Denn State Collegian

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News Editor This Issue------Benjamin Kaplan

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1927

AN INFLATED ASSET

"Practically one-third to one-half of the students now in American universities are unfit for College." Can such a thing be possible? Are coroning to Prof. A. H. Espenshade, who is responsible for the above statement, our universities are glutted with too many students who are merely wasting time.

The truth of this unbalanced situation is becoming more and more apparent every day. The general public has been misled in the thought that mass education is the logical and sure step to solve the subalanced situation is the logical and sure step

cial betterment. The College diploma to many symbolizes success in the world of business. whereas it is merely a scrap of paper which may lead these misguided persons to discontent and ultimate failure. The business world will not pay on the basis of the cost of education, but on the basis of services produced.

Too many students are entering our universities who have no chance whatever of being grad-uated or profiting at all by the time spent there. This fact is proved conclusively in the bi-annual weeding out of those unfortunates who, either for lack of industriousness or lack of proper intellect, fail to meet scholastic requirements. The belief that "anyone can learn anything" is fallacious and has been proven so time and again. Students who enter College, struggle along for a year or two, and then drop out, are a direct loss to society—they have consumed without having produced and have gained nothing to enable them to repair the loss. in short, they led a parasitic existence to no avail.

Assuredly education of the youth is the foundation of the state. And agreed that College education lends a warp to the fabric of modern life that is requisite. But it is becoming startlingly more obvious that the system is unbalanced,— that far too many round pegs are being molded for square holes.

We quote the following from the Ohio State LANTERN. "When the Joint Legislative Com-mittee on Taxation of the State Legislature rec-ommended the other day the establishing of a state board of Collenege entrance it started on the way to make educational history for all state uni-

The committee proposes that students ranking in the lowest third of the graduating class of high schools who seek admission to state universities or normal schools be required to pass entrance examinations." The LANTERN concludes with the statement, "If the Legislature does create a state board of entrance this session it will be showing the way to other states. The thing is bound to come and it is only a question of which state will be the first to do it."

Professor Espenshade advocates that quantity of knowledge should be determined by certificate and quality by a formal examination and a psychological questionnaire. The situation is becoming alarming and some step should be taken to check the ever increasing enrollment of our universities. Economically the attitude which the public has taken is unsound and the sooner a change is made, the better will be the resulting products of our universities.

A DOZEN WORDS TO THE WISE

O, lend an ear you bumming knights; attention here is sought! We warn you must be wary, lest straight you may be caught. A certain town not far from here, has judges harsh and shrewd; their ordinance effective, though we grant their method crude. Town gaols need filling, sad to say; their coffers look quite bare. The sages look about them, their question who to snare. And then, of course, they hit upon—as many others do—the all-providing college man. (Their prey is far from new.) The college man they hit upon, then how to catch him cold. From this evolves

then now to catch him cold. From this evolves the present plan, on which they count, I'm told, to supply the jug with inmates and to line their banks with gold.

The sponging student is inclined, when not upon his back, to make his way about the world in someone else's hack. The crusty lout who burns his way from one town to another, is oft on flivvers not his own, or behind somebody's brother. "Ah Ha!" they cry, those sad-faced sages, "Wel

needs must look no more. We'll capitalize this potent trait and hope no-one is sore. At every corner in this town we'll post a cop most meet whose task it is to hook these birds on every village street. The charge is bumming auto rides—they should have flagged a train; the penalty is twenty bucks, these gifts will on us rain. We'll hook these college students, if their pocket's worth

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Women's Editor

The pain.

You shout aloud it isn't just; that they can't just this one over. Your shouts are vain, for local studes have slept in prison clover. Advise you then to be most wise and loop about the city; to thumb your nose the longer way and sing this little ditty: "Sunbury, your council's wise, you almost government of the pain of the pain of the pain.

You shout aloud it isn't just; that they can't just; they can't ju by this or any town. Because we hook our ways about, our derbies are not brown."

