

# 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.

Subscription price, \$2.50, if paid before January 1st, 1924. After January 1st, 1924, \$3.75.

Entered at the Postoffice, State College, Pa., as second class matter. Office: Nittany Printing and Publishing Co. Building.

Member of Eastern Intercollegiate Newspaper Association  
News Editor this issue: W. L. PRATT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1923

## ACTION NEEDED

While we watch a fighting football team representing Penn State battle its way through the stiffest of opposition, while we lend ear to those who praise the Penn State Spirit; while we watch our institution grow year by year—all of which we are justly proud and of which we boast freely—we appear blind and insensible to the fact that a sinister and destructive change is being wrought about our campus and its traditions, which is striking at the very heart and foundations of that of which we are so proud—the Spirit that has made Penn State.

Nor yet are we totally blind to this condition. It is not a case of insensibility; it is a condition of inactive, not-give-a-hang indifference to its presence and its results. It is hard to define and point out this problem by the use of a few words; it is necessary to cite certain definite cases, some of which have been called to the attention of the undergraduates before, in order to formulate a definition of the situation.

The rank failure of the annual tie-up scrap last Saturday is the latest and most disgraceful event of the nature to which reference is made. The fact that no rope was on hand was merely a mechanical failure. But the fact that only forty-five sophomores and a couple of hundred freshmen were on the field is the thought that must be viewed with concern. Nor is this year an exception. It has been increasing every year, and not only in this but in all of the underclass scraps.

Again, the class meetings must be considered where only a handful straggles in. This condition is in evidence not only among the underclassmen but among the juniors and seniors as well.

Then there is the question of enforcement of the customs and traditions of the college. Each year the tendency is becoming stronger to look with unseeing eyes upon the flagrant violations of these customs. Where formerly the freshman trembled for fear of detection of some misdemeanor he now becomes unaffected and unchecked because the upperclassmen fail to exercise the trust left in their hands by previous classes.

Is Penn State becoming a college of "cake-eaters"? Where are the rough-neck sophomores when it comes time for an annual contest between the two lower classes? Where are they and the upperclassmen when a class meeting is called? Those who do not make an effort to be on hand at the event can be found lounging around the house, playing cards, hurrying to see their favorite movie star, or manufacturing alibis for not turning out. And less and less effort is being made to see that the freshmen attend those gatherings which are an essential part of their education.

When some of the older, more experienced and more watchful of our college officials deem it advisable to institute a change in the traditional customs and features of our college, there are those who growl and mutter at the curtailing of their rights and traditions. Yet those who take such an attitude, it will be found in a majority of cases, are the very ones who shirk their rights to take part in class scraps and class meetings. If they are so opposed to, and wrought up over, the assumption of their privileges, why do they not pursue actively those which are left them rather than leave them to die an ignominious death? Why do not the upperclassmen see to it that the lower class students maintain the traditions with all the force possible and do likewise themselves?

For if such things as class scraps, class meeting and the enforcement of customs are allowed to decay and disappear, it can be looked forward to with a certainty that disintegration and lack of unity will be the result. Individualism will, and is now, working its way into the student body, and when that is accomplished, the famed and honored Penn State Spirit will be no longer. In union there is an objective as well as strength. Action is needed to offset and check this individualistic growth, which has caused the downfall of nations.

## SPECIAL TRAINS

With the approach of the gridiron encounters with Penn and the Panther comes the annual discussion of special trains to carry loyal Penn State rooters to and from these games. Student Council has appointed the customary committee to investigate the matter. Let us hope that the discussion this year will culminate in the announcement that special trains will be available for both contests.

One of the main objections to students following the team to out-of-town games is that they miss many classes. This especially holds true when it becomes necessary for them to hike to Philadelphia or to Pittsburgh, a process which consumes, as a rule, two or three days. Even when the regular trains are used an extra day is usually lost. A special train can eliminate this trouble. It is possible to leave Penn State after classes on Friday evening, travel to Philadelphia via special train, and return after the game Saturday night. In this way only Saturday morning classes will be missed. Since there are no classes on Thanksgiving day, it is possible by using a special train to make the trip and return without the loss of a single class.

There is no doubt that many students will go to the games this fall, and there is no doubt that many more will go if special trains are available. Shall we drop the matter of special trains and let these students miss an average of three days of classes, or shall we arrange for special trains and thus make it possible for the greatest number of students to go, with the minimum loss in class attendance?

## Letter Box

Editor Penn State COLLEGIAN  
Dear Sir:

Every year to an ever increasing degree we find that there is a leaning in the spirit that brings men out to the under class scraps. This was more than evident in the scrap which should have been staged last Saturday afternoon.

