

# 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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TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1924

## A PLEA FOR ACTION

First of all let it be known that Student Council has been one of the most important factors in the progress and expansion that has marked student activities at Penn State. The record of its undertakings and the public testimony of college officials furnish ample proof of the worth of this governing body. Yet the average undergraduate, unfamiliar, perhaps, with the inner workings of campus activities, has found cause for criticism of Student Council in its handling of three important problems.

It is in the matter of the Honor Code that the first of these indictments is concerned. Here is a reform that has met with universal favor since it was first proposed more than three years ago. Faculty and thinking members of the student body agree on the pressing need for a code of honor that will regulate the Penn State student in his conduct not only in the class room during examinations, but also in every phase of his college life.

Yet each succeeding Student Council has failed to carry the project to completion. To the uninformed student body it has apparently become a permanent item of unfinished business to be handed down from year to year as a cherished tradition of this governing body. Certainly undergraduates are agreed that there is need for definite action on a reform which has met with such general approval.

Then there is the question of the Freshman Handbook. Last year it was suggested that a booklet be drawn up, entirely independent of the Freshman Bible published by the Y. M. C. A., and containing information for the incoming freshmen as to the customs and traditions that govern their actions at Penn State. Student Council heartily endorsed the idea and a committee was appointed to gather material for the new publication.

Unfortunately the entire task was shouldered by the chairman of the committee, who, as a prospective graduate, found the burden of studies and numerous other campus activities too great to allow him to complete the Handbook. A new Student Council, meeting last fall, discovered that it had no record of the work that had been accomplished during the previous spring and, accordingly, a new start was necessary. Now it appears that the class of 1923 will enter Penn State without the guiding precepts of the Freshman Handbook.

As a final criticism, there is the matter of the Point System, a project that has always been favored by the editorial columns of the COLLEGIAN. Perhaps there are good reasons why Penn State does not need such regulation of student activities. If such is the case, the Point System should be permanently rejected, otherwise it should be put into such shape that it can be handed over to next year's Student Council in a workable form.

With a little over two weeks before the end of the semester, final action can hardly be taken on these projects. Certainly Student Council should leave them in some definite shape so that next year Penn State students can be assured that they will be carried to completion.

## FRESHMAN TRAINING

The task of moulding the freshmen to the ideals and traditions of Penn State is one that has become more difficult with each succeeding year. Next fall approximately one thousand new students will be admitted to the College and it is in order that some provision be made for the suitable upbringing of this addition to the Nittany family.

It has been suggested that the new men be invited to come to Penn State several days before the official registration period. During this time the yearlings could be put through a course in Nittany traditions and customs. Addresses from leading members of the faculty and student body would do much to make the new men acquainted with their college and give them a good start on the road to a successful college career.

The belated freshman who arrives barely in time to register and buy his dink is plunged into the midst of college activities before he has become acquainted with his new surroundings. Many upperclassmen recognize the advantages of returning to college a few days before the rush. Surely the newcomer would profit by a similar program.

The idea is not a new one for it has proven successful at other colleges and universities. Student government might well consider the suggestion and the possibility of arranging a program that would be of benefit to the incoming class.

## CLASS DUES

The recent action of the senior class in regard to the collection of class dues is cause for further comment on a question that has already been given much consideration by student leaders. Faced with the problem of devising some means to raise the funds necessary to meet its obligations, the senior class voted, as a penalty for non-payment of dues, that the offender's name should be omitted from the Commencement program.

And there was a real necessity for this drastic action. A junior to receive his La Vie must be paid up in his dues. As a result of this threat, seventy-five per cent. of the third year men have squared their financial obligations to their class. Prior to the recent action of the senior class, there was no similar inducement for a prospective graduate to pay his class dues.

Of course, there is always the alternative of making class dues compulsory and payable to the College. Student government has considered this course but there are obvious disadvantages to such a plan. The ideal solution, of course, would be for each individual student to realize his financial obligations to his class.

## OLD MAIN DORMITORIES TO BE VACATED IN JUNE

### Upper Floors of Oldest Building on Campus Deemed Unsafe by Trustees

The rooms on the upper floors of Old Main Building will not be used for dormitories after the present college year as they have been deemed unsafe and unsuitable by the Board of Trustees.

