

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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The Penn State COLLEGIAN invites communications on any subject of college interest. All communications must bear the signature of the writer, and the writer's name will be published below his communication, providing that communication is deemed worthy of publication. The COLLEGIAN assumes no responsibility, however, for comments expressed in the Letter Box.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1927

A POLICY

It has become almost traditional for incoming newspaper boards to present to its leaders a policy setting forth its ideals and ambitions. The policy formulated and announced by the new board, in each case, usually comes after careful thought and planning. Although each policy is generally identical in nature and content, with that of its predecessor progressive, it is sometimes occasioned by the deviation from the usual introductory announcement. The 1927-28 COLLEGIAN board, not for the sake of traditions but for the security of the present and immediate future takes this opportunity to present the policy that it hopes to pursue during its stay in office.

Always remembering that the interests of the College are of primary importance, this paper will attempt to foster suggestions that deal with her welfare. With a feeling of fearlessness and, it is hoped, judiciousness, no effort will be spared to promote modifications or to bring to light faults which in our opinion might be detrimental to the success of the College.

Toward this end, it is desired that our readers take liberal opportunity to address communications to the Letter Box of this paper, expressing opinion either on editorials appearing in this column or on campus subjects. The Letter Box has been practically bereft of communication for months—denoting either a lack of interest in campus affairs or laziness on the part of the student body and faculty. All letters must, of course, bear the name of the sender and the signature will not be printed or disclosed, if it is so requested.

Among the issues that have proved a source of trouble to the usual run of campus harmony has been compulsory chapel attendance. Compulsory chapel has already been taken apart, analyzed and been found wanting. We believe that no amount of further publicity would remedy the situation that some day may be a thing of the past. Opportunity for similar crusades will be eagerly sought. We believe that the custom of hats for juniors has become musty, that "horse-play" at fraternity initiations tends toward the barbaric, that clubbing at examinations belongs only within the walls of the State Pen, that more use should be made of the long rows of empty seats at the intercollegiate debates, that fraternity visiting should be more stringently controlled, that a definite fraternity rushing season be named, a rushing season that would not commence until after the ending of the first semester. There are many more issues of more or less importance. It will be the hope of the new board to present each one in its course, taking special pains to give every angle, to tell the truth with the idea of attaining results.

At the top of this column there appears the word "Printed 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." The 1927-28 board hopes to discharge its duties faithfully so that when the next COLLEGIAN generation assumes the reins it will find the same continued improvement that has been noted with the passing of each successive milestone of this paper.

CHARMS OR KEYS?

The representative system of student government as demonstrated by Student Council has, in the past, proved pleasantly successful. Whatever blunders have arisen can be blamed on those members who have failed to attend the meetings of the body. No one intends to make scapegoats of the absentees simply because they are absentees, but on the other hand, no one can overlook the fact that on several occasions this year there were not enough members of Student Council present to constitute a quorum.

In a way it is remarkable that there are those in Student Council whose only means of proving their membership is by exhibiting their Council key; dangling inevitably and proudly beside their other ornaments. Their keys are not only emblem of service to their classmates but also symbol of their own success. And their popularity once achieved why enlarge it, they think, by attending the meetings? Why, indeed?

The present rule in regard to attendance at Council meetings has easily been hurled to the chasm of useless laws. According to the ruling, any member who is absent from two consecutive sessions loses his chair in Council. At most there are only nine meetings a semester; and to cut five of this nine is a simple matter. One receives his

key in early October and once it gleams on a watch chain Student Council is in danger of being scalped.

Tonight when the resolution for a new system of attendance is introduced, the entire College will wish that Student Council considers it favorably. The sham of useless organizations has been felt in a number of instances; and the best way for Student Council to make its present position secure is to require faithful attendance from its members.

APPEARING ON THE HORIZON

The social eyes of the College are fixed unwaveringly on what has been recognized as the foremost of all Penn State convivial functions, the Junior Promenade on Friday, April twenty-ninth. Letters, the main theme a Prom bid, have been, are or will be mailed by members of the paying half to "the girl back home." From some of these communications will come a favorable reply—from others the answer will be occasion for momentary gnashing of teeth, immediately followed by a second letter to another address. Verbal invitations have even been directed to certain of the fairer members of the student body. This year the demand for girls will affect the supply more than ever before and there is but one answer—Jean Goldkette and Jan Gaiber.

Never before has such an array of talented exponents of jazz been signed to play for a Penn State social function. The thought of five hours of continuous rhythmic strains issuing from the J. G. orchestra creates in the cranium of the individual a mental picture that ends up with a deep sigh of anticipation. Sophomores and freshmen are among the multitude who seek the company of the girl friend for the Prom and who can blame them? The musicians that are hired and fired by Jean and Jan promise an appeal that no one should be called upon to resist.

