

BASIS OF OCCULTISM IS UNSOUND--DE CAMP

Popular Belief in Ghosts and Spiritualism Flayed by Psychology Professor

Professor J. K. DeCamp, Associate Professor of the Department of Psychology, today flayed the occult and showed how the basis of occultism is unsound. In the first of the series of lectures being given throughout the winter months under the auspices of the School of Liberal Arts, Professor DeCamp showed that the careful thinker will discount any of these beliefs if he will only remember that, whenever any of these things have been done, a careful scientific investigation will show a fraud. "Any of these things," said Professor DeCamp, "that can be done by a spiritualist, can be done equally as well, if not better, by a good musician."

In his opening remarks, the speaker mentioned a number of experiments performed by spiritualists to show their contact with the other world--and yet these same experiments can be performed by anyone who has the proper apparatus. He showed how utterly ridiculous these tricks were and yet how easily people were induced to believe in the super-natural powers of the operator.

Following this discussion, Professor DeCamp spoke of the belief in ghosts. "The subject of ghosts," said Professor DeCamp, "reminds me of the story of the colored lady who, when asked whether she believed in ghosts, replied: 'No, sir, I don't believe in ghosts but I'm scared of them.' This is the feeling of a great many people who, although they do not believe in ghosts, would not care to enter a lonely grave yard at midnight on a Friday evening. When we are dealing with the beliefs of people we are considering a very queer kind of psychology. The mere assertion that I have seen a ghost does not mean that I have seen one. We believe in things for which we have no contradictory evidence. The mere assertion that a thing has been experienced does not mean that it has been experienced."

Professor DeCamp also spoke of the methods employed by mediums in talking with departed spirits and in showing how simple they are. "So far as careful experiments have given us," he said, "there is no evidence to show that any spirit has ever returned to this earth: There is no evidence to warrant any thinking man to believe in it. The trouble lies in the fact that the French scientists would have us assume that spirits do re-visit this earth and then base our experiments on that assumption."

CURRICULUM CHOSEN FOR NEW ARCHITECT'S COURSE

The decision of the Board of Trustees relative to the changes to be made in the architectural courses in the School of Engineering has had the effect of creating two distinct choices for the student who wishes to follow the profession of architecture. The changes include addition to the courses with the view in mind of including those subjects which are essential in either of the lines of study.

The Department of Architectural Engineering will be a continuation of the present course in the college curriculum while the Department of Architecture will offer an extensive course in Architectural design. A graduate of this course will be permitted to practice his profession without submitting to State examinations. After a study of the course as given in many of the larger institutions in the country, the Dean of the School of Engineering and the Head of the Department of Architecture have decided upon the outline to be followed and as a result the scheme of study is to be most complete and thorough.

The new course is intended to give training in the fundamentals of design and construction, the aim being which will lay the foundations for both liberal and professional. The course or independent practice will include instruction in creative architectural design, planning, freehand drawing, history, literature, mathematics, mechanics, structural design and law. In this course, the student will be given more freehand drawing and design with less mathematics and structures. This course will in no way effect the course of Architectural Engineering for it will remain practically as it is taught now.

PRINCETON WILL ERECT MILLION DOLLAR CHAPEL

Princeton is to erect a new chapel to replace the one burned down two years ago. The new chapel will be virtually a small cathedral and will cost more than one million dollars. It is expected to be a beautiful work of architecture and it will add much to the beauty of the college.



PROPOSED "S" ON MOUNT NITTANY

FRAT CAGE CONTESTS WILL BE SPEEDED UP

College Grants Extension of Time For Use of Armory Courts For Contests

With all vacations and other affairs which have interfered with the Inter-Fraternity basketball schedule now practically past, the program is now under way for the completion of the sectional race before the beginning of the final championship games between the leaders of each section. The Xmas vacation and the examination period caused a decided lapse in the playing of the games but normal conditions are putting the schedule back on its feet. A decided advantage toward the completion of the schedule was given when the Athletic authorities granted the league the privilege of playing from eight until ten o'clock instead of from eight until nine as heretofore. Thus instead of four games each night eight now will be played.

