

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. Names of communicants will be published unless requested to be kept confidential. It assumes no responsibility, however, for sentiments expressed in the Letter Box and reserves the right to exclude any whose publication would be palpably inappropriate. All copy for Tuesday's issue must be in the office by ten a. m. on Monday, and for Friday's issue, by ten a. m. on Thursday.

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News Editor this Issue W. P. Reed

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1926

A REQUEST WITH CAUSE

Within a short time, Student Council will petition the Council of Administration for an extension of the Easter vacation. The College calendar states that the spring recess shall begin on Wednesday, March thirty-first, at five-twenty o'clock. The undergraduate governing body desires to take the vacation begin at noon.

Needless to say, Penn State is peculiarly located, and transportation facilities are such as to make it extremely difficult for students to leave at any time. Only a small minority can be accommodated by the bus lines and private cars, which often makes it necessary for hundreds to wait until the following day before they are able to make their departure.

The past Christmas vacation furnished a good example. The recess began at five-twenty o'clock, at the close of the last afternoon hour, and if one was not fortunate enough to get seated in the new busses or had not hired a private car weeks in advance, he or she was compelled to remain on the campus until the next day.

Not for some time has a vacation extension been granted, but Student Council feels that it is justified in making this appeal, and rightly so. It is our most earnest desire that the Council of Administration look with favor upon the request.

"JUST CALL ME GEORGE."

Among our present-day radicals who propound seemingly great and important tracts in the field of American history, there seems to be one in particular who takes naive delight in striving with might and main to shower George Washington with dirty, slimy mud-pies.

First of all, there is no doubt that some good will be accomplished by the eminent historian, if the inference may be pardoned. Perhaps George never played with mud-pies, and if he was so unfortunate then, now he is at least a target for a later child-mind, abstract as it may seem.

Every historian is puzzled by the manner in which Americans are prone to accept every "good and perfect" story about the first President of this republic. Until such a time as the average person grows a mustache or affects all-silk chiffons, the cherry tree story goes without saying. A nightmare results when someone informs us that the good Virginian had red hair, or that he had only four toes on his right foot, or that he chewed plug tobacco. Why, glory be, he's the ideal of the nation—he never did anything which did not become a gentleman and a scholar!

And not satisfied with the effect created by the attack on Washington, a modern critic asserts that a story current in and about Illinois has to do with Honest Abe Lincoln under the influence of a "few gourds of corn." "Might as well be hung for a sheep as a lamb."

Why cannot the American people look upon these two undoubtedly great men as great men only; great organizers, great politicians, great statesmen, instead of holding them up to be idolized like a few clay gods? No man is perfect, so why can't the American public look upon Washington and Lincoln as great men, not as flawless individuals? Until Americans do these things, every little exposure about any prominent figure will call for gasps and cries of dismay from the multitude, further evidence that Aesop and Grimm occupy a prominent place in grown-up literature.

POST MORTEM

If the results of the Thanksgiving football game with Pittsburgh were only now available, how much enthusiasm would they arouse? We hazard the guess that the means would lack resonance, that the cheers would lack volume.

A less exaggerated yet similar situation exists in the release of semester grades. Almost two months of the new semester must pass before the students know the outcome of their battle for marks during the previous term. Now it may be properly argued that the student should not allow past grades to govern his present efforts, that he should not look upon them as the goal of his scholastic activities. It is deplorably true, nevertheless, that he does both these things. And the administration can revamp his fault into something like a virtue by giving him the news while it is still reasonably fresh.

The present size of the Registrar's staff undoubtedly makes a speaker handling of the grades impossible. Under the circumstances a temporary addition, in the form of a few able commerce students, perhaps, would seem desirable.

The results of an autopsy should be published before the deceased has been forgotten.

STUDENTS FROM EIGHTEEN INSTITUTIONS ENROLL HERE

Eighteen different universities, colleges and normal schools are represented in the group of twenty-five new students who enrolled at Penn State at the beginning of the second semester. Five of the new students were women. Only seven were admitted to the freshmen class, though having sufficient advanced standing to take up the work started in September by other freshmen.

Letter Box

The Editor of the Penn State COLLEGIAN, State College, Pa. Dear Sir:

Just about two weeks ago some of us were pleased to learn (the previous issue) we believed it impossible, that the COLLEGIAN, thru its editorials, considered the League of Nations an institution of paramount importance. We were so enthused over that partisan editorial entitled "Half a League Onward" that we felt that a note of thanks was due you. But being of a retiring and modest nature we agreed that it might be considered flattery, so the appreciative ground was that time refused to commit itself to misunderstanding. Today, and to say, we learn from the same organ of student sentiment that the League of Nations is all hush! Why should any capable student spend his enviable and precious time informing the large audiences at Penn State upon such an insignificant and unimportant question such as "The United States should enter the League of Nations?"

And besides it is a question that would "interest only the President and his cabinet." A very dry, dull, and fatiguing process, you know. Moreover "the forensic artists" are only "Steam Shovels in Debating." So for your love for your English Prof., stay away from such "contaminating" material!

However we are not fully satisfied at the strange and complex contradictions into which the COLLEGIAN has committed itself. Two years ago the omission of America to the World Court was debated at Penn State. Only last fall our fully informed student body voted in favor of it. So the "steam shovel" debaters were able to perceive a long while ahead of the COLLEGIAN the importance of such an institution. Perhaps it is most likely that the importance of the League may again be realized and at some date, how near none should dare to prophesy, we may see again an editorial flattery upon the advantages of the League once interred in a certain newspaper office.

