

Penn State Collegian

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1919

THE HONOR SYSTEM AMENDMENTS

At the regular weekly mass meeting of the four classes last week, two amendments to the Honor System were proposed by the Honor Committee. These were presented primarily for the purpose of strengthening the Honor System and they will be voted upon shortly after the return from the Easter vacation. That these amendments should be approved goes without saying, and it is the sacred duty of every loyal Penn State man to cast his vote in the affirmative when the proper time comes.

The first of the proposed amendments will take the place of Article I, Section 5. As this section now stands, it reads: "If a student detects any dishonesty in a quiz or examination, he shall at once quietly inform the offending party of the detection. Should the offender persist, the attention of at least one other person shall be called to this matter, and then the case shall be carried to the Honor Committee, which shall conduct an investigation into the same. The proposed amendment is as follows:

"If a student detects any dishonesty in a quiz or examination, the attention of at least one other person shall be called to this matter, and then the case shall be carried to the Honor Committee, which shall conduct an investigation into the same."

It will be seen that the phrases "he shall at once quietly inform the offending party of the detection" and "should the offender persist" are omitted. In other words, this will make it dangerous for a man to cheat and it will also make it easier for an offending party to be reported. Under the present ruling, a man may cheat once in an examination and get away with it, desisting after he has been warned. He may do this in every examination he takes, cheating until he is given warning that he is being watched. Under the new amendment, a man who cheats at any time is in danger of being brought to trial without any warning whatsoever. That the method of reporting will also be made easier is evident. Heretofore, if a man after being warned, were brought before the Honor Committee for trial, he had a very good idea as to who reported him. And even if he were acquitted, there would always be a feeling of enmity between such men, and the man who did the reporting would feel that he had committed an error. If the amendment is adopted, there will be no such difficulties hereafter. For one thing, the party reported would never know who had reported him, and for another thing, as there would be at least two witnesses to the crime, and probably more, the chances of bringing an innocent party to trial would be reduced to a minimum.

The second amendment deals with the administering of punishment and will take the place of Section 9 of Article IV, which reads as follows: "Punishment. For the first conviction of dishonesty, the convicted shall be suspended from college for one year with the privilege of returning according to the regulations of the college, at the beginning of the corresponding semester in which he was suspended." The proposed amendment reads:

"Upon the first conviction of dishonesty, it shall be the duty of the Honor Committee to determine and transmit to the executive of the college the specific punishment to be meted out to the offender, this punishment not to exceed one year of suspension from college."

This amendment is designed to give a fair punishment to a party convicted of dishonesty. It was found this year that there were varying degrees of dishonesty. The old method left but two alternatives for the Honor Committee to act upon. These were to either find a man guilty or to acquit him. If he were found guilty, no matter whether the offence was large or small, he was suspended for one year. The new proposal will, however, give the Honor Committee power to determine the degree of punishment which shall be meted out to guilty parties, the most extreme of which will be suspension from college for one year.

SUPPORT THE DEBATERS

The 1919 debating season for Penn State will open on Friday evening, when Colgate will be the opponent of the Blue and White. A question of national importance will be discussed, namely, one concerning the control of the railroads of this country.

Debating has always been one of the prominent student activities at the college and it is desirable that it should remain so. In the past, many successful teams have been turned out and there is no reason why this should not be repeated this year.

However, it is utterly impossible to do this without student support, and everyone who possibly can should attend this debate on Friday night. Following the custom of previous years, there will be no admission charged, and it will certainly be worth while to every student to hear an interesting and intelligent discussion on a problem which our country must solve in order to help carry out its reconstruction program.

THE "TIE-UP" SCRAP

The annual "Tie-up" Scrap, held last Saturday, proves conclusively that class spirit is not dead at Penn State. In almost every way, the scrap was a success, but there were a few objectional features which came to light in the course of the afternoon.

One of these was the impoliteness of a number of spectators who crowded upon the field and around the contestants in such a manner that it was virtually impossible for those in the grandstand and bleachers to see what was going on. Incidentally, we might state that the grandstand and bleachers are excellent places from which to view what is occurring on the field, provided there are no human obstructions, and we would suggest that hereafter, all except the contestants and officials take their places there, as it is more comfortable sitting down anyhow.

