

Penn State Collegian

Published semi-weekly during the College year by students of the Pennsylvania State College, in the interest of Students, Faculty, Alumni, and Friends of the College

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The Penn State Collegian invites communications on any subject of college interest. Letters must bear the signatures of the writers. All copy for Tuesday's issue must be in the office by noon on Monday, and for Friday's issue, by noon Thursday.

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THE PENN STATE CODE

One of the most important tasks conceived within the past few years at Penn State, and one which took on added importance as it was subjected to more serious thought and consideration, was introduced and brought to the attention of Student Council at one of its meetings last spring. The task to which reference is made is the one of framing a code for Penn State to govern the attitude and actions of all members of the Nittany family in their everyday relations on the campus. The close of college last spring marked the suspension of active work on Penn State's honor code. But the issue is still alive.

Realizing the need at this institution for a definite code, founded on principles that work elsewhere, a careful investigation of conditions at other colleges was made and a committee was appointed to draw up a code which would be especially adapted to the Nittany atmosphere, a code which would be typically Penn State.

Several months of earnest application and careful consideration resulted in the outlining last spring of an honor system which, when completed, should prove an intangible asset to the institution, to be fostered from year to year and incorporated in Penn State's traditions.

For the benefit of this year's newcomers and those who, perchance, may have forgotten, a brief resume of the ideas incorporated in the code might not be amiss.

Experiences of the past few years have substantiated a generally accepted belief that the solution of a problem of such great importance as the honor question is infinitely deeper than the approval of a system that is confined to a single phase of student life. At an institution like Penn State, where loyalty and "squareness" are inherited by each member of the Nittany Clan when he matriculates, it is to be expected that honor and honesty are to be considered above all other qualities.

Such a spirit of honor and honesty, manifested in clean sportsmanship, is now a marked characteristic of every phase of Penn State athletics. It is the product of many years of earnest work on the part of the student government and of active support by each member of the student body. And the mission of the Penn State Code is to extend this same idea of clean play to other lines of endeavor. It is the contention of those individuals responsible for the framing of the code that honor and honesty are none the less desirable when applied to social functions, examinations, elections and other phases of campus life. And a worthy contention it is.

Much work is yet to be done by those entrusted with the task before the code is finally complete and has earned the united support of the students. Let nothing be left undone to give Penn State the best there is to offer. Let thorough investigation and sane reasoning characterize each step that is taken. And let the new Nittany code be such that it will merit the zealous guardianship of every true son and daughter of the college.

A FRESHMAN DEBATING TEAM.

An interesting innovation this year in one of Penn State's most sadly neglected student activities takes on the form of a debating team for the freshmen. The idea is a good one and may serve to create a greater interest among newcomers in the forensic art.

Prospects for a strong team composed of first year men are exceedingly bright if recent investigations made by the Nittany debating coach may be considered final. Freshman debating teams at other institutions have been accorded a reasonable degree of success in proportion to their several abilities along the forensic line, and there is no logical reason for other than a successful season by Penn State's yearling debaters.

One thing is certain. The first year team will be supported by the members of the freshman class at least. There is no alternative in their case. It is believed that in time this undivided support in the freshman year will do much to arouse active interest in competitions of this nature on questions of national and international importance.

That this interest will be retained, in part at least, when the freshmen graduate to the upper classes is the sincere hope of those actively engaged in promoting the idea. If this should be the case, and it is entirely logical, the varsity debating teams of the future, made up, perhaps in part, of the previous year's experienced freshman debaters, would be accorded the unstinted support of Penn State's students, something which has been almost entirely lacking in this field of student endeavor in previous years.

The benefits to be derived from forensic competition, both as they affect the participant and the supporter, are of a varied and extensive nature. Of this there is no doubt. It is simply a matter of educating the student public to believe that time spent in listening to a debate is not time wasted. The institution of a freshman team is a step in the right direction. Those individuals responsible for the idea are worthy of commendation.

COMMUNICATIONS INVITED

The attention of that part of Penn State's reading public which includes the COLLEGIAN on its list is directed to a notice in the masthead inviting communications of interest to students and friends of the college. Letters to the editor on questions of current interest are always welcome and, if accompanied by the writer's signature, will merit the unbiased attention of the editorial board.

