

Penn State Collegian

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The Penn State COLLEGIAN invites communications on any subject of college interest. Letters must bear the signature of the writer. It is urged no correspondence however, on sentiments expressed in the LETTER BOX, and especially the right to decide on what publications would be properly inappropriate. Names of communicants will however be recorded, a confidential upon request. All copy for Tuesday's issue must be in the office on Monday, and for Friday's issue by ten a.m. on Thursday.

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News Editor this issue R. A. SHANER

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1925

LOST: THE COMMON TOUCH

No Penn State man, whether student, alumnus, or faculty member, can look upon the present strained relations between the Administration and the student body with any other feeling than that of profound regret. It does not matter which side of the disagreement enlists one's sympathies; the conviction that, with tactful handling, the clash could, and should, have been avoided is inevitable, and the belief that present relations are intolerable is very firm. "Don't be rash—think," is sound advice for both the Administration and for the student body.

No misgivings are entertained regarding the ultimate triumph of calm judgment and good sense, though much of unpleasantness may possibly be experienced before the end of the wrangle is reached. That which concerns most of us at this moment is the discovery of the cause of the present regrettable friction, and the removal of it, as a guaranty for the future. One very important cause is believed to be the present form of government.

In former days, when Penn State was not much smaller than it is now, and used to hold general faculty meetings, they were sometimes unwieldy, often dismal gatherings, but the members who convened were in closer touch with one another and with the undergraduates, and friction between the Administration and the student body was at the minimum.

Now Penn State is governed by a Senate, composed of the deans, heads of departments and a very small minority of members elected by each of the schools. The Senate is a dignified body of men, most of whom are members by virtue of the offices they hold. They are the group of faculty men who are farthest remote from actual and sympathetic contact with the student body. The Senate as it exists today is a kind of House of Lords, governing without a House of Commons. History is but repeating itself. It should have been sensed at the outset that such a government would naturally grow away from and misunderstand the student body, however benevolent the intentions of the House of Lords might be.

The "younger" portion of the faculty is in much closer touch with the students, with their points of view, their desires, their aspirations, their problems, and the students, recognizing the sympathetic earnestness to themselves, seek the counsel, advice and help of this portion of the faculty.

If any imitation of the British governmental system is to be continued, why not go the whole way and let there be established a House of Commons too? An absentee government never has worked well in the whole history of the world, whether the distance and remoteness were measurable by geographic miles or by degrees of sympathy and of spirit.

The Administration needs to find some medium through which a current of sympathetic understanding can constantly flow between the governors and the governed. A more tolerant attitude toward the student self-government organizations, and a more respectful recognition of the value of the "younger" group in the faculty would go a long way toward insuring Penn State against a recurrence of the present hostilities.

JOURNALISM—A MAJOR SUBJECT

Because of the interest that has been shown by students taking courses in journalism, the department of English has enlarged this subject and now offers it as a major course in that department. Previous to this semester two courses were offered in news writing, but the increased enrollment in journalism courses has led the department of English to widen the field and now six courses are enumerated in the catalogue.

The introduction of the additional four courses marks the beginning of a new major field in English at Penn State for it will allow a student to devote his time to extensive study along journalistic lines. For the most part those who are taking these courses at present intend to follow the newspaper game after graduation. But the courses, practical and instructive as they are to those who are taking them with this intention, are so designed and taught as to be valuable to the undergraduate who merely elects them as any other English subjects.

W. F. Gibbons, assistant professor of English, and H. G. Baker, an instructor in that department, are in charge of the courses in journalism. Both are men with years of practical newspaper experience behind them and they are well qualified to teach the subject.

Detailed information regarding this field will gladly be given any students who are interested in electing journalism as a major subject upon application at the English office, 308 Main Building.

THE PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

Letter Box

State College, Pa.
January 21, 1925
Editor Penn State COLLEGIAN

Dear Sir:
The clearing of debris left from the recent fire at Co-op Corner and the renovations for re-occupation in the near future bring up a question which may be worth while for both the public and the owners of these stores to consider carefully.

Because the Post Office is on the same side of Allen Street as the new business buildings will be and since this tends to direct the majority of pedestrian traffic to the east side of Allen's street, the question of safety is a consideration of importance. Safety is the cornerstone of justice and should be solved at this time before the rebuilding on Allen Street is commenced.

There is little doubt that the present sidewalk widths are inadequate even if one considers a normal proportion of the public is outdoors. Especially is this true on Allen Street between College and Beaver Avenue. Coop Corner is the congregating point between classes and in the evenings.

