

# 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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Checks and money orders payable to order to "The Penn State Collegian" will not be accepted for accounts due this newspaper.

Subscription price: \$2.50, payable before November 1, 1926. Entered at the Postoffice, State College, Pa., as second-class matter, under No. 117,000, authorized on July 1, 1925, by Postoffice Department, State College, Pa.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1927

### BEER AND LIGHT WINES!

Whatever charges may be hurled against Mr. Volstead for his more or less efficacious moral cure it certainly is beyond the realm of any Penn State student to fasten the blame on the Penn State and Michigan State debating teams. They had nothing to do with it. However, having nothing to do with a thing does not eliminate one's interest, and there is, every one will admit, an undeniable charm about the question of the liquid composition and consumption of the product of the greatest of pre-war industries: beer making.

It is not in the hope of settling the argument that the two colleges will debate the question, "Resolved, that the Volstead act should be so modified as to permit the manufacture and sale of light wines and beer." It is in the hope of arousing student opinion. Partly as a result of this wish and partly as a safeguard for securing a decision that shall recognize the skill of the debaters, the college has arranged an open forum discussion to follow the formal argument in the Auditorium.

The problem of filling the Auditorium for a debate usually meets with astounding difficulties, especially when there happens to be a conflicting athletic event. This Saturday evening there is only the Alumni basketball game—and that starts at seven o'clock. The debate starts at eight.

Too often has the plea for attendance been based on an appeal to the student's college spirit; too infrequently to his intellect. In reality, the plea is not a plea at all; it is an offer. To refuse it shows more than insulting ignorance; it proves a desire to perpetuate a tradition of stupid disinterest incapable of action and intolerant of thought.

### SPRING HAS CUB

The gentle zephyrs of something that resembles spring have wafted their way through these parts with such consistency during the past week that one cannot help find himself repeating over and over to himself, "Spring has cub, spring has cub." (If there are several inches of snow on the ground this morning you have our permission to stop reading.)

Spring is near at hand. (For verification consult any almanac.) And everyone knows that no spring is complete without warm days, green trees, countless collegians, hatless seniors (comfortable), juniors with head-covering (uncomfortable) and the like. Spring is almost upon us. It will receive a warm welcome on the campus.

Accompanying every spring season is a desire for recreation. That desire conflicts greatly with class attendance. Lack of class attendance will bring about poor grades. And everyone knows what poor grades do! Spring fever also lurks in the atmosphere that results in near perfect weather. Spring fever, the bane of all scholars with hitherto good intentions!

The Easter vacation that has been long-awaited ever since Father Time called a halt on the Christmas revelry is less than a month distant. When the College resumes activities after the Easter period it will be a matter of only five weeks until the semester exhausts itself. Then the finals! (How we love 'em.) Woe be then to the "stude" who heeded the call of the great outdoors, who succumbed totally to that dreaded disease, spring fever.

Perhaps a little sacrifice at this time will save time and worry later. Perhaps it might save five dollars a credit, too. Perhaps.

### The Bullosopher's Chair

#### SESSION ONE

"Well, Smithers, I suppose Reverend Griffin impressed you favorably Sunday morning."

Smithers:—Reverend Griffin? Oh yes, the Chapel speaker. Say, Bullosopher, that brings to mind an excellent review of Sinclair Lewis' latest creation.

"I fail to see the connection."

Smithers:—Well, you see I read the review while Reverend What's-his-name was speaking. Chapel's a bore at best and the Sunday paper does help one through the hour.

"Don't tell me, Smithers, that you belong to that class of numbskulls who make the Auditorium their Sunday morning reading room. I should think that you would blush scarlet at such a confession. With all my white hairs, I am a firm believer in the spirit of youth, but discourtesy I can't sanction. I—"

Smithers:—But there's nothing discourteous in that. I don't go to Chapel because I enjoy it and as long as I bother no one else, I see no reason why I should not use the hour as I wish.

"You're talking like a boy. Of course you bother other people. Have you ever considered the men to your right and left. Do they look upon your opened paper, or do they endeavor to give their attentions to the speaker? And there's Doctor Hetzel in the balcony. As I know the man, he would hardly be indifferent to looking down on a rustling sea of Sunday papers."

Smithers:—They can go their ways and I'll go mine. There are no strings attached to this person.

"Independent soul, aren't you! Smithers, take that copy of Emerson's essays down from the shelf and see what he has to say about the non-conformity of man. And remember that you can't satisfy even your own conscience by calling that thinker a mid-Victorian fogey."

### SESSION TWO

"Mail, Smithers!"

Smithers: Mail? For me?

