

# Penn State Collegian

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## THE POINT SYSTEM

One method of limiting the number of outside activities in which a student may engage, which has worked out very well in a number of American colleges and universities is known as the point system. By this method every office and position open to a student is rated with a certain number of points, according to the amount of time and energy that must be devoted to it. A position which requires a large amount of the student's time and thought will carry a large number of points, while an activity which does not take up much of the man's time will receive a low rating. A certain number of points is then set as the maximum which a man can carry during the college year, and his activities will be limited so as not to exceed the maximum number of points which has been set as the limit. This number will be such as not to allow a man to devote time to outside activities that should be spent on academic work. The system will take into consideration the amount of time which a man has available for extra curriculum activities and the maximum will insure that a man's activities do not encroach on that spare time.

The average college today in which there is no restriction upon the amount of work a man may do outside of his regular college work finds itself in a situation in which the majority of the activities of the institution are centered in the hands of a few outstanding and presumably capable men. This group practically runs the college as far as activities are concerned. Moreover they are burdened with more work than they can rightly handle along with their academic studies. The result is that they do one thing well and let the other slide, and usually the outside work comes to be considered the more important. The extra curriculum activities receive an undue emphasis and the student devotes only enough time to his lessons to stay in college and be able to carry on the activities.

The college work comes to be more important in the eyes of the student than his outside activities, the purpose for which he came to college—to gain an education in some line of work or profession is lost to sight and a college course becomes merely a means of engaging in the outside activities. The fallacious statement is often made that a man gains more from his activities than from his books, and this is undoubtedly true when the books are neglected.

The primary purpose of a man in coming to college is to gain an education, to become a lawyer, a farmer, an engineer or to attain some other position which requires a large amount of scientific knowledge that can only be profitably gotten in a college or university. He comes with this aim in view and all means should be employed in keeping this goal continually in mind. The lure of so-called honors to be gained through the outside activities often has its effect and in some cases the man loses sight of his primary ambition. He goes out for this and that and as a result he attempts more than he can do. In a case like this a point system would limit the number of things to which a man could devote his attention and as a result his work would not suffer from the diffusion of effort.

Another phase of the question which would be corrected to a large extent by a point system is the overloading of men who have shown a capacity for efficient work. Under the present haphazard method, when a man succeeds in one piece of work in a capable way, his success is noted and when another job is to be awarded he is chosen to shoulder the responsibility. It does not stop here but one after the other new burdens are heaped upon him. His early success brings him the attention of his classmates and naturally when a piece of work is to be done, it is given to the man who has proved his ability. The fact that there are others in the class just as capable but who have not been fortunate enough to come before the public eye, is not considered. The known man is overloaded, while the unknown man, deprived of his opportunity of showing his ability, is prevented from relieving the known man of some of the burdens and at the same time is kept from sharing the honors.

The unregulated method can not help but centralize the activities of a college and to some extent violate the democratic spirit which most colleges strive to maintain. Under the point system the offices are spread more widely among the student body, more men receive an opportunity to share in the activities, and, most important of all, a man is prevented from giving too much of his time to his activities to the detriment of his studies. The proven capable man is not overburdened and the capable but unnoticed individual has more of an opportunity for displaying his powers.

Perhaps the greatest difficulty to be encountered with a point system would be the classification of offices and activities according to the number of points and the corresponding amount of time required by each separate job. But this difficult task has been accomplished in many schools and the point system has worked out very successfully. The classification would require a great amount of thoughtful consideration before the system could go into effect, but it has been done in other institutions and can be done at Penn State.

## News From Other Colleges

**RUTGERS**—A course in life-saving, under the direction of one of the coaching staff, has proved to be immensely popular. Anyone completing the course is eligible to take the Red Cross Life Saving examination.

**CORNELL**—Princeton and Cornell Universities called an invitation to Oxford and Cambridge for a track and field meet to be held in New York about July twenty-ninth. The American universities plan to combine their teams against the combined teams of the English schools. This meet would take the place of two dual meets between Princeton and Oxford and Cornell and Cambridge.

**MICHIGAN UNIV.**—The second charters or over given to a university post will be granted by the American Legion to the University of Michigan. The first charter of this kind was given to Syracuse University.

**UNIV. OF TEXAS**—Only one of forty of the Freshman class at the University of Texas was found to be physically defective. This percentage is declared to be unusually low.

**W. ASH J.**—The graduating class of this year plan to present the college with a bronze tablet on which will be engraved the names of all W. and J. men who died in the service during the war.

## On the Corner

It has come to our attention that this here high institution of learning ain't got nothin'! What it needs very badly

For a long time objections have been raised about present day College life, space is so valuable we can only comment on a few

One lane is not enough They sez To put in more apple orchards Where the Physics group and the Auditorium is it would be handy.

Wal, the military department is slipping Only one vacation spilt By drill! The undergrads would like to have more reviews

Many complaints have been heard That the library is deficient As regards nocturnal business The fassers want more alcoves

They sez as how traffick rules Are disregarded on the lake We insat that violators should Be locked up in the town coop.

