

Penn State Collegian

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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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TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1926

TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT

To doff or not to doff—that is the question. Whether the juniors will continue to doff their traditional hats or whether they will be permitted to bare their heads and go, sans perspiration, sans decoration, sans lamentation, to the completion of their third year at Penn State. With Student Council, when that body convenes tonight, rests the question of a hatless junior class.

It cannot be impressed too greatly upon the members of the Council that the present third-year class almost unanimously favors the abolition of this shop-worn, disagreeable custom; that the juniors, as a body, are making a superb attempt to rid themselves of a most objectionable article of dress which serves no purpose except that of a snow-shield during the winter months.

The sophomores and freshmen also deserve consideration in the vote. Are they not to be affected by the issue? Do they not appreciate the fact that their junior year allows them no other privileges than those crossing the front campus and wearing a sweater? Can they not see the expediency of abolishing hats for the junior class? They most certainly can!

Tonight's the night! Will enlightenment conquer tradition or will "ancestral worship" call forth a negative vote? May wisdom govern tonight's Council proceedings!

OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE

Student Council, in its search for better class election methods, last year hit upon a system of candidacy announcing which brings into prominence the best men of the classes and at the same time brands the election as one which will be based not on popularity but on ability.

In two weeks' time, Penn State students will be confronted with one of the most important events of college activity—class elections. April twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth have been set aside as the days upon which freshmen, sophomores and juniors will ballot for the men who are to lead their respective classes next year. It is necessary that all candidates for class offices submit their names, in writing, to the secretary of Student Council by Wednesday, April twenty-fifth, since after this date no names will be accepted.

There is no doubt that there are many outstanding members of the junior, sophomore and freshman classes who hesitate to announce their candidacy because of a personal element which they think others will view as overestimated self-importance. They have no confidence—let them withhold their names.

Again, there are a great many who are bound to throw their hats in the ring "just to see how many votes they can get." These are the popularity seekers who look upon class elections as purely a personal matter. They are not needed.

Those men who become candidates with the view of furthering the best interests of their class, the men who feel that the class will be bettered under their leadership—to them we look with pride and hope.

Anyone may have a superabundance of some quality which a leader must possess. Anyone who is noticeably popular may have an idea that he is the best man for the job simply because of his popularity. But it is the man of character, personality, aggressiveness, intelligence and executive ability who should present his name as a candidate for office. Let all others keep out. If the shoe fits—

WE HAVE WITH US TODAY

It is to laugh! The esteemed Mr. Mencken has been taken to task, tried, tested, approved, filtered and laid away to age (May it be in a charcoal-lined wooden barrel).

We have with us today The Watch and Ward Society. We never heard of it before this, and when the Mencken episode had died away, we expect never to hear of it again. Probably the members clamored for action until the representative was so exhausted pacifying them that he had to find some person or thing upon which to vent the wrath of his cohorts. Luckily or unluckily for him, "Hatrack" happened along at the time. Look at the results. The American Mercury has been forbidden the use of the mails but is still permitted street sale. Express companies will be abnormally busy for two weeks handling packages of the Mercury, the packages no doubt being labeled "Rush" or "Do Not Open Until Xmas."

What more can happen? What more can we expect? Youths, in years to come, will pore through Mercury files in search of "Hatrack." Their morals will be corrupted, they will not go to church, they will not say their prayers, they will not mind their parents—they will be jay-hawks and piowlers, they will be nothing which they should be and everything they should not. All because of Mr. Mencken, The American Mercury, "Hatrack" and the Watch and Ward Society.

We have with us today the Watch and Ward Society.

CAPACITY CROWD CHEERS DEDICATION OF CATHAUM

(Continued from first page)
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Letter Box

701 West Nevada Street, Urbana, Illinois
 Editor of the COLLEGIAN

I have several bits of news that may interest COLLEGIAN readers. Professor George K. Pattee who for about eight years was a member of the English instruction staff at Penn State and who was the author of the book on Argumentation long used at a summer in Denver, Colorado April fourth. Until two years ago when he was stricken with paralytic illness, he was the head of the English department of Colorado college.