"For both of us! We have received a communication; and while it is to be regarded as insignificant in content and point, at least it provokes a smile—and I don't want to keep it to myself. Listen to this: Gentlemen if you are such:

(Note the gentlemanly opening. See Espenshade's "Composition and Rhetoric" for correct punctuation!)

Your genius (thank you) in conventional form is only (misplaced) adverb, Smithers) covered by your use of wonderful (note the definite adjective) English, especially as applied to our institution. ("Applied English"—I'll wager he's an Engineer) I dislike your constant descriptive use (I don't know what other use it could have) of the term "cow college" as applied to our Penn State or its atmosphere.

It is wonderful (good word, that!) to believe that any loyal Penn State man would besmirch her (the man's) fair name through one of her mouthpieces (take note, Mr. Editor) however, (again see Espenshade) such things (?) are possible as they (?) have been evidenced in your recent articles. (We have at least one reader, Smithers! Many thanks.)

A gentleman worthy of Penn State would have criticized constructively, or pointed directly to our faults and suggested a possible method for solution.

Notice the attached portion of your honorable (thank you) paper and in the future abide by its statement (see masthead) and make it an absolute truth. (We should like to see an absolute truth!)

Truly yours, (sarcastic)

Just one of Penn State's students.

(Hope the others can compose a better letter!)

"Smithers, if I were a character analyst, I would foresee in that young man a Babbitt of the future: a member of the anti-arti society who would suppress Mercuries because of Hatracks; one who would gasp with affected horror at the realism of a Sandburg, or an Anderson, or a Dreiser; one who would fear Truth and prefer to walk around the proverbial bush to avoid meeting her face to face; one who would tread with bent head and unseeing eyes in the wake of Hypocrisy or Indifference; one fed on traditions however smug, on conventions however false, on customs however superficial.

"No one maintains Penn State is a cow-college. But it cannot be denied that the remnants of a former cow college era persist. For proof turn to our 'gentlemanly' fraternity initiations, our freshman penalties that smack resolutely of 'culture,' our whole-hearted and genuine enthusiasm for aesthetic opportunities—and see the remnants of an outworn and inappropriate cloak which we still cling about us in spite of its bedraggled edges.

"How to get rid of them?—Bring Penn State men and women to a full consciousness of the absurdity and disaster of their presence. And that result cannot be obtained by singing "Glory to State" and patting ourselves on the back.

"Praises have their place. But does it follow that there should be nothing but praises? Is a man to be branded as a disloyal Penn Stater simply because he is loyal enough to see foibles as well as virtues and brave enough to shout his message into an ear clogged with cloying self-praise or indifference? Is a man besmirching the fair name of Penn State when he faces truth and fears not to wave his standards for a better Penn State before unperceiving eyes? Who is disloyal—the one who says 'Here is a fault. Go to attend'—or the one who says 'Don't say 'cow college' It isn't pleasant?'"

"Let us have eyes that hear the truth!"

"Let us have ears that hear the tom-toms of false virtues!"

"Let us have hands to complete our task!"

"Let us have hearts to perceive and sustain!"

"Let us have souls to synchronize Justice, and Truth, and us!"

## ELMER GANTRY

by Sinclair Lewis

### The Novel Picked

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### THREE MEETS LISTED ON SPRING TRACK SCHEDULE

Nittany Runners Oppose Navy, Syracuse and Pittsburgh In Dual Matches

Three dual meets and two annual intercollegiate fixtures are the events in which the Penn State track team will participate this spring, according to the schedule announced by Manager J. B. Sherts.

The Nittany track team opens its season with Navy at Annapolis on May fourteenth and on May twenty-first will open the Syracuse season.

On June fourth the Lions meet Pittsburgh on New Beaver field. Besides this trio of dual events the team will participate in the regular intercollegiate on May twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth, and the Penn Relays on April twenty-ninth and thirtieth.

### Cleveland Players To Perform Here Tonight

(Continued from first page) of methodical habit. Into their lives comes a daughter of a woman whom all three loved in earlier years. From that moment marvellous changes begin to take place and about them the story, blended with pathos and comedy, is woven.

Henry du Marvyn, Vincent Jenkins and Kenneth Marvyn, all popular in Western Reserve dramatics, are assigned the leading roles of the three wise fools. Lotus Judson has the leading female character part, a play. Tickets, fifty and seventy-five cents.

### Sophomores To Choose Class Pennants Soon

Samples are now being considered for the sophomore pennants. The pennant committee will show specimens submitted by various manufacturing companies at a meeting of the class in the near future, when one will be chosen and individual orders taken. Garnet and steel gray are the colors.

### Baseball Team Holds First Outdoor Session

(Continued from first page) Bez has Jacobson, Monahan and the two Hamas brothers, all with former experience in ground covering, in the outfield.

