

Penn State Collegian

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News Editor this issue E. H. Coleman

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1926

TO BE OR NOT TO BE

It is with no small amount of enthusiasm that the COLLEGIAN is privileged to inform the Penn State student body with today's issue of the Commencement Program for 1926, as proposed by the Committee on Commencement Program and accepted by the College Senate. The program is not the result of an instant's hesitation; it represents the research and deliberation of months.

The program for 1926 should reconcile two groups, one that desires June to be a time for social festivities exclusively, the other that believes Commencement should be a strictly academic affair. To predict success for this year's program would be folly, only the entire student body, seniors, juniors, sophomores and freshmen alike, can make such a prediction, for it rests entirely with them.

A two-day fraternity party is scheduled for Friday and Saturday. If the underclassmen wish to do their share in tearing down what promises to be a real tradition, they can remain at Penn State after they are supposed to have left for their homes. There is hardly a way in which a check-up could be made. But if they will give the College their heartiest co-operation in the two or three days that they are here, and turn the campus over to the upperclassmen and their parents, the rightful owners at that time of year, they will be doing what is expected of them. It remains then for each fraternity to exert every effort to see that their houses are given over entirely to parents, alumni, seniors, juniors and guests after the academic program gets under way.

The Administration has done its share in coming half way with the student body in general, and the fraternity group in particular. It remains for this latter faction to come the other half of the way in bridging a gap that has existed for two years. The answer to "Is the 1926 Commencement to be or not to be a success?" rests with the undergraduates.

IT IS REPORTED

A Penn State senior is enrolled in the Liberal Arts school. Like his classmates, he must submit book reports every so often. One night, sitting at his desk with book before him and pencil in hand, he remarks, "This is a great book. I wish I could read it, but I must make a report on it for Professor X." He is only one of many.

It is the policy of almost every faculty member in the School of Liberal Arts to require book reports on collateral reading. Unless he wishes to go on taking the course indefinitely, year after year, the undergraduate must comply and he turns in excellent reports—almost always without reading the books. He jots down topic sentences, which he types neatly and presents in a manilla folder, to his seemingly unsuspecting instructor as a carefully thought-out digest. The work is done, to the outward satisfaction of both parties—to the profit of neither.

To abolish outside work for Liberal Arts students would be a death blow to the effectiveness of the curriculum. Yet the book report system as it stands can find its only reason d'être in the fact that it provides a means of keeping the library collection dusted. It is worse than a waste of time—earnest students have learned to regard simply waste of time as inevitable—it is actually harmful. For a possibly receptive void in the student's mind of knowledge, it substitutes a disorderly collection of mechanically transplanted half-truths and quarter-facts of minus significance. The void is filled with a hasty, blurred hodge-podge; it finds the mess distasteful and is no longer receptive.

It is our opinion that if a student reads and really assimilates one book, the feeling of self-satisfaction and a natural curiosity will urge him to consume completely the next and the next. It may be a radical and unwarranted assumption, but we believe that the generality of students, particularly at Penn State come to college not to spend their substance in riotous living but to learn. To the few that do not come to learn, the college owes only a pass-out slip and a courteous but firm adieu.

However, the suggestion that the undergraduate be placed on his honor in regard to outside work will be received by the indicators of book reports with cynical grins. If the Liberal Arts faculty desires to do a real service for the undergraduates of the School, let them assign each reading, with no report, but possibly with a ten-minute quiz made out especially for each book. The students would then have a strong incentive to read and understand the book assigned. They would even be encouraged to further reading.

Moreover, the change would be an upward pull, slight but significant, in lifting the College out of its present role as a fore-pump station.

BLOCK AND BRIDLE CLUB PLANS JUDGING CONTEST

The freshman stock judging contest, which is held annually by the Block and Bridle Club, will be staged Saturday, January thirtieth, in the Stock

DRAMATIC CRITIC PRAISES PLAYERS LATEST ATTEMPT

First Honors Divided Among Four Students in Production of "Goose Hangs High"

CLOETINGH COMMENDED FOR CAPABLE DIRECTION

Deems Miss Krouse and Buchanan Worthy of Second Mention for Interpretations

Three months ago, when the Penn State Players selected Lewis Beach's three-act domestic comedy, "The Goose Hangs High" for their January showing, the writer would have formed the college public that the performance would be a " flop," that the production was too difficult for amateurs to attempt. However, after witnessing the Players' interpretation of the play in the Auditorium Friday night and having seen the stage and screen versions, the writer is tempted to say the production not only exceeded expectations but also that it compared favorably with the professional performance.

