

# Penn State Collegian

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News Editor this Issue W. P. Reed

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1926.

### WHO IS TO BLAME?

An impetus was given the proposal to make Penn State a university when the Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers Association at a recent meeting in Harrisburg passed a resolution endorsing the proposed amendment to the Constitution to provide \$8,000,000 for new buildings here. It seems almost a certainty that with the support of the Pennsylvania press, Penn State will realize a dream of long duration.

However, the College does not wholly depend on bond issues and other matters controlled by vox populi to brand it a university. In mentioning "university" we mean a matured college—a place where men and women come to further their research into matters educational, where students on their own initiative come to enhance their culture training. And it is to satisfy this alleged purpose that the faculty may reach the ideal without the tangible improvements.

Yet it is still common to find instructors and even professors who insist on grammar school pedagogy and students who are gullible enough to swallow it without even a wimper of disapproval.

"Two cuts are all you are allowed if you want to pass MY course, excuse or no excuse," or "Two hundred and fifty pages of outside reading condensed into fifteen pages of notes on standard notebook paper," or "draw it on No. 60 Sawmill Bond, indent an inch and a half and print your name a half inch from the top of the page" and so forth are infinitum are dictums yet echoing in the halls of Penn State.

On the other hand it is evident that the majority of the student body is not inclined to assume the attitude of university men. There is little or no initiative shown in the class room—only a mad rush to amass the necessary number of credits with the least amount of work. With the exception of extra-curricular activities, nothing is accomplished that was not an order belted from the platform.

Who is to blame? Is it the old question of the hen and the egg? To wash our hands of the matter and fervently exclaim "Here is food for thought!" would be a trite and offensive way out. However, it is our contention that both are responsible—the faculty for stereotyping the courses and the students for following meekly along without making an effort to further their education.

### BEHIND THE FOOTLIGHTS.

Several years ago the efforts of youthful collegiate dramatists were viewed with derision by members of the legitimate stage. Today that derision has given place to praise and collegiate productions are actually threatening to rob the professional stage of some of its laurels. In this development the Penn State Players have been well in the lead.

Not only has the applause of its audiences been a criterion of their success in the "First Year," but generous praise from the press has not been wanting. In the presentation of "Charley's Aunt" and "The Goose Hangs High" the embryo Barrymores and Sotherns carried their difficult roles with an ease of style characteristic of experienced actors.

The upward trend in college dramatics does not end with the acting itself. It is also manifested in the type of plays essayed. Although the difficulties attending the presentation of "The Goose Hangs High" are sufficient to cause an experienced group of professionals to flinch, the Players attacked it with an earnestness of purpose that spelled success from the start.

Tonight the Players will present "The Seventh Guest," a play differing widely in type from the other 1926 productions. May it be equally successful! Penn State is proud of her Players.

### CLOTHES FOR THE COLLEGE.

An applicant for admission to Penn State gets his "come-on" letter from the Registrar, packs his panamas and builds visions of his future Alma Mater. There will be old elms, smooth green campus and stately buildings with crumbling, tradition-soaked walls—ivied walls. They are visions indeed; visions of beauty, precious visions. And like all visions, they must suffer. Nevertheless, our freshman is not disappointed after his first open-eyed stroll around the college. Here are the trees and the broad campus; here are the old buildings. Only later will he begin to wonder why Old Main looks so barren, so harsh under the glaring sunlight; why almost all of the buildings, some of them crumbling, literally, with the weakness of age, still have an unfinished, to-be-completed-later look.

Every man and woman in college has noted this subtle failing and, with our hypothetical freshman, has wondered at it and sought the reason. Almost all of them find it, soon or late, and again they wonder, it is so simple, so easy to correct. For Penn State, to gain that mature, aged-in-the-book atmosphere, the softening haze that transforms a group of buildings into a college, needs ivy.

Ever since Andy Lytle gave the Old Main mule his last good haling, graduating classes have talked of planting ivy. They have talked, but the domote of Old Main still goes unclothed, even as the mule. The matter has had much discussion. It is time for Penn State to hide her nakedness. Let us have ivy!

## ILLINOIS CHEMIST MAKES DISCOVERY OF NEW ELEMENT

Professor Hopkins Completes Research of Five Years in Rare Earths

IS ONLY AMERICAN TO GAIN SUCH DISTINCTION

Exact Commercial Value Not Yet Determined—Name Announced Later

(By Daily Illini)

Champaign, Ill., Mar. 11.—The first discovery in this country of one of the five unknown, but supposedly existent chemical elements, has been accomplished by Prof. B. Smith Hopkins, head of the division of inorganic chemistry, it was announced Monday by the University of Illinois.

