

Penn State Collegian

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1920

YOUR CONDUCT COUNTS

At this time each college year speculation is rife as to when Poster Night will be held and what the outcome of it will be. Very likely this year's event will be held some time during the next few weeks unless the Sophomore class decides against it. However, it is not our intention at this time to discuss the rights and wrongs of the custom. What is more important is that the affair shall be conducted in a proper manner.

Poster Night has been a custom at this college for a large number of years. During the course of the evening that this event has been held, men of the Freshman class have been severely injured, in some years to a greater extent than in others. Last year the affair was conducted in a very proper manner and no student was injured to any serious degree. Because of this fact last year's Sophomore class is to be congratulated on the well organized manner in which it carried out the event.

It is to be hoped that this year's Sophomore class will be sufficiently well organized to carry out the affair in the same commendable way. No sane student desires to see another brutally beaten or maimed for a long period of time if not for life. But in most classes or large groups of men there are generally found a few roudies and bullies, and in most every case of injury to a new student, it has been this type of fellow who has been the cause. He thinks that Poster Night is meant solely for him and is a time when he can witlessly wreak his imaginary vengeance on some "innocent" Freshman. The COLLEGIAN does not mean to intimate at this time that all Freshmen are "innocent" or that some do not need forceful handling, but it does contend that no man should be brutally maimed and beaten because he does not readily reply to all that is required of him on that night. There is no doubt in any one's mind as to the proper course to pursue with a man who does enforce such punishment on another. He has no right to associate with college men because he is of an inferior type. The COLLEGIAN hopes that the Sophomore class will bear in mind that state-wide interests are at present looking to State College with an eye to her improvement in the future. The business men of the state have awakened to the needs of the college, as evidenced by the work done here by representatives of the State Chamber of Commerce. Other state organizations are also making investigations of conditions here. In addition to that the legislature of Pennsylvania will meet next winter to fix the appropriation which Penn State will receive for the next two years. The mere statement of the names of these organizations should be sufficient to show the students that their conduct during this year as well as at all times will have an important bearing on the interest which the organizations will continue to show in this institution. If any student is so unfortunate as to injure another during these annual festivities and the news is broadcast over the state as is mostly the case with such news, Penn State students may well believe that the result will be most unfavorable to the college. No outside interest will continue to promote better conditions for a student body which does not show that it is worthy of them. Again, we hope for a very great increase in appropriation from the legislature this year, and while it is too plainly evident that the college needs the increase, we cannot expect to receive it when the members of the body learn of the un-Christian-like treatment some students receive from their fellows. The worst feature of the entire proposition is that the majority of students are not at fault. It is always the few who lose control of themselves on that evening and force the entire student body to take the blame. The best remedy for this condition is to cull out the bullies and conduct the affair in the best organized manner possible.

PETTY THIEVING AGAIN

During the past week the Department of Grounds and Buildings of the college has been bothered considerably by the continued disappearance of electric light bulbs from the halls and class rooms in Old Main, and also the breaking into of some rooms and smashing of doors in others. That this is a most undesirable state of affairs is easily understood. The college authorities are responsible for the condition of the college buildings and are certainly not desirous of having greater expense put on the college than it already has.

While there are no means of knowing who the marauders have been it is certain that they are to be found in this locality. Had the matter occurred but once it would probably have been passed over lightly, but the continued work of some person has made it an absolute nuisance. The college authorities ask that it be stopped. There is only one way in which to do this, and that is for the students who are responsible to absorb some real Penn State spirit, pride and love of the Alma Mater. The deeds have not been done because of student love of mischief because the stolen material has not been returned. It has been done because the persons desired the objects for their own selfish use and wished to make the college pay for it. It is sometimes very hard to understand why a student will belittle himself so much as to steal, especially when there is no dire need for the action. LET'S HAVE IT STOPPED!