It is planned to devote a column of the editorial page to be used exclusively as a medium for the expression of public thought and opinion as voiced in letters to the editor. As herein-before stated, the writer's signature must accompany the article or letter. Upon request however, the name may be omitted from print if the article warrants publication.

A suitable box will be placed outside the COLLEGIAN office in which all communications and notices of any nature may be deposited. Assurance is given that these notices and expressions of ideas will be accorded immediate and deserved attention.

FAVORABLE COMMENT IS MADE ON "PREXY'S" TALK

Dr. Thomas' Convocation Speech Is Thrilling on Newspaper Editorial on Common Law

When President Thomas spoke of the necessity for college students observing the law at the Penn State convocation on September twelfth, his message was relayed through the newspapers to the people of this and other states, and has drawn very favorable editorial comment from newspapers in many sections.

One of these editorials, called "College Men and the Law", from the Harrisburg "Patriot", follows: "Impressing his students with the need of law observance, President Thomas, in his matriculation address at State College, set an example for all college executives. Opening of college with its thousands of new students makes an appropriate time to emphasize the importance of law observance.

"Many persons hold that the first few years of Prohibition are the hardest from an enforcement standpoint. The hope is with the new generations. After the contemporaries with their thirties pass on, their successors, not familiar with the swinging door of the saloon and the taste of intoxicants will accept Prohibition as they do the abolition of slavery.

"If this be true, and it cannot well be disputed, then the entrants at college are inviting material to use as upholders of the Nation's laws. College men should take the lead in reform," said President Thomas, "and a good way to begin is to learn in college respect for law."

"One lesson college students of today need to learn," he continued, "is respect for constituted authority." It is a lesson needed to be learned also by college graduates. In many communities college men are the leading citizens. They are men of influence in too many instances their example in Prohibition matters is shocking, a reflection on themselves and their alma mater.

"Tremendous achievements can be made to a nation of law and order by the boys now going to college if they heed the counsel of President Thomas. No lesson in classroom or 'lab' is more vital to their future than respect for law."

Facts and Figures

President Thomas has supplied the COLLEGIAN with a few outstanding items in the work of the Pennsylvania State College for the year ending June thirtieth. This compilation, a brief compass of some of the principal facts and figures concerning the work of the College, must make an impression even upon those who are familiar with the wide extent of the work of Penn State in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In an institution of such large scope and broad program, it may easily happen that even those most familiar with the College fail to inform themselves concerning features not directly connected with their own work. Hence the value of such a summary statement as the president of the College has made.

The total number of students enrolled was 22,385 of whom the number resident in all courses during the first and second semesters was 3,600, students at the Summer Session of 1922 2,688, registered in correspondence courses 8,413, and enrolled in extension classes in 108 cities and towns in forty counties 8,921; making a total of 22,722.

The discrepancy in above totals is due to 337 names appearing twice.

Agricultural and home economics extension service was conducted in sixty-three of the sixty-seven counties of the State, employing seventy-six county agents and assistants, forty-six specialists and administrative officers, and twenty-eight home economics workers.

The Agricultural Experiment Station engaged fifteen persons full time in scientific research, and the Institute of Animal Nutrition was administered with a staff of nine.

Engineering and mining experiment stations were provided for the industries of the state.

The College conferred 572 baccalaureate degrees and forty-two advanced degrees—total 614.

A graduate school was organized, enrolling 177 students. Authority was given for the organization of a School of Education in 1923.

Two new buildings were erected from state funds appropriated in 1921, a men's dormitory for 110 students and a beef cattle barn, the latter being the first college building for the purpose east of the Alleghenies.

\$1,806,000 was subscribed by 14,991 alumni and friends of the college for the erection of student welfare buildings.

A state-wide campaign financed by private gifts was conducted to familiarize the public with the work of the college and the benefits to be derived from its legitimate development and adequate support.

The above services were rendered at a total cost of \$2,489,289.95 received as follows:

From the State of Pennsylvania \$1,162,157.67
From the United States 896,776.40
From sales, grant fees and miscellaneous 871,011.26

There's lots of pep and entertainment in the "X" Course.

You can buy a whole course ticket for the price of two single admissions—and get better seats.

