

Penn State Collegian

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PORNOGRAPHIC LITERATURE AND MR. MURPHY

We are informed by one J. Peter Murphy that "what we need is more Bible reading." This comes through the medium of mail in a letter addressed to the paper. Well, in the behalf of the student body and Mr. Murphy, we have decided to reprint his letter in the editorial column. It runs like this:

"I watch with Christmian interest your Bullosopher's noble attempt to lure the student body from its lubricious pursuit of pornographic literature

"What we need is more Bible reading. I suggest that you encourage it aggressively. Perhaps the most efficacious way would be to let the corpus discipulorum know that there are more pearls of smut in the Old Testament than there are in all the other aphrodisiacal books penned since the dawn of Christendom

"You's for the greater glory of God,
"J. Peter Murphy

"P S In case you publish this, please omit my name if possible. J. P. M."

Now, just what do you think of that? We don't know what to make of it. Mr. Murphy, whom we believe to be a fictitious character, seems to be trying to take a fall out of the Bullosopher at the expense of the Old Testament. Then again, maybe he's got the interest of the church at heart but has expressed it illy. What do you think?

We would like to make a few comments for the benefit of the person who signed himself J. Peter Murphy. We think he may be the type who looks diabolically through Proverbs and a few other books in order to find what he calls "pearls of smut." But, if he's not that sort, he need not have associated the Bible with these gems of pornography, as he classifies them.

Maybe Mr. Murphy has never read Rabelais, Boccaccio, and a few others. Maybe he has confined his reading directly to the Bible. We would suggest that he overlook these "pearls of smut" in the Bible or treat them as open-minded and educational, instead of citing them as "pearls of smut."

We think Mr. Murphy, if he would read the Bible open-mindedly, would not be forced to mention his experience with the Bible in order to be sarcastic about the contents of the article by the Bullosopher. We criticize Mr. Murphy also upon his faulty spelling.

Mr. Smithers, what do you think of this letter:

"Dear ... How well I remember the first time I ever saw you to 'speak to'. You were a haughty (not by nature, but rank) senior, I am a humble freshman, too proud to wear a jacket and afraid to wear a coat! You spoke to me kindly—how astonished I was! In my bashfulness I had always considered the seniors as a superior race. But now I saw that, like Southey's 'Erenea,' they could stoop to love a mortal. You were the first senior I ever visited, and, if you recollect, it was no easy task to induce me to visit you, and then I did it stealthily. 'Ehena' 'am satis!' methinks I hear you exclaim, but they are (those days of freshman innocence).

"A something glittering in the sun For memory to look back upon!"

Smithers, that letter was written by a lad in college some ninety years ago, a day when the colleges of the whole country might be counted on the fingers of one hand. His name is famous now—and famous because he could write a letter like the above. Yes, genius is exotic, eccentric, isolated. But the truly great is he who feels the bonds of human kinship, and is proud of his share in communal ties.

Here's another letter, Smithers—from a Penn State man attending one of the large western universities:

"I notice one rather pleasant change from the Penn State Campus. The freshmen, although under customs, are treated as human beings; the customs are reasonable and mild; bird cages, four-foot signs, and two-foot wooden cigars are never seen. Somehow I suspect that the freshmen here think just as much of the University in spite of those deficiencies"

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Sanctumionals

In several recent issues, we have concerned ourselves with the rearrangement of football schedules having the end in view of eliminating games between unevenly matched teams. We have tried to prove that this can be done by pointing out that smaller teams necessarily meet other opponents of greater or equal ability, while in the Western Conference, the match-makers voluntarily pick for the greater number of their games teams more easily than equal than customary in the East.

Obviously if such a plan were followed in the East, the conditions surrounding football would undergo a radical change. The attendance would, of course, be effected in all probability, the style of play would also be revised.

Let us deal with the question of attendance and subsequent gate receipts first. We have only to look to the West to see how the public would favor a schedule calling for successive games with opponents of equal prowess. Football probably has more followers in the Middle West than in any other section of the country. The keen rivalry fostered by the Conference is responsible for this. Greater crowds flock to the games. While we in the East enter to crowds of ten thousand for the ordinary game on the schedule, athletic authorities in the Big Ten league are disappointed if less than twenty-five thousand show up for the contest. Only our larger games attract that number.

However, one cannot blame the football fan for staying away from the ordinary game in the East. He knows in advance that the team from the smaller institution has very little chance of winning. Sometimes, of course, a small college is favored to win, but these instances are few and far between. Last Saturday's attendance show that the fan is drawn only when the outcome of the contest is in doubt. Huge crowds saw the games between Yale and Dartmouth, Princeton and Navy, Syracuse and Army, Columbia and Ohio State and N. Y. U. and Tulane. If exhibitions of this character were played every week it is highly probable that the total attendance for the year would be much greater than at the present time.

A less intensive game would probably develop under the new plan. Instead of preparing for each major opponent at weeks in advance, each contest would be regarded as just another game. The resulting exhibition would probably be less interesting from the standpoint of the expert, but much better for the players, or both teams.

—The Columbia Spectator

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Thespians To Present Vaudeville Bill Friday

(Continued from first page)

B. Smith '27, L. W. Fisher '28 and T. J. Noble '30, are exceedingly familiar with the keyboard and frequent workouts augurs well for their success.

The sixth act is the women's card game caricature which was at one time part of Irving Berlin's Revue in the Music Box Theatre, New York. If H. Bammer '27, W. C. Ament '27, Roy Nelson '27 and John Vance '27 will catch take a hand in this act it.

Song-ter Trio
Two of these men, together with E. M. Peck '27, will make up the trio