

# Penn State Collegian

Published semi-weekly during the College year by students of the Pennsylvania State College, in the interests of the College, the students, faculty, alumni and friends.

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All copy for Tuesday's issue must be in the office by twelve o'clock Sunday night, and for Friday's issue, by twelve o'clock Wednesday night. Checks and money orders naming a payee other than "The Penn State Collegian" will not be accepted for accounts due this newspaper.

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News Editor This Issue: P. R. Smaltz

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1927

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Visitors to the mythical lair of the Nittany Lion could not have avoided carrying away anything but a favorable impression of the place we know as Penn State. Regularly scheduled events of the week-end were executed in such a manner as to bring praise to her name.

The Sophomore Hop was the initial source of entertainment afforded the guests. And entertaining it was! With Danny Murphy and His Musical Skippers issuing enchanting strains amidst ideal settings, the Hop scored. The committee deserves all the plaudits that should come its way.

Freshman and varsity boxing exhibitions against worthy opponents were additional sources of thrills to the spectators to say nothing of the Varsity-Pennsylvania wrestling setto. The basketball team, one of the really great Penn State quintets, finished its season in true breath-taking, whirlwind style to obtain a well-earned victory against Pitt. To Captain Hamas and the entire team the followers of the Blue and White extend heart-felt congratulations.

Athletic events and the Sophomore Hop, in addition to the spring-like invigorating weather during the week-end, did much to add to the prestige of the name Penn State. It is on such social occasions that outsiders obtain impressions of the College. It so happened that everything went off with clock-like perfection. Penn State may indeed be proud.

### CASTE IRON

It is an excessively delightful theory that proposes to fill the churches with sincere worshippers—although of course providing them with cards, in order that none shall escape—by plucking the students off the golf course and tennis court on Sundays and depositing them resolutely in the nave. It is a delightful theory, but it is tolerable only as a theory; and its continuation this year is both preposterous and perturbing. Now the COLLEGIAN'S main concern is neither to justify nor condemn, nor most of all, to project unfathomable discords; but it is, in the final analysis, passionately eager to interpret and to understand.

Sometimes, indeed, its judgments verge tremendously near the ridiculous; sometimes perilously near the truth: it is on these few occasions that it ascends the magnificent heights of learning and hobnobs in serious, logical argument with the Wise. It is in this latter attitude—pardon—attitude that we approach the problem of Blue Laws in State College. We believe that the Blue Law is an evil, a nuisance, an irreligious, unreasonable imposition. We object to it most of all as proof of godliness.

It is certainly a temptation to caper among the rigid "caste" iron bonds of Blue Law restrictions; but if our antics appear dangerous they are no more alarming than the inanities which they describe, inanities, incidentally, that lead to gambling, joyous and unconfined, among the very students whom they wish to shape into upright and honorable men. By this time it should be sufficiently obvious that no weak doctrine can make a strong man.

But lo! cries the clergyman, are not our churches filled to the overflowing every Sunday? But with what are they filled? With veneration, with worship, with religion?

Most people are ready to accept religion with meek and resplendent willingness—until it interferes with their convenience. The good Blue Doctors of State College are actually combating hell with the weapons of hell: with fire, with sword, with sinister and pitiful restrictions. No wonder Mr. Sinclair Lewis' "Elmer Gantry!" Certainly it is an exaggeration, certainly it is a caricature.

But on whom must fall the shame of making a caricature a mirrored reflection, so true to real life that it is actually embarrassing?

We frankly admit that those who established the great Idol Indigo are fearfully learned men. They are so learned, in fact, that we hesitate to mingle with them: oh how much they know! Unfortunately, as is generally the case where the emblem of authority is vested in a few infallible minds, their learning is not tempered with modesty; unfortunately their palace of religion IS a palace, but a palace so desolate of spiritual understanding that none can live in it! But courage! There is always the possibility that the infallible may be wrong.

### ANON THE "BELL"

The Old Main Bell, magazine of a thousand hopes, is on the proverbial fence, ready either to drop down into our back-yard or to flutter off into the obscurity which lies on the other side. And the breeze of student favor will do the topping.

Only a few years ago the publication of a purely literary magazine was conceived and made a reality through the efforts of Pi Delta Epsilon, honorary journalistic fraternity. The magazine did not thrive during that introductory period; students looked blankly upon it and looked away.

Though its life was never despaired of, the Bell suffered a sluggish circulation and all sorts of threatening reverses in its early, post-natal days. But forced smiles denied any relapse, and resort to artificial solicitation insured continued life for the lone expression of student literatures.

This year the Old Main Bell was more successful by comparison, but still no unexpectedly dizzy heights were reached. Contributions, it is true, did better than merely trickle in; circulation did assume a brighter hue, but sadly, the Bell has not yet achieved its proper niche in the campus Hall of Fame.

