

Penn State Collegian

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

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1919

News Editor for this Issue G. S. Wyckoff

LET'S PUT IT ACROSS

Perhaps no other form of student government or student activity has come in for as much discussion during the past two years as has the Honor System at Penn State. Perhaps no form of student government has had quite as much unfavorable criticism as has this much abused system of conducting quizzes and examinations. Moreover, we do not deny that there has been need for such criticism and discussion—in fact we heartily believe that there is need for a great deal more discussion, perhaps from a somewhat different angle.

Three years ago, when the Honor System was comparatively new to Penn State, it was admitted to be a success. This was no doubt due to two things, the one being that a new broom always sweeps clean, and the other, that the Honor Committee had a man at its head who placed his honor before every thing else and expected every one else to do likewise. Last year, the Honor System received a severe black eye because of its mis-administration. This year, it has its final chance to make good and for the sake of Penn State, it must not fail.

Undoubtedly, there are many reasons for the failure of the Honor System last year, and contrary to popular opinion, we do not believe that the Honor Committee was chiefly at fault. There are two parties to the Honor System, the first being the students and the second being the faculty; and the blame for its failure rests upon either of these or upon both. The COLLEGIAN is inclined to believe that its failure rests upon both.

In the first place, too much emphasis is laid on the word "system" and not enough on the word "honor." Honor is something idealistic—system is very realistic—and the two do not form a happy combination. If a man, or a woman, does not have a high sense of honor within himself or herself, no amount of system will bring it out or develop it. Honor cannot be created and in some people it is always lacking. Fortunately, such people are in the small minority.

The chief fault in the majority of cases, however, lies with the instructor, in our estimation. It is the instructor who never mentions the Honor System but merely gives out the examination and then leaves the room who gets the best results. And why? Because he forgets the "system" and gives the "honor" a chance to materialize. The instructor who takes great pains to emphasize that the quiz must be signed and who goes around to see if there will be any cheating is only weakening the Honor System by trying to cram honor down a man's throat. It can't be done.

Moreover, the COLLEGIAN does not believe that any half-way system should be adopted. If we are to conduct our examinations and quizzes under the Honor System, let's make it universal and not according to the personal whim or opinion of individuals. If the Honor System is not to apply to all quizzes and examinations, then we say it away with it entirely. The refusal to recognize it in any one department weakens the entire system and moreover, stimulates cheating.

This year, a faculty committee has been appointed to consult with the student honor committee as to the best way to make the Honor System at Penn State a real system of honor. The student honor committee is doing its part by instituting a new custom—that of having a member of the faculty committee present at each meeting—and we believe that this will serve to bring the faculty and students closer together. But we also believe that it is the duty of the faculty committee to do its share by seeing that the Honor System is given proper support by the faculty.

The COLLEGIAN does not mean to leave the impression that the faculty is entirely to blame for the failure of the Honor System last year. This was not the case, for the students were also very much at fault. However, there is a new honor committee this year and they should have at least a fair chance to prove their worth. The COLLEGIAN feels confident that if the faculty will cooperate with the students, the Honor System can be put across and unless we are greatly mistaken in the character of the majority of the students at Penn State, we feel sure that they will more than do their part.

AS TO COMMUNICATIONS

During the past week, the editor received two letters from students taking up questions of the moment, but unfortunately, the writers overlooked one of our rules, namely that we will only print such letters as are properly signed by the writer. The writer's name will not be published if he does not desire it to be, but it must be signed to the letter as a sign of good faith. The reason for this rule is obvious.

We are glad to receive letters for the letter-box at any time and upon any subject that may be of interest to our readers. The editorial columns being made up from the ideas of but a few, it is not only possible but highly probable that many interesting topics are missed and the letter-box, being open to all, affords a fine opportunity to bring out some new ideas.

One of the letters we received was a criticism on the amount of space the COLLEGIAN devoted to the activities of the band, stating that this organization was not given the recognition it deserves. We do not feel that this criticism is justifiable, for we have always boosted the band at every opportunity as is deserving of one of Penn State's best organizations.