The element, a metal, is known to the chemistry world as Element Number 61. Completion of the work of proving the discovery of the element late Saturday in the University Rare Earths Laboratory culminates more than five years of intensive work by Prof. Hopkins and two assistants, Dr. L. J. Yntema, of the division of inorganic chemistry, and J. A. Harris, research assistant in chemistry. The name of the element will be announced later.

The element which Prof. Hopkins has just discovered is not only the first element that has ever been found by an American but it is expected that it will be the only element ever discovered in this country.

Only four of the ninety-two elements that make up the periodic table remain undiscovered and they are all "mortgaged" by other scientists outside the United States who have definite titles of them and are waiting for isolation.

Professor Hopkins' discovery fills in the last blank in the periodic table that involves rare earths; the ten remaining elements are not rare earths.

Although the exact commercial value of the discovery cannot be calculated at present it is believed that some valuable practical use will probably be found after further experimentation. Caesium, one of the elements placed in the table some years ago, has since been found valuable for use in photoelectric cells used to measure light of distant stars that are invisible to the naked eye.

The last element to be discovered is hafnium which was discovered in 1923 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Although it created considerable interest in scientific circles, it is not well known.

The youngest well-known element is helium. It was first discovered existing in the sun in 1868 and in 1891 was discovered on the earth. Such elements as gold, silver, mercury, iron, copper and lead were known to the ancients, but all of the rare earths have been discovered in modern times.

Professor Hopkins, who has been a member of the department of chemistry since 1912, has devoted his life to rare earths' research and in the study of the atomic weights of yttrium, gadolinium, erbium, dysprosium and samarium. The present international atomic weights of yttrium and gadolinium were calculated by Professor Hopkins and valuable information in the calculation of the present international atomic weights of erbium, dysprosium and samarium has been contributed by him.

### Dramatists Set Stage For Thriller Tonight

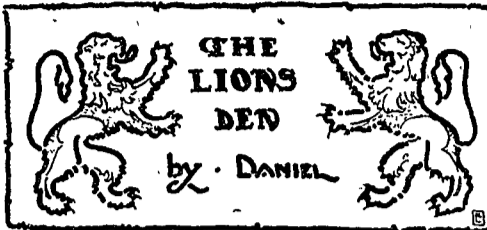
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that induced Directors A. C. Cloetmeh and D. D. Mason to secure "The Seventh Guest" as a second mystery play. All the sensations, all the dramatic incidents of the breath-taking type of play are skillfully embodied in tonight's performance.

Credited to the pen of Deegan, an Irish policeman, and Katie, an Irish cook, keep the play from entering the realm of the too-serious. It is the undecentment of humor that relieves the audience time to time from the tenseness of the climax. The denouement is as skillful as it is startling.

The complete cast of characters follows: W. W. Kelley '26, Kilo; Miss L. C. Purman '26, Annie; Mrs. Tefft Wilson '26, Paul's aunt; Carter Van Lee '26, R. W. Huston; Marvin Herrick '26, Miss M. D. Reed; Jack Norris '26, T. K. Morris; T. K. Morris '26, T. K. Morris; Miss Dorothy Mosier '27, Miss Dorothy Mosier; Edgar Herritt '26, H. P. Schwartz; Edgar Herritt '26, H. P. Schwartz; H. W. Cohen '26, H. W. Cohen.

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### A STUDY IN COMPACTS

A woman is queer  
There's no doubt about that;  
She hates to be thin  
And she hates to be fat  
One minute its laughter  
The next it's a cry;  
You can't understand her  
However you try.

But there's one thing about her  
Everyone knows,  
A woman's not dressed  
Till she powders her nose  
You never can tell  
What a woman will say;  
She's a loss to herself;  
Every hour of the day.

It keeps a man guessing  
To know what to do;  
And mostly he's wrong  
When the guessing is through.  
But this you can count on  
Wherever she goes;  
She'll find some occasion  
To powder her nose

I have studied the sex  
For a number of years  
I've seen her in smiles  
And I've seen her in tears  
On her ways and her whims  
I have pondered a lot,  
To find what will please her  
And just what will not.

But all that I've learned  
From the start to the close,  
Is that sooner or later  
She'll powder her nose  
A church or a hall room,  
A dance or a show;  
There is one thing about her  
I know that I know

At weddings or funerals,  
At dinners of taste;  
You can just bet her hand  
Will dive into her waist.  
And every few minutes  
She'll strike up a pose,  
And the whole world will wait  
Till she powders her nose.