Now that basketball season is over, Johnny Roefke and Lefty Page have joined Styborski, Haines, Van Atta and Plotts on the mound. Harrington and Lesko are doing most of the catching.

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### SOAP AND WATER BEST FOR HEALTH--RITENOUR

Current Diseases, Causes and Remedies, Explained by College Physician

"It is better to use a bucket of muddy water and some good 'elbow grease' than a dozen sulphur candles to fumigate a house," declared Dr. J. P. Ritenour, head of the College Health Service, in the second of the Liberal Arts lecture series last week.

After a brief history of medicine, from the time of Hippocrates, the father of medicine, down through the ages to the present, Dr. Ritenour discussed various common communicable diseases. Because of a recent outbreak of scarlet fever in the State College public schools, particular attention was paid to that disease. Dr. Ritenour quoted several eminent authorities on the subject of closing public schools during an epidemic. It was the consensus that it is safer to keep school children in schools under proper supervision than to have them going to movies or playgrounds where the danger of communication of disease is great.

"Germs don't walk, climb or fly," said Dr. Ritenour. "How many of you caught into your hands, then walk down the street and hand over a few million germs to your best friend that you've not seen for a long time?" The lecture was closed with a plea for a better and more universal interest in disease prevention.

### Crockett, On Tour of World, Writes of Trip

(Continued from first page) which was crowded with folk of many nationalities in as many costumes and in quite as many colors, the fox and the turban being particularly in evidence. And all this while there was a perfect babel of voices. Almost immediately I caught sight of Mr. Nissaine, who after a while came aboard. Into his hands I delivered our luggage and felt that for four months at least I should be relieved of all care as to the moving of baggage. Soon we were being jostled by porters, with shouts that became more deafening with each moment. Then with the gangway made ready and the passen-

Three Wise Fools Tonight

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It's not always Fair Weather When Good Fellows get together in the Spring But it's brighter if you have One of these new Topcoats by-

Montgomerys at Penn State

gers in line all prepared to land, came the most tiresome of waits, which seemed to us who were not interested but who knew not the whyness of things Egyptian, to depend upon the mere whim of the police.

But at last they gave the signal for us to leave the steamer; and a moment later as we stepped from the gangway to the landing, I remarked to Mrs. Crockett in the most matter of fact way, "So we are in Egypt at last!" But she retorted, "I should say that we had been down here for some hours!"

There! You can see how well our tales of this trip are likely to agree when we get home!

### En Route Three Weeks

We had been en route from New York just three weeks, our party of four, which consists of Mrs. Pond, long known to State College and now of New Haven, Connecticut, of Miss Howe, of Princeton, Mrs. Gusey, sister of Mrs. Samuel Martin of State College, of Mrs. Crockett and myself. It was very cold that January morning as we found our way to the piers of the North German Lloyd in Hoboken and sought our rooms on the "Bremen"; and it continued cold for the next thirty-six hours.

Then the weather grew warmer, or rather it was not so cold for the rest of the way to Cherbourg. But on Monday morning a storm broke; and though it lasted for only a day, it left us with high seas, which attended us as far as Queenstown, which harbor we reached the next Sunday evening. Only one of us was seasick on route and but for two days. But most of us felt the effects of the rough voy-

age and we were glad to reach Cherbourg. The service and the table of the Bremen were excellent.

Two days after the storm when the waves were still running high, I saw a phenomenon the like of which I have never before heard of at sea. On the horizon to the south the waves formed themselves into what seemed to be three parallel mountain ranges between two and three miles in length. And there they stood, here and there flecked with white where the wave broke, as if they were snow capped peaks, and the while my wanderer, till after a little they melted away, and all became heaving, rising sea once more.

I looked many times later hoping and ever hoping that I might look upon the like again. But the nearest that I came to doing so was in seeing one afternoon a single range of mountains, and at various times long baby peaks that reminded me constantly of the puffs in the Mont Domes region of Central France.



AND Nittany Theatre (Matinee Daily at Cathaum)

FRIDAY—Corinne Griffith in "THREE HOURS"

FRIDAY—Nittany—Colleen Moore in "ORCHIDS AND ERMINE"

SATURDAY—Edward Everett Horton in "TAXI-TAXI"

SATURDAY—Nittany—"THREE HOURS"

MONDAY—Mary Brian and Ben Lyon in "HIGH HAT"

TUESDAY—Ken Maynard in "THE OVERLAND STAGE"


TUESDAY—Nittany—"HIGH HAT"

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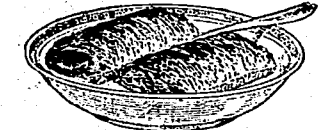
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