The display windows on Allen Street hold pride of place among those on sidewalk widths which are very inadequate in width. In addition to these conditions the Saturday night shopping crowd is a very difficult problem to traverse the sidewalks on Allen Street. This detracts from the effectiveness of the merchants' display windows, as the crowds required to navigate a crowded sidewalk prevents a glance at the goods in the windows at the very time when the merchants and the public are most interested in each other.

Would it not therefore be to the advantage of all concerned to provide an additional eighteen inches or two feet to the width of the sidewalk in front of the width of the sidewalk in front of the new construction? The building line should not extend out further than that of the front wall of Mr. Ziegler's store building and his establishment should withdraw the window displays which have been projected out from the building on to the sidewalk. This could easily be done at the time. The benefits to the property owner through added patronage would far exceed the holding of the crowd to the side of the street would more than offset the small space given up. It would help to accommodate the growing student body and the increasing number of residents in the borough.

Even the above improvement will not relieve the congestion permanently, as Penn State continues to grow. Surely there is no better opportunity than now to remedy present conditions and to provide for the near future.

IC & P '25
State College, Pa.
January 25, 1925
Editor, Penn State COLLEGIAN

Dear Sir:

No Penn State student can be other than interested in the housekeeping problem which now confronts us. President Thomas has asked the student body to support a program in which there is much undergraduate disapproval. In addition to this, Tuesday the 15th was discussed that this disapproval of disapproval running through the ranks of our student body must either be quieted or brought openly and publicly to the front so that differences can be adjusted.

It seems to me that the only way to differ is to be adjusted is by bringing undergraduate disapproval to the front by analyzing it from all points of view and unashamedly accepting the situation as we find it. First, I should like to agree with Mr. Scriber, who expressed in the Letter Box, the sentiment that "we are incapable of leadership" of good school government, in spite of the purpose of the organization which ever lived. We are certainly capable of these things. But we have fallen short of our capabilities. We have been more too sober or honest in discussing the true housekeeping problem.

We are very fond of telling our best that we have always had the best interests of our Alma Mater at heart in trying to solve this pressing question and we think more the less of our selves for what we suppose is our selfless devotion. Just suppose we stop talking for two minutes and examine ourselves in the mirror of honesty of purpose. Then we find that the largest selling quality pencil in the world is the Venus Pencil.

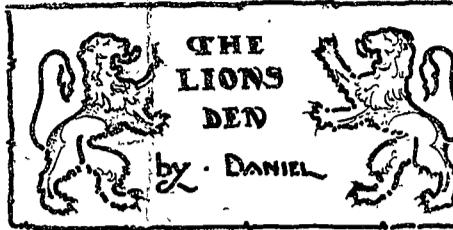
As for the present situation we have professed to be filled with Penn State Spirit and President Thomas is his call to action. If it is a bluff—if it is a bluff—let us stop our whimpering, wipe the tears from our eyes, and gritting our teeth, try to keep up under the oppression of those in authority. Suppose we try out the program outlined by the College Senate. Most of us are proud of our willingness to try anything once. Why stop at this?

A WOMAN

THEATRICAL CLUB PLANS

TYRONE PERFORMANCE

Preparatory to taking their western trip following the Easter recess, the cast of "Wooden Show" the 1925 Thespian comedy will journey to Pa-



THE LIONS DEN
by DANIEL

THE PAWN

"Mr. Student," said the doge, "you are nothing but a pawn in the king's as I won't have you know."

With your head, devon't acknowledge or play football with your brain. I'll tell you what you are—a pawn!

I'll rule you every day, every privilege restricted.

I'll tell you what you can and can not do.

Everything of satisfaction in your fancy may have picked.

I'll deny you and I know who is who.

I'll make you go to chapel. I'll make you go to church.

What your cons lend, chores don't bother me.

You just with your gills in apple and come down from your high perch,

I'm the boss that orders all this is be

signed to sections of Eng. 250 is fol-

lows:

Sec. 1—Eng. 250

Sec. 2—Eng. 251

Sec. 3—Eng. 251

Sec. 4—Eng. 250 and 251

Sec. 5—Eng. 250 and 251

Sec. 6—Eng. 250 and 251

Sec. 7—Eng. 250 and 251

Sec. 8—Eng. 250

Sec. 9—Eng. 250

Eng. 302—Mtg. in place of Eng. 10 P. 1/2

Eng. 303—Mtg. he "offered" at same time as Eng. 307

1 Eng. 2—Add P. 11 Eng. D

1 Eng. 2—Add P. 1