As there is a total of 252 games in the league to be played and of these only about 50 have been completed, at this time a standing of the league would not be practicable. However in a week or so it will be possible to draw up a league standing.

Following is the schedule to be played next week. Any question about this program should be referred to C. B. Nesbitt of the Alpha Chi Rho House.

- Tuesday, February 14
 - A--8:00 P. M.--Sigma Pi vs. Phi Sigma Kappa.
 - B--8:00 P. M.--Phi Kappa Psi vs. Alpha Chi Rho.
 - A--8:15 P. M.--Sigma Phi-Epsilon vs. Beta Theta Pi.
 - B--8:15 P. M.--Omega Epsilon vs. Delta Kappa Nu.
 - A--8:00 P. M.--Cuecco vs. Phi Delta Theta.
 - B--9:00 P. M.--Delta Tau Delta vs. Sigma Alpha Epsilon.
 - A--9:15 P. M.--Pi Kappa Alpha vs. Phi Gamma Delta.
 - B--9:15 P. M.--Delta Tau Omega vs. Alpha Chi Rho.
- Thursday, February 16
 - A--8:00 P. M.--Lambda Chi Alpha vs. Delta Sigma Chi.
 - B--8:00 P. M.--Alpha Gamma Rho vs. Beta Sigma Rho.
 - A--8:15 P. M.--Theta Chi vs. Alpha Delta Sigma.
 - B--8:15 P. M.--Three Links vs. Tau Sigma Tau.
 - A--9:00 P. M.--Phi Kappa vs. Kappa Theta.
 - B--9:00 P. M.--Acacia vs. Phi Sigma Pi.
 - A--9:15 P. M.--Kappa Sigma vs. Sigma Nu.
 - B--9:15 P. M.--Alpha Tau Omega vs. Sigma Phi Sigma.

BOTANY DEPARTMENT IS STUDYING POTATO DISEASES

The Botany Department is co-operating with the Freeport Sulphur Company in conducting experiments on the effect of sulphur on the potato scab. The work is in charge of Professor Orton and is being carried on by Mr. C. M. Palmer.

Dr. J. P. Kelly has a collection of pe-

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THREE TENNIS COURTS TO BE BUILT IN SPRING

Plans are under way for the erection of three more tennis courts on New Beaver Field. The courts are to be built alongside of the ones already there and the six courts together will accommodate many tennis enthusiasts who have previously had trouble finding room to play.

MUSICAL CLUBS HAVE TWO TRIPS SOUTH

The month of March looms up as a very busy one for the members of the college musical organizations. Concerts, both at home and out of town, are scheduled to take place during the period, when the Men's Glee Club, the Girls' Glee Club and the Freshmen Girls' Quartet will appear before the music-loving public.

Under the direction of Professor C. C. Robinson, head of the Department of Music, all of these organizations have been engaged in constant practice so that any program which they may attempt is sure to be highly successful, and highly entertaining to the audience.

With the Glee Club trip on the first of the month, the songsters' season will really begin. The club will travel to Williamsport, Philadelphia, and New York City, and at the latter place will compete in the Intercollegiate Glee Club Contest against some of the best singers in the collegiate world. The personnel of the trip will be determined by competitive trials in the near future.

Under the auspices of the college music department, the Girls' Glee Club and the Freshman Girls' Quartet will give a concert at the Lock Haven Normal School in the early part of March. The program which has not been completely arranged as yet, will be spiced by reading selections. The popularity of Penn State Musical organizations at Lock Haven is of such a nature that they are always appreciated.

The concert by the College Chorus which was scheduled for Sunday afternoon, has been postponed and a band concert will be given instead. However, an opportunity to hear the chorus will be given when they present their program sometime next month.

The personnel of the Freshman Girls' Quartet which has appeared whenever this organization has occupied a part in the musical programs of the last semester is as follows:
Betty Croll--First Soprano.
Leah Lark--Second Soprano.
Grace Haffly--First Alto.
Pauline Plinchbaugh--Second Alto.

