

Penn State Collegian

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TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1924

MALICIOUS FRATERNITY POLITICS

Many of the campus societies and clubs have already held their annual elections for new members and officers, and as the end of the school year approaches, the four classes, as well as various other campus organizations, contemplate similar action. With the annual question of elections comes an aggravation of the perennial question of fraternity politics.

It is a self-evident fact that to attempt to eliminate fraternity politics from Penn State elections or from elections at any college where there are fraternities, would be useless. Not only would the attempt be useless, it is unnecessary. If fraternity politics as they concern our elections do no good, neither is it predestined that they shall work harm. Fraternity politics, like many another necessary evil, are harmless until carried to excess, but when uncontrolled they may, and frequently do, wreak havoc.

In every election, whether it is for membership in a society or whether it is for organization officers, mediocre men win honors along with more gifted or hard-working aspirants, because of the influence of fraternities in campus balloting. As has been said, this does no harm, even if it does not make for healthy progress.

But when the season arrives at which the various groups and classes choose officers, then fraternity politics frequently become malicious. Perhaps some student remembers that a fraternity brother whom he had hoped would be successful in a previous election suffered defeat because of the dissenting vote of another student. If the candidate was unfitted for the place, it is obvious that the unfavorable ballot was entirely justifiable. But the aforementioned student realizes only that his ambitions for his fraternity's glory have been thwarted, and he awaits an opportunity to avenge his fancied wrong. In doing this he ignores all concern as to the qualities of the candidate who is the victim of his vengeance. His sole thought is to discredit the student who caused the defeat of his fraternity brother. If he succeeds, the organization in which he is voting loses, and the college loses. Especially is this true if students who are unfitted for the honors bestowed and the responsibilities entailed "come through" in the elections.

Our campus problems are generally built along the lines of those of the outside world. The problem of fraternity politics strongly resembles the political problems with which mankind has battled ever since the first election. When party politics become unusually corrupt, resulting in the election of incompetent officials, everybody but the favored few, suffers. So it is with student politics. Supposedly intelligent and "broad-minded" students in our institutions of higher learning apparently have not conquered the temptation to let their own selfish ambitions over-rule their ability to aid progress.

If we are anxious to keep student organizations efficient, strong and progressive, if we wish really to further our own ambitions, we will keep fraternity politics within sane limits at all times, and certainly during election seasons.

FATHERS' DAY

It is with much gratification that Penn State points to the unusual strides that have been made in the observance of Fathers' Day since its inauguration at this college four years ago. From a day set aside by one or two fraternities to entertain Dads, the custom became an official college affair in 1921 and is now an established event on the college calendar, a day looked forward to with pleasure by both students and parents alike.

Beside the good time that they are sure to have, there are other benefits for the dads who may visit Penn State. It is essential that parents know the kind of college in which four of the most important years in the life of their sons and daughters are spent.

Penn State assumes responsibility for the education of her students during this stage of their development, but cannot entirely replace the guidance of parents, and it is only by cooperation that the college can render the best service in developing young manhood and womanhood. With the idea in view of creating a closer bond between college, parent and student, a Penn State Parents' Association has been formed which already has nearly one thousand members. This can mean but one thing—a greater Penn State because of the fraternalism that must necessarily exist among parents and both past and present students.

While this association is intended to include both mothers and fathers in its membership, Fathers' Day is set aside for the entertainment of only the Dads. True, mothers are not to be slighted, but it seems impractical to invite them at this time. However, it has been recommended that fraternities and clubs take up this problem and in their own individual way set aside a day in which to entertain mothers and sisters. In this way there may come to be a Penn State Mothers' Day.

Let every student of Penn State remember that May third is Fathers' Day and when he is home at Easter time, talk it over with Dad and extend him a cordial invitation to be present.

KELLER'S TO FURNISH MUSIC FOR AG DANCE

Purpose of Function Is To Create Better Feeling Among Students and Faculty

With Ken Keller's orchestra secured to furnish the music at the annual Agriculture Dance, the committee in charge of the affair is making final arrangements for this biggest social function of the year for students of agriculture. The date of the dance has been set for May ninth dancing commencing from nine o'clock until one.