PENN STATE FRESHMEN TO HAVE DEBATING TEAM

Penn State will have a freshman debating team this year according to plans announced by Assistant Professor T. J. Gates. The debating coach, C. O. Ridenour, of the English Department, will coach the yearlings in the forensic art and the necessary funds have been provided to conduct the work satisfactorily.

Other colleges have freshman debating teams and the success which the Penn State varsity team has shown in past seasons proves that Penn State also has the possibilities for a strong team composed of first-year men. These men can furnish a nucleus for the varsity team next year, thus providing the coach with men of greater experience with which to work. A call will be made for both freshman and varsity candidates on or about October first.

Gridiron Gossip

"Dutch" Bedenk is bemoaning the fact that since football training started, he is nothing but a mere shadow of his former self. This fragile guard only balances the scales when they are at one hundred and seventy-nine pounds.

The A. A. Office should send Walter Camp a big gift to one of Penn State's big games, for in Bedenk and Wilson we have just two good chances to break into the all-American line-up once more.

Here's hoping that the gridiron experts see them do their stuff.

"Moose" McCormick faces a tough proposition at Bucknell this year with only four veterans back from last season's eleven. A further complication will be the invasion of "Pop" Warner and his band of wild and blood-thirsty Panthers on Saturday.

Which reminds us that when Bucknell invaded Pittsburgh last year those same Panthers came within an ace of having their respective tails twisted.

Penn is boasting a captain this year who, according to the critics, will rank with the best fullbacks in collegiate circles. He is none other than "Tex" Hamer.

"Tex" had an enjoyable afternoon last November punching holes in the Nittany line in the never-to-be-forgotten Penn game.

But turning to more pleasant memories we recall the efficient manner in which Bedenk slipped through the Red and Blue line in that same battle to throw the feet-footed Sullivan for substantial losses.

Blue and White football stars seem to be much in demand as prep school coaches for George Snell is head coach at Johnstown High School. "Pip" Koehler is football coach at Windy High School, while Charlie "Way" and "Squeek" Hufford are coaching at Allentown and Sunbury High Schools respectively.

Not to mention "Bill" Woods at Gettysburg, "Killy" right here with us and "Newsh" Benitz at Mansfield Normal.

"Tubby" Spears hasn't been at all satisfied with the showing of his West Virginia gridders during the last few days. Just the same we're all anxious to see just what effect that moonshine atmosphere has on a football team.

From past records it must be potent stuff.

Puns are detectable but here goes Chase of the Pitt football team has been chased from the varsity by Tom Murdock, track star, who has been playing a bang-up game at tackle. Chase tips the beam at one hundred and eighty-five while Murdock balances one ninety.

"Every day, in every weigh, they get bigger and bigger" seems to be "Pop" Warner's national anthem.

Art Husic, captain of last year's Lehigh eleven and Hermann Schutting of Dartmouth are assisting Coach Eldwin in recruiting the Brown and White gridders for the season's grid. Lehigh's battle cry as usual is "Beat Lafayette."

And it would not be amiss to mention that this same war cry would hold good if Penn State were Lehigh and Pitt were Lafayette.

Lots of fun and hilarity in the "X" Course.

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Thoughts of Others

(The Dartmouth) "Time makes ancient good uncouth," wrote some sage soul, and when we witness several hundred sophomores matching their glee against freshman ardor—the while mulling about a football lost somewhere in the midst of the struggling mass, the observation rankles for consideration. College—open tradition dictates some sort of a sophomore-freshman battle; the campus big-wigs consult the books of custom, and the fray is on. And for the mean-while, seem to be arguments enough: "Let the old traditions fall!" the better class must demonstrate its superiority; the incoming group must be welcomed into the sturdy fellowship of the college. class spirit must be fostered—class spirit, that idol which, nicked and worn by the elements through years of exposure to worshipful oblation, complacently accepts the homage as its due.