The Old Main tower has been condemned for the past three years and a recent meeting of the trustees made public the following statement: "The Board of Trustees has voted to close the Main Building dormitory after the present college year. This action, taken reluctantly by the Trustees, was the result of their conviction that the upper floors of the building had become too unsafe and unsuitable to permit their use as a dormitory."

This action marks the termination of use of Old Main which began in 1847. The one hundred and fifty-five men now occupying the Old Main dormitories have been asked to remove their belongings by June fourteenth and all property found in the rooms after that date will be destroyed. The present occupants are also requested to return their keys to the office of S. K. Hostetter, Director of Dormitories at 219 Main Building after which the Trustees will return all or part of the deposited fees, depending on the charge for any damage that may have been done.

## MONTHLY REPORT GIVEN BY COLLEGE INFIRMARY

The following is the report of the Penn State Health Service for the month of April:  
Total number of visits to the infirmary: 695  
Total number of new conditions treated: 271  
Total number of old conditions treated: 191  
Total number of excuses granted: 297  
Total number of school hours missed: 1912  
Total number of bed patients: 5

## COMMITTEE WORKS HARD ON FRESHMAN HANDBOOK

### Will Be Similar to Publications of Other Years—Schedule Sheet Added

A committee is working energetically to complete the Freshman Handbooks within the next three weeks. In order that they may be sent to the coming yearlings early in September, Handbooks which have been exchanged with other colleges have been studied with a view to increasing the efficiency of the Penn State publication.

Nothing is impossible to publish every thing that is of importance, the committee has selected the most valuable information and has it whipped into fit shape for presentation. In addition to the customs, organizations, scenic features, who's who and advertisements a few new pictures, group and portrait, with a schedule sheet were added and a town map is also under consideration. The "Who's Who at Penn State" section, under the charge of A. K. Smith '26, will not be finished until after the close of the college year because of the late election in several organizations.

Any corrections in phone numbers or addresses of the fraternities should be reported to either H. E. Foulkrod '25 or L. K. Maurer '25 at once. Any suggestions for the improvement of the book will also be welcomed.

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## LUXENBERG CLOTHES

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"Will the color run?"  
"How can you fellows sell a good suit for \$27.50, when we have to pay \$60 to \$70 for this grade elsewhere?"

Why shouldn't we be able to give a good suit for the price, when we sell on a cash basis only, without any charge accounts, no deliveries, no bad debts, or sundry expenses?

(No 1 of a series of talks with tips for men who dress well)

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## Dr. Pattee To Resume Duties at Penn State After Year's Leave of Absence

Dr. Fred Lewis Pattee, known to thousands of Penn State students and alumni as the author of the Alma Mater and as one of the finest educators of which the college can boast, and to the field of letters as the greatest living authority on American literature, will resume his duties as head of the English Department here next September.

During the past year Dr. Pattee has spent his leave of absence as a visiting professor of American literature at the University of Illinois and it is reported that in returning to Penn State he is making a distinct financial sacrifice. He will relieve Dr. William S. Dye Jr., now acting head of the Department.

In addition to his teaching Dr. Pattee has published many books during his thirty years at Penn State. "A History of American Literature" in 1896, "Foundations of English Literature" in 1900, "Mary Gwyn" a novel of New England life, in 1902, "The House of the Black Ring," a novel of the Pennsylvania Germans, in 1911, a district which bears marked resemblance to the Nittany Valley, in 1907, "The Breaking Point," a study of the present a problem in medical morality, in 1911, a "History of American Literature since 1870," and "Century Readings in American Literature," in 1919. What is considered his most scholarly work was his editing of the "Poetical Works of Philip Freneau." This work was published in three volumes in 1907 by the Princeton University Press. His most recent publications have been "Side Lights on American Literature" and "History of the American Short Story."

That Dr. Pattee possesses real literary genius cannot be denied, even by his few critics, and each of his publications has met with uniform success. One critic says of him, "There is a simplicity of style and manner, in his writing which reflects the mind's strength, confidence in others, faith in the human virtues and an intuitive sense of the worth of life. His writing is free from all forms of affectation, is utterly sincere and frank, and he seems to reveal himself to all those who may be inclined to oppose him as well as to his friends. His humor is delicate, frequently vivacious and always clean and refined."

