

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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News Editor this issue F. P. GEORGE

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 1924

AN ENFORCEMENT MASS MEETING

Whatever criticism the college authorities may have as to the conduct of Penn State students, certainly they have never been compelled to take drastic measures to curb drinking. The gradual up-building of a strong student sentiment against this practice has wrought marked changes this year in both the Junior Prom and Sophomore Hop. Either of these social functions would have been a pleasant assignment to the most rabid enforcement officer.

But it is unfortunate that the proportion of drinkers and non-drinkers is not in direct ratio to the publicity that the two groups receive. The one per cent of college men who consider liquor an indispensable part of all social functions, receives ninety-nine per cent of the publicity. As a result, the good name of a college is often held up to ridicule despite the efforts of the majority of its undergraduates.

Newspapers and magazines have found in the antics of this small minority of college men, starting material for the painting of a popular picture of the student body as a sponge, capable of absorbing vast quantities of boot-leg liquor. It will be hard, therefore, for the public to reconcile this picture with the announcement that Penn State is holding a mass meeting to consider the enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment. And still more difficult will it be for public opinion to adjust itself to the fact that this gathering has been instigated by students and is being supported by student governing bodies.

Rear-Admiral Sims, as the principal speaker, comes to Penn State on Thursday night to deliver an address that he has given to the undergraduates of Yale, Harvard and Princeton and to the delegates at the recent enforcement convention at Washington. Here is a man who, as an international figure and a leader in the World War, should command the interest and attention of Penn State students, whatever the theme of his address might be. But he will have an especially interesting message and a suggestion as to the attitude that college men should adopt toward the prohibition question.

Surely a good proportion of the ninety-nine per cent of the student body will be present. But it is to the one per cent, believing in the violation of the nation's laws, that a special invitation is extended. Possibly the students who make up this small minority will be convinced of the error of their ways and then the last spot will be removed from a record of enforcement on this campus that, as a whole, has been comparatively good.

PROGRESS IN THE ARTS

As an expression of student sentiment, the editorial columns of this newspaper would hardly be complete without some mention of the Thespian production of "The Magazine Cover Girl." In the opinion of the audience that witnessed its initial presentation on Saturday night, it far exceeded any of the previous efforts of this organization and marked a new era in Thespian activities.

Probably much of the success was due to the skillful touch of professional directors but it is significant that this production, entirely the work of Penn State students, met with little revision on the part of Ned Wayburn at the final rehearsals. Rather discouraging news to those skeptics who have maintained that a student body, composed largely of "ags and engineers", is incapable of developing undergraduates with sufficient talent to stage worth-while productions of this type.

There is no question as to the position of Penn State in athletics. "We'll get the Lion's share" is a motto that Nittany athletes have taken to heart and the result has been a long list of championship teams.

The isolated position of the college, favorable to the development of winning teams, has been, at the same time, a factor retarding the growth of other activities. As a result, Penn State has received but a small amount of recognition from the artistic achievements of its students.

But progress has been made in the last few years. Just as the Thespians are coming to the front in the field of musical comedy production, so the Penn State Players are doing commendable work in the more serious line of dramatics.

The appearance of the Nittany Band on a foreign football field is always cause for favorable comments. The Orchestra supplies worthwhile entertainment during the winter months. The Glee Club is slowly progressing toward its goal of some day capturing the inter-collegiate crown from its older and more firmly established rivals of the East.

It would seem that these organizations are pointed toward future successes that will bring much credit to Penn State. Certainly they are deserving of some share of the hearty support that the undergraduates now give to their athletic teams. With an assurance of the continued interest of the student body, the future accomplishments of these organizations will be truly worth while.

Letter Box

Dear Sir:

Disagreeable is the fact that so very few students know about the freshmen in R. L. Dittenbacher who was advised to leave Penn State because he was found "at increasingly difficult to reconcile the evident principles of the love of Christ Jesus with modern methods of aggressive warfare." Briefly, when the petition from which the above extract was taken, was presented to the college authorities, they decided that as a Lent grant college, it would be impossible to allow any exceptions to the contract with the War Department which requires that all students take Military Drill during their first two years. Dittenbacher left here and went to Lafayette.