The show, as under the direction of A. C. Cloetlingh, director of the Players organization and assistant professor in English. It certainly must have taken Mr. Cloetlingh some time to instill in his character: the atmosphere, the subtlety and the pathos of their roles, but with few exceptions, which were not his fault, he "did the job up brown" to use the modern lingo.

Without casting any reflections, we present high honors to N. D. Zimmerman '27 in the role of Bernard Ingalls, Miss Ruth E. Warner '27 in the role of Julia Murdoch, R. K. Elder '29 in the role of Leo Day and R. W. Tyson '27 in the role of Elliott Kimberley, the crooked councilman. Zimmerman has attained great heights in previous Players shows, but never before has he given such a demonstration of his real acting ability. It is a safe venture to say that he could step into the professional performance of the play immediately, and perform the task in a creditable manner.

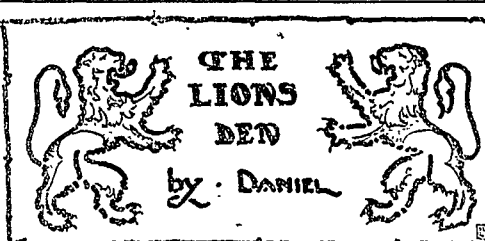
Miss Warner, although she had only a minor role as did Elder and Tyson, dominated the stage the entire time she appeared. Her interpretation of the small-town, important-nobody, social-butterfly was about the best we have seen in some time. Elder and Tyson, in their roles of councilmen, the former setting social recognition and the latter his own stenographer in Ingalls' office, were about as much at home and stage as any professionals. Great things are predicted for Elder who is only a freshman.

Second honors go to Miss Bertha Krause '27 and D. M. Buchanan '29. Miss Krause, as Eunice Ingalls, was the old-fashioned mother to the nth degree. Her pathos, her pantomime and her carriage were all that could be desired. However, her enunciation was rather poor in spots. Buchanan, as the colleague "flaming youth," was good although he overacted at times. His same laugh, no matter what the conditions were, was affected and proved monotonous after a time.

Miss L. H. Robertson '27 as Lois Ingalls was fair in the first two acts, although she redeemed herself considerably in the last act. She did not seem to get into character until near the end, and displayed her attentiveness by carrying on conversation while the audience was still laughing at a humorous situation that had occurred but a moment before. Miss Helen Doty '26 as the grandmother was not all that this grandmother could have been, although she proved herself equal to the task, once or twice.

F. S. Neusbaum '26 and Miss Dorothy Musset '27, as the lovers, gave a creditable performance, although we feel, in a way, that Miss Musset was miscast. Neusbaum was too artificial in spots, but at times some sincere emotion was evidenced in his portrayal of Hugh Ingalls. The cast was rounded out by Miss Anna Boyce '29 and Hugh N. Pendleton '28 who carried small roles in acceptable style.

V. A. N.



Suppose the next time you are out 'Round the campus early, Some morning when its clear and bright And you're anything but sultry, You meet a Fellow Penn State man A-tudging on to class, And greet him with an old "Hello" As each by each you pass; Instead of meeting you half-way With a pleasant smile or nod, He walks right by without a word Just like some Ancient God. It makes a fellow feel as tho His "Hello" was in vain, And lots of times he tells himself "Now isn't he a pain?" The customs we are taught to keep Should be an honor true, And we should keep them cheerily As State would have us do. The next time when a fellow speaks, Let's answer with a will, Or let's speak first and make it real— A custom time can't kill.

ABILITY EVIDENCED BY CINDERMEN IN TRIALS

(Continued from first page) In a special quarter mile run for fundies Chip Moore, starting from scratch, overcame his opponents advantages to win. The time was 57.5 seconds. Eggers and Costello were second, third and fourth all having a fifteen yard handicap.