The writer of the letter chooses to state that at the recent Pitt game, had the football team played as well as did the band, they would have won the game, which may or may not be true. However, was it the band that attracted the crowd to the game or was it the game itself? Should we have written a story about the performance of the band and merely noted the score of the game? That would have been foolish.

We believe that the whole trouble lies in the fact that the writer of the letter fails to weigh the relative importance of things from the stand-point of a news story. We are not merely trying to satisfy the desires of a few readers, but must take into consideration the wishes of the majority. The COLLEGIAN is back of the band in anything it does for it always represents Penn State in a creditable manner.

The members of the Sophomore class are to be commended for the way in which they observed the request that there be no general rough-house after the Freshman class meeting last Wednesday night. It was unfortunate that about a dozen would-be "hard Sophs" had to spoil the action of the class, however, by attempting to resurrect a custom that has no place at Penn State. Apparently, some individuals are not big enough to pass up an opportunity to annoy,

though it nearly always follows, that the Sophomore who causes the most trouble is the one who remained hidden in someone's cellar during the greater part of his Freshman year. We hope that some day, the greater mass of the students who believe in fair play will take up such individual cases and deal with them as they should be dealt with.

Stealing is looked upon as a rather severe offense against the law and crooks are outlawed by society. Yet we are afraid that some of these "professional gentlemen" must have found their way into Penn State and that they are plying their trade with great vigor. Electric-light bulbs cost money and when the college has to furnish them, it makes a severe drain upon the already depleted appropriation. Therefore, why should some students make a practice of going about the campus and "collecting" all of the bulbs they can get their hands on? If this practice is not stopped, will someone please tell us just what it is? Let's have it stopped.

On the Corner

STILL DOING BUSINESS AT THE OLD STAND

Yes, Dear Reader, We are absolutely without ideas at the present moment, so we will just put another little in the old typewriter and let her go.

Fortunately, it is a self-starter—just like all these modern pieces of machinery, Ponds and the like.

However, the blame thing never knows when to stop. But since our supply of news is rather limited this week, we are going to limit this column to its customary length.

You know, this makes splendid filler—it can be spaced out so much. Never thought of that, did you?

Lots of society news last week. Yep, two elements from Mac Hall in one week! And we thought the war was over!

However, they have our best wishes and thanks. We sure did need some social news this week!

We are glad to note that our muddy paths have been fixed. Merely by the lowering of the thermometer, however, for they are frozen solid.

DO YOU REMEMBER—
YOUR first day in State College?
Your FIRST house party?
Your first VACATION?
Your first BIRTHDAY?
Your first VISIT TO THE COTTAGE?

So do we!!!

The following verse by an unknown author appeared in a recent issue of a girl's college magazine. To Ed believes that it is so true to life that it is worthy of reproduction here and we give you the liberty of using it. It is entitled "Happens When We Try to Sign."

Oh, say, can you sing from the start to the end,

What so proudly you stand for when the orchestra plays it.

When the whole congregation in voices that blend,

Strike up the grand hymn and then torture and slay it?

How they follow and about when they're first starting out,

But "the dawn's early light" finds them floundering about,

"The Star Spangled Banner" they're trying to sing,

But they don't know the words of the precious old thing.

Haik, "the twilight's last gleaming" has some of them very faintly press forward serenely.

To "the ramparts we watched" where some others are dropped.

And the loss of the leaders is manifestly keenly.

Then "the rockets' red glare" gives the bravest a scare.

And their few left to face "the bonny battle in air,"

'Tis a thin line of heroes that manage to save

The last of the verse and "the home of the brave" —Unknown.

BOXING TOURNAMENTS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED

Penn State boxing enthusiasts will be glad to hear of the schedule of tournaments which has been arranged for the near future and which is certain to bring this comparatively new sport into great popularity here. The large number of candidates from the lower classes now in the field has given Coach Harlow very good material with which to work and some expert boxers are being developed. There have not been many upper classmen out yet but there will be enough good men on hand to insure some exciting bouts in the meets that are scheduled for the next two months.

The series of elimination bouts being held this and next week will end in a big final tournament in the Armory at seven o'clock Friday evening, February, fourteenth. This is sure to be followed on February twenty-eighth by a big round robin meet in which all classes will participate.

