

Penn State Collegian

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STATE COLLEGE, PA., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1916

HINDERING A BROADER EDUCATION

Technical education during recent years has many times been criticised by advocates of the old, so-called, liberal training because they say that it produces men who lack a broad understanding of life and humanity. They say that men pursuing courses in agriculture, engineering and kindred arts are, by necessity, forced to narrow their attention to their own particular specialization, thus failing to attain the broadness of mind and development of personality resulting from the study of literature, languages and so forth.

The claims of these advocates of the older educational ideas may or may not be true; but certain it is that the friendship of literature is a thing that should be cultivated by every man attending college. It is true that an acquaintance with the good things of literature is a source of much pleasure and profit to its possessor after college days are over.

Thus at Penn State, the student body has repeatedly been earnestly urged to show a more active interest in matters of literary importance. The lifelong profits and pleasures of literary appreciation have been described again and again by both members of the faculty and visiting speakers and never has a dissenting voice been raised against their arguments.

We heartily believe that the benefits of the literary society, debating club and literature study should be secured by every student and we commend the men of the faculty for their interest in our literary welfare. But, there are in this college certain peculiar conditions which make active literary efforts almost an impossibility for a large mass of the students. We find when comparing the curriculum and practices of our school of engineering with those of other institutions, that the students here are required to spend a greater number of hours in the classroom than is required in many other technical colleges. Also, the majority of our laboratory courses require elaborately prepared reports. Most of these reports are, by necessity, prepared outside the class-room and they take much of the student's time available for outside literary work. In addition, many of these reports are returned for correction and revision, thus taking more and more of the student's leisure. Besides, we have many lecture courses requiring copious, neatly kept records which must be composed from hurriedly written notes taken during the lectures.

The many reports, note-books and heavy schedules required by this institution are undoubtedly of great value in the preparation for a successful professional career, but certain disadvantages, already pointed out, result from the requirement of too much specialized work from the students. To offset these disadvantages resulting from heavy schedules and outside required work, several technical schools of national reputation have tried to lessen the student's duties so that more leisure could be secured for the pursuit of literary activities. Thus we find that at Rensselaer Polytechnical institute, that all laboratory reports are made at the end of the laboratory period and the student is relieved of the duty of preparing a long, painstaking report. Although the students of Rensselaer are required to work in the class-room and laboratory about eight hours each day they are free almost every evening from the preparation of lessons and long reports of work done in the laboratory. At Lehigh University we find that each Wednesday afternoon is granted as a half holiday and many other means have been adopted to keep down the range of the student's requirements in order that a more active interest may be taken in things outside of the required studies. Throughout the country there has been noticed a marked endeavor to lessen the duties of technical students. Some colleges have even instituted five and six years courses in order that the men may have the opportunity for a more fully rounded education.

We have no formal remedy for the conditions that exist here at present to offer, but we recommend the matter of crowded schedules and tedious elaborate laboratory reports to the serious consideration of the general faculty.

A MOVING-UP DAY

When the old class scraps were abolished by the action of the student body last year it was apparent that substitutes should be adopted which would not involve the objectionable features of the former scraps. After urging the adoption of the tug-of-war as one substitute The Collegian further recommended that one day be set apart during the spring term so that classes could participate in various activities which would be arranged for that day. The event would correspond to the Spring Day or Field Day of several large colleges or it could be a Moving-up Day, as we suggested. A suitable date just prior to the senior examinations could be easily decided upon.

The day would bring all classes together in a huge mass meeting and general gathering. It would give more prominence to the several interclass athletic contests and other spring events, each of which is held at a different time and which usually incite little interest. The day would mark the moving-up of the three lower classes. The Juniors would become Seniors, the Sophomores Juniors and the Freshmen would ascend from their lowly position. If the general principle of such an event is agreed upon, the details can easily be worked out by a committee for the purpose.

As part of the program there could be a varsity baseball game, a class-scrap such as the Tug-of-War, and two or three interclass athletic contests. At a big open-air mass meeting announcement could be made of elections of class officers and honorary society elections, as well as the awarding of varsity insignia. The freshman stunt could also be announced and other events of interest could also be arranged for this occasion.

