

Penn State Collegian

Published weekly during the year by students of the Pennsylvania State College in the interest of the Students, Faculty, Alumni and Friends of the college.

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News Editor For This Issue M. W. Dalrymple

Wednesday, March 7, 1917

THE REVISED CUSTOMS

The Student Body in a mass meeting last Wednesday morning passed the revised college customs as they had been proposed by the Student Council. There are no radical changes in these revisions; but emphasis has been attached to the real import and the true interpretation of the customs by careful wording, and the power of interpretation has been formally placed in the hands of the Student Tribunal.

The greater part of four weeks was taken in the course of this work of customs revising, during which time the student body was given ample time for suggestions. As the customs now stand they represent the results of many ideas and the deliberations of many students. It is essential, therefore, that every man make himself acquainted with the changes as they are outlined in this issue of the Collegian, and also that he do his share in the proper execution of the customs as they now stand.

"THE ENGINEER"

Recently a committee of senior engineers made a report to the combined engineering societies which carried with it a scheme to publish a magazine which would represent the interests of the men in those societies. The plan called for a permanent combination of all the engineering groups into a body which would be responsible for the publication of "The Engineer," the various societies however to retain their individuality. A tax of about forty cents a year was proposed on the engineers of all classes and this was to go directly to the publication which should be an annual at the outset. Furthermore it was stated that such a periodical could be exchanged with other college engineering magazines and thus the subscriber to "The Engineer" would receive an issue of at least two other magazines for the same cost.

If such a plan can be carried out—and there appears to be no reason why it cannot—then the engineering students will have taken a big progressive step. Certainly the scheme is feasible from the financial standpoint as well as from the literary standpoint and has many advantages. The proposition has been turned over to the separate engineering societies for ratification and if this is obtained it is urged that the representatives of each society meet and draw up a constitution for a combined society.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT GETTING WALLED-IN

Amid the rush of great developments which at the present time affects nearly every nation on the globe, it has been charged that the undergraduates of American colleges take less interest in national and international affairs than any other class of people in the country. The exact truth of the charge is problematical, but certain it is that few of us, indeed, are taking advantage of our present opportunities for becoming familiar with the trend of current events.

Take for instance your own case. How far does your knowledge go with regard to the great problems of the day? Could you at the present time enter into an intelligent discussion of conditions as they exist in the different European countries? Or again, have you read widely enough, carefully enough, and impartially enough to get a fair idea of the real issues which confront this country at the present time? Apply these questions to yourself and decide just where you stand in the matter.

If you would develop yourself and make the most of your opportunities while in college, broaden out. Don't let the daily routine of college life cut you off entirely from all knowledge of the outside world. Such a walled-in life means an altogether one-sided education and not one on the best side either. Read of what other people are thinking and saying and doing. Take a few minutes off each day to become familiar with the problems which are claiming the attention of the most prominent men of the time. By so doing you will benefit not only yourself but also those with whom you come in contact.

INCENTIVE FOR DEBATERS

Penn State's debating season received an unexpectedly disastrous opening last week when the debates with Dickinson and Swarthmore were lost. It is unfortunate, indeed, but these setbacks should prove an incentive for the teams that will meet Penn State's opponents in future debates, and urge the men to their best efforts. "Tricks of the trade" aided the Dickinson team in its victory, and the use of irony and self-confidence on the part of the Penn State debaters had much to do with their downfall. These are unquestionably faults to be corrected by the debaters themselves.

While the attendance at the first debate was fairly good, yet it by no means was what it should have been. To all of the Freshmen, who are now studying argumentation and debate, the experience and training received through listening to these intercollegiate debates is invaluable. The attitude of their instructors in this matter should be such that it would cause a careful following of each debate by all Freshmen. The questions for debate are always up-to-the-minute topics and the actual debate represents the result of hours of labor on the part of the contestants, the hearing of which we cannot well afford to miss.

A NEW STAFF

With this issue the men who have guided the "Collegian" during the past year will step aside in order that a new board may take up the work for the coming year. We have endeavored to serve Penn State to the best of our ability and always with the feeling that there were many ways open to progress and development. We trust that we have succeeded, at least in part, in our efforts and that some good will have accrued from the constructive and progressive policy which we have endeavored to maintain.

In giving way to the new Collegian Board we cannot but express our very sincere thanks to those who have aided the present board in the work and we are deeply indebted to those college authorities, members of the faculty and students who have given us their support. In this respect we are also grateful to our advertisers and we believe that the student body will appreciate the fact that these merchants are helping to maintain one of the vital activities at Penn State.

