

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 20, 1924

TRY IT OUT

With the inauguration of each new event in the lives of a people there comes an inquiry as to whether the new is better than the old, whether the change will justify the existing conditions and, if so, what are the benefits to be derived from the change. A change on the part of fraternity observance of house parties at Penn State has been proposed, and with it comes the unavoidable question: Will it be an accepted success from the standpoint of the undergraduates?

Taking deliberate action in regard to the length of June house parties in the future, the College Senate has decreed that the now existing five-day party be cut to three days, for upperclassmen only, that another three-day party open to all students, be held during the Spring, and that four days be added to the vacation period next Christmas. Acting on the main recommendation handed down by a Special Committee appointed to investigate the house party problem at Penn State the Senate has taken these steps to modify and enlarge, in certain respects, the social activities of the undergraduates. "To give recognition to the achievements and interests of the graduating class and to welcome the returning alumni," is the sum and substance of the recommendation upon which the revisions have been made.

While the June house party is undoubtedly the biggest social function of the year, and while the Christmas vacation period is next in importance as far as providing recreation for the student is concerned, it has been with the intention of making a modification in the former case and enlarging the possibilities of the latter that these steps have been taken. A compromise has been effected, but to some this action will cause dissatisfaction and ill-feeling toward the College Administration. There is one questionable elimination connected with the revision of June house party the underclassman's participation. To him it will appear as though he is being deprived of a pleasurable time, the anticipation of which has been fostered and developed throughout the entire year, and it is natural that he will resent such curtailment of his social activities. But provision has also been made to arrange a time when he may enjoy the privileges of such a party, for the new program provides for a similar three-day party in the Spring; presumably to include the Junior Prom and Sophomore Hop.

The program also calls for a Commencement Ball which will be held as the final event of the June function. Hence the fraternity groups will be limited to a three-day party, only two days of which, however will be available for house dances. The Ball will be more of a general get-together of upperclassmen and alumni and will not be, strictly speaking, a time for general student participation. There is a question as to whether it will prove successful.

As it is the aim of the College Administration to work in the best interests of scholastic endeavor and to adjust and curtail the expenses of the institution, the action taken in regard to house parties is probably justified. Still, it is the student who, in this case, "makes his own bed," and who must necessarily lie in it. The benefits to be derived from a limited observance of social activities are many, but there is also a danger of underestimating the benefits which are derived from good, wholesome participation in social functions. The thing demands a sane test, all sense of justice warrants it. If it is then found inadequate, if it is proven unfair and unjust, then let it be discarded for what is right and acceptable to the greatest number.

BESTIR YOURSELF

It has been remarked that a lesser number of social activities have been conducted during the past week or so at Penn State than in former weeks, and that it is undoubtedly occasioned by the nearness of the end of the term. Dancing pumps and tuxedos have been laid aside and more books and pencils have been the routine of affairs during the evening hours. It is true that some social functions have been held, but they have not been so widely patronized and they have been fewer in number. It is an indication of the approach of only one thing final examinations.

Some students fail to accord the importance that is demanded a final examination in a given subject, they frown upon the rest period and take it as a matter of course, seemingly unconcerned as to whether they pass or fail. Examinations are, after all, only matters of likes and dislikes. Quizzes are boring things, that is admitted, but while they are in existence they must be tolerated, and it is for the undergraduate to apply himself efficiently and well in order to survive. To survive is the thing that counts, and it can only be done by preparation.

Less than two short weeks remain before the final examinations will be upon the Penn State student in full blast and the old saying of, "A word to the wise is sufficient," can readily be interpreted by even the most heedless student. It is time to bestir yourself lest it be too late.

COMMUNICATIONS

It has been the policy of the COLLEGIAN to invite communications relative to topics pertaining to the College and the student body for verbatim publication in its columns. This practice will be continued in the future, but the COLLEGIAN hereby gives notice that it is not necessarily in accord with any sentiment expressed in the column entitled "Letter Box." All letters must be signed, but the identity of the authors will be withheld if requested. Several letters were recently withheld from publication because they were not signed.

