

Penn State Collegian

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1919

A UNIQUE INTERPRETATION

In the opinion of the COLLEGIAN, Coach Hugo Bezdek struck an important chord in his talk last Wednesday night at the mass meeting in his reference to collegiate athletics and his interpretation of the ideals and goal after which Penn State should strive in her athletics. His talk on that night will probably be remembered by many of the students and faculty long after the present college generation has passed beyond the doors of Penn State.

In the course of the life of a college there are a thousand and one new ideas and movements which are set before the student body and the faculty either for their rejection or acceptance. Coach Bezdek's interpretation of the purpose of intercollegiate athletics, the spirit in which this interpretation can most effectively be pursued, and finally the reflection upon the college which the innovation causes, are things which deserve not a little thought by every member of the student body and faculty of Penn State.

To say that Coach Bezdek's idea is new would be to put it mildly. It is true that his idea of mass athletics which was instigated here last year under the S. A. T. C. regime was received with wide accord all over the country. The student body at Penn State accepted it, little thinking that it was undoubtedly one of the most important changes which has come into Penn State athletics for many years. And now after State's athletics have been under his direction for over a year, the students and faculty suddenly find that they had not yet really caught the real idea which Bezdek has and which he is trying to effect at Penn State. The idea that character is above winning of games, that the making of successful men is more important than the development of a successful eleven, that even in defeat it is better to have had the "help-the-other-fellow" spirit than to have won the game by foul means, all these are the earmarks of Coach Bezdek's system of athletics. His success at Oregon Agricultural College was little short of phenomenal and he himself says that the reason he was able to turn out successful teams at that institution was not that the college looked over the country to find the best individual athletes, not that each man on the team played for himself, but that the spirit with which those teams went into battle was the spirit of playing the game clean, of fighting to the last ditch, but above all, fighting clean. If Penn State teams and Penn State students can get that spirit, the spirit which is truly symbolical of everything that Penn State is and hopes to be, we believe that her future as a power in the collegiate world is assured.

We have had brought to us by a man big enough to put the thing across an idea which is attracting nation wide interest. That idea is only now in its infancy in the minds of the student body of Penn State, but the COLLEGIAN believes that students of Penn State realize a good thing when they see it and that before long the Blue and White system of athletics will be pointed to as an example of what intercollegiate athletics should embody and of the results which they should accomplish in the minds and bodies of the men and women whom they influence.

A "BOOZELESS" PENNA. DAY.

The COLLEGIAN has recently been notified from very reliable sources that a quantity of liquor will be smuggled into town during the Pennsylvania Day activities. Undoubtedly there are only a few individuals who will attempt to do this, but even these few are sufficient to place this college in a very bad light in the eyes of the state of Pennsylvania. Cooperation on the part of every student is the only way to eliminate this unfortunate evil.

It is a known fact that it is against the rules of the state to bring intoxicating liquors within twelve miles of the college and men breaking this law are subject to the punishment connected with it. Likewise, a large number of citizens from all parts of the state will be here during Pennsylvania Day activities and the rumor or even suspicion of liquor being around will have an effect on the minds of the people and spread throughout the state so there will be a possibility of stricter rules, of the college losing men who might enter college but who are discouraged by the fact that some few students are bold enough to disobey laws, and also in the end may affect appropriations. This act surely does bring shame upon the college and the COLLEGIAN would urge all those who stand for the best which the college holds as truth and uprightness to prohibit as far as they are able the use of liquor at this time and would urge every man who would do evil in this manner to think what he is saying when he sings.

May no act of ours bring shame,
To one heart that loves thy name,
May our lives help swell thy fame,
Dear old State, Dear old State.

The greatness of Penn State's eleven was demonstrated last Saturday in the glorious victory over Penn. The statement, "A little better than the best", simply means that the Blue and White was superior to the Red and Blue. But because Penn State won last Saturday does not mean that the three remaining games on the schedule—Lehigh, Cornell, and Pitt—are going to be easy. Each game is going to be a hard-fought contest, and we, the student-body, must face this fact. Over-confidence has lost many a game, but if we stand squarely behind the team, which we surely will, and if we are aware of the strength of the opposing team and know what to expect, there is no reason why the Blue and White should not round out the schedule with three additional victories.

At its last meeting, Student Council went on record as being opposed to gambling pools of any kind. The COLLEGIAN feels that this was a wise move on the part of Penn State's governing body. While many may see no harm in these pools, yet every one must concede that they add nothing worth while to college spirit, and such being the case every fair-minded student will agree that they must go. Again, gambling is prohibited by law in this state, and while the legal authorities may take no action, yet if they once should, the report of such action would spread like wild fire over the state; as a result, no end of harm would be done to the college, and many

important and desirable features of Penn State would be masked, in that the character of the college would be judged from a bad rather than a good standpoint. In view of the foregoing, therefore, the COLLEGIAN believes that every student should stand behind the action of Student Council, should refrain from engaging in pools themselves, and still further should try to dissuade and discourage those who do engage in this form of gambling.