EXPENSIVE CHANGES MADE IN PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

This year, the Physics Department has made four new additions to the faculty. Although only three vacancies occurred at the end of last year in this division, nevertheless, due to the increased demand for more courses in Physics an increase in the teaching staff was made to accommodate those students wishing to study subjects of this nature.

Those who have resigned are: C. G. Watson, formerly Assistant Professor of Physics, has gone to the South Dakota School of Mines as Head of the Department of Physics.

D. R. Wightman, also an Assistant Professor of Physics, is now Head of

the Physics Department of Colorado Normal School.

J. M. Cook, another Assistant Professor, has gone to the University of Michigan.

The following are new additions to the Physics Department: Oscar F. Smith, a Penn State graduate in 1911, and a holder of an M. S. from this school who has taught at Penn State, at the University of the Philippines, and at Queen's University, will be Associate Professor of Physics. W. E. Tolmieri, from the University of Michigan, is Assistant Professor of Physics. Phillip Hoff, also of the University of Michigan, is another Assistant Professor. James C. Hudson, who was Instructor of Physics at Kentucky State, assumes the same position here.

On The Corner

JUST ABOUT THIS TIME OF YEAR WHEN A FELLA JUST CAN'T SEE TO START TO STUDYIN' AND WHEN YOU PLOD FROM ONE CLASS TO ANOTHER AND WHEN THE UNFEELING PROFS. GIVE OUT AN INORMOUS ASSIGNMENT THE SECOND TIME YOU GO TO CLASS. AND WHEN YOU START HOME. AND YOU STOP. AT THE POST OFFICE AND YOU JUST KNOW THAT THERE IS A LETTER WAITING FOR YOU AND THERE ISN'T AND WHEN THAT NIGHT YOU PROP A BOOK. IN FRONT OF YOU AND THE STUFF DON'T MEAN ANYTHING AT ALL. AND YOU CAN'T HELP LOOKING AT A PICTURE THAT YOU KEEP ON TIR BUREAU NEXT TO YOUR SHAVING TOOLS AND YOU WONDER HOW SHE IS OH BOY, WHAT WOULDN'T YOU GIVE TO BE BACK WITH HER ONCE AGAIN.

FRESHMAN RECEPTION SUCCESSFUL AFFAIR

The Y. M. C. A. reception to the new students which was held on Friday evening on the front campus proved to be a very successful affair. The Freshmen were greeted by Dr. D. D. Sparks, Dean Warnock, Dean Knight, and others, while the program for the evening commenced. The band gave several selections which were followed by college songs and yells. W. M. Sharp, '21, acted as chairman and he introduced Dr. Sparks as the first speaker. Dr. Sparks' speech of welcome was followed by similar ones by Dr. M. Allen, '21, Dean Warnock, Coach Bezdok, S. G. Harris, '21, and Andy Lytle, who has always been a strong supporter of the college. The glee club also featured in two selections which were much appreciated. At the conclusion of the program, refreshments were served to the new men.

"DADDY" GROFF WRITES OF EXPERIENCES IN SIAM

Continued from first page

country and not the European. The Chinese certainly present a unique element in any European colonization in Asia. In the country through which we passed the Cantonese Language will get one almost anywhere. I am not so sure but that it was one of more value than French.

The Type of Native

The people of Cambodia seem to be a strange mixture of blood. As soon as we crossed the border, we began to note the difference. They are darker, shorter and heavier than the average individual in Cochinchina. The hair is black and tends somewhat to curl and the men wear the plaid-colored skirt characteristic of the Malay. In fact, I would say that the people of Cambodia seem to resemble more the Indian or possibly the Mexican type than the Chinese. Though everywhere one sees interesting evidences of the infusion of Chinese blood. And a little Chinese mixture adds intelligence to the face, brightness to the body and snap in action. To my mind there can be no question as to the superiority of the Chinese. And it is remarkable how the Chinese mix and get along with the natives.

Production Is Limited.