Displaying unusual form Mollinger, wearing, captured first honors in the 410 yard dash. Hanna and Kullner were neck and neck for second place followed by Karbach. The latter was at scratch while the other three were placed ten yards ahead. Mollinger was clocked in the fair time of 54.15.

Because of the large number of entries for the lift, and dashes Cantrell was obliged to run several heats. Ingalls beat Ingram and Seely in the first, Bowie nosed out Bates and Marsh in the second while in the third he easily outsped Mathias. Then in the semi-finals Ingalls had the edge on Bowie while Buerly given a yard advantage on Bartholomew, kept that distance to cross the line a winner.

Advertisement for Wrigley's P.K. New Handy Pack. Features '3 Handy Packs for 5¢' and 'Fits hand ~ pocket and purse'. Includes a small illustration of the pack.

Advertisement for The Eatland Quick Lunch. Text: 'To Announce That The Eatland Quick Lunch HAS BEEN Remodeled to an Up To The Minute Restaurant. Service Quality Cleanliness. IT IS OUR AIM TO PLEASE YOU. EATLAND ON ALLEN STREET'.

ular agricultural courses in obtaining an education in this line, the dairy manufacturing department of the School of Agriculture is conducting winter, the last of which will be completed February nineteenth. The course in butter and cheese making terminated on Saturday. Twenty-seven took advantage of this course. A short course in the manufacture of ice cream was started yesterday. Forty enrolled for this work and the course will undoubtedly be the best attended of the three. On February eighth, a two-week course will start in the teaching of book condensing. Enrollment in this course is now open.

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE WILL CONDUCT RESEARCH IN MARKETING PROBLEMS

Opportunity for additional research in agricultural economics is welcomed by Dr. R. L. Watts, dean of the School of Agriculture, in his annual report, just published with reports of other college officers under the title of "The Pennsylvania State College and Its Services". Efficient marketing of produce by the farmer, fruit and vegetable grower is an outstanding need of today.

Typewriters and Phonographs

Of All Makes Repaired Estimates Furnished

The new Remington is the ideal machine to see you through your second semester's work. It will save you time. Ask for a demonstration.

Harry K. Metzger Home 160-J Cor. Foster and S. Atherton

Advertisement for The Purity Tea Room and Delicatessen Shop. Text: 'Home Made Cakes, Pies and Sandwiches. Caterers For Lunches, Dinner Parties, Dances, Smokers and Banquets. H. F. BOSLEY Mgr.'

Large advertisement for 'THE FINAL WIND-UP OF OUR GREAT JANUARY SALE' by FROMM'S. Lists various clothing items and prices: OVERCOATS, UNDERWEAR, DRESS SHIRTS, SUITS, NECKWEAR, SHEEPSKINS, SLICKERS, SHOES, RUBBERS and ARTICS, HATS. Includes store hours and address: 'Store Closed Every Evening at Six O'clock except Wednesday and Saturday. FROMM'S Opposite Front Campus Since 1913'.

and with the assistance of additional program aimed at supplying as much necessary information as possible. Since the organization of a department of agricultural economics at Penn State three years ago, marketing surveys have been made for the cities of Altoona and Lebanon, with many beneficial results for farmers and consumers. Approximately ten thousand dollars is available this year through the Funnell Act of Congress for research in agricultural economic problems. This is a new fund and never before enjoyed by the College. Dean Watts is of the opinion that an unusual service is possible for the residents of this state.

Advertisement for The Nittany Theatre Co. listing plays and dates: 'PASTIME Tuesday - NORMA TALMADGE in "Gru-stark" Wednesday and Thursday - CONSTANCE BENNETT in "Sally, Irene and Mary" NITTANY Tuesday and Wednesday - RICHARD DIX in "Womanhandled" Thursday and Friday - MILTON SILLS and DORIS KENYON in "The Unguarded Hour"'

Advertisement for HOME MADE Cream Caramels. Text: 'Special This Week Only 49¢ LB CANDYLAND'.