There are many reasons why such a day should be made a part of the regular college year and because of these and the generally favorable comment on the proposal last year we would urge that the Student Council take the matter under consideration. Because of the usual long time necessary for the adoption of new legislation and new customs, we suggest that action be taken as soon as possible.

SINGING THE ALMA MATER

In view of the fact that it seems that attention should be called to the singing of the Alma Mater at the close of football games. Instead of being sung by a united student body as an expression of loyalty to the college and to the team, the Alma Mater of late has been rendered amid a general scramble toward exits from the bleachers and grandstand, with the result that it has become a sort of unwelcome finale to an afternoon's entertainment. That such a condition should exist is without doubt most unfortunate. The custom of singing the Alma Mater at the close of each game has long been handed down as one of the finest representations of the real Penn State spirit. Year after year, in victory and defeat, the custom has been observed with a dignity that places it among the best of the traditions associated with the college.

It is therefore in an appeal to student sentiment, and not in the carping spirit of criticism, that mention is made of the decline which now marks one of our time-honored customs. The issue itself is clear, and upon each one of us individually must rest the responsibility of deciding whether or not the renditions of the Alma Mater shall be in keeping with the true Penn State, her traditions, and her ideals.

Last year, at no little expense, the college provided a number of adequate bulletin boards about the campus for the benefit of the student body. They were placed with the hope of doing away with the unsightly side-walk, step and even building defacing that has been going on for years by those who feel inclined to take an easy course in displaying their various announcements. With these adequate provisions for such purposes, it is shameful, the manner in which the campus walks have been chalked up with unimportant notices. The columns of The Collegian are always open to the student body for such announcements, and we see plenty of vacant space on the various bulletin boards.

CAPT. CHAFFIN RISES IN RANK

Former "Hep" Promoted—Major O. W. Bell Assumes Charge—New War Department Bulletin Arrives

Word has come to the Adjutants office, from Captain C. W. Bell, stating that he has been appointed Regimental Adjutant of a new infantry regiment which is just being mustered into the service. The appointment confers considerable honor upon the former "Hep" ton, among army men, the first officer who occupies a position of the nature is considered to be in the history and traditions of the regiment. In his letter, Captain Chaffin seemed very proud of his promotion and felt that all state men who know him would be interested in learning about his advancement.

Since his arrival and feels that everything will work out satisfactorily. Major Bell was last stationed at Landing Texas where he was Captain of the fourteenth United States Cavalry, with headquarters at that point. His promotion to Major has come with others through seniority due to the National Defense Act passed some time ago. Lieutenant Karl Behr, who was also assigned to this post has not arrived as yet.

According to Major Bell, the Cadet drill will continue along the same lines as at present and any change in the future will depend on the new bulletin issued by the War Department, which has not arrived. The officers have not had time as yet to look over this new bulletin carefully but feel that the regulations are likely to become more exact because of the preparedness movement which has swept over the country.

By the bulletin the officers will regulate the cadet drill in accordance with the regulations compiled by the War Department, telling just what movements and maneuvers are expected of students in state institutions.

The problem for the commandant is to arrange his work so that it will fulfill the expectations of the War Department and also those of the school authorities. This necessitates fitting the drill schedule into the school schedule. If there is to be any change in the order of drill it will not be announced until after the close of fall drill at Penn State. Captain Ahrens expects to have the freshmen reporting in uniform by the first of November and sooner if possible. The fitness of this date is open to question because of the confusion and delay arising from it.

Fresh Lake and Salt Water Fish, Shell Oysters Clams and Sea Foods of all kinds received daily

Special Rates to Clubs and Fraternities
Philadelphia Fish & Oyster Market
119 Frazer Street
Both Phones, W. P. ALLEN, Manager.

We are now agents for L. C. Smith & Bros. TYPEWRITERS
Typewriters for sale and for rent
Index boxes 35c—Regular value 59c
Athletic Supplies
Two 7-Passenger Automobiles For Hire
Penn State Book Store
Opposite The Post Office
L. K. Metzger, '15 Prop.