What is wrong? There were perhaps five hundred freshmen on the field. True, they were there more or less under compulsion. But what of the sophomores? It would be giving them odds to say that there were a hundred there for the scrap.

Then to make things worse, some one else slipped up. It is hard to place the blame but this much can be said, that the scrap which was scheduled for last Saturday did not take place. Why? There were nearly enough sophomores there to make a showing and a scrap might have taken place if there had been any rope on the field, but there was no rope there. No one knew anything about rope, and how is a man to be tied up without rope?

Perhaps this scrap will take place at a later date. I hope so. In this event let all the sophomores come out there are rules, I believe, which if enforced, will make them turn out. There is no reason why these rules should not be enforced for second year men as well as for the first year men.

Let us have a tie up scrap, a real tie-up scrap with all the underclassmen out and not just a mere handful. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." We must keep spirit between the classes.

A STUDENT

## Facts and Figures

### MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

The department of Mechanical Engineering gives instruction in Heat Engineering, Machine Design, Power Laboratory, Railway Mechanical Engineering and Flour Mill Engineering. About two hundred and fifty students are enrolled in Mechanical Engineering instruction is, however, given to all students enrolled in the School of Engineering at some time during their courses. It is worthy of note that last year forty-seven per cent of the instructional work of the department was in connection with courses given to students enrolled with other departments. A total of one thousand eight hundred and ten students are receiving instruction in the forty-eight catalogue courses.

The department was one of those included in the School of Engineering when in 1896 the old department of Mechanical Arts of the college was reorganized. L. E. Reber, Hugo Diemer, L. A. Harding, J. A. Moyer and E. A. Fessenden in the order named, have served as heads of the department. Professor A. J. Wood, the present head, was appointed in 1921.

The first graduates in Mechanical Engineering were John Eric Jackson, Henry D. Miles and J. D. Struble, members of the class of 1899. All three of these men are prominent engineers and have been active in the affairs of Penn State. Altogether, the department has graduated six hundred and eighty-three men.

Following the fire which destroyed the Main Engineering Building in 1918, plans were started for a new building to house the laboratory of the department. A careful inspection was made of Mechanical Laboratories at most of the colleges east of the Mississippi, and as a result the New Mechanical Laboratory stands out as a model of its kind. It is the largest single building on the campus devoted to engineering instruction and contains over twenty-five thousand square feet of floor area. The greater part of the equipment is new and represents the best practice.

Alumni have shown much interest in the work of the Department and many pieces of equipment have been secured through their assistance. On the third floor of the laboratory is located an interesting display of machine parts and of power equipment.

The relation existing between the department and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers has long been close. A Student Branch of the Society has been maintained for nearly fifteen years. In 1921 a paper written by two Penn State students was awarded the prize offered by the Society for the best technical paper presented by any student member of any mechanical school. At present twelve of the seventeen members of the department faculty are members of the Society.

Scarcely any of the colleges in the East offer courses in Railway Mechanical Engineering. The course given by the department has been materially strengthened by the active interest shown by many of the corporations of the State, notably the Pennsylvania

## Preparing for Business?

Men—men who rise to positions of responsibility in business should invest in the one paper written by two Penn State students which was awarded the prize offered by the Society for the best technical paper presented by any student member of any mechanical school. At present twelve of the seventeen members of the department faculty are members of the Society.

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## Gridiron Gossip

In our advance write-up on the Penn State-West Virginia game we made the statement that the Nittany grid machine with two of its most vital cogs missing, would take the field squeaking badly.

But some very efficient lubricant must have been applied for the much-feared squeak failed to develop and Bezel's Lions out-played the hardy Mountaineers from West Virginia.

From this it would seem that the Nittany machine functions like a certain well-known make of car which is said to run without its motor.

It was a forward pass each time that put the ball across Penn State's goal line and staved off defeat for Coach Spear's team.

But we can take some consolation from the fact that an aerial attack brought us to more than one of Penn State's future grid opponents.

Robertson, quarterback and captain of the Carnegie Tech team, hurled a fifty-three yard pass to his left end that put the ball in a position for the only touchdown of the game.

As a result the Plaid romped off with its first victory over Pitt in four years. George's Tech is still puzzling over Notre Dame's aerial attack which sent them back to the Southland with a 35 to 7 defeat.

A banner carried around the field by the hand of a West Virginia coal company announced to the public that the Mountaineer team was as hard to beat as its coal.