The COLLEGIAN is indeed happy to be in the position to welcome home the president of our college and his family. The reception that was accorded Dr. Sparks on Monday afternoon, when he arrived in State College is a true symbol of the high esteem and regard which the students and faculty have for their chief executive and the rejoicing which was heard upon his arrival was indicative of their joy at his return to his home. The COLLEGIAN welcomes Dr. Sparks again to Penn State and hopes that he will soon be able to assume the responsibilities of the President's Office.

A noticeable feature in the attendance at last Saturday's game between the Freshmen eleven and Bellefonte Academy was the small number of first year men who turned out to cheer their team on to victory. The yearling's stands were not near half filled, and the expressions which arose from that section were not near what they should have been. It is every Freshman's duty to be present when the team representing his class or college is meeting an opponent on the gridiron as well as in any other sport. Let every man in the class of 1923 take it upon himself to be present at these contests, and thus help in moulding the spirit of his class and the future spirit of the college.

ENFORCING CUSTOMS

The following customs are in need of better enforcement by the student body:

Every student shall give the right-of-way to those in the classes above him, and to the faculty.

Smoking shall not be permitted in the classrooms of any building.

No member of the three upper classes has the privilege of granting immunities to Freshmen.

Freshmen shall not wear athletic, class or society insignia from preparatory schools.

Freshmen shall attend all class meetings, athletic meetings and mass meetings.

When under uniforms are worn they must be worn complete, and the coats must always be buttoned.

Freshmen must speak to all other Freshmen when passing on the street or in buildings.

TEAM RECEIVES WARM GREETING

Monday, November third, will be a date long remembered in the annals of Penn State. Everyone was awaiting the home-coming of the team and of the students who went to Philadelphia to witness the contest between Penn's eleven and the Blue and White team. Practically no one went to the first class in the morning and those ambitious students who did go were dismissed by their instructors. The Co-op corner was the general rallying place and there everyone gathered until it was a solid mass of singing, cheering, and shouting football enthusiasts. At nine o'clock the cry went up that the men who followed the team to Penn were approaching from Leont and everyone lined up on both sides of College avenue to welcome them home. They came in nearly four hundred strong, marching four abreast, a happy jubilation through. As they marched past the spectators fell in behind and all trooped up to the Track House until nearly the entire student body was assembled there.

At last quiet was partially restored and several members of the victorious eleven addressed the gathering. Captain Higgins, the greatest and that Penn State ever had, was the first man to speak. He expressed his appreciation of the wonderful reception being given the team and then told how hard every member had worked to defeat the admirable Penn gridiron squad and how finally they had succeeded in humbling Penn's pride. He was followed by Osborne, Rauch, Robb, Conover, Cabbage, and Brown, who said that the victory was due to the combined efforts of the whole team.

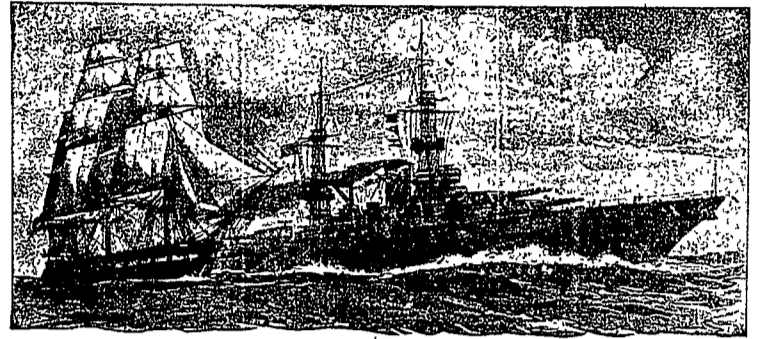
When those men had finished speaking, the crowd demanded a speech from Coach Bezdek and he addressed students as follows:

"Are we happy?" "Yes," roared the throng.
"Are we down-hearted?" "No," they shouted.
"I've just got their 'munny' (cheers) I want to tell you that I never saw such a revival in a team in my life as our team showed Saturday. We just woke up all of a sudden, I was looking for it, but nevertheless it came."

"Now I want to give the team full credit. Actually they played better than they knew how. Bob Higgins pulled off some kicks for fifty and sixty yards. (Cheers) Robb, who had not been playing as well as I thought he should, found himself and played a really surprised me; the harder they wonderful game. And George Snell hit him, the better he seemed to like it. If the Penn backs did not get through our line, he dove right over after them. Ben Cabbage has been out

all season, but he went in there Saturday and played a peach of a game." And so on down the team he went, outgiving each man in turn. Then he expressed his gratification that the game was such a cleanly fought contest. He spoke of seeing Penn State players helping Penn men to their feet when they were down and vice versa. He said that after the game Captain Bert Bell of the Penn eleven, came to him and said that the game was one of the cleanest fought big contests ever staged on Franklin

Field. After this he said that he hoped the student body would not be carried away by the victory. "This college is not such a small affair and so unused to winning that when we get a victory we have to declare a general holiday," and he induced the students to return to the next class and carry on the academic work as usual. At the close of the coach's speech, it was announced that there would be a bon-fire in the evening to celebrate the winning of the game.



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