GRADUATE WOULD HAVE HONOR SYSTEM RETAINED

Declares That Abolition of System Would Mean Backward Step For Penn State

March 7, 1921

Editor, Penn State Collegian
State College, Penna
Dear Sir —

I have read with great interest Prof. Crockett's ("Geaood" as he is better known to the older men) letter in the last issue of the Collegian concerning the Honor System, and it seems to me that his criticism hit the nail on the head The Honor System, so called, has been introduced into the life of Penn State since I graduated, so possibly I am not in a position to criticise a system of whose workings I am ignorant. I cannot, however, refrain from making a few conservations on Honor Systems in general, and on one in particular with which I am familiar

After a man graduates from college and enters upon the serious business of life, he is called upon almost daily to make decisions, to destroy or construct, something upon which the safety of many other people may depend, to give professional advice, in fact, to take an examination At every turn in the road, his integrity, his honesty, his HONOR is tested, and many of the tests are hard, much harder than any examination he has ever been called upon to take in college And if he fails to measure up to the standard in HONOR he has failed miserably. If he makes a mistake he may get another trial, but not so if he fails in honesty

Any Honor System, to be worthy of the name, should have real HONOR as its foundation, not merely enforced honesty for a few days out of the year. It should call for, and encourage, absolute honesty every day of every year. It should become as much a part of a man's college education as the study of mathematics or English, then, when he graduates, he will have acquired, if he did not have it before, one of the principal factors for success in life. Any business man would rather have an honest man, even if he happens to be a little dull intellectually, than a brilliant man who is dishonest and on whose word he cannot depend.

The Honor System at Georgia Tech, where I took a two-year post-graduate course, is such a system It calls for honesty in all college work, daily recitation, weekly or monthly quiz, and final examination By it the student is placed on his HONOR to neither give nor receive and in any recitation, quiz, or examination And by it the instructor becomes a teacher and not a detective devoting his energies to the work in hand and not being distracted by the thought that this or that man is cheating The System is administered by an Honor Court, made up of students, to whom all violators of the rules of the System are reported, and who investigate the charges and prescribe the penalty, subject to the approval of the Faculty It is not necessary for a man, seeing another cheating, to warn him, although it is allowed and it is not required that the attention of a third man be called to the violation The cheater can be reported by one man for the first offence and must be if he fails to heed the warning The report is made to the Honor Court which conducts its investigations in private, no publicity is given the affair, and frequently a man found guilty will leave school with no one knowing the true reason The instructors come and go as they please, being present more for the purpose of explaining obscure points in the list of questions than anything else, though they may report a man caught cheating the same as one of the students In my two years there, I know of but two cases reported to the Honor Court and both of these were reported by students One was found guilty and was allowed to resign from the school, and the other was found not guilty and was restored to good standing In neither of these cases was it generally known that the men were even on trial I happened to be very intimate with one of the members of the Court and got my knowledge of the case from him

Penn State must have an Honor System To go back to the old method of making detectives of the instructors, and then trying to get ahead of the detectives by seeing how much cheating we can do without getting caught, is a step, nay a big stride, backward, and I feel sure I am voicing the sentiment of the vast majority of alumni when I say "Don't take this step" We all want to see Penn State go forward, and she cannot do it if she takes this backward step.

So let's have an Honor System, but let's make it one whose foundation is real Honor, practiced day by day; one which will make Penn State men real men, in every sense of the word. We are all of us very fond of talking about the men of Penn State, but a man without honor is only half a man Honor and Honesty in the little things of college (and they are little things when compared with the problems of life) will train a man to be honorable and honest in the big problems he will meet with after he leaves college and has to fight his battles alone

By all means have an Honor System

Yours very sincerely,
CHAS. L ARMSBY
Class of 1904

YORK COUNTY CLUB SETS DATE FOR EASTER DANCE

The York County Club has made plans for its second dance of the year to be held at the Coliseum Hall in York on March twenty-fourth Dancing will be from nine o'clock until one and the subscription will be one dollar and seventy-five cents The other dance, held by the club during the Christmas holidays, was entirely successful, about three hundred couples being present

"KNOW GOD" IS ADVICE OF EVANGELIST JONES

The text of the sermons which were delivered on Sunday by Evangelist "Bob" Jones was found in the tenth verse of the sixth chapter of Galatians. "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men" Both sermons were delivered on the same subject but with more completeness at the upperclass gathering Evangelist Jones was assisted by Mr Loren Jones who sang, "Good Enough For Me"

"What is the greatest good that any man can render to his fellow man? The greatest good in the world is not in possessing the best physical health, or in giving money because money cannot furnish all that is needed most Neither is education the greatest thing in the world as there are a number of things that education cannot do Education may prove to be a cure unless one knows more about God The time is yet to come when education will not satisfy The greatest good in the world which is of the highest value to mankind is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"Whatever you have, if you don't have God, life is a failure I am not minimizing or discounting the care of the poor and needy. Yet the greatest benefactor in this institution is the Christian student who is leading people to Jesus Christ The college helps to make one realize an increase in responsibilities. If you are a Christian, your job is to win people to the Christian cause Be sure that you are right with God The Christian religion is a result of human personality and it is the result of the living Christ."