Agriculturally, Cambodia shows considerable promise for the future. But little or no progress has been made up to the present. Things are done exactly much as I imagine they were done hundreds of years ago. The cultivation is poor and I take it is yielding only half of what it might yield climatically. The country is well favored except for the rainfall, and the extended dry period is a serious check to agriculture. Then too, vast areas are improperly drained. Doubtless modern drainage and irrigation, coupled with modern mechanical methods of cultivation, would make a vast difference in production. When this comes, the natives should have time for education and enlightenment. One wonders how long it will be before lands such as this will really be opened up to man. I am afraid it cannot come upon the present basis of business exploitation and development.

The Religious Situation.

And this leads to religion and Christianity. It would be interesting to take a country like Cambodia and assemble statistics which would uncover its status religiously. I found no evidences of any Christian missionary work—certainly not any Protestant work. Indeed the French Catholics even seem to make very little effort to influence the native life religiously. In fact, it would be most interesting to get to the bottom of the real policy of the French in the matter of religion and general enlightenment, one seeks a semblance of schools scattered throughout the country but no chapel or church spires. The temple shrines and tombs seem in good

condition but are characteristic Cambodian. I am under the impression that Cambodia is the eastern frontier of former Hindu conquest. The Hindus brought with them their religion as is evident in the ruins of Angkor. Buddhism seems to have a tremendous hold on the country and the Buddhist monk of which there must be thousands are conspicuously attired in long, flowing yellow robes. They are an intelligent looking lot as one passes them in twos and threes along the road, tramping along in bare feet and with umbrellas over their heads. I even saw some of them leading carts so that just what their function is, I do not know, but that a considerable percentage of the population are Buddhists I am quite aware. In fact, I shouldn't be surprised if every male at some time most active in this religious capacity.

My rough observation with regard to the attitude of the French toward this religious life of the native population is that they make very little effort to change it or offer a new light through the message of the gospel. In fact, their whole policy of governmental administration is radically different from that, for example, which we are endeavoring to put across in the Philippines. The natives seem to be left pretty much to themselves except in political control and here they apparently have little to say. At Phnom-penh the French government has built at great expense a residence and court for the king; and temples all modernly built in the native architecture. The royal family is apparently living in great splendor with all the old relics of the old life and greatness carefully preserved. A Buddha with diamonds all over the body and a temple with a silver floor are there. The king's own son showed us over the place and we fell in with a Frenchman and his wife who seemed important. The royal family may be happy but in reality they are prisoners living a false existence in the hand of the French. How different from a modern day republic! And the question is which is better with an ignorant and superstitious people. And is it well to preserve the old relics of the past? Yes, but only for their historical value and not encourage the old life of narrowness, superstition, and sin.

And now we are in Siam. We must concentrate here in one small district and see little but pamelo. After this is over we may decide to run north to see what is there. I can see that Siam is another interesting land.

Just when we will get back to America remains to be seen. We planned to sail from Manila in July but

STAFF IN MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT ENLARGED

Some changes and additions have been made in the Department of Mathematics this year. Professor J. M. Willard, head of the Department announces that an increased number of students have elected mathematics this year. For this reason an increased number of instructors have been engaged and more rooms and offices will be used by this Department.

The following have been engaged by the Mathematics Department. Edward W. McCarthy, A. B. Cornell University 1917, formerly a teacher in private schools, is an Instructor. J. P. Ballantine, a graduate of Harvard, Doctor Teresa Cohen, B. A. and M. A. at Goucher and Ph. D. at Johns Hopkins University. A. P. Palmer, from Wellesley, Walter M. Miller, Ph. B. at Lafayette College.

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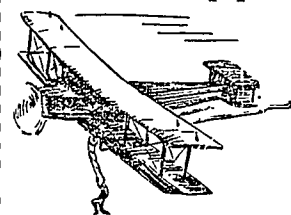
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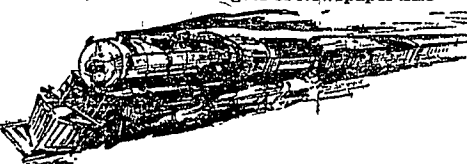
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