Those who have heard Dr. Pattee in class or in the chapel services which he frequently conducted before the coming of Chaplain Metzger cannot fail to have a high regard for him as a man, without thought of his literary ability. One of his associates among the older members of the faculty says of him, "Literature has never been his goal. For Dr. Pattee art and truth are values of distinctly spiritual nature, never art for art's sake alone. Thought of himself comes last, if at all, and he is clearly devoted to ideals and to persons of ideals. He has been unable to say 'No' to any worthy appeal and to that I attribute his response to the call in returning to Penn State, a response which has been sacrificial."

For twenty-five years Dr. Pattee has been superintendent of the Sunday School of the Methodist Church and a teacher of a class. He has several times been a representative at important religious conventions, being at once a prominent lay member of the

church and an able student of religion, having been the teacher of the courses of Biblical literature offered by the English Department until Dr. H. M. Battenhouse took over the lectures three years ago.

An example of Dr. Pattee's foresight and devotion to Penn State was shown several years ago when a movement arose on the campus to blaze "P. S. C." on the side of Mount Nittany by felling trees to form the letters. In a strong appeal to the students, published in the COLLEGIAN, Dr. Pattee pointed out the cheapening effect which the action would have on the name of Penn State and the movement died even more quickly than it had been born.

The announcement of Dr. Pattee's return to Penn State next fall has created great satisfaction among the members of the faculty as well as to the student body. In the words of Dr. Battenhouse for several years an intimate associate of Dr. Pattee, "he is known and regarded (if not in the same way and for similar reasons) alike by literary scholars of Harvard, Princeton and Yale, and by Pennsylvania farmers whose sons have spread his fame, we need him at Penn State."

## AMERICAN COLLEGE CHESS TEAM WINS CABLED MATCH

An American College chess team, composed of players from Yale, Princeton, Harvard and Columbia won the eleventh Cable Chess Match for the British opponents by a score of three and one-half to two and one-half. The British players from the University of London Athletics Union while the Americans were at the Hotel Americain in New York. The triumph totals five wins for the United States against three for the British.

## PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

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BETTY COMPTON  
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Christie Comedy, "Navy Blues"

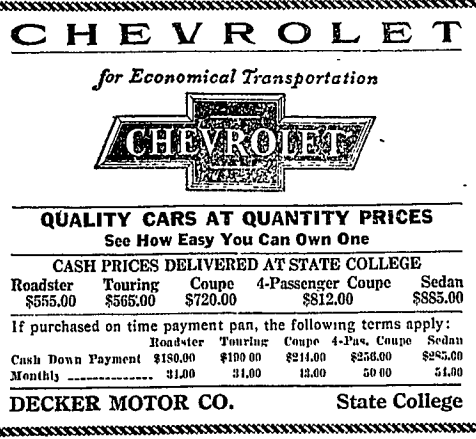
**THURSDAY & FRIDAY—**  
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"The Heritage of the Desert"  
Stan Laurel Comedy

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**FRESHMEN MEET TOMORROW NIGHT**  
There will be a meeting of the freshman class tomorrow night at six forty-five in the Rusty Ben for the nomination and election of class officers.

**INTER-FRATERNITY TENNIS TOURNAMENT IS DELAYED**  
The chart for the 1924 Inter-Fraternity Tennis Tournament, which was posted last Wednesday in the Music Room, has not as yet been annulled by the pen of the successful team. The first-round matches, which were to have been played off by Saturday, May tenth were held up on account of the wet weather during the past week. Owing to the delay caused by the rain, two rounds must be played off by Saturday, May seventeenth, in order that the eliminations may be completed in the near future.

**ART EXHIBIT TO BE HELD DURING COMMENCEMENT**  
Through the courtesy of William McFeth, who has been instrumental in popularizing the present day paintings, an exhibit of well-known art works will be held in the Old Main Museum as a feature of the Commencement period. The exhibit will include twenty of the best current water colors consisting of canvases from the brushes of many native artists. June first to thirteenth is the tentative date set for the exhibit. It is also planned to have a display of drawings, painted by H. J. Dickson, instructor of Water Colors and Fine Arts at Penn State on exhibit in the smaller museum at the same time. Further details concerning both exhibits will be announced in a later issue of the COLLEGIAN.

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