It is still a sluggish proposition. Students do not yet clamor for the magazine and elbow each other as they struggle to obtain copies. They take the Old Main Bell calmly; some condescend to subscribe, but only out of deference to an imploring acquaintance. Pitifully few clearly realize the true worth of the endeavor.

In a few days there will be a call for contributions to the second issue of the magazine; shortly after there will be a moderate campaign for subscriptions. But there will be no begging and no frantic soliciting. The Old Main Bell shall not go on ragged knees imploring favors.

There is no need to speak of the value of the magazine; there is no need to extol it to the skies. Penn State knows the Old Main Bell and its possibilities. The one desire now is to have Penn State support the Old Main Bell. It is well deserving.

### The Bullosopher's Chair

Smithers:—I say, Bullosopher, what's that on your hip?  
"That, Smithers, is a bump."

Smithers:—Pshaw!

"It's where I was sitting' in the Armory. I'd been hearing so much about the selling of 'reserved' seats which really belonged to the students, that I decided to do a little personal investigation. I got around an hour before game time, saw Glenn Killinger on the bench—the cheerleaders were perfectly oblivious to the bench, except as a place to sit on—and managed to squeeze in on a bottom row. Suddenly, without a word of warning, the man behind me brought his right foot around smartly. I give you my word, Smithers, my spine actually burned with shame. A gentleman's agreement would have avoided it all, of course. A gentle pressure of the knees, a soft tap with the left foot, a—"

Smithers:—(It's time he said something) That's what you get for being mischievous. A kick in the pants is the reformer's reward. Look at Saint Joan.

"She wasn't kicked in the pants!"

Smithers:—Principle's the same. YOU got it in the neck.

"I got it in the pants. The event happened before I could protect myself. I had been gazing into space—the reserved space on the other side of the Armory where the co-eds (?) dangled their radiant limbs carelessly, or carefully, as the case may be, while the freshmen perspired. Smithers, from certain angles, the seating problem may be delicious, but from others it is distressing."

Smithers:—Well, what do you suggest?  
"Next year join the band and get a good seat."

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### Penn State "Mystery Case" Deadlocks Jury

(Continued from first page)

framed the robbery, and fled, leaving a handkerchief with Smith's initials on it that suspicion might be directed toward his enemy. Then it was that the jury left. It returned in a few moments without a verdict. "Oyez! Oyez!" shouted court-crier Gorny after foreman Tanager's statement, and spectators alike (even the bewhiskered Judge Torchia) joined to discuss the first mock trial that members of Pi Lambda Sigma, honorary pre-legal fraternity, have ever attempted.

It was given in Room 14 Liberal Arts Tuesday night. Despite the hasty preparation it was executed successfully and with all the formality of an honest-to-goodness case. Because of the success of the first mockery, aspiring Penn State lawyers are planning to emulate legal experts again.

### Forestry Sophomores Begin Woodlot Survey

With the snow melted, sophomore students of forestry will begin a reconnaissance survey of the College woodlots. Twenty thousand trees have been promised by the state for unused areas of the College farms. Prof. C. L. Gooding, superintendent of farms, will direct the planting.

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### VARIED PROGRAM MARKS FOURTH SUNDAY CONCERT

College Orchestra Entertains With Solos and Ensemble Presentations

Presenting a program of classical music, the College orchestra gave the fourth number of the winter concert series in the Auditorium Sunday afternoon. Among the numbers given by the entire orchestra was a march, "Defend America," in which C. R. Schneider '27 played a bells solo. Leo Lehman '30 presented a violin solo, "Brahmienne," and Kreisler's "Old Re-frain" as an encore.

E. E. Howard '27, flute soloist, presented "6th Air Variet," and "Auld Lang Syne" with variations. The rest of the program consisted of a concert overture, minuet, operatic selection from "Il Trovatore" and "The Dance of the Seven Veils" from "Salome."

Bandmaster W. O. Thompson arranged the program and directed the orchestra. The Girls' Glee will offer the next Sunday entertainment on March twenty-seventh. There will be no concert Sunday.

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WANTED—Position as cook in fraternity house during summer session. Good reference. 732 E. College Avenue.

**Cathaum THEATRE** AND **Nittany Theatre** (Matinee Daily at Cathaum)

TUESDAY—Jetta Gould in "FIGHTING LOVE"

TUESDAY—Nittany—"SORROWS OF SATAN"

WEDNESDAY—Bebe Daniels, Chester Conklin in "A KISS IN A TAXI"

THURSDAY—Colleen Moore in "ORCHIDS AND ERMINE"

FRIDAY—Corinne Griffith in "THREE HOURS"

FRIDAY—Nittany—"ORCHIDS AND ERMINE"

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