

It is unnecessary, we hope, to emphasize the importance of the classmeeting. The class is the first unit in student government and upon its welfare and well being, upon the efficiency of its regulation and control, depend the welfare, the well being, and the efficiency of the general government. Consequently, any lack of interest in class affairs is at once a blow to the class and to the college.

A meeting of this sort is at least comparable in importance with the movies, and we sincerely hope that there is no one in school so completely engrossed in the search after knowledge, and the gaining of wisdom, that he can not spend an hour or less every little while in considering things which concern him as a member of his class and of the student body of this institution. When a classmeeting is called, get there. The blessings and benefits to be derived from such an effort are not confined to the freshman year.

Within a few A Literary weeks the question Opportunity for the intercollegiate debates will have been chosen and a call for candidates will have been made. After State's glorious success in that field last year—the record showing a double victory in the league contest—we cannot help but hope for winning teams this year. The addition of a department especially devoted to public speaking, the increased interest due to last years record, the excellent schedule, all combine to give us hope for a banner year in intercollegiate debating.

To the new men the urgent call is made that they may seize the opportunity this year to ally themselves with literary interests. There are no activities in college that return so great a margin of

profit in the business school of life than literary efforts. Debating not only develops a man in public speaking but it is a vital factor in the development of personality, without which we cannot hope for other than a mediocre position in life. The debater has learned that success is only met with after determined effort and again he has unconsciously learned a lesson that will be invaluable to him in later life.

From the standpoint of character development, then, debating makes its strongest plea to the new man. No freshman need feel that he has not a chance to make the team for there has scarcely been a year since debating has been known at Penn State that one or more freshman have not numbered among the speakers. The experience gained in just trying for the team is valuable and will aid him in later efforts. There is no reason why 1918 cannot send half its class into the debating trials and make a determined bid for representation on the team.

The challenge is sent to every man in college to put oratorical abilities to a test in the trials. If you feel that nature did not intend you for a Demosthenes then make up your mind to boost, not knock, and that in every possible way you will help to bring Penn State's literary reputation up to where it belongs. Everybody can help—just boost—and then watch the teams of orators that are turned out.

From Across the Way.

About 13,000 documents are received yearly by the Penn State library, including publications by the United States government and state of Pennsylvania on economics and education and some that are not state publications. No direct record is kept.

United States documents are sold by the document office at Washington where a monthly catalogue of prices is also published. Lists of government prices of publications on education, or any special subject, are issued from time to time. Free publications are sent out by different departments as long as their editions last. Publications must then be purchased from the document office.

Provision for 900 depository libraries is maintained by the United States government. Depository libraries are chosen by the representatives of their districts. Free copies of all publications are sent to these libraries by the superintendent of documents.

The Dummy

A new dummy has been installed on New Beaver Field at considerable expense. Already the value of this investment has been proven. The coaches and managers find, however, that numerous men have been swinging on the dummy and already have damaged it to some considerable extent, and they request that in the future this apparatus be untampered with.

The Civic Club

The civic club held its regularly appointed meeting in the Engineering Building last Thursday evening. Professor Zook gave an extremely interesting talk on the causes of the present war. At the next meeting Fridette and Skillman will discuss current events, and Dr. Ashworth of the history department will speak.

Company M Feed

There is a marked tendency in the army at the present time to get together. Company M helped the good work along by having a feed and a general good time at the new stock judging pavilion last Wednesday evening. In spite of the fact that it was out of drill hours, the most of the company was there and in uniform, too. The head of our war department spoke on the work of the regiment this year and particularly commended company M for the interest it was taking and the improvement it had shown. He also explained the prize sabre to be presented on Pennsylvania Day to the captain of the company which shows the most marked improvement from now until that time. Sergeant Allen talked of the "Esprit de Corps", and other speeches were made by the colonel of the regiment, the major and the captain. Refreshments consisting of cider, pretzels and smokes were distributed, and during the festivities Gillespie and Hall with their music and an awkward squad with its manouvers furnished amusement for the crowd.

Company K, as announced in last week's Collegian, planned a similar affair for Saturday, but an untimely storm while adding much variety detracted somewhat from the enjoyment of the evening.

College Buys Live Stock

To convince the farmers of Pennsylvania that it pays to buy live stock for fattening purposes, the State College has just bought two car loads of cattle, aggregating sixty head, and a car load of horses. These animals will be fattened on a ration adapted to Pennsylvania conditions, and will be sold after the experiment has been conducted for five months. At that time, about April 1, a cattle feeders' convention will be held at State College. The cattle were purchased in West Virginia, and the horses at Chicago. The feeding experiment will be conducted to determine feeds for fattening purposes.

1916 Classmeeting

The juniors met in the Bull Pen last Friday evening. President Yerger urged the men to get all the freshmen possible interested in the sports and to see that they at least tried out. A plea was also made for the payment of dues. The matter of the class banquet was taken up and it was decided to hold the affair in Pittsburg. The banquet committee was appointed. Martin and Horner were elected basketball and soccer managers, respectively, for the junior teams this year, and Messrs. Fairlamb and Learn were admitted to the class.

Horticultural Housewarming

Since so many of the students were absent when the new Horticulture Building was dedicated, the Crabapple Club has decided to re-dedicate this building for the students. Dean Watts, Professors Kains and Fagan and other members of the faculty will be present. Professor Kains will give a short talk on "The Practical Needs of the Agricultural Student". The speeches will be followed by a cider and pretzel feed. All agricultural students, especially the underclassmen, are urgently requested to attend this housewarming.

Notice to 1917 Men

Three men will be chosen from the sophomore class for the business staff of the Collegian. The positions are determined entirely by competition, and men showing business ability or having previous experience are urged to send their names and addresses to the circulation manager by Friday the 16th.

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