But it has always seemed to us that the idol stands on feet looking strangely akin to clay. There are those who deplore class rushes because they are said to be brutal and because it must be admitted that an occasionally over-energetic individual faints and is carried to the edges of the surging mass. But rushes are not brutal. They are merely vigorous, and hardly more vigorous than the average undergraduate ought to be able to stand. And there are others who pronounce the whole business crude and childish and unworthy of college surroundings. But class rushes are not such unmitigated evils. On the contrary it would easily be possible to list several cogent reasons to advocate "more and better" rushes. But what is hard to swallow is this basic argument of class spirit: Rushes foster class spirit, they say. What is this class spirit anyway? To others of psychological training falls the task of turning forth a definition. We merely raise the question. And the small attendance at class meetings, the diminishing numbers participating in the rushes of the past couple of years, and the more or less current we-want-to-be-shown undergraduate in the college seems to give justification. Apparently large numbers see no reason for genuflecting before the idol, and those who do may be suspected as often as not of indiscriminate and unanalyzed reverence.

The purpose of this column, in so far as it may be said to have a purpose, is to provoke discussion. And where a more provoking question than class spirit! Its advocates are usually prepared to wheel out the tar barrel and rip up feather pillows for all who question its sway, its discards are more than ordinarily equipped with the weapons of destructive criticism in the meanwhile Vox Populi yawns for exercise. For our part we incline to the belief that vastly more important than class spirit is class greatness, and class greatness depends on the development of the individuals in the class rather than the class as a unit. Class spirit has a place, to be sure, but in the din it stirs up, most everyone forgets that twenty-five years out of college a class is judged on the number of its successful men rather than on whether it won its freshman football rush.

"Y" IS FORMING BIBLE CLASSES FOR FRESHMEN

The formation of special Bible groups among the freshman class is being undertaken by the Y. M. C. A. this year. A canvass is now being made of the first-year men, inviting them to join a group.

The groups will be led by such men as the Reverend D. W. Carruthers, student pastor of the Presbyterian church, Professor W. V. Dennis, Professor I. L. Foster and other faculty members and also Nelson Hiebman '24, Carl Calhoun '25, H. E. Foulkrod '25 and other students. These classes will meet in different houses at hours to be selected by the several groups.

PROFESSOR ORTON WILL VISIT FIELD LABORATORY

Mr. C. R. Orton, professor of Plant Pathology, will spend several days in the near future at Froeland, Pennsylvania, looking after harvesting of potato-wart experimental plots at the field laboratory. He will also attend a conference of federal and state officials at Harrisburg, called to consider further plans for the quarantine on this disease.



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INFIRMARY REPORTS SHOW SICKNESS IS PREVALENT

Statistics which were compiled recently at the infirmary reveal the fact that the relative percent of sickness in college this year is much greater than that of last year. From the time that school opened last fall until September thirtieth, 483 persons were treated, while this year, including September twentieth, over 375 students have received medical attention.

Last year, for the entire month of September, eleven men were confined to bed and reports for this month show that already eight have been bed-fast. However, the sickness this year is not of a serious nature, consisting mostly of grippe, colds, and tonsillitis.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE VISITS COLLEGE FARMS

Dr. John Monteith, Jr., of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture, stationed at Madison, Wisconsin, was a visitor on State College last Wednesday and Thursday, investigating clover diseases. He was interested in the relative susceptibility of numerous strains of red clover from Europe, North and South America, to several diseases of this crop.

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FACULTY MEMBER TO BE CONVENTION INTERPRETER

Professor I. O. Sidelman of the Dairy Extension Department has been honored with the appointment as official interpreter at the World's Dairy Congress to be held at Washington, Philadelphia and Syracuse October second to thirteenth. Professor Sidelman is proficient in speaking and writing the languages and is also familiar with Scandinavian, German and Polish the Russian language. His services will be very valuable to the visiting delegates from the foreign countries who are not sufficiently versed in the English language to understand readily the remarks of the English and American scientists who will address the World's Dairy Congress.

Marlo Sundellons ranks 50% above Anna Case.

The Nittany Theatre Co. Pastime: TUESDAY—HOPE HAMPTON, NITA NALDI, LEW CODY, CONRAD NAGEL In "Lawful Larceny" NEWS WEEKLY. WEDNESDAY—All Star Cast In "Mark of the Beast" Our Gung Comedy. THURSDAY, FRIDAY and SATURDAY—Thirty-Real Stars and Fifty Celebrities in "HOLLYWOOD". NITANY FRIDAY and SATURDAY—LOIS WILSON & RICHARD DIX In "To the Last Man" LARRY SEMON In "The Gown Shop"