Why, then, are certain athletes and coaches excused from Military Drill? Athletes are being required now, although some do not take it yet. And how is this accomplished without breaking the contract with the War Department? This is an inconsistency which has not been explained in any report of the case thus far. The courage which means victory on the football field is no more mighty or desirable than the military power which enables men to stand by the courage of their convictions, especially when they are Christian issues. This is a conscious endeavor to live as Christ lived.

Few persons know whether or not the War Department was asked to consider this matter. Why should they? Because there is hope that they would allow such a man to stay here and because Penn State needs men who are willing to stand for their beliefs in Jesus. Such are the men in whom the Penn State Honor Code can be expected to live. To them it will be born in reality, to many others it will be another piece of paper. Chapman Metzger used as his chapel message the other morning the call for men who will stand out for what they believe against any odds. We should keep them here, not turn them away.

What would the War Department have said? This at the Massachusetts Agricultural College a son of Harry I. Ward, a professor at Union Seminary, objected to taking Military Drill on conscientious grounds. This college like our own, requires Military Drill. The administration appealed to the War Department and a precedent was established. The department considered Ward a bad investment so far as Military Drill was concerned and they excused him, although he is not a Quaker. So a precedent has been established.

It is wonderful, it is inspiring to have men other than ourselves to help us to seek God. It is glorious that Penn State has ideals which help those men who produce her good name to find a new and fuller life. Could we not also further the work of God's kingdom on our campus by making a more conscious effort to provide for one who is willing and anxious to follow Christ?

HARRY E. POLICKROD '25

Replied S. Grubb, State College's only wholesale grocer

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MANY CHICKS HATCHED AT INCUBATION PLANT

Thirteen hundred chicks have been hatched at the incubation plant of the Penn State Poultry department this spring and some nine thousand more are to be brought out before the hatching season is over. L. M. Black, who has charge of this work, is well pleased with the results of the first hatchings in which from fifty-five to seventy per cent of the eggs, set, have been hatched. The average for hatches in commercial plants throughout the state is about fifty per cent. This means that the methods used by the Penn State Poultry Department are bringing nearly twenty per cent better results than are obtained at hatcheries which make this a business.

Thoughts of Others

ATHLETICS AND FAILURES

(Michigan Daily)
Roswell P. Angier, dean of freshmen at Yale university in his report to President Angell gave as one of his reasons for failure in college undue cleavage to athletics. There are many other people that believe that athletics are spoiling college life and are influencing altogether too much the average undergraduate. These people do not realize that there is a vast benefit in athletics besides mere participation in them. Participation in athletics gives a man confidence in himself, broadens his knowledge of human nature and imparts in him a spirit of fair play. Benefits of this kind can be derived in no other way, surely not by class room work and study alone.

It is a well known fact that scholarship alone never gives a well balanced education but that it requires a participation in the various college activities to round it out. Indeed statistics prove that in later life the men who spent their college careers in scholastic drudgery and participated in no other events are at a distinct disadvantage in the matter of earning power to those who by interest in other matters and campus activities are able to take their place in any strata of society.

An athlete must keep up his scholastic standing if he is to continue his athletic career. This fact adds an added incentive to study and literally drives a student on who might otherwise be content to merely slip through. It is a significant fact, telling a good deal about scholastic standing of athletes in this university, that only two of the entire number were dropped because of failure.

Another good result, is that an athlete must carefully systematize his time. The haphazard method of studying which many students follow, which may be all right for those who have plenty of time, would never do for the athlete who must carefully husband his time. This fact, which necessitates a system, gives his character.

precision and has a very beneficial result in after life. There are perhaps a good many more reasons that could be cited both for and against athletics but athletic competition is an established and tried institution that could not be done away with in universities.

You can send in any number of slogans.

WANTED—Laundry work—washing and ironing. 623 East Beaver Ave. Bell, 297-R.