It is said that an instructor Thought of cutting his class Last week. A committee of studees Should investigate this here outrage

Home work has been increased but Not enough Four hours for each Subject is not enuf Also The exams should be much longer.

The co-eds complain of the late Hours they are forced to keep It is proposed to conclude all Dances and house-parties at ten

## INTEREST IN SILVER BAY CONFERENCE HEIGHTENED

The presidents, or their representatives, of all the fraternities of State College were invited to a dinner given at the University Club last Sunday evening, under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. C. T. Douds '22, the President-elect of the Penn State Y. M. C. A. president. The aim of the meeting was to bring the Silver Bay Conference direct to each fraternity with a view to having each fraternity represented by a delegate at this conference this summer.

The Silver Bay Conference is the greatest religious summer school held in the United States. It is attended by men from all the leading colleges of the country and affords wonderful opportunities for the exchange of ideas. The fact that leading men of the colleges of first rank in the country is sufficient inducement to obtain the very best speakers the country affords. The summer school idea was originated in Northfield, Massachusetts, the home of Dwight L. Moody. Throughout the world there are seventy-one such conferences, of which number seven are located in the United States.

W. H. Tinker, Secretary of the Middle Atlantic Section, George Irving, and Godfrey Buxton, an Englishman with a wonderful personality, were commissioned officers in the English Army, were the speakers of note, at this dinner.

## COMMERCE AND FINANCE CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS

Last Wednesday afternoon, the Commerce and Finance Club held a meeting for the purpose of electing officers for year 1921-1922. After the meeting had been called to order by the retiring President, M. L. Warner, Dr. Warner, head of the History Department, gave a short talk outlining the plans for the Commerce and Finance course for next year and the plans for the Commerce and Finance Club for same period. The officers elected were: C. F. Morgan '22, president, L. H. Logan '22, vice-president, W. L. Lowe '22, Secretary, W. T. Shoemaker '22 treasurer. The club was organized in a successful year under the direction of the retiring regime, and a similarly successful year can be expected under the direction of the newly elected officers.

## A. S. M. E. DISCUSSES PRESENT DAY PROBLEMS

Series of Interesting Lectures Delivered to Central Penna. Section at "U" Club Over Week-end

The Central Pennsylvania Section of the A. S. M. E. held a series of meetings last week end which a number of prominent engineers from nearby towns, as also a group of students and instructors from Bucknell University attended. The general topic of the lectures was the "Present Day Duties and Opportunities of the Engineer." This topic was discussed from different angles by Major Fred Miller, Dr. I. C. Hollis, and Dean Sackett.

Major Fred Miller, the first speaker of the series, spoke Saturday morning at Engineering D on the "New Duties of the Engineer." One of the main issues set forth by the speaker was the necessity of training the modern engineer to deal with the human element in handling labor. To quote the speaker: "The engineer's department must be the realization that the work is being done by human beings." At the same time he brought out the value of the unions in negotiations between employer and employee.

After luncheon at the University Club, Dean Sackett spoke on the "New Opportunities for Engineers." His discussion of the topic showed the vast opportunities for engineers in the political life of the country. Dean Sackett showed how lawyers were at present the most influential class in the political world when it is really the engineer that should rightly go to the top of the country. One of the most important phases was brought out in the words "The engineer's mission is to bring us back from radicalism, socialism, sovietism, and all of the other extremes."

Following Dean Sackett, Dr. I. C. Hollis, president of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute and also past-president of the A. S. M. E. spoke on "The Engineer's Responsibility in the Elimination of Waste in Industries." Dr. Hollis divided the resources of the country into two classes, the replaceable resources, and the non-replaceable resources, and the non-replaceable resources are coal, lumber, wood, and iron among our nonreplaceable resources and indicated where it was the duty of the engineer to conserve these resources as far as possible.

## DEAN SACKETT TO ATTEND CONVENTIONS

This week Dean R. L. Sackett of the Engineering School is attending the convention of the American Association of Mechanical Engineers in Cleveland. The subject of education in the industries occupies one entire program. This subject is closely related to our engineering extension work. This college probably conducts the largest number of extension classes in industry of any institution in the United States. During the week of June sixth, Dean Sackett will present the report of the technical committee at the annual convention of the National Association of Corporation Training which is held at Niagara Falls from June sixth to twelfth.

## COLONEL BOAL ENTERTAINS SCABBARD AND BLADE

Colonel Theodore Boal entertained the members of the Penn State Company of Scabbard and Blade, the honorary fraternity for military men. Colonel Comly, Major and Mrs. Johnson, E. N. Sullivan, Alumni Secretary, and wife, at a dinner and dance at the Military reservation, Boalsburg, on Tuesday evening, May twenty-first. Dinner was served in the mess hall, and was a very delightful affair. The dance was held in the Officers' Club Room. Music was furnished by Thompson's Orchestra.