Letter Box

Editor of the Collegian,
Dear Sir:

I read with great interest the letter of Harry B. Foulkrod in the "Letter Box" of the April eighth issue of the COLLEGIAN, concerning the dismission from college of L. L. Diefenbacher for the refusal to take the proscribed military drill. I am one of at least twenty students of Penn State who were excused from military drill on account of our affiliations with a religious body popularly recognized as being opposed to warfare.

As one who has been allowed to do as his conscience directs I wish to protest against the refusal of the college authorities to grant the same right to others simply because they do not belong to a similar religious organization even though their own church is based on the same Christian principles as mine. We as a group have presented a protest to the President of the Board of Trustees but we have not heard of any consideration given the protest, despite the very apparent sincerity of Diefenbacher and the unfairness of the discrimination in favor of Friends, Brethren, and Methodists. We are convinced that anybody conscientiously opposed to taking part in war or the training for it has a right to his beliefs and as much right to stay at Penn State as those who are not.

Editor of the Collegian,
Dear Sir:

It has been said "the late war demonstrated more clearly than ever before that no people or group of people can claim a monopoly on bravery. They will all move forward and give up their lives with the same abandon. Courage being equal, the advantage goes to him who possesses superior leaders, greater training and better equipment."

As you are aware, the principal reason for the existing courses in "Military Science and Tactics" at Penn State is to furnish likely leaders the opportunity of superior training in order that they may develop into the superior leaders demanded in the rendering of Military Service. Military Service is not a social or religious function the meaning and nature of which is to be determined by the individual but is a very definite obligation of citizenship determined by government. It always has been an obligation of citizenship and there is a preponderance of probability to substantiate the claim that it always will be so long as democratic ideals and republican government are to be perpetuated.

Penn State occupies an enviable position among American colleges by her unimpaired attitude in refusing to bargain with those who are not allowed to recognize this most fundamental obligation of citizenship. The brief course in Military Science and Tactics is required of all students at this college and it should stimulate among other qualities desirable in a citizen a desire to serve. There is no better course in college that permits such outward expression of the desire to serve than the basic and advanced courses in R. O. T. C.

Permit me to suggest a vigorous support on the part of the student body for the policy of the College pertaining to military drill especially in its attitude to objectors.

Incidentally let me urge an active interest in the necessary drills, the life time and personal application while in uniform. They are all worth the investment of a little time and effort on the part of every college man. Individually we will not only profit from the training but we will be contributing our little mite in putting Penn State on the War Department's list of "Distinguished Colleges."

A JUNIOR.

LOCAL ALUMNAE CLUB TO HOLD ELECTION OF OFFICERS WEDNESDAY

The Penn State Alumnae Club will hold a meeting May twenty-first in the home of Mrs. D. Ledner at eight o'clock, for the purpose of electing officers and making final arrangements for Commencement and meeting the home-coming Alumnae.

The Alumnae Club will hold a joint dinner with the Alumni in June instead of the separate banquet that has been held on previous years. The present officers are Mrs. D. K. Hiltzman, president, Mrs. M. L. Willard, vice-president, Mrs. R. O'Connell, secretary, and Mrs. P. H. Dale, treasurer. The club has been quite active in college work. It is at present helping American art circles in the home and will be able to give aid to several more because of the White scholarship given them. Also it has contributed seven hundred and thirty dollars to the campaign fund and expects to complete one thousand dollars next year.

PENN STATE TEACHER EXHIBITS ART GOODS

Emile Walters' "Spring Blossoms" Is Accepted for Display at Pittsburgh

Recognition of Emile Walters, instructor of Fine Arts in the Penn State Summer Session School, in the best of American art circles has been secured by the reception of his canvas, "Spring Blossoms," at the Annual Carnegie International Exhibit at Pittsburgh.

The paintings on display are largely the work of foreign artists and seldom more than twenty-five American paintings are recognized in this exhibit. It is also noteworthy that Mr. Walters painted this picture near Penn State and obtained his inspiration from the scenery nearby. His latest success is the culmination of many former triumphs, as one of his paintings has been secured by the National Museum at Washington, D. C., and other galleries have also displayed his work.