But it is a generally known fact that West Virginia's coal is soft whereas Pennsylvania's is hard.

Reports state that Mike Palm is suffering with bursts.

We have heard of tonsillitis, appendicitis, and St. Vitus but this is a new "itis" to us.

Whatever it is we hope that there is a quick and sure cure.

Light's punting has been remarkably consistent and effective in the games against West Virginia and Navy.

Against the Middle he got off ten boots for an average of forty-eight yards Saturday his records was seven punts for an average of forty-five yards.

With three hands on the field at one time, as bitter a contest was staged between the halves as during the game.

But there was no doubt as to the outcome. The Penn State band scored a

## ALMA MATER

The student body, as far as we have been able to ascertain, is opposed to the singing of the Alma Mater at any time during a game, excepting at the end of the contest. On Saturday, without authority from any responsible source, the Alma Mater was sung before the game. Established traditions of Gettysburg can not be disregarded in this manner.

It seems that the proper procedure to change any established custom would be to secure the majority support of the students. Since it is quite evident that such support is lacking in this instance, we ask—why was the Alma Mater sung at the end of the first half?

Someone, we hear, claims that there is too much confusion at the end of games to permit singing. This person evidently did not attend the games with Lehigh or Penn State, nor does he seem to appreciate the real meaning of the singing of the Alma Mater in spite of all confusion, the Alma Mater must be sung at the end of all games.

The Alma Mater is not a fighting song, it is not intended to arouse the fighting qualities of the team. It is, rather, a renewed dedication for those who sing it to be loyal and honorable Gettysburg men. It is an evidence of spiritual victory over the possible distracting influence of a material victory over defeat. It breathes undying devotion and love to our institution.

If we should think of Gettysburg as possessing qualities of biological life, would she prefer us to offer our praises and our pledges at the middle, or at the end of the tank?

## W. S. WETZELL QUALIFIES FOR MEMBERSHIP IN "400" CLUB

W. S. Wetzell '25 is now a bona fide farmer and has qualified for membership in the exclusive "400" Club, membership which is limited to those potato growers of the state who have grown four hundred or more bushels of potatoes to the acre. Wetzell's yield was 412, thereby fulfilling the conditions for membership in an agricultural club that is recognized by the best farmers of the state. Wetzell will be remembered by those here at the time for his work on the varsity wrestling team of 1922.

## FOOTBALL ENTHUSIAST FLIES TO WITNESS GRIDIRON CLASH

The attraction of a football game this year is on the rise. W. R. Walsh, an alumnus of the University of Michigan flew from Denver to Ann Arbor to witness the game between Michigan and Ohio State.

## Thoughts of Others

Considerable research work has been done by the department staff, and also in connection with the Engineering Experiment Station. In the years directly following the establishment of the station the interest in its work was largely maintained by members of the Mechanical Engineering Faculty.

The influence of this interest is still evident in the fact that the main research project of the station (Heat Transmission) was first begun by Professor Harding in 1909-1910.

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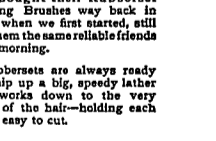
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## "AUNT MARY" GOES ABROAD

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## PENN STATE MAN GAINS RECOGNITION AT COLUMBIA

A former member of the Pennsylvania State Department of Education, Mr. Frank Morey, who for three years was located at Harrisburg, jumped into prominence at Columbia University lately when he was elected to the presidency of the Graduate Club of Teachers College.

Mr. Morey, whose home is in York, Pennsylvania, was graduated at Penn State in 1918, and after serving during the war as an instructor in the Central Officers Training Camp at Camp Lee, Virginia, went to Harrisburg to take a position in the State Department of Public Instruction. His work in the Capital city dealt with vocational agricultural education as outlined by the Smith Hughes Act.

The Harrisburg man secured his Masters Degree in Administration last spring and is now working towards his Ph. D. in the administrative department of Teachers College. When interviewed as to the policies he would inaugurate as President of the Graduate Club, Mr. Morey was non-committal, saying that there would not be any changes for some time in the ordinary program of the organization, which calls for many social functions during the year.

## FRESHMAN IN ALL CLASSES OF LIFE ENROLL AT DARTMOUTH

The enrollment of freshmen at Dartmouth this year contains one hundred and four sons of manufacturers, eighty-one sons of merchants, forty-eight men whose fathers are officers of manufacturing companies, thirty-six sons of doctors, thirty-three sons of lawyers, twenty-five sons of engineers, twenty-four sons of farmers and eighteen sons of laborers.

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