## Golf Column

Some Instructions Concerning the Mashie Shots—Its Importance on the Approach

Mashie shots are of utmost importance to the golfer and he should take great pains to master the use of this club. On the approach shot to the green, the mashie is generally used effectively. The purpose of this shot is to accurately place the ball near the hole. To do this it is necessary that the ball should fall "dead," that is, it should not roll upon hitting the ground. A well lifted shot will not roll and this is what is meant usually by the mashie stroke. This means that the sphere should be lifted some distance in the air so that it will fall within easy putting distance of the hole.

The hold for this stroke is practically the same as that for the put and approximately the same grip is used for both. In addressing the ball for the mashie, the player should stand close in to the shot so that he can use the club naturally and freely. He should be as near as possible to the ball as he can get, provided that the club is held correctly. With many mashies it is unquestionably necessary to dig into the turf. A player wishes to get under the ball. But this is the fault of club and the player should look into it. Agriculture does not rightly form any part of the game of golf and hacking the turf cannot increase the accuracy of a stroke. It is stated that taking the divot was a religion once, but that now championship players have taken to playing mashie shots as cleanly as possible. If the shot is played really well, the grass will have been cut clean on the top of the roots, but no earth will have been dug up.

In getting under the ball, it is first of all important to hit it as nearly in the middle of the face of the mashie as possible both as to height and length. The angle at which the club is lifted or laid back is the main factor that determines the elevation of the shot that comes off it, provided it is played correctly. The player must always, and especially always trust the loft of his club to give the rise to the ball, although there are cases where he must assist it by laying the face back a little.

It is generally fatal if the golfer tries to lift the ball himself. This is really a confession that he is playing with the wrong club or it does not give the angle desired. The mashie is sometimes not lofted enough, but frequently even then the sole is too broad and the front edge of it is too blunt and the back edge is not rounded off enough. This all means that agriculture is needed to get under the ball, whereas if the mashie is constructed on correct principles it will not only be unnecessary but also inadvisable to go in for mowing as an aid to mashie approach.

With the proper club the face is

Don't Take the Turf  
There is a prevalent misconception that to play a good mashie stroke it is necessary to take some turf with the swing. Some even practice this cutting of divots in all shots. However, this is not necessary for a good mashie approach, provided that the club is held correctly. With many mashies it is unquestionably necessary to dig into the turf. A player wishes to get under the ball. But this is the fault of club and the player should look into it. Agriculture does not rightly form any part of the game of golf and hacking the turf cannot increase the accuracy of a stroke. It is stated that taking the divot was a religion once, but that now championship players have taken to playing mashie shots as cleanly as possible. If the shot is played really well, the grass will have been cut clean on the top of the roots, but no earth will have been dug up.

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well laid back and the front edge of the sole should fit closely under the ball, so that the force of the blow can act upwardly. If the edge is sharp any turf chopping that is done will check the stroke as little as possible. There are cases where it is necessary to chop into the earth, but for all ordinary shots this is not really so. When a player has thorough command of the mashie, there is one way in which extreme accuracy may be obtained. This is to play the ball so that it will have the least possible run after it has landed. By doing this, the golfer eliminates to a great extent the puzzling problem of the difference in the greens and the roll of the ball on them.

In mashie shots the great principle of keeping well into the ball so that the head of the club is in the line to the hole as long as possible should be kept in mind, as it should in all golfing strokes with the exception of put shots. In playing the running-up shot the mashie, both in the extreme backward swing and at the finish, is kept very close to the ground. As stated before, the mashie itself will do the lofting and the player plays the stroke. The beginner will find this shot merely a step beyond the put, only he will use his arms more and the ball will jump when he hits it.

## VARIED INTERESTS OF CO-EDS SHOWN BY TABLE

The following table represents the vocational interests of the Senior, Junior and Sophomore girls. The figures were obtained as a result of personal interviews held with each girl and represent the real vocational choice at the present time, i. e., a girl wanting to enter Social Service work but needing to accept a more remunerative position for a year is listed under social service work. On the other hand a number of Senior girls intending to be married within two years are listed according to their plans for the immediate future. While in no case are the girls urged to make plans for work without considering their duty to their family or the likelihood of their marrying, each girl is urged to plan her course as to be capable of self-support whenever it is necessary.

There will doubtless be a number of changes, certainly among those in the present Sophomore class. It is planned to keep in the office of the Dean of Women a record of those changes together with the actual occupation or profession of the girls for a period of five years.

- Teaching—23 Seniors, 30 Juniors, 26 Sophomores.
- Industrial Management—8 Seniors, 4 Juniors, 11 Sophomores.
- Lab and Research—3 Seniors, 5 Juniors, 4 Sophomores.
- Graduation Study—1 Senior, 7 Juniors, 4 Sophomores.
- Social Service—6 Seniors, 4 Juniors, 7 Sophomores.
- Agriculture—3 Seniors, 4 Juniors, 2 Sophomores.
- Library—1 Senior, 2 Juniors.
- Business Employment—6 Seniors, 2 Juniors, 4 Sophomores.
- Kindergarten—2 Sophomores.
- Domestic Art—1 Senior, 2 Sophomores.

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