Mr. Walters is now painting in the vicinity of Philadelphia and will likely remain there until the opening of the Summer Session. He will come to Penn State again this summer to teach in water color and will also conduct a class in landscape painting. After graduating from the Art Institute of Chicago, Mr. Walters was noticed by several prominent artists and he became the protégé of Louis Tiffany of Chicago. Mr. Walters has also studied under such prominent artists as Fred Wagner of Philadelphia and Hugh Beckenridge of Baltimore.

R. E. FORESMAN TO GIVE LECTURE ON WEDNESDAY

In a major unusual and unique lecture and demonstration, Mr. R. Eugene Foresman will speak on the subject of "Steam Boilers for Large Power Plants," Wednesday night, May twenty-first, in Room 200, Engineering D at seven-fifteen o'clock. Mr. Foresman, who is from the E. Keeler Company, of Williamsport, will use a glass model to show visually how steam is generated and how the water circulates in modern boilers.

Besides showing the model, he has a number of lantern slides with which he will illustrate the design, construction, and operation of steam boilers for power plants. It may be interesting to note that Penn State uses a boiler of the E. Keeler make in the college power plant, near the main entrance to the campus.

This lecture is not solely for engineering students, but for any person who may be interested in steam boilers. Ladies also will be welcome.

Thoughts of Others

DREAMERS OR WORKERS

(Michigan Daily)

Does the modern college education tend to turn out dreamers or workers? Dreamers or business men? That was the question asked in a feature article recently published on one of the successful pages of a Chicago newspaper.

The writer of the article, a well-known authority on business conditions, declares the tendency is toward producing the dreamer rather than the worker. In substantiation of his view, he quotes the words of educators which seem to deny the desirability of vocational training and early specialization in university work.

It cannot be doubted that many professors believe, and do not hesitate to say, that students make a mistake in studying for their life occupations to the detriment of the cultural studies. It seems to be believed by not a few that a student should spend his days in Latin, Greek, and other classical courses, and that anything which has a suggestion of practical worth in it, is bad. They are the believers in a college education which will plant into the student's mind the seeds of the past. He will find out enough about the present when he graduates, they say.

The two schools seem irreconcilable, but only when viewed in their extreme forms, one of which we have just presented. The larger majority of those who side with the classicalists will admit that a little practical instruction is advantageous. Similarly most of those who believe a college should waste no time on "dead languages and such" and who believe the place to prepare for the business of money-getting, will admit also that a little of the more cultural training will not be amiss.

THESPIANS MAKE PLANS FOR TWO PERFORMANCES

"Magazine Cover Girl" Will Appear for Last Time on Monday of Commencement Week

Plans for the remainder of the year were discussed at a meeting of the Thespians Club, held last Monday afternoon in the Thespians Club Rooms. Two more performances are to be given on this term the first at Tyrone on the evening of May twenty-ninth, and the last showing of "The Magazine Cover Girl" will take place on the Monday night of Commencement Week, the traditional "Thespians Night" for twenty-eight years.

It has been planned to stage another Thespians prize contest next year. The club feels that its effort this year to bring to the campus for the first time an original, full-length play has been well received by large audiences, and for this reason, the Thespians wish to establish a precedent for the future members of the organization.

The same rules that applied to this season's writings will be extended to next year's contest, except that all scripts must be presented by October first, in order that rehearsals may begin immediately after the selection of the comedy. It is also planned to engage again the coaching staff of the Wrayburn Studios, as their standing of this year's production was exceptional in view of the small amount of time allowed for rehearsals.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

FOR SALE—Garage on E. Nittany Avenue, \$100. Phone 131-L.

DELTA SIGMA RHO ELECTIONS

J. B. Everett, '26
C. S. Grove, '25
H. T. Hattley, '25
W. H. Seafors, '25

FOR RENT—The Leetz cabin in Shilohgetown Gap is for rent for summer. Apply by letter to Mrs. Joseph P. Miller, Arch Spring Farm, Tyrone, Pa. m16 & 27

FOR SALE—6-room house, garage, Park Avenue, C. L. Peltzer 5-9-31

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