History tells us that on April twenty-ninth, 1783, one hundred and thirty-eight years ago, none other than George Washington delivered his first inaugural address. Who cares? On April twenty-ninth, 1927, the Junior Promenade committee will inaugurate an event that, in pretentiousness, will rival the University of Pennsylvania Ivy Hall, Princeton Junior Prom, Yale Senior Ball. Will rival the last-named functions—and probably surpass them.

The Bullosopher's Chair

SESSION ONE

Smithers—Well, Bullosopher, what do you think of the frenzied, re-holstered and beautified bus which now is to grace the line between Tyrone and State College? I think it's pretty snooty, if you will allow me the use of that most appropriate slang.

"Smithers, my boy, I see that you are a victim of an unimpaired undegradate conception. Listen closely, while I impart a bit upon Penn State tradition.

"Do you know, dear motion, that on this beautiful tincture-of-tan-and-beige bus there is painted the head of an unperturbed and toothless old lion, an example of the great-manned beast that roams the freight cars of the bally-fooling, shell-gaming circus operation. Sometimes such example is found in the jungles of darkest Africa, but my boy, never is the great mane seen in the jungled parts of darkest Pennsylvania.

"That's the thing that hants.

"Penn State has had its income tradition so maintained by bus-divers and circus advertising letters that now we must perforce choose between this toothless old African attribute and the loudly, cunning, flashing and MANELESS Pennsylvania mountain lion, the lion for which we are so loyal and so true, the mountain lion of our own state. HE is the ruler of our mountain fastnesses, HE is our king, and not the straggling, toothless pat, march of the circus, an excellent example of which now adorns the sides of the tincture-of-tan-beige bus, and which advertises Penn State as a circus."

SESSION TWO

"Say, Smithers, I went visiting Saturday night." Smithers—Well, there's nothing startling about that revelation. It seems that every senior and junior and his brother do the same thing at every opportunity and I've even seen several sophomores.

"Yes, but my experience Saturday night impressed me most profoundly. There were only two houses dancing, the Phi Epsilon P's and the Sigma Phi Epsilon's. I went to the Phi Epsilon first and had scarcely stepped in the door when I was made welcome in a most hospitable manner. I was surprised. Instead of being treated as a black man, as has been my experience on past week-ends at other houses, I was accorded a real reception. Indeed so much was I made to feel at home that one of the girls with whom I danced said, 'I haven't met YOUR chaperones yet.'"

Smithers—Did you go to the S. P. E. house?

"Yes."

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PLAYGOER LAUDS OHIO DRAMATISTS

Sock and Buskin Troupe Scores Success in Eastern Debut. Says Local Critic

MISS JUDSON ACCLAIMED BEST INDIVIDUAL ACTOR

The week-end visit to Penn State of the Sock and Buskin club of Western Reserve university afforded an audience of State College playgoers the keenest delight of our dramatic season.

Austin Strong's comedy, "Three Wise Fools," played by a cast of thirteen, on Friday evening last, was presented with a perfection of interpretation and acting that amateur players seldom attain. To give each actor his full measure of praise, and to bestow due credit also upon their director, Dudley S. Leathem, Penn State '22, would exhaust the critic's stock of commendatory adjectives and require repetitions, to come to the reader and stimulating to the editorial blue pencil. We must be content to say, and with sincerity that the Sock and Buskin club presented an all-star cast. The parts were uniformly well done. Too often, in amateur productions, there will be one or two outstanding characters, supported by a group of mediocre players or mere amateurs of lines. Each actor in the Sock and Buskin troupe was as perfect in his or her part as an amateur player can well be.

MINING STUDENTS PLAN APRIL INSPECTION TRIP

Junior miners and mining geologists will make their first inspection trip this year on the eleventh of April. Covering the anthracite coal region around Allentown, the first week and the second week will find them in the Lehigh Valley inspecting cement mills and slate quarries.

Gordon Schuler, the impulsive youth, in contrast with dried up and crabbed age, we offer congratulations for a part well sustained throughout the play and carried with uniformly artistic sincerity.

It must not be supposed that there were no defects in the performance. Of course there were, as there are sure to be in all amateur and most professional performances, but the defects were slight as compared with the production. For example, the makeupers were not all that could be desired. Facial wrinkles, under our stage lighting, too much resembled sock streaks. Occasionally, under stress of unusual excitement, the touches on minor episodes were a bit too heavy. Saunders did not need to blubber, to show that she was weeping; Clancy did not need to assume the customary swagger of the hard-boiled roughneck to get his part across; and even Teddy, hardly needed to imitate a fairy dancer to show his exultation, nor did the Three Fools need to imitate a college parade when they marched, singing, from the room. Be it understood, however, that these slight defects do not detract greatly from the general excellence of the play, and be it remembered also that all the minor characters, especially Saunders and the two butlers, carried their parts with uniform excellence, in keeping with the major characters in the play.