HERE'S A LEAD

Initiative, of course, demands recognition and Mildred A. Webb '28 usually commendation in addition. In no small measure, the Interfraternity Council has laid a just claim to both. The body may have existed naturally and even thrived by refusing to extend itself, but in this way interest would have been entirely self-centered. The Council accordingly has extended its service to benefit not only component members, but in addition all local fra-ternities and any other interested students and aculty members.

In the Carnegie Library, the Interfraternity Council plans to form an alcove devoted solely to the literature published by every national fraternity now in existence. Subsequent care of the shelves will, of course, fall to the lot of Library employees, but the many labors which come of organizations are borne voluntarily by the Council in an endeavor to extend its service to the en-tire College. Each issue of a fraternity periodical will be sent directly to the Library where it will immediately be filed.

The idea itself is not absolutely startling, but ic motive back of the plan cannot be lauded too highly. No organization, regardless of its pur-pose, can afford to fall into a dormant state. Be-hind the walls it may live, to be sure, but after all should be benefitted to the greatest possible extent. In its planned action, the Interfraternity Council has shown the way to a new trend in

The age of science is upon us, Smithers—in fact, it seems about to demotish us, if we are to believe rumors and rumors of rumors that circulate from vapid symposiums of nothingness to inane imitations of intellect!
Poor old "Modern Times" is the refuse heap of all the gags about the immorality, the worthlessness, the spineless uselessness of the younger generation; and in an effort to explain young Modern Times, we jump upon "the war",—ther turn to Prohibition, perhaps blame Women Suffrage—but inevitably we are drawn to Science. Yes—the age of science is the root of the reign of Lilliputian terror—evolution, modern philosophy, and natural progress whose attributes of Convenience, Freedom, and extreme Efficiency have turned our mind upon every angle sava Retrospection!

As a general rule, Smithers, being a very progressive

As a general rule, Smithers, being a very progressive old man. I have pooh-poohed these affronts to Modernism. When a principle is its own excuse for existing, constructed defense seems like building childish blocks around a pillar of rock. The wind of the opposition may show the foolishness and impotence of our feeble efforts—but Truth (which after all is the battle cry of our wicked youth) like Becury, is self-sufficient, and our dawdring prattle is as out of harmony as an "Amen" would blaspheme the Catiredal of Rheims!

Modernism in its search for Truth is at least ap-proaching the ideal; and regardless of the crudeness of its method, and the accuracy of its efforts—the struggle admirable.

is admirable.

Why should we how any longer to Retrospection?
The sepulchres of our fathers have been constructed only too well. We have looked long enough through the eyes of the Past! Let us have an original contact with Nature—new poetry or insight rather than tradition, new religion of revelation rather than history, a new wardrobe of thought rather than the faded masquerade of a dead past. We need not wander among the moon-cast shadows in the grava yard of dry hones. Let us awake, rather, to the sun-lighted field's which are unexplored—which invite the creation of our own mechanisms for tillage; our own works, our own laws, our own worship!

Modernism calls for individualism—originality, fresh.

Modernism calls for individualism-ness, vitality; and youth's response will ation, the life of that call! alism---originality, fresh-se will determine the dur-

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Watts Depicts Oriental **Bent Toward Foreigners**

This is the first of a series of three "China for the Chenese" is a populatters which Dean R. L. Watts, of lar and proper slogan of the great the School of Agriculture, is writing republic of 400,000,000 people. Nationalism is developing at a marvelous legian. In view of the recent political disturbances in the Orient, Dean to put its household in order and to put its household

cessful missionary enterprises.

Anti-Foreign Feeling
At Hongkong, a tourist, who seemed to represent the feeling of many travellers, remarked to us: "Not going up to Canton, are you? Do you chink it is safe?" Though this leading city of China has been the seat of many political and military disturbances, nothing happened during our entire three weeks sojourn to cause, us any concern or discomfort. Undoubtedly, there is much anti-foreign feeling in South China, because of uncould treaties, extra-territorial of unequal treaties, extra-territorial been beautifully landscaped. We may disputes, and the ever present for-eign gun boats in the harbors and ri-Penn State's representative.

vers. English, French, Japanese and American gun boats, lying in the river at Canton, are a constant source of irritation, just as Chinese men of war would be to Americans if fleets of them were anchored in the Susquehanna River at Harrisburg or in the Potomac River at Washington. Of course, we would not tolerate their presence and neither will China for an individual partial. resence and neithe an indefinite period.

