

Penn State Collegian

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THE POINT SYSTEM

Institution of a point system for the regulation of extra-curriculum activities has been suggested on several occasions by thinking members of the student body at Penn State, but no immediate steps have been taken toward definite investigation and preliminary action. Ideas along this line have originated in the minds and been confined to the persons of a few individuals. It is time more general thought is given to this question of current interest and importance in most colleges and universities throughout the country.

The point system, as generally recognized, is a feature that was first worked out by Middlebury College, but which is spreading rapidly to other institutions of learning. The system, incorporated as a part of the Student Association, corresponding to the Student Body at Penn State, provides that undergraduates may hold positions of honor, trust and responsibility in student organizations and activities only in accordance with the point system. The activities in which a man may engage at any one time are limited according to his standing in scholarship. The aim is to secure a reasonable distribution of honors and responsibilities among the men of the college.

In order that the point system may work justice to none, there is a provision in its governing regulations at Middlebury that the Student Council may, at its discretion, make special exceptions as to its application to cover unusual cases. A definite number of points is assigned to each position in each activity, and the number of points which can be carried is limited on a sliding scale for both scholarship and class. This system provides that men with good standing can engage in a great deal of extra-curriculum work, and seniors can carry more than freshmen.

The institution of a system of this nature at Penn State, or some other workable point system, would do much to remedy the situation existing at this institution which finds a few men carrying all of the responsibilities of student administration and activity management.

It is found that where men, particularly of the under classes, are interested enough to participate in student activities, they usually attempt to make good too quick or get mixed up in too many different affairs. As a result, they fail, not only to become "a big man on the campus," but in their class work as well. With too many irons in the fire, no man, unless he be an exceptional individual, can really achieve distinction in any field. This may be regarded as a word of advice to ambitious and aspiring underclassmen about to try for collegiate honors.

Under a workable point system, a man could participate just as freely in outside activities, but he would be made to specialize and the extra-curriculum work would mean far more to him in the long run. Penn State needs such a system.

"CAKE-EATERS" OR "HE-MEN"?

There is a class of people at Penn State to whom traditions and college spirit mean a great deal. There is another class of people at the institution to whom these same traditions and evidences of college spirit mean practically nothing. It is unfortunate for the college and the undergraduates themselves that this second class of individuals is greatly in preponderance.

Indications of a profound and base apathy for studies, athletics and activities, and an insatiable love of amusement, idleness and social development, are rife on the campus of today. While it is, perhaps, but an expression of similar conditions existing in the outside world, it must, nevertheless, be deplored in connection with college life. For it is threatening the institution.

Frivole conversation in fraternity club rooms and dormitory assembly halls is centering less and less on athletic topics and more and more on subjects of absorbing interest to "cake-eaters" and "Lounge Lizards," the pink tea and movie idol variety. Conditions are getting worse and worse at Penn State. It would seem a transition period in the history of the institution.

The gradual but sure change of interests as evidenced by the undergraduate is quite noticeable to individuals who care to visualize comparative conditions. Perhaps it is more noticeable because of the evident serious purpose in the first year or two after the war. For the students matriculating at Penn State, as at other institutions of higher learning, are getting younger year by year, and with the greater immaturity returns the apathetic type.

Since the beginning of mass education, institutions have been bothered with students to whom a college education meant four years, or more, of social life. In recent years, the number converted to this belief has reached alarming proportions. There is a social side of college life, of course, and it should not be neglected. But there are other things which are at least as important. It is absurd to spend all the time on one phase.

Undergraduate interests have degenerated to the point where an athletic victory is of no particular consequence, a defeat no particular cause for sorrow. Proposed changes in student government excite no spark of interest. Student convocations are only to be tolerated if they offer an opportunity to evade class work.