SPANISH CLUB OPENS YEAR WITH GET-TOGETHER MEET

The first meeting of Centro Cervantes, a club organized last year by students interested in Spanish, was held recently in room 226, Main Building. The meeting was largely in the nature of a get-together gathering for the old and new members of the club. Speeches were made by the various faculty members in the Romance Language Department and plans for the activities of the coming year were outlined.

Professor Foster, who made the principal speech of the meeting, explained the aims and purposes of the club for the benefit of the new students. He had special emphasis upon the value which could be gotten from the meetings, provided the individual members were willing to take an active part in the affairs of the organization. Professor Luster urged those who were taking the Spanish course from an educational and literary standpoint, as well as from the standpoint of dollars and cents.

The Spanish play, which the club plans to present before the Christmas vacation, if possible, came in for considerable discussion during the course of the meeting. It was announced that Mr. Beaman, a new member of the faculty, would be able to devote some of his time in training those who desired to take part in the play. Beaman, it is understood, has had quite a little experience in this line of work. In order to become more proficient in the use of the Spanish language the members of the club determined that all future meetings should be conducted entirely in the Spanish tongue.

Just before adjournment the club members elected an advertising manager and an assistant who were assigned the duty of posting notices and notices in conspicuous places about the campus. It was also decided that, in the future, meetings would be held every two weeks on Tuesday evenings. The time set for the meetings was seven o'clock.

FOLK DANCING CLASS RECEIVES GOOD START

The class in Folk Dancing which was organized last week and which meets every Monday evening at 7 o'clock, is enthusiastic over their work. They are taking up the old English and Folk dances and are delighted over the originality and uniqueness displayed in some of them. Mr. Singh and Mr. Lewis, who have charge of the class, desire as many men as possible to enroll immediately, for in a short time the membership of the class will be closed. This training in folk dances will enable a student to accept a position where leading "evening" classes is part of the work required.

Records of the work done will be kept and may be used by the men in the class, at any time for reference. Efforts are being made so that a course in gymnasium leadership may be entered in the college curriculum and credit given for the work done.

Liberal Arts School May Hold Exhibit of Paintings

The School of Liberal Arts is endeavoring to make arrangements with the

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The Right Place For the Right Goods At the Right Price
DOCKASH Stoves & Ranges
Olewine's Store
Bellefonte, Pa.
For Quality and Service in Fruit and Groceries Go To **MARTINS** Opposite Post Office

Have a Particular Overcoat in Mind?
CHANCES ARE IT'S HERE
Now Ready for Our Complete Line
You can have most any kind of a good style overcoat in view, and in all probabilities you'll find it in our stocks—CHESTERFIELDS, PADDOCKS, ULSTERS, ULSTERETS, BELTED and PLAIN MODELS.
LOOSE BACKS—Twice as many coats here as you'll see elsewhere.
The best value at each price and every coat guaranteed fast color—an important item in these days of questionable dyes.
Mostly made by
Hart, Schaffner & Marx and Pellham Good Clothes Makers
\$15, \$18, \$20—No Higher
Suits Pressed 20c
Sim, The Clothier
Correct Dress
BELLEFONTE AND STATE COLLEGE - PA.

Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts whereby an exhibit of about one hundred oil paintings may be brought to State College for exhibition. If the project is carried through it will become an annual affair.

Y. M. C. A. ISSUES GUIDE BOOK FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

The Committee on Friendly-Relations among Foreign Students in conjunction with the National Y. M. C. A. have issued to the foreign students in the different schools and colleges, a small hand book containing many useful hints and various interpretations of "College slang." This little book, which is issued through the various branch Y. M. C. A. offices, has between its covers such articles as an explanation of "The American Educational System," a small dictionary on "Student Expressions," and several other lists of very useful information. The guide book has been compiled for the sole purpose of paying to the foreign student some of the knowledge of American college customs so that he may be able to grasp more quickly the atmosphere of the environment in which he finds himself.

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Come in and look over our line. The largest and most complete line of high-grade State jewelry we have ever carried. Solid Gold Pearl Set Buch Pins and La Valieres.

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