On March fourteenth an inter-class scrap tournament is to be staged and on March twenty-eighth, as a grand finish for the season, the all-college championship will be fought out between the winners of the previous meets.

Boxing has been encouraged by the War Department in all colleges and camps and is becoming more and more popular. It is very probable that by next year enough other colleges will have taken up this sport so that Penn State men will have the opportunity of meeting men from other institutions in inter-collegiate tournaments.

TRIP BEING ARRANGED FOR COLLEGE ORCHESTRA

The college orchestra, for the first time in its history, will probably be heard in a concert outside of State College in the near future. Because of the excellent impression made by the orchestra in its first concert a week ago last Sunday, the organization has been asked to render a concert in the opera house at Bellefonte for the benefit of a society of the Bellefonte High School.

LAST YEAR'S SENIORS IN VARIOUS ACTIVITIES

- Krumrine, C. U. S. Naval Aviation Detachment, Cambridge, "A", Mass.
- Lutz, R. H. Chemical Warfare Service
- Jeddy, A. S. Appointed as head chemist at the Atlas Works, Veterinary Corps, Remont Depot, Camp Meade, Md.
- Lippman, J. Ordnance
- Long, M. M. Commissioned Second Lieutenant, F. A. School, Camp Zachary Taylor, Ky.
- McArdy, H. S. U. S. Ammonium Nitrate Plant, Perryville, Md.
- McComb, G. J. 472nd Engineers, Washington, D. C.
- Yaff, S. W. Received commission of Second Lieutenant, F. A. School, Camp Zachary Taylor, Ky.
- Matter, A. W. Barracks 12, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.
- Mitchell, G. F. Private, Co. I, 314 Infantry, A. P. O. 71, A. P. F.
- Mont, H. L. U. S. Ammonium Nitrate Plant, Perryville, Md.
- Moray, F. R. Second Lieutenant, Camp Lee, Va.
- Mueller, H. J. Second Lieutenant, 1st Bn, 162nd D. B. Cavalry, U. S. Army, Ft. Belvoir, Ill.
- Yaff, S. W. Bureau of Aircraft Production, New York, N. Y.
- Nelan, T. P. Chief Gun, Naval Aviation Station, San Diego, Cal.
- Nielke, C. A. Second Lieutenant, Signal Corps.
- Payne, J. B. Second Lieutenant, The Texas Co., 14th Prov. Battalion, 156th Depot, Ft. Monmouth, N. J.
- Prutzman, C. J. 1st Sgt., 16 Ordnance Guard Co., Camp Annot, N. J.
- Rand, H. N. Ordnance Corps, Watertown, N. Y.
- Rothrock, H. J. 2nd Co. Recruit Detachment, Fort Caswell, N. C.
- Shuy, R. L. Candidate, Co. F, Candidate School, Fort Belvoir, Ill.
- Skoglund, J. A. U. S. Nitrate Ammonium Plant, Perryville, Md.
- Smith, T. J. Infantry, Non Com School, Co. H, Training Bn, Camp Lee, Va.
- Stanfield, A. E. Ordnance Supply School, Camp Hancock, Ga.
- Styers, R. E. Camp Wadsworth, S. C.
- Sunday, J. L. Second Lieutenant, C. A. C., N. A. Fort Monmouth, Va.
- Washburn, J. M. Naval Reserves, Camp Bay, N. C.

- Watts, G. S. Formerly at U. S. Naval Aviation Detachment, Cambridge, "A", Mass.
- Way, J. L. Machine Gun Training Center, Camp Hancock, Ga.
- Whitaker, D. C. 31st Co. Central Officers Training School, Camp Lee, Va.
- Wills, S. A. Second Lieutenant, Signal Corps.
- Wilson, H. H. Second Lieutenant, Assigned to Advance Orientation Course.
- Wilson, M. E. Jr. Corporal, Inf. Headquarters Co., 380th Inf., 96th Div., Camp Sherman, Ohio.
- Winchester, G. A. Sergeant, Engineer, Camp Humphreys, Va.
- Young, W. B. Second Lieutenant, 6th Reg. F. A. R. D., Camp Jackson, Columbia, S. C.
- Zimmerman, M. L. 472 Engineers, Washington, D. C.
- Zuffall, M. L. 1st Co., 6th Battalion, Camp Hancock, Ga.