Keller's musicians, who hail from Altoona, are well known at Penn State, having played here on several occasions. Their last appearance was at the Military Ball. The admission price has been set at one dollar and a half, the total proceeds going to the newly formed Agricultural Council.

The purpose of this dance is to have a real get-together for the students and faculty of the IHU. It is hoped that by this means a better feeling between the students and teachers will exist than has ever been known before. All teachers in the School of Agriculture are especially invited to be present.

SECOND MASS MEETING HELD BY AG STUDENTS

Dean Watts Gives Short History of School of Agriculture—Two Students Speak

At the second Agricultural Mass Meeting of the year, four talks were given last Friday night which took up the history of the School of Agriculture, the work planned for the future and the role which the newly formed Agricultural Council is giving the school. Dr. P. L. Vogt, who was scheduled to speak, was unavoidably detained in coming to Penn State and advised here to give his address.

J. C. Kincaid, presiding officer, opened the meeting with a few explanatory words and then introduced Dean Watts as the main speaker of the evening. The dean gave a short comprehensive history of his school, mentioning some of its prominent graduates. He brought out the fact that Penn State, along with three or four other institutions, has been able to maintain a steady enrollment in its school of agriculture.

Professor R. G. Bressler next spoke, giving a few facts about the School of Agriculture pamphlets that have been published recently. Following President J. B. Park '24 spoke a few words concerning the formation of the Agricultural Council of a similar organization at Ohio State.

W. B. Oliver '24, the fourth speaker of the evening, told about the work of the council in planning. He repeated the old fall that used to be held



Damon— "What was the name of that pencil Professor Williams was recommending this morning?"

Pythias— "Eldorado—my boy, Eldorado! Just think of a faded line of eye and happiness—where no one thinks—where pencils are the magic sticks of achievement. They, you can never forget it!"

Clothes for the College Man

Accept our wishes for a pleasant vacation.

Would you mind telling the boys in your Home Town that our representatives will cover all the leading cities during the Summer time. If they will let us know their home addresses, we will be glad to advise them just when our representative will be in their City or in the nearest City to their homes.

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on Old Denver field and intimated that something of a similar nature, such as a carnival, combined show or Farmers' Week celebration might be inaugurated soon. The whole purpose of the council is to plan some kind of entertainment which will combine all the departmental exhibits that have been the rule in the past.

GLEE CLUB MAKES HIT IN FINAL "Y" CONCERT

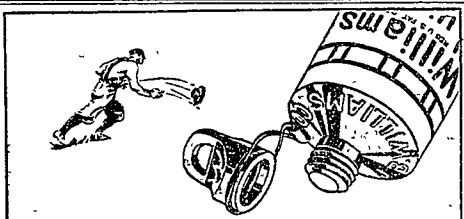
Soprano Solos by Miss Marguerite Schulling Are Feature of Varied Program

Displaying the same quality which made it a power in the intercollegiate concert last winter, the Penn State Glee Club appeared in the Auditorium on Saturday evening in the last of the combined department of Music and Y. M. C. A. White concert series. Presenting an interesting program, varied by soprano solos by Marguerite Schulling, the Club was enthusiastically received by a large audience.

The performance of the Glee Club is notable for the excellence of its program. The sensible and interpretation of the songsters throughout the various numbers of the program, particularly in the singing of "I Hear a Thresh at Day" and "Reveries," was near to being perfect. The climax of the evening's performance was reached during the singing of "Lochinvar" which was applauded to the echo by the audience who insisted on the Club's returning.

Miss Schulling's work as assisting artist was well received while the accompanying of Mr. Schommaker and of Mrs. Grant was exceedingly well done and added much to the completeness of the evening's program.

Visit the KNOX CAFE After the dance



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Why accept handicaps? Why waste your time trying to sell products that are unknown to the public? Your hours should be spent in making sales of accepted merchandise,—products that people know, have bought before, and will buy again.

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