Mr Jones went into great detail in describing the life of Saint Paul and told various instances which occurred during the life of this great apostle "You need a fellowship with God and you must live this life of fellowship I don't believe that any man is at his best until he is the possessor of a fellowship with God There is no explanation of life or experience without God God will give and supply ability The equipment which you need is the equipment which God imparts when you give your life to His service Let us take things as God gives them to us The greatest good on earth is to win people to Jesus Christ Know God There is one consideration which must be understood. Do not attempt any work in a Christian field unless you know God"

JOHNSTOWN CLUB TO HOLD ANNUAL DANCE AT EASTER

The Johnstown Club, consisting of students from Cambria County, will hold its sixth annual dance in that city, Tuesday, March twenty-ninth, from nine-thirty until two o'clock at the Penrose Dancing Academy This year, it has been decided that the affair will be formal and the subscription has been fixed at four dollars

Some features are being arranged by the committee in charge of the dance Efforts are now being made to secure the Penn State Varsity Quartet to appear at the affair and a special seven-piece orchestra has been engaged In past years, the Johnstown Club dance has been well attended and, according to present indications, this Easter's event will also be successful

LE CERCLE FRANCAIS TO HOLD MEETING TONIGHT

Le Cercle Francais will hold its regular meeting this evening, at seven thirty o'clock, at the home of D H. Porterfield, 226 Frazier Street An interesting program consisting of musical numbers and readings in French, will be rendered Anyone who is interested is invited to attend.

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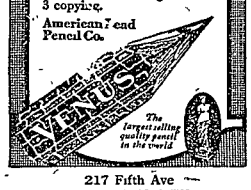

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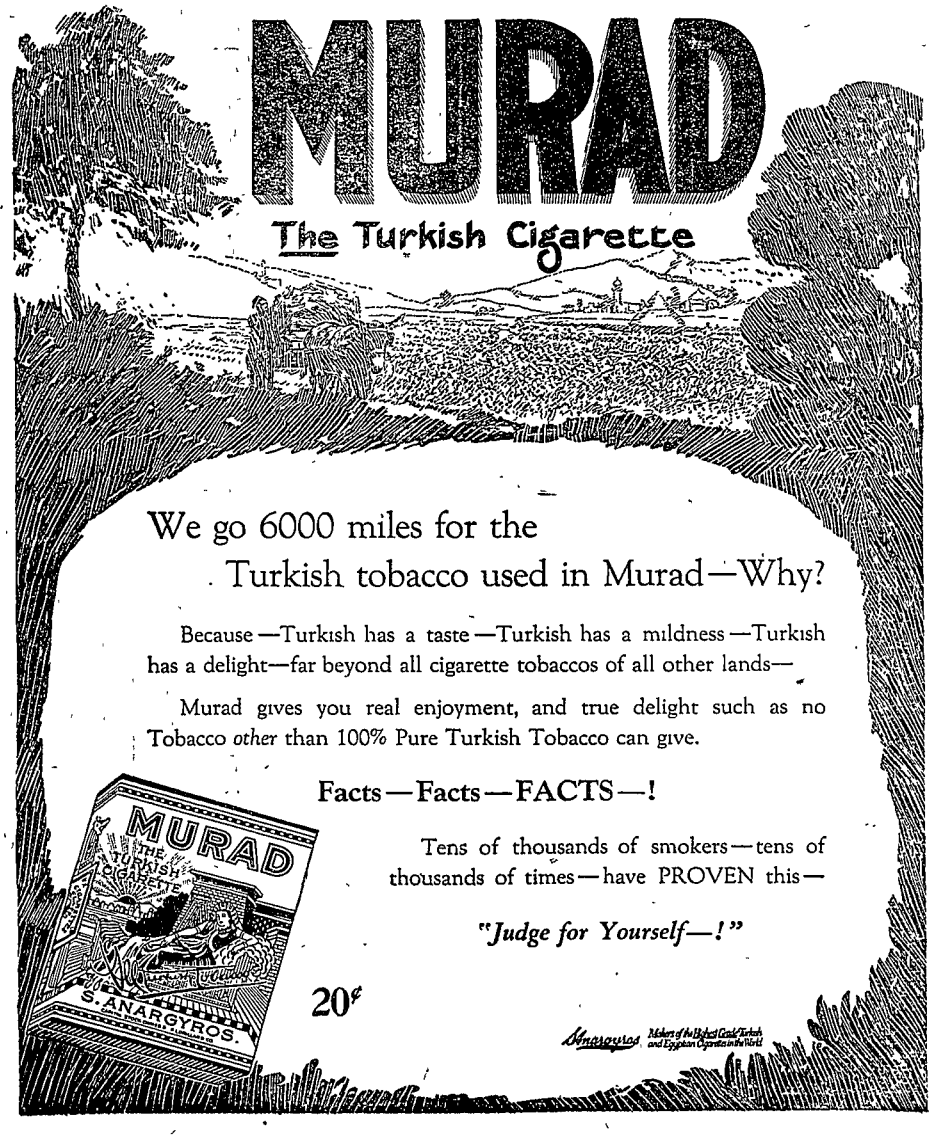
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