

# 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. Subscription price \$2.50 if paid before December 1, 1925. Entered at the Postoffice, State College, Pa., as second-class matter. Office: Nittany Printing and Publishing Co. Building, State College, Pa. Telephone. 292-W, Bell.

Member of Eastern Intercollegiate Newspaper Association

TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1926

## LES ABSENTS ONT TOUJOURS TORT

Tomorrow and Thursday Penn State will be busy electing next year's class officers, busy separating the wheat from the chaff, the strong from the weak. May the best men win. May they win handsily. May the best men win, win that Penn State's destiny may be placed in the hands of well-chosen leaders. Unless every member of the three classes concerned casts a ballot, there will be wailing and gnashing of teeth. It behooves every one to be among those present—the absent are always in the wrong.

## SO THEY PLAYED GENTLEMEN. AND HOW!!

Now that the glamour of the Junior Prom has faded in the distance and the "only girl" has departed for Weehawken, N. J., there comes to mind an agonizing thought. It is a question, one which drops with a dull thud from a clear sky and which constantly menaces our social serenity—how did you treat your chaperones? Were they accorded all the privileges which accompany their station or were they shoved into a corner, handed a deck of cards and a table and a scoring pad?

Only too often do we regret that our attentions are not paid the chaperones in a way which breeds respect for the houses of which they are guests. Only too often do we feel for the chaperones in their pitiable plight and grin indulgently in our hurried hop, skip and jump past their reserved corner. What manner of men are we who ungratefully entertain by isolation? We play gentlemen, and how!

"Upon arrival, 'somebody' takes our wraps and 'sets' us down in some corner or room-end. Few of the fellows in the house welcome us, introduce themselves or shake hands. None or few present their young ladies to us." This from the heart of a professor who is respected in the classroom but almost disclaimed at a house dance. He writes to tell us that he is assured of a true, sorry time while chaperoning. May we add that he is correct in all he says? One thing of which a chaperone may be certain is that the night will be a disagreeable one!

Cannot Penn State men take unto themselves some of the attentions of gentlemen? Cannot Penn State men forget the selfishness attendant upon their relations with their guests? Cannot the entertainers show their chaperones with the few small blessings which to them rightfully belong? Penn State men, known throughout the East for their sportsmanship, their spirit, their hospitality, fail dismally in their treatment of chaperones. Why? Not because they are innately inconsiderate but because they have no time to be gentlemen, because they have set aside the little mannerisms which become the gentleman, because they have forgotten themselves.

We hope that the future holds a remedy, a reversal of form, in order that our chaperones may praise their hosts rather than serve in silence as they now do.

## THE COLLEGE MAN'S GOBLET

Almost every other college newspaper has expressed an opinion on Prohibition and it is high time that we take a hand in the matter. Not that it means anything, but just to gratify a desire to take a poke at something.

President Church of Carnegie Tech told an investigating Senate Committee the whole truth about the drinking situation at Tech. When upon the students resented "the smirching of Tech's fair name" even though it was the truth. They resented the nation's knowing that Tech students honor the great god Bacchus. Yet most of them are willing to tell, confidentially, of course, how many drinks they are able to down at one sitting. It's hard to understand, but then—college men are peculiar individuals.

Any average undergraduate, backed into a corner, will cry the blues about the evils of Prohibition. He probably will spread the information that if liquor were not verboten, he would not be drinking the stuff. And what stuff he drinks! But it's being done by his fellow-students, so why not? The general attitude of the country to wink at the breaking of the law is sufficient to calm his conscience as he smirks and calls for "bottoms up."

Years ago, our elders tell us, college men imbibed freely. But they quitted beer from a stein. Today drinkers take "slugs," lugs to bottle. Hard liquor seldom saw the light of day at college then, while now it is seldom that that same light of day does not see the huddled of hard liquor being consumed in "healthy hooters" by a few youngsters. And while the news is broadcast that college men do not drink, those who are in the know tell us that there is a marked increase in either the amount consumed or the number of those who partake, or both.

Straw votes taken at various institutions show that undergraduates favor the return of light wines and beer. A straw vote is no criterion, we are told, since only the dissatisfied cast the ballot. Nevertheless, at college, there is no reason for such an assertion because even laziness will not stop a student from voting when the ballot-boxes are placed squarely in front of his nose. The straw vote, then, may safely be taken as a true expression of student sentiment.

Yet when these truths are conveyed to the world via the printed column, college men, and particularly Tech men, are resentful. The inconsistency of the thing is ridiculous. Why not

openly admit that there are drinking bouts, many of them, and that more are being held daily, and that the percentage of neophytes presently admitted to the bar greatly exceeds the percentage of years ago?

Omar says he knows of "nothing that the vintners buy one half so previous as the stuff they sell." But the "rotgut" that is sold today is a far cry from Khayyam's wine and more is being consumed per capita per college than in the pre-Volstead period. Prohibition enforcement is a complete fizzle and the college situation, we are certain, is one of the strongest arguments for light wines and beer. But the news goes 'round that college men don't drink and college men hold hard by the statement. The inconsistency, the utility, the imbecility of the whole affair stumps us.