Especially must we give credit to those men who are to follow because through their keen, friendly competition they have helped to make the "Collegian" what it is and certainly they have put forth the best that they possess. And finally it is the sentiment of the retiring staff that if we have in any way contributed toward a greater Penn State we feel that our work has not been in vain.

THE GREATEST NEED OF PENN STATE

To the Editor of the Collegian.

The greatest need of Penn State is a definite and larger appropriation. Anyone can readily appreciate this fact when he realizes that many young men have been denied admission to the College within the past few years because of lack of accommodations, that a beautiful chemistry building has been erected for more than a year but has not yet been used because of insufficient funds with which to equip it, that the armory building is far too small to accommodate even the lower classes, that many good teachers cannot be retained because of insufficient salaries, that a dormitory, a social hall, a swimming pool, and many other necessities are lacking. By analyzing these conditions, it is apparent that practically all of them could be remedied if sufficient funds were available.

Since the State under the present method of procedure, has not been appropriating sufficient funds, and since the people do not feel like making donations to a public institution which they support by taxation it is evident that another system of support should be adopted.

The following system is thought to be feasible and practicable. A certain percent of the total taxes coming into the state treasury might be set aside by legislation for the support of Penn State. In this manner as the population of the State increases, the number of students in the College and the amount of financial support from the State would increase correspondingly. If this method were followed by Pennsylvania, as it has been by many other states, proper financial support would be given to an institution which has for its object not only the training of thousands of young men, but also the instruction of thousands of residents in the State through its farm bureaus, its correspondence courses, and its extension schools.

A Student

ON THE CORNER

Who Will Say That the Ground Hog Didn't See His Shadow!

POETRY FOR TODAY

You may think this poets. But it is not, we have just set it this way to Fool you, gentle reader

ALL OF OUR bubble about signs of spring during the past few weeks has been for naught

AS USUAL, gentle spring will be late for class—unavoidably delayed by J. Frost, Highwayman.

AND ONCE more the wrestlers and basketballers have done the clean-up trick. Oh, for a chance in the intercollegiate bouts!

WE WONDER WHY

—It had to snow
—The Freshmen wear black ties.
—Slides are formed on the campus walks every time a little bit of snow falls.

—we have had nearly all of our quizzes inside of four weeks, when the faculty announced that we would get 'em at the end of six.

Black is so very becoming to our meek and lowly Freshies that we think we will like the custom of each wearing a crepe.

BUT IT makes 'em so fearfully mournful looking—
ON THE other hand, they will make fine trimmings for the annual coronation in June.

OUR IDEA of the height of foolishness is the way one Freshman felt after he had tried and tried but without success, to reach the College Orchard by 'phone. What's your idea?

FOR THE best idea dropped in the Collegian Box, first floor of Old Main, in time for next week's column, we will award as a prize, a handsome metal disk, warranted nickel alloy, bearing on its face a well executed engraving of the nearly extinct American Bison, and

PROPERTIES OF STEEL

Discussed by L. H. Fry

Steel, its properties and manufacture, was discussed at the meeting of the Mining Society last Wednesday night in the old Mining Building, when Mr. L. H. Fry, of the Baldwin Locomotive Works addressed the society on this subject. Mr. Fry first outlined the general properties of steel, telling the amount of carbon, silicon, manganese, and other elements needed to make certain kinds of steel. The lecture was supplemented by a number of pictures which explained the strength and tempering and the influence of carbon on steel.

SALARY OF INTERCLASS TREASURER INCREASED

At the last meeting of the Student Council it was decided to increase the salary of the Inter-class Treasurer, Mr. Neil M. Fleming, from \$150 to \$200 per year. The Council, realizing the great amount of work necessary for the keeping of the various class funds and appreciating the large saving effected by the Budget System of financial management considered the salary of \$150 per year as inadequate.

LOST—Pin of Cuheco Club with initials "N. C. S." on back. Reward if returned.

DEUTSCHER VEREIN ENTERTAINS

Last Wednesday evening the members of the Deutscher Verein and guests were entertained by the rendition of a program by the most talented members of the society. German songs, readings and stories with a reading of Mark Twain's "The Artful German Language" comprised the program.

FOR SALE—Furniture and household supplies. Arrangements to be made by March 20th. Dr. Forsythe, North Campus.

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