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Out-of-Doors

I remember, being now an upperclassman, that, as a freshman, certain places in the mountains near the college of which I knew only by hearsay had a peculiar attraction for me on account of their somewhat picturesque names. I refer to such points as Charter Oak, Big Flat and Little Flat, the so-called "kettles," and Bear Meadows. Some of these well-named places may seem to contain in themselves little enough of interest that they are hardly worth choosing as the destination for a hike. But the best hikes after all are not those where the greatest importance is given to the end of the trip. It is the trip itself that counts, the country you pass through, the things you see on the way, and the healthy joy of hiking itself. Any place in the Seven Mountains is worth visiting from this standpoint.

There is probably not a more interesting one-day hike in the mountains than a trip to Bear Meadows. The most interesting route to take is that through Shingletown Gap, turning to the left and following the road until it meets the Laurel Run road up in back of Bald Top. We cross the Laurel Run road here and take the trail that leads up to Little Flat. The trail runs over a typical rock slide and travel consists in a hop, skip, and a jump from one stone to another. But at every upward step the view broadens and we soon look over Bald Top to Nittany and beyond. The trail is beautiful in the spring when it is lined with blooming Azaleas. It leads directly to the 30 foot tower on Little Flat from which we behold a glorious picture of the a village dotted here and there, and a checker-board of fields, with the mountains which meet the horizon in every direction. We turn to the right and cross Little Flat, coming abruptly to the edge of the hill where the trail drops straight down over tumbled heaps of boulders and from the top of which the whole of Bear Meadows may be seen. Directly below is a crescent-shaped bowl in the mountains and in the heavy part of it a circle of dark green made by the evergreens in the swamp. We pick our way down the trail to the Bear Meadows road and turn to the right for a mile or so until we come to the rangers' cabin, seen through the trees to the right a little ways back from the road. This spot is the best on the trip for cooking a meal and may also be used as a base for trips of investigation and the presence there of specimens of plant life rarely found in Pennsylvania. It is best to go into the swamp with a person who knows the

place, who can find the old tramroad and trails and point out the interesting bits of plant life. Directions for the return trip are hardly necessary as it is simply a matter of following the Bear Meadows Road until it leaves the mountains through Galbraith (or Spruce) Gap and meets the Lewistown Pike about a mile from Boalsburg. The whole trip may be made in an afternoon but a day is best if it is desired to have ample opportunity to roam about in the meadows.

COLLEGE "BASKET" OPS TO BE HELD IN MARCH

In a college which was ranked first from the War Department, the Military Department of the College is preparing to hold basketball games in the gymnasium during the month of March. The annual basketball tournament of the Board Unit of the State of Pennsylvania. This week he held his annual basketball tournament at Tyrone, Huntingdon, and Westwood. Next week he will hold his annual basketball tournament at Ballston Spa, N. Y.

With a view to forming the teams the scores which were filed last year have been gone over by the department, and the men having the highest scores have been selected as the best known material from which to choose the teams. However, the Military Department desires that all men in the regiment who have had experience in handling the rifle report to Major Johnson at the Army any afternoon, except Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays, between the hours of 1:30 and 5:00 o'clock and try out for one of the teams. As requests for matches with other colleges are coming in, it is necessary for all who wish to try out for the teams to report immediately in order to get as much practice as possible.

SOCIAL FRATERNITIES MAY BE BANISHED AT COLORADO

An organization has been formed at the University of Colorado, whose express purpose is to abolish all social fraternities at the college. One hundred and fifty students attended the first meeting. Publicity and propaganda are the means by which they intend to bring this into effect. No radical action of any kind has been taken as yet.

PENN STATE MILITARY HEAD INSPECTING NATIONAL GUARD

Lieutenant Colonel Conroy, head of the Department of Military Science and Tactics of the College, has been ordered to inspect the annual inspection of the National Guard Unit of the State of Pennsylvania. This week he held his annual inspection at Tyrone, Huntingdon, and Westwood. Next week he will hold his annual inspection at Ballston Spa, N. Y.

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