Then, too, some of us come in for greater disappointment when we consider that the college in its not supposed to indulge in problems of national or international importance. What does it matter to him whether Congress is empowered to over-ride the Supreme Court in vital questions concerning the Constitution, or whether the Governor of Pennsylvania should be permitted to force compulsory arbitration upon disputants in industrial controversies. Rubbish! Get something of local interest, something like this, "Resolved That the moves shown at the Pastime are rotten!" "That the parking signs about the Gateways should be removed." "That House Parties" NO! NO! That's personal, not local. Another one "That Bull Sessions are inefficient." And lastly "That the Penn State students are religious." Ah—methinks that Daniel left his Lion's Den and perpetrated a joke upon us! If so "Hail To The Lion!"

But when all is said and done, this is not improbable that much good may be done thru misrepresentation when the authority is incompetent to interpret fairly because of prejudices born of disappointing experiences, we view with no alarm the lack of interest in foreign activities. Perhaps it is true that the great amount of other extra-curricular activities deprives students of interest to be present at inter-collegiate debates. Other colleges, where there are not so many other activities, use the same questions for debate and get very large attendance. Then it cannot all be the fault of the "dull and dry" subject that is being debated! However we cannot say that the question raised in the COLLEGIAN was prompted by the highest and most impartial motives. Nevertheless some of us would be inclined to see several members of the Staff present at the next debate; contact is enlightening! Very truly,

PHILADELPHIA ATTORNEY, TO ADDRESS DANTE CLUB

Philadelphia's assistant district attorney, E. V. Alessandrini, will be the next speaker to address the Dante Club. Although no exact date has been set for Mr. Alessandrini's visit, the Club expects him here soon.

The Dante Club met Tuesday evening in Room 121 Old Main to discuss the question of honorary membership to the society. It was decided to extend the honorary membership to all faculty members professing interest in things Italian.

Sixty students of Italian parentage comprise the Club organized by Prof. I. L. Foster and J. W. Post last fall. Several eminent Italian-Americans are being secured to speak to the body.

BETTER CARE OF GRIPPE URGED BY DR. RITENOUR

(Continued from first page)

Dr. Ritenour in his words, if the doctor orders him to bed at the Infirmary, he should go at once without question, instead of returning to his classes to broadcast germs. Princeton university also has been having an epidemic of the disease but it is being combated successfully by a rule making occupation of the infirmary obligatory upon all persons infected with diseases of a contagious nature. At Princeton, the infirmary is equipped with fifty-six beds while there are but eight here. At present, seven of the eight beds are occupied, all by persons having influenza. Among those all are Prof. I. D. Helme and Prof. Ruth E. Graham.

THREE-ACT COMEDY TO BE STAGED BY PLAYERS

(Continued from first page)

In Miss Reed as Grace Livingston and Anderson as Thomas Tuckler, the Centre county college lays claim to two of the best players in the Pennsylvania Inter-collegiate Dramatic Association. Their portrayal of the roles assigned them was undoubtedly the best ever seen here.

Since the play's first appearance only one change has been made in its personnel. R. W. Huston '27 took the place of F. J. Klatz '27 as Dick Loring, man-about-town, shortly before the last engagement. In all probability the former will continue in this part.

At a meeting of the Players, the following were elected to the club: R. W. Huston, '27, T. K. Morris '27, J. D. Witmer '27, and Miss G. A. Smiley '28.

ENTOMOLOGISTS HONOR PROF. H. E. HODGKISS

Prof. H. E. Hodgkiss, head of the department of economic entomology at Penn State, has been chosen chairman of the 1926 national meeting of extension entomologists to be held in Philadelphia later in the year.

The extension entomologists are affiliated with the Association of Economic Entomologists and also with the American Association for the Advancement of Science which also plan to meet in Philadelphia. Professor Hodgkiss was chairman of the 1921 meeting so his choice again this year by his associates is considered a signal of honor.

LIBRARY INSTALLS EDUCATION ROOM

Books of Pedagogical Interest Now Repose in Alcove On Second Floor

In order to provide a quiet and convenient place for the study of education subjects the Education library has been established in the large room at the rear of the second floor of the Carnegie library. All the reference books for courses in education and psychology, which were formerly placed in the reading room in the basement of the library, have been removed to the new room, where they are available all day and at night until ten o'clock. Originating with Dr. D. A. Anderson of the School of Education, the plan for the new library was carried out through the cooperation of Miss Sabina W. Vaughn, head librarian.

So much outside reading is required for the students of education and psychology that it seemed desirable to provide adequate facilities for the best work. The new library is spacious and the necessary books are grouped in one place for immediate reference.

Congestion in the downstairs reference room will be relieved not only during the winter, but especially during summer school when much concentrated reading is required in many courses. A certain number of new books are added each year, about thirty new ones being put on the shelves this fall, and as the library grows, it is hoped that it will increase in opportunities and usefulness.

BUSINESS CANDIDATES HEAR DR. G. W. HASEK

(Continued from first page)

Meeting for the second time the freshmen candidates for the COLLEGIAN business staff were addressed Wednesday night by G. W. Hasek, associate professor of Economics. Prof. O. K. Harlan also assisted in the meeting.

Four meetings remain of the six originally planned and all freshmen interested are urged to report next Wednesday night at seven o'clock in Room 14 L A for the third instruction session. Following the last scheduled meeting, the candidates will begin the regular duties assigned to freshmen business men.

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PASTIME

Friday—**MAE BUSCH AND LEW CODY** in "Time, The Comedian"

Saturday—**BETTY COMPTON** in "Council For Defense"

Monday—**CONSTANCE BINNEY** in "One Ring, Fire"

Tuesday—**MADGE KENNEDY** in "Scandal Street"

NITTANY

Friday and Saturday—**CHARLIE MURRAY** in "The Cobcns and The Kellys"

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Tuesday—**"Scarabouche"**

Wednesday—**DOUGLASS FAIRBANKS** in "Don Q"

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