The situation is far from humorous. A revival of old-fashioned methods for effecting some real outbursts of college spirit might not be amiss. If any vestige of the Penn State spirit, fast becoming a myth, is to be maintained, disciplinary measures will have to be taken in starting the freshmen on the right road, in bringing the sophomores back to normal, rough-neck, loyal supporters of the administration. Penn State is imposing a solemn trust on her upperclassmen to convert the "cake-eaters" into real "he-men."

Thoughts of Others

GENEROUS SUPPORT

(The Michigan Daily)

The personal element, which has played such a large part in raising funds for the football trips of the Michigan band, was again brought forward Saturday when a fund collected at a local theatre was doubled by the manager. Spurred on by the excitement of the game, the audience contributed more than a hundred dollars, which brought the generosity of the manager, was increased to more than two hundred. The action exemplifies a splendid and generous spirit!

It has always been such generous personal action that has insured the band making even one football trip a year. Each fall the same process of soliciting aid from the students and the townspeople has been followed. It is impossible to expect that enough funds to pay for more than one trip can be raised in this manner and so on that reason, the band remained in Ann Arbor while the hardest game in the Michigan schedule was being played at Iowa last Saturday. The amount required for the Wisconsin trip is still far short of its quota although attempts have been made to raise it over several weeks past. The Wisconsin game is the only one away from home game and another hard one. Whether the band will be there or not depends on the generosity of the students and townspeople.

The band should be assured a permanent support of some sort from year to year which will insure its football trips at least. The time is here, has been here for several years, for action along this line by some University department.

Facts and Figures

CIVIL ENGINEERING

The course in Civil Engineering was established at Penn State in 1889, the first graduate being John F. Healey of the class of 1894. This is the oldest of the engineering courses at the college, and it has graduated a total of 291 students. Other technical courses antedated at the time this course was started were Agriculture, Natural History, Chemistry and Physics.

The Civil Engineering Department at the present time has the divisions of Civil Engineering and Sanitary Engineering for undergraduate and graduate work. The department, in addition to its teaching work, is carrying on research work at the Sewage Disposal Plant of the college in cooperation with the Engineering Experiment Station.

Important experimental results have been obtained from this last named work recently in connection with comparative studies of sewage in an open and closed trickling filter. The disinfection of filter effluents with bleaching powder and liquid chlorine have been thoroughly studied, and an experiment on the treatment of creamery wastes is under way, which promises to provide valuable data. Other experiments are about to be initiated, the results of which will be made public when the experiments are concluded.

The number of instructors on the teaching staff is fifteen, and the work is divided into the following groups: Hydraulics, Highways, Railroads, Sanitary Engineering, Structures and Surveying. The surveying equipment of the department is valued at \$19,250.

During the past year there appeared on the roll of the department, 1816 students. Of this total enrollment 986 were from courses other than Civil Engineering, namely: all other engineering courses, Metallurgical and Mining Engineering, Industrial Chemistry, Landscape Architecture and Forestry.

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TORONTO UNIV. PROFESSOR TO LECTURE TO MINERS

An illustrated lecture describing the machinery used in the Gold Mills of Northern Ontario will be given by H. E. T. Haultain, professor of ore dressing at the University of Toronto, at three-thirty o'clock on Wednesday, November fourteenth, in room 200, Old Mining building.

Professor Haultain, an consulting engineer in ore dressing to some of the large mining and milling companies in the region of Ontario, has been able to secure unusual motion pictures of the details of the processes employed in the refinement of the raw material. All School of Mines students and their friends are invited to attend.

Letter Box

Editor of Collegian

Dear Sir: There are thirty-three organizations, covering the varied interests of Penn State, and at one time, I believe, the Freshman handbook also included the Chess Club as one of the college activities.

This club was never really formed, and I have often wondered why some one did not undertake to form a chess club in my freshman year. An attempt was made to form a Chess Club, but it never seemed to have any real college support, and after two or three rounds of elimination trials to see who were the five best men in college, the thing dwindled and died out.

Chess is one of the oldest games of the world and is still one of the most popular games that require some thought. Most of the larger eastern colleges have their chess teams and have formed into an Intercollegiate Chess Association, having regularly scheduled matches, and finally finishing up with an intercollegiate match at New York City.