IN COLLEGE HOSPITAL

There are at present three men confined to the college infirmary. These are F. R. Rutter '21, J. J. Dougherty '21, and Richard Hayden '22.

The Timekeeper

HUMAN NATURE is such that we are not conscious of time unless we count it off by hours, minutes and seconds. For this purpose we use watches and clocks. To railroad men, explorers and men engaged in scientific pursuits accurate time is a necessity. See Our Line of Watches & Clocks. Shuey's Jewelry Store

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The Letter Box

February 3, 1919

Editor of the COLLEGIAN

The editorials which have appeared in the last two issues of the COLLEGIAN are worthy of more than passing notice. The one thing Penn State lacks—a Social Hall—to make complete the spirit of democracy and good fellowship, as generally recognized as characteristic of the institution, has long been realized. One of the first sights that greeted the eyes of the writer as a Freshman when entering the hall of Old Main, more than a dozen years ago, was the architect's drawing of "A Plan for a Proposed Social Hall for the Pennsylvania State College." Near it hung similar sketches of the Auditorium and the Library both of which had recently been erected, and it was not without considerable feelings of confidence that the idea of the architect, as there depicted on paper by pencil and brush, would soon be transformed into more permanent form in brick and mortar, that I entered the institution.

For reasons unknown, the project never assumed a material form, although since that time various rumors have been circulated that certain philanthropic friends of the college were about to provide funds for the erection of the much needed Social Hall. At one time some years ago the report was considered in the plan failed of fulfillment by the accidental death of the person who had promised to provide the necessary funds, a few days before the time he had planned for making the necessary donation.

The probability of Penn State ever receiving funds from an outside source, for the erection of a building of this nature seems remote to say the least, and perhaps rightly so. If the building is to be a students' building, which should be more concerned in it than the students themselves, together with the alumni, faculty and friends of the college.

At first thought, the idea of these agencies assuming the responsibility of an undertaking of this kind might be considered impossible, and doubtless some will say "the thing can't be done." The experiences of the past four years have largely eliminated the word "impossible" from what Professor Patton classed as "Good Use" in the silent days. Furthermore, the injunction used to laboriously copy in our copy books in the public schools, "God helps those who help themselves," is perhaps true today as ever.

Without doubt every student, alumnus, faculty member and friend of Penn State read with pride the report of the United War Work Campaign. To raise on the campus the sum of more than \$22,000 certainly would have been considered absolutely impossible a few years ago, yet under present conditions and ideas of doing things the amount was raised in forty-eight hours.

If it were possible to make this splendid showing for a cause in which perhaps few of the contributors ever expected to see a visible manifestation, although none the less worthy, how much better showing would they make to a movement in which they would be immediately concerned, and in the bene-

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Never leaks
Never "balks"
Writes superbly
All styles and sizes of holder and point. Some special styles for students.

Ray D. Gilliland

its of which every one would share. If a campaign were launched in which a certain amount would be raised by the students, alumni, faculty and friends of the college respectively, there is little doubt that that which for nearly a score of years has been ideal would become a reality. There never was a time in the history of the college when conditions were so nearly perfect for its realization. Let there be definite action taken on the excellent suggestions which have been made, to the end that they may be a united effort to obtain that which will be a worthy, lasting and useful memorial to Penn State Spirit whether it be in memory of those who have paid the supreme sacrifice, or of those whose honors are yet to be won. The psychological moment is here—let us grasp it!

ALUMNUS
LIEUT. GIVEN BACK
Lieutenant W. N. Given ex-'28, who has been in the army for almost two years, has returned and resumed his studies at the College. It will be remembered that Lieutenant Given was the inspector sent here last April to make the annual inspection of the college cadet regiment.

NOTICE TO BARRACKS AND MESS HALL PROPRIETORS
Any claims of unpaid accounts for barracks and mess provided to members of the S. A. C. during the months of October, November and December must be filed at the office of the Controller, 130 Main Building, not later than February 15, 1919.

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