Another thing which was very evident was the spirit of unfairness shown by the two lower classes, especially the Freshmen. A number of the latter, apparently not having the moral and physical courage to enter the scrap, came upon the field in civilian clothes, and then crowded around the contestants and began untying Freshmen who were in the scrap and who had been tied up by their opponents.

Ever since the college returned to normal conditions, it has been the desire of the upper-classes to inculcate into the first year men a sense of honor and square-mindedness. To all appearances, there are some Freshmen who have not yet grasped this fundamental fact and now is the time to learn. In all of the college, class, and fraternity activities, Penn State stands for a square deal and the sooner the new men learn this, the better it will be for them and for the college.

On the Corner

THIS SPRING WEATHER SURE GETS OUR GOAT

AGAIN WE painfully TAKE the opportunity TO INTERRUPT ourselves upon you.

Not that we have anything to say of course, but of course we've got to say something.

Yes, we got the old jitney fixed up and she rambles along much the same as usual. Only a slight limp noticeable in his walk. It sure is working fine.

Nice day! Him!

We sure don't feel like working but we guess we ain't any better than the old elder baitel—for elder works all the time.

Poetry. When the air is soft and balmy, when the buds begin to grow, when we think that spring is coming; then it's time to look for snow.

Why, we can even remember the time it snowed in January.

Some more poetry, with no undue apologies to Walt Mason, Walt Whitman or some other Walt-z. Me around around again Willy, etc.

We're sorry to disappoint you, but when we came to print this poetry, we found it wasn't written yet.

So this is April. Who'd a thunk it? Spose we'll have rain for quite a spell now. Well, we wouldn't mind seem' enuff water to swim once, would you?

Even if Flanders mud wouldn't have anything on us trying to get to class.

Curious thing. We didn't get tied up in the scrap last Saturday. Guess it musta been because we were up in the

A. DEAL

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MEMORIAL TREES TO BE PLANTED FOR WAR HEROES

The suggestion made some time ago by one of the Penn State student organizations that they be allowed to plant trees on the campus as memorials to those members who were killed during the war was presented to the Board of Trustees and it has met with the approval of that organization. The plan is being put before the whole student body so that any fraternities, clubs, or organizations of any kind may have memorial trees planted if they so desire.

At the present time a brass tablet is being designed in connection with this work. This tablet will be very simple in its outline and very inexpensive. It is being designed with the idea that it is the deceased former student who is being remembered rather than the organization which caused the tree to be planted. It would therefore seem fit that the name of no organization be placed upon the tablet, but that it have on it nothing but the name of the person in whose memory it was made.

It is proposed to plant oaks, walnuts and other long living trees which will be obtained from the best nursery stock to insure getting trees which will grow well. A single tree will cost between five and ten dollars and the tablet approximately the same.

Any student organization which wishes to establish a memorial of this kind should get in touch with the Department of Grounds and Buildings and have the matter explained in detail. Professor R. I. Webber of the Department of Architectural Engineering is superintendent of Grounds and Buildings.

The names of the Freshmen who have won their amendments were announced at the meeting and the class awenter, pipe, and watch job were selected by the popular choice of those present. As the election of the manager of the 1922 lacrosse team, held at the preceding meeting resulted in a tie, another vote was taken and J. W. Hallowell received the office.

SENIORS GIVE TALKS AT FRESHMAN CLASS MEETING

An important meeting of the class of 1922 was held in the Amphitheater last Thursday evening, at which short addresses were given by R. B. McDuff '19 and G. W. Sullivan '19. The former's talk dealt almost entirely with the "tie-up" scrap and the latter brought out the importance of the utmost support of the Honor System by the class and explained many of the details of the system.


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AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Professor J. W. White, of the research laboratory of the Department of Agronomy, was at Springfield, Bradford county, supervising the spring seeding of the fertilizer experiments at that place.

The summer camp for Boy Scouts will be held here as in the past two years and a course will be given for the training of future scoutmasters.

A meeting was held in Wayne county, last Friday for the purpose of organizing a farm bureau agency. Not including this county there are fifty-five counties in which agencies have been formed.

If S. Adams, county agent in Butler county since 1912, is coming to the college to assist in the administration of the extension work.

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