## Letter Box

Editor, Penn State COLLEGIAN Dear Sir: Dad's Day has become one of Penn State's great institutions, and this year, not unlike former years, we will soon make ready to entertain our Dads.

One fault in the day's program has come to my mind, and I have heard it voiced by other students. It is the policy taken by the Athletic Association on this occasion. It seems mighty unfair to take advantage of our visiting Dads and charge them admission to the athletic meets. Such a position is no more than an infringement upon the purpose of the hospitality we should offer. Our Dads do then part in supporting Penn State and indirectly the Y. A., and to make them pay for their amusement when Penn State should be the host is entirely wrong.

This requires immediate action or an argument from the Y. A. justifying its stand. To raise funds for the purpose of defraying expenses is a weak argument in comparison to the importance of Dad's Day. A Senior

## STUDENT BODY OBSERVES FATHERS' DAY SATURDAY

(Continued from first page) This year the given in the Women's building Saturday afternoon.

A smoker and stunt show will be held in the Armory on Saturday night. For the first event of the Fathers' Day festivities a program has been prepared that includes two Hawaiian guitar duets, two boxing bouts, a wrestling bout between Lord and Pacland, and a mouth organ duet. Dr. Henry W. A. Hanson, president of Gettysburg college, will be the Sunday chapel speaker, giving an address, suitable to the occasion.

- The program for the Association of Parents' meeting Saturday morning follows:
- 1 Music
  - 2 President's Remarks, Mr. John Mueser
  - 3 The College Administration, Judge H. Walton Mitchell
  - 4 The Health of the Students, Dr. P. Rittenour
  - 5 Music
  - 6 The Place of Scholarship in a College Education, Dr. C. W. Stoddard
  - 7 Student Social Life, Dr. Henry '26 and Ruth N. Schaeffer '26
  8. Business Session
  9. Adjournment

## MILK PRODUCERS HOLD UNIQUE GET-TOGETHER

A unique event took place Thursday night when neighboring farmers who send milk to the State College creamery met in the Stark Pavilion for their annual get-together. The wives of the farmers served cakes while free ice cream and coffee were furnished by the creamery.

Entertainment consisted of a number of stunts and athletic events by Dean R. L. Watts, and Prof. A. A. Borland of the Dairy Husbandry department. Music was provided by the college band. Eight hundred guests were present.

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## HOME SHOWING OF "THE KID HIMSELF" SCORED BY CRITIC

V. A. N. Studies Ability of Cast And Chorus—Constructive Suggestions Given

## SAYS IMPERSONATION OF "GIRLS" TOO MASCULINE

Praises Portrayal of "Sally" By R. W. Graham—Lauds Triple Piano Act

The Thespian production, not having been held under the microscope before this time, must certainly be attempted if our title of critic is to hold good. This is constructive, remember, not destructive. Vitam impendere vero. Here we go!

We went to see "The Kid Himself" in order to be entertained. We were, plenty, too. The gags were good, some of them, and we were pleased to find the comedians waiting for their laughs. In "Wooden Shoes," this essential bit of the actor's craft was noticeable for its absence. We were also delighted with the music, the tunes were "hummable," if we may have on the term, and the lyrics well-written and expressive. We venture the suggestion that "I've Been Looking for Someone Like You" has been overworked a trifle? Its a hit, there is no doubt, but "Rollin' Stone," if given as much publicity as the other, would take any house by storm. And "Lantens," too.

We wonder what happened behind the curtains between the second and third acts? The reverberating applause given Fishburn, Fisher and Coleman, accomplished pianists, did not serve to drown the noise of bombs, while the long wait from the time the pianos were taken off-stage until the act opened did not serve as a boost to the cast.

The scenic "effects" were commendable and just the thing, while the costumes were admirably chosen and worked in.

Here we pause to insert a paragraph "Strong-foite" or whatever the word is. Never have we appreciated a piano trio as greatly as we did Saturday night's. May we congratulate the performers on their little encore stunt? It was fetching. Regrettably, though, that we could not tell which piano was in tune.

The dancing was excellent. The chorus performed creditably, even to one "female" who began lifting "her" skirts toward the end of the third act. But if the Thespian Club is an impersonating dramatic organization, we fail to see it. The cast girls were fine, but the chorus girls, except one, were rotten as far as looking like the opposite sex is concerned. We hope the "men who play girls" will make up more neatly while on the road in order to convey the impression that they are at least attempting to look like girls.

We don't know whether it is alto-

gether fitting and proper that we should do this, but we give first honors to J. E. Kennedy's feet! "Socks" can clog and soft-shoes and buck-and-wing right along with the best of them, and his brother R. G. isn't far behind. Second honors go to J. E. Ewing himself. He carried the show along from his first appearance until his final exit.

R. W. Graham as "Sally" was a knockout from where we sat. Graham speaks clearly, sings well, and, Thank Heavens, tries to be a girl while on the stage. J. R. Nelson, as the "Kid," did some good work—except that when he said "I love you," we thought it was a practice session with a floor lamp. Nelson's smile is tonic after watching the chorus trying to coax grins.