FIREPLACE WOOD

ing State College. November twentyeighth, that it is difficult to decide
what to include in the promised letters for the Collegian.

Our trip to China was very satisOur t

what to include in the promised letters for the Collegian.

Our trip to China was very satisfactory in every respect, and we were particularly fortunate in having three days in Japan, a country so well known for its scenic beauty and its intelligent, enterprising, artistic prople.

At Shanghai, the first landing in China, we were thrilled to see some good friends, W. H. Weigel and David Henry Porterfield, Penn State alumin. Neither of them knew were in the Orient and when I announced my name to "Pete" Weigel by telephone he said: "Do you mean R. I., Watts of Penn State? Aren't you kidding me?" Both of these young men are engaged in worthy and successful missionary enterprises.

Anti-Foreign Feeling

vers. English, French, Japanese and

...... State College Fuel & Supply Co.

Watts' accounts are of particular in- have some at least of the affairs which rest.

We have seen so much since leaving State College, November twenty-

highest esteem by the entire college community. For about eighteen years practically all the Penn State Chapel practically an five Felm state Conjections have been used for "Paddy" Groff's support. Not only have we supported bin in this field but we also furnished money for the erection of his residence the "Penn State Lodge" which is one of the most beautiful and satisfactory residences on the University compast it is tiretiful and satisfactory residences or the University campus. It is fireproof and permanent in type of consruction. At Mr. Groff's own expense the grounds about the residence have

> R. L. WATTS, (To be continued)

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larly will make you fit and keep you fit. Begin now and see!

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FRENCH TRANSLATION

Best Interpretations of

Germany to the League of Nations, will be the subject of a competition in translation for which six prizes are offered.

Hundred Dollar Prize The first prize will be one hundred dollars in eash, the second fifty and the third twenty-five. A year's sub-

Further details may be obtained from Prof. P. R. Blanchet at the French office, 303 Main, but manu-

scripts will not be received until there is a definite number of contestants. According to Dr. I. L. Foster, head of the Department of Romance Lan-

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Six Prizes Will Be Awarded for Sec Interesting Apparatus and Briand's Speech

A new French contest, open to all students in College regardless of the courses they are taking, begins today and will be continued until April fifteenth. Premier Briand's famous speech made upon the entrance of furnaments to the Lagran of Nations

cription to the Currier des Etas Unis is offered for the fourth best transla-tion with a similar agreement for the Weekly and Sunday editioons for fifth and sixth places.

gunges, immediate registration is ne-cessary in order to obtain a sufficient number of Briand's speech.

DRUG STORE

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RAY D. GILLILAND

COTESTS STARTS TODAY WOODRUFF LABORATORY

Learn New Methods of Research Work

In an informal talk given to mem-bers of the operating staff of the Col-lege radio station Tuesday night Dr. E. C. Woodruff, professor of electric al railway engineering, in his private laboratory, revealed many new and interesting experiments. The inspec-tion of his work-shon was made by tion of his work-shop was made by the men following a meeting held at the College station.

One of the most interesting pieces of apparatus was a device by means of which the distorting effect of a very minute brass rod, one inch in diameter, was measured. Such measurements are made possible through the heterdyning of high frequency electrical currents. According to Doctor Woodruff a flexure as small as one ten-millionth of an inch can be computed.



AND Nittany Theatre

(Matinee Daily at Cathaum)

Lon Chaney in "PHANTOM OF THE OPERA"

RIDAY-Nittany-Anna Q. Nilsson in "EASY PICKINGS"

SATURDAY-Rillie Dave Huntley Gordon in

"SENSATION SEEKERS" SATURDAY-Nittany-Harrison Ford in "RUBBER TIRES"

MONDAY-Buster Keaton in "THE GENERAL"

Mae Murray in "ALTARS OF DESIRE" TUESDAY—Nittany— "THE GENERAL"



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