Most sincerely yours,
 Fred L. Pattee

his aggressiveness and his policy of applying the best of entertainment for the students of Penn State. Burgess Rothrock extended his congratulations to Mr. Baum, the College and the town and in the name of the people of State College accepted the theatre as a place devoted to wholesome shows.

All seats were filled before the program commenced, and many were standing in the foyer during the show. The photoplay given as the opening picture was "Deverly of Graustark" featuring Marion Davies and Antonio Moreno. It was the first Pennsylvania or New York showing "Monkey Business," a comedy, followed

The Cathaum theatre stands is the last word in the building of modern entertainment houses. It is of brick and steel fire-proof construction, and is located four buildings west of Co-op corner on College avenue. A spacious lobby leads from the sidewalk to the main floor. Although the wiring has been provided for a huge electric sign this will not be erected for several weeks.

On either side of the foyer are rest rooms, and rest alcoves. The former are designated by novel, illuminated plates. Above the foyer and in the front of the building are the balconies, lodges and the operating room. There are two exits on the main floor and two in the balcony, providing four times the space required by law. Except for the orange-colored lanterns dropped from the sides the lighting system is indirect.

Around the ceiling alone are placed 225 electric bulbs. Three colors are used and any combination of any intensity may be obtained from the switch board in the operating room. The panel is seven feet square, contains twenty-four switches and four rheostats of huge "dim-a-lights." The curtain veiling the silver screen is electrically controlled from this room or from the orchestra pit. The magnificent plush curtain which covers the entire platform is drawn back by hand operated machinery. Artistically concealed vents regulate the flow of air into and out of the hall. Before entering the theatre proper the air is first filtered and heated. In the winter time the sup-

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ALUMNI WILL ENTERTAIN JUNIOR METALLURGISTS

Junior metallurgy students will be entertained on the inspection trip by the Penn State Alumni club of Youngstown, Sharon, and New Castle. A dinner of the Penn State Club will be held at seven-thirty o'clock at the Youngstown club.

Officers of the club set the date to coincide with the visit of the junior class in metallurgy, under the direction of Prof. O. A. Knight, to Youngstown. They will be the guests of the club at this meeting. Mr. A. N. Diehl, vice-president of the Carnegie Steel company, will be the principal speaker.

HECHLER EXPLAINS FUEL USE
 Prof. F. G. Hechler, head of the engineering experiment station, addressed the Pennsylvania State Students' association, an organization of officers of State institutions, normal schools, the department of Health, Public Instruction, and Welfare, on last Thursday. His subject was "Purchasing Fuel by Specification and Analysis."

Two of the modern and improved types of projectors flash the pictures on the screen. A new spotlight is also part of the control room's equipment. The walls and ceiling are done in gold and cream colors. At least eighteen firms assisted in the construction and outfitting of the building. After the difficult task of excavating was finished eight months were occupied in completing the theatre.

A clothing store and a stationery store occupy the ground floor facing the sidewalk on either side of the lobby. The upper rooms are to be used as offices. Nearly eight hundred tons of concrete and almost one hundred fifty tons of plaster were used in the construction. The entire load of the building is carried by steel columns. Provisions have been made to add four hundred-fifty seats without enlarging the walls.

Shows will be given as usual at the prevailing price of fifty cents. Matinees may be run on Saturday afternoons.

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Thoughts of Others

Lafayette college students who have the "writing bug" will have an opportunity next year to try out their ability in a "shop" course in creative writing to be given by C. Gill, instructor in English, and sponsored by Dr. J. W. Tuppe, professor of English literature.

Enrollment in the course will be limited to fifteen men who show particular promise in writing. Those desiring admission to the course will be required to submit original manuscripts for consideration. The work of the course will include a weekly meeting of those in the class for the purpose of informal discussion by various members and frequent individual conferences. Each member of

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FROMM'S

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