D. D. Northup may fill the role as anyone's fiance at any time in any show providing he talks slower. Northup's speech resembles the rattling of a machine gun, slowed not a trifle. He "telegraphs" his gags by a remarkable movement of his eyeballs, a trick which annoys some on-lookers.

We realize that the part of Duke Chesterville was created especially for J. I. Vance and we also realize that Vance can carry the uptown English stuff admirably. We forgive the insertion of the bogus noble, then, because of Vance's ability. S. C. Runkle (Marque) can dance, can give a good impersonation of a spinster with a cracked voice and can smile well, but he can never convince us that he is a girl. R. G. Kennedy, who has been initiated before in his almost deserted place, can dance, sing, talk, smile and play the banjo. When the younger Kennedy is on the scene, immediately there is created a better feeling, if such there can be, between the audience and the players. Alexander is miscast, both as hotel-owner and sleuth. Zaconick serves well as a foil for the Kennedys, but is feeble as a comedian because of his exaggeration. He goes across well, nevertheless.

H. W. Pennington tried faithfully to be an ambassador but failed because he was miscast. He does not have that rotund appearance which we always vision ambassadors as having, that look of hauteur and pride. H. H. Brainerd tried hard, but he also—we're afraid we're getting too enthusiastic, and that, if somebody a Thespian recognizes us, we will be throttled shortly!

P. J. Farley (Dugan) was what may be termed a scream-and-howl. He had too few lines, too few gags, and no solo dancing or singing, unfortunately. Wouldn't a good Bowery song be an addition here, with an eccentric Charleston on the side? Farley is a capable character man and should bear more of the burden. Ament played "Miss Spinks" suitably. There was not much of an opportunity for him to shine, however.

(We've mislaid our program) The lawyer, whoever he was, was cast well. He was, shangly, "smooth" and said "Watch that Joe stuff" perfectly.

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Robertson (we remember his name) looked like a Spanish servitor but spoke his "Si, senor" in good, honest American.

"The Kid Himself" is entertaining, there is no doubt. It affords a pleasant evening and deserves a better house than that to which it played Saturday night. One surely will enjoy the dancing, music, costumes and comedy and not try, as we did, to pick flaws.

As one man to another the plot is a thin veil, torn at places, which attempts to aid some remarkable dancing, costumes and songs which need no help.

(N.B. We do not expect our professional dignity go untouched for more than a week. Two days after the Thespians return from their tour, that dignity will be swathed in band-aids seeking of meurochome. It will be worth the gauze, we think, because these few lines may touch the hearts of those mentioned and send them out to be actors instead of candidates. We are as glad as you are, if not more so, that this trade comes now rather than after the first State College performance. We also wish to say that the faults cited were not so evident in other showings as they were Saturday. Veritas sans peur Voila!)

## R. M. RAINEY '05 GIVEN GRAYBAR MANAGERSHIP

With the incorporation of the Graybar Electric company on the first of January as successors to the Western Electric Supply company, comes the announcement of the appointment of P. M. Rainey '05, as telephone sales manager of the Graybar company.

Mr. Rainey was born in Mehoopany, Pennsylvania, and received his B. S. degree from Penn State in 1905 immediately following his graduation. Mr. Rainey joined the force of the Western Electric company. He took a student course offered by the company and afterward entered the engineering department. His business career has been a succession of promotions, culminating in his appointment to his present position.

While a student at Penn State, Mr. Rainey was prominent in athletics, being a member of the football and wrestling squads. He is a member of the Delta Upsilon fraternity.

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## SCHOLARSHIP DAY WILL BE OBSERVED THURSDAY

(Continued from first page)

tion of the students and faculty is the most outstanding member of his class. This prize is to encourage the winner in graduate work.

The John W. White medal which has an intrinsic value of fifty dollars, will be given to a senior planning to take up graduate work. The basis for this honor is primarily scholarship, then leadership, helpfulness to the college and popularity.

This President Sparks prize will be awarded to the student of any class who has attained the highest scholastic standing in the college.

German Prize Offered Dr. L. B. T. Simmons, head of the German department, will present for the first time the Simmons award for excellence in German. A student must have completed four semesters of German to be eligible.

Eta Kappa Nu, honorary electrical engineering society, will offer a handbook to the electrical engineering freshman with the highest standing.

Tau Beta Pi, honorary engineering society, will present a slide rule to the best sophomore engineer while the agricultural Student Council will award a prize to the best scholar.

There will be a departure from the usual custom in announcing the winners of the fraternity and club cups. Heretofore a single representative of the fraternity or club received the cup presented by the presiding officer. This year it is hoped to get the entire groups together and have them stand while their representatives receive the cup.

**CATHAUM**

Tuesday—JOHN BARRYMORE in "The Sea Beast" Special Prices This Picture Adults 50c, Children 25c

Wednesday—ALL STAR CAST in "The Lucky Lady"

Thursday—COLLEEN MOORE in "Irene"

Friday—First-Pennsylvania Showing of JACK PICKFORD in "Brown of Harvard" NITTANY

Tuesday—PRISCILLA DEAN in "The Danger Girl"

Friday—COLLEEN MOORE in "Irene"