There are many students on our campus who know the game, and I believe that if this group could be gotten together a real Chess Club could be formed.

A STUDENT.

There's a lot of pep and entertainment in the "Y" Course.

Gridiron Gossip

As one of the fair rosters said "The Tornado just failed to get tornading."

And we might also add that one of the main reasons was that Harry Wilson is faster than any kind of a wind.

Those Techies were so used to hearing Wilson's name in practice for the Penn State game that they could pronounce it without the customary southern accent.

It would have been a gala day for Princeton on Saturday had its varsity beaten Harvard. The Tiger frosh mutilated Harvard's yearlings in the preliminary.

Tex Hamer's safety on Saturday won the game for Lafayette.

Joe Hartman, the Penn State freshman football, basketball and baseball star of two years ago, threw a scare into Pitt on Saturday when he scored Grove City's touchdown which evaded the score. The Pitties, however, received a break and won the game, 13-7.

Harvard, Princeton and Yale state that they will not play teams outside the Big Three on foreign fields. Pretty soon they will be arranging a nine game series between themselves.

Shades of St. Patrick and Sir Shamrock! The Irishmen from Notre Dame are no longer invincible. The Nebraska Cornhuskers took the measure of Knute Rockne's cloven, 14-7.

"Frank" Lafferty mixed his plays up in great fashion. More than once he had the Southerners completely bewildered.

A nineteen year old and named Combs started his first game for Harvard on Saturday and covered himself with glory by his great playing.

If the quarters were fourteen minutes long instead of fifteen, Carnegie Tech would have beaten Detroit. In the last minute of play Vreeland, Detroit's halfback, caught a punt and ran

thirty yards for a touchdown giving his team a tie with the Pittsburghers.

Coming back to some real "nineteen year old ends, don't forget that "Teddy" Arieli is playing the game of his young life for Penn State this year.

We picked up a football writer of twenty years ago. It ran like this: "Mr. Smith received the kickoff and ran ninety yards for a touchdown. There was much applause from the student body, as one man, arose and cheered to the echo."

How different from to-day's "Dashing madly down the field behind perfect interference, the human cyclone swept across the final chalk line and the student body, as one man, arose and cheered to the echo."

Both Yale and Dartmouth came through with 18-14 victories on Saturday. The Bulldog was lucky to beat Maryland while Brown threw a bad scare into the Big Green.

After the band played "Dixie" on Saturday, the Tech crew threw Wilson for a loss. Thanks to Major Thompson for not playing it oftener.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Hear Judge Ben Liney, the children's friend

LOST—Shik Purse containing \$100 bill, Diamond Ring, Diamond Pin, \$5 bill and change.

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A date making agency has been started by a co-ed at Kansas University as a means toward paying her school expenses. For twenty-five cents she will arrange a date for any girl, satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. The agency gets an additional quarter for every additional date with the same man. If the couple eventually become engaged, the date maker gets a five pound box of candy.

The Pottawm Theatre Co.

Photographs of Quality

PASTIME TODAY—NORMA TALMADGE in her most majestic masterpiece "Ashes of Vengeance"

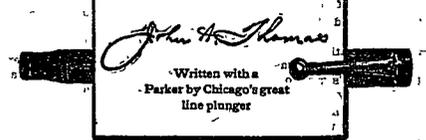
WEDNESDAY—GABRIEL MYERS in "The Dancer of the Nile" Sunshine Comedy—Dance or Die!

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY—First Penna Showing of CONSTANCE TALMADGE in "The Dangerous Maid" Imperial Comedy "The Two Johns"

SATURDAY—HOUSE PETERS in "Hold to Answer" NEWS WEEKLY

NITTANY FRIDAY and SATURDAY—JAMES KIRKWOOD and MARY ALDEN in "The Eagle's Feather" Spat-Family Comedy "Roughing-It"

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