

Penn State Collegian

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FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1926.

YALE EXAMINES THE REMEDY

Yale is now considering the Harvard plan of improvement. The report of the Harvard Student Council on Education calls for a division of the university into small schools in order to provide a closer social spirit and to knit a tighter relationship between faculty and student. The proposal as a whole is a duplication of the Oxford and Cambridge systems.

The Yale Alumni Weekly, commenting on the plan, feels that the proposal will not remedy the something that ails the college. The editors believe that the abolition of compulsory chapel was a blow to the "social solidarity" that the custom fostered, feeling perhaps that chapel had the same effect as a smoker or a barbecue. The Harvard plan, particularly the section that deals with the division of the college, was examined, found faulty, and thrown into the discard.

The Weekly then looked into the fraternity as a means of getting the undergraduate into the camaraderie spirit. But it finds that the fraternities gather only two-fifths of the student body into the secret folds. What then is to become of Yale? The panacea for the ills, according to the Weekly, is that the fraternities should tap more men and that there should be more fraternities.

The Harvard plan together with pro and con views make interesting reading matter for those who are continually worrying over what ails the college. It is true that our universities and their systems are not perfect, yet the ills accredited them are largely imaginary.

It is ridiculous to split up the university for the sake of creating close social units. Nothing would be more conducive to building of a college man, cut by a die. The system may rub off the provincialism of the freshman but it is certain to produce something more obnoxious than provincialism,—the "collegian."

The only ailment from which the college suffers is the tendency on the part of administrators to mimic industry and its large scale production. To grow "bigger and better" and to "give every man a chance to learn" is the evident policy of the majority of American universities. It is generally admitted that there are in colleges a great percentage of men who simply "don't belong."

This is the result largely of the alleged opportunities offered by colleges to prepare men for every possible vocation with the exception of bootlegging. To divest colleges of courses in horse-shoeing, salesmanship, plumbing, and so forth would naturally remove a glittering attraction. Specialized courses of that caliber have no place in the university. Then again, a careful selection of the entrants and the closing of the sluice gates before the college is flooded would keep it from resembling a factory.

There ought not to be any worry over the social problem. There is none. College men do not lack the social instinct and if they did, what of it? Grouping, however, is a natural process and should remain so rather than to become an arbitrary division by forcing a group of undergraduates together merely because they belong to the same class or school and completely ignoring their personalities.

Instead of providing for more students with larger buildings, there should be more instructors with larger salaries. This might, particularly at Penn State, rid the college of some of its imperfections.

AG CONVENTION ENDS AFTER BUSY SESSIONS

Discuss Ways Of Fighting Plant Diseases—Dean Sackett Addresses Group

The Agricultural convention held at Penn State last week ended with a banquet at the Centre Hills country club Friday night. Directors of experimental stations from nine states of the Northeastern division were present at the convention, the purpose of which was to discuss agricultural research problems.

Dean R. L. Sackett, a member of the executive board, was a guest at the banquet. He spoke on "Problems of Mutual Interest to the Agriculturist and the Engineer." He took up such topics as reforestation, in regard to the water supply, soil drainage, irrigation and highways. He said that the Europeans marvel at the way we construct our highways, because we survey them after they have been built to see if we have built them right. Another topic was the power on the farm, an essential factor to the farmer of today, because it relieves drudgery of the farm woman and helps the farmer in his work.

Short talks were given by directors W. J. Morse, of Orono, Maine; J. C. Kendall, of Durham, New Hampshire; W. J. Slate, Jr., of New Haven, Connecticut; B. L. Hatwell, of Kingston, Rhode Island; R. N. Thatcher, of Ithaca, New York, and A. C. McCue, of Newark, Delaware.

Everything served at the banquet was produced on the farms of the College. The speakers' table was decorated with several bouquets of roses, brought from the greenhouse of the botany department. At the plate of each was a carnation, also from the greenhouse.

"BOOMERANG" SCHEDULED FOR JUNE PRESENTATION

Penn State Players To Give Popular Comedy Here Commencement

In "The Boomerang," which the Penn State Players will present during commencement, play-goers will be introduced to an up-to-date physician who attempts to cure an unwilling patient of a "nervous depression." The outcome, a disappointed and jealous affection with all its complications, forms the basis of a plot which has made "The Boomerang" one of the most popular of the newer comedies.

"The Boomerang" is a three-act comedy by Winchell Smith and Victor Mapes. The first act is in Dr. Summer's office, the second in the living room at Mr. Woodbridge's, the last in Dr. Summer's office. The story takes place in Hartford, Connecticut during the early autumn.

CHEMISTS USE URANIUM IN PRODUCTION OF TILE

Research Department Utilizes Waste Products—Will Expand Work

Penn State's addition to the School of Chemistry and Physics, the Industrial Research department, is at present devoted to the manufacture of sodium uranate, a yellow material used as a pigment in the structure of cream colored tile.

Sodium uranate is usually imported into the United States from Europe, there being no immediate source of uranium in this country. The heads of the department are able to supply the demands here by buying up the waste products of large plants, more particularly those of uranium copulations. These waste products have a low percentage of uranium and the Penn State chemists develop the pure material which is then sold at a high price.

At present the Associated Chemical Products company of New York city has contracted to purchase all of this compound which can be evolved, a supply of approximately one hundred pounds a week.

Soon the department will expand its work to take up the manufacture of ammonium metavanadate. The same process which is now being employed in the making of the sodium uranate, that of buying waste products, will be applied.

The work of this department, located in the Old Track House, is especially important in that it supplies American manufacturers materials that are not produced in the United States.

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BOTANISTS TO VISIT YELLOWSTONE PARK

Penn State Party Will Gather Specimens And Examine Hot Spring Fungi

COVER EIGHT STATES. FIVE THOUSAND MILES.

Proposing to explore the nature of plant growths throughout the West and to consider flowering plants, an expedition of Penn State botanists will leave the College campus for Yellowstone National Park on July first.

The party, consisting of Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Hill, Dr. and Mrs. L. O. Overholt, W. B. McMillan and L. T. Dennerston '27, will tour to Yellowstone Park, making intermediary stops at points of unusual botanical interest. The trip, estimated more than five thousand miles, will extend through Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, West Virginia, North Dakota, South Dakota, Colorado and Wyoming.

Make Tests at Yellowstone
 Yellowstone Park is scheduled not only as the turning point of the expedition but also as the main point of exploration. At the famous wonder park the Nittany educators will test the theory that algae growths exist beneath the hot springs and sprout in water that is estimated to be hotter than ninety degrees Centigrade. At the same place the tourists will focus their attention on a virgin field, that of fungi. Alpine plants also will hold an interest for the botanists.

On the return trip, after a short test at St. Louis, the local scientists will be well on their way to complete the third botanical pilgrimage, two having been made previously, one in 1921 and 1924. Each resulted in five hundred valuable specimens.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Initial La Vie Sale Draws Throngs of Jostling Students

Crowds of eager students gathered around Montgomery's store Thursday afternoon and tomorrow from ten o'clock in the morning until nine o'clock in the evening.

Juniors Must Present Cards
 Juniors calling for their books must present their matriculation cards for the second semester. No copies will be given to juniors not complying with this requirement.

Because the number of extra copies to be sold is limited, those who have not made reservations are urged to buy their La Vies at once.

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