### ALPHA SIG BOXERS WIN FRATERNITY RING TITLE

Annex Championship by Down- ing Alpha Gamma Rho in Thrillers

Alpha Sigma Phi captured the 1926 Interfraternity boxing championship by virtue of a sensational 5-2 victory over the Alpha Gamma Rho ringmen Wednesday evening in the Aimey. An estimated crowd of five hundred students thronged about the ring to witness the battles.

Donovan, for the winners, and Chapman clashed in the banterweight bout with the former showing superior boxing ability to cap the fight. But increased his team's lead to two points when he dodged, side-stepped and scored at will to outclass Bramble. The Alpha Sig man has had his own way in every tournament bout and has displayed rare pugilistic ability considering his lack of experience at the ring game.

Alpha Gamma Rho broke into the scoring column when Durbin and Dyer staged a whirlwind slugfest with the former amassing a commanding lead. It was give and take all the way but Durbin scored the greater number of telling blows. Aggar, somewhat upset the advance dope with a victory over Cohen, the A. G. R. stalwart.

Fessler Best. Hertzig Fessler, hero of the A. G. R. victory over Theta Upsilon Omega, gave his mittmen another point by downing Hertzig in easy fashion. The sixty-pounder pummeled the Alpha Sig entry continuously and had him helpless as the final bell sounded. McAndrews, undefeated in the tourney, brought the championship cup to the Alpha Sigma Phi combination by gaining a close decision over Fessler, for boxing ability to cap the fight. In spite of the aggressiveness displayed by the loser, McAndrews was content to wait for opportunities to deliver his blows. With the meet already clinched, McAndrews bested Barry to make the final count 5-2 for his team.

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**FYE'S**  
ON THE AVENUE

## NOTED OPERA STAR PRESENTS CONCERT HERE NEXT FRIDAY

Suzanne Keener to Appear in "Y" Course Attraction In Auditorium

PENNSYLVANIA SINGER SCORES NEW YORK HIT

Youngest Metropolitan Company Star Heralded Everywhere As Talented Artist

Commonly known as the youngest, most beautiful coloratura soprano of the Metropolitan Opera company and heralded everywhere as a singer not only with a beautiful voice but with a stage personality that adds to her popularity, Suzanne Keener, pupil of Mme. Della Valle, famous New York city vocalist, will appear here next Friday night at eight-fifteen o'clock in the Auditorium under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A.

Miss Keener, who was born at Latrobe, Pennsylvania, and who was formerly a student of Carnegie Tech, made her debut in concert only last season. She won success in her first appearance and in a single season she has sung in seventy-eight operas, many of which were re-engagements. During this time Miss Keener has scored triumphs before many Eastern and mid-western audiences as well as those in several Canadian cities.

Even before she attended college, Miss Keener always thought of studying music in New York city where she had hopes of becoming a noted singer. She was deprived of this opportunity at the beginning of her career, however, because of financial troubles. While she was singing during the Liberty Loan drive, her voice attracted the attention of some influential Pittsburgh people who, recognizing her remarkable promise, at once sent her to New York, where for several years she studied under Mme. Valle.

While studying with Mme. Valle, an opportunity came to Miss Keener to sing before the audition committee of the Metropolitan Opera company. After she had finished a five-minute recital she was engaged under a five-year contract.

Miss Keener's success this season has been remarkable, both in joint recitals and solos. Her joint recitals

this year have included appearances with such famous singers as Beniamino Gigli, Giuseppe de Luca, John Charles Thomas, Erwin Viregovitzi and Tito Schipa.

The Philadelphia RECORD says of Miss Keener:

"She has a voice of exquisite beauty, particularly appealing in coloratura passages. She has several arms that display her soprano to the best advantage and she sings with ease and loveliness. She has attained a concert vogue that is indicated by a mass of engagements. Her charming personality is an appeal to any audience."

Tickets priced at one dollar may be secured at the "Y" hut now on at the door preceding the entrance. The program for the concert will be announced in the next issue of this newspaper.

### Druid Delegates Sent Here For Convention

(Continued from first page)

good sportsmanship and to encourage gentlemen's conduct throughout. The furtherance of this code is the object of the national convention and will be discussed at a business meeting tomorrow morning at ten o'clock in the Kappa Sigma house. The delegates will be housed at various fraternities during their stay and will attend the athletic events tomorrow. G. A. Sands '28, is president of the local chapter while H. A. Kittle '27, is national president.

LOST—In Old Chapel "Jones Railway Transportation" Return to Athletic Store 14pd

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ALL STAR CAST  
in "The First Year"

Saturday—  
WM S HART  
in "Tumbleweeds"

PASTIME

Friday and Saturday—  
MARIE PREVOST  
in "The Cave Man"

Monday and Tuesday—  
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WALLACE BEERY  
and  
RAYMOND HATTON  
in "Behind the Front"

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