The management of the Penn State Players deserves commendation for bringing to us a troupe of players so excellent as the Sock and Buskin Club. We anticipate a return visit from this delightful troupe whenever the auspices are favorable and the signs are right.—The Playgoer

To Mr. Maurer, Mr. Jenkins and Mr. DuLaurence, who played the title role of the "Three Wise Fools," we offer also a tribute of praise for the excellence of their work. Mr. Maurer, as Theodore Findley, might be voted by some audiences the best actor in the troupe, but this critic requests him to share equally with his colleagues, the doctor and the judge. His part appeals to the average audience more perhaps than the others, but the requirements for good acting are about equally severe in the three parts, and they were equally well carried.

To Mr. Marvin also, who played

Cow Testing Course Will Start Monday

C. R. Gearhart, Penn State college dairy extension specialist in charge of cow testing associations in the state, announces that a short course in cow testing will be given here March twenty-eighth to April second. The work will consist of taking samples, testing, keeping records, feeding, care and management.

FRESHMEN TOTAL FIVE COURT WINS

Score Victories in First Games of Season, But Lose to Pitt, Syracuse

SOPHOMORES TRIUMPH IN INTERCLASS TILT, 39-33

After winning the first five games of the season, the freshman basketball team fell into a slump, dropping the last three contests to the Pitt plebes and Syracuse yearlings. Following the regular season, the same combination met a 39-33 defeat at the hands of the sophomores.

FIVE STUDENTS AWARDED CATTLE JUDGING MEDALS

Five seniors in the "Royal Husbandry" course were awarded medals last week for their work on the Penn State livestock judging team last fall. They are J. H. Clore, F. P. McCollough, H. A. Willman, W. G. McBlain and P. J. Munz. The team made trips to the Eastern States exposition at Springfield, Massachusetts and to the International livestock exposition at Chicago.

Juniors Select Novel Decorations for Prom

(Continued from first page) class of 1928, will be draped. Below this and extending to the floor will be a border of white bunting, covered with smilax. Each fraternity booth will be distinguished by a card bearing the Greek letters of the organization. However, the background for these signs will be placed on a white panel bordered with laurel, which will constitute the framing of the booths. At the entrance of each booth will be a basket of artificial flowers. Goldkette and Garber's orchestras will occupy specially built platforms at the middle of each side of the Airmory. Each platform will have a sounding board and will be decorated in harmony with the rest of the scheme. The stage at the end of the floor will be used as the Prom committee's booth with one stairway directly in front instead of the two on the sides as has been the case previously.

In the entrance will be an arch bedecked with bunting and smilax to which will lead a canopy extending over the sidewalk from the street under which will be laid coconut mitering runners.

Dr. Tschan Will Give Liberal Arts Lecture

(Continued from first page) at Yale university, leaving there to engage in research work. In 1919 he returned to teaching at Carnegie Tech, where he remained until coming to Penn State in 1925.

State College High Falls

State College high fell before an avalanche of field goals in the second game of the season. Anselmo netted five floor shots as his contribution to the 35-16 drubbing dealt out to the local schoolboys.

Nine field goals sunk by Leyda, Blue and White center, aided greatly in the downfall of the Polish National Alliance college by a 47-20 count.

Make It Five Straight

Although Bellefonte academy authorities cancelled their scheduled game, Captain Stanley and his mates did not lose their winning ways. Their sixth consecutive win was against Bucknell freshmen, an exciting affair in which the victor was in doubt until the final whistle.

Traveling to Pittsburgh, the yearlings met their first defeat at the hands of the Panther plebes. Twenty-four field goals were chalked up by the victorious five, the final count being 58-23.

Syracuse Wins Thriller

A spirited rally in the last ten minutes of play gave the Syracuse freshmen a thrilling one-point victory, 30-29. Missed fouls proved the margin of victory for the Orange passers.

The return engagement with Pitt freshmen was much closer than that at Pittsburgh. Captain Stanley and his mates fought a superior team to standstill and barely missed sending the game into extra periods. However, a foul goal in the last thirty seconds of play proved the undoing of the Blue and White plebes.

Bow to Sophomores

In the annual interclass tilt, the sophomores forced the first-year men to bow to a 39-33 score. A rally in the second half gave the 1927 aggregation its margin of victory.

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AND Nittany Theatre (Matinee Daily at Cathaum)

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TUESDAY—Nittany— "HIGH HAT"

WEDNESDAY— Joan Crawford in "THE UNDERSTANDING HEART"

THURSDAY— Laura La Plante in "THE LOVE THRILL"

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FRIDAY—Nittany— "THE LOVE THRILL"

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