

# 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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FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1927

### LOVE'S LABOR LOST

The most provoking "educational" problem at Penn State, is—if we are to believe our ears and eyes—what to do with our engineers who cannot spell but know how to run a steam engine, or some equivalent industrial glory. The solution suggested by many faculty men—of the Liberal Arts school—is that the present four year course be extended to five years. There are even some who propose the ideal; let no man graduate unless he knows the English alphabet, the English language, the English history, and the English literature. The fools...

But whilst the Engineering popes insist that their students must know the ins and outs of a heat run in preference to the eccentricities of the adverb, the situation persists. For, argue the Industrial trainers, Practical Education must be upheld; what matter the death of good taste if a human steam engine is produced, what matter the mutilation of culture if by its destruction the engineer can get through college in four years? In Germany, of course, one must be of the elite, the intellectually elite at any rate, in order to graduate from a university; in France one must know French, even if he is a foreigner. But that, reply the engineers patriotically, is kultur. And so he goes on in the throes of watching a machine, of becoming one, and of making faces at the easy schedules of the Liberal Artists, jealously and passionately.

The solution? Eight credits of English instead of eight credits of some other language.

### HELP!

This is a story of an organization that is sponsoring a project, the completion of which will greatly remedy one of Penn State's many needs. It is hoped that this tale will be read by the large majority who are totally ignorant of the work that is being attempted by the organization in question. That the project under consideration has been successful thus far can be attributed to the minority who are aware of the work that this particular organization is carrying on. Backed by the majority, the project would be assured success. Its success would be another step towards removing some of the existing wants here.

Since most stories have a background, a portion of history for this one would not be amiss. Several years ago, the Grange throughout the state conceived the idea of providing the women students at Penn State with another dormitory. To fully equip a building that would provide complete accommodations for one hundred women students, the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars was found necessary. A definite quota was then apportioned to each Grange in the state—the respective amounts to met by socials, shows, benefits and the like. Thus far fifty thousand dollars has been raised with many organizations yet to report.

With the entire student body aware of the approaching Easter vacation, and the trip home, so should each individual be ready and willing to spread further light on the women's dormitory project that is solely sponsored by the Grange of the state. A word here and there to the "folks back home" will stimulate interest in the workings of the respective local Granges. Those interested in Penn State will then support the Grange activities—that support will help meet the Grange quota and the sum total of all the quotas will equal two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

In every county, in every section of the state there is a Grange with a definite quota to obtain. Whether or not this sum is met depends upon the community. Homeward-bound students at Easter can spread the tidings of the Grange undertaking. If Nittany undergraduates do nothing but enthusiastically announce the dormitory project they will have proved an unestimable value to the Grange. Help!

### BASKETBALL—A MAJOR SPORT

The question of the advisability of raising the status of basketball to that of a major sport at Penn State will be brought before the student body for vote if the petition is favorably received by the Athletic Association. It would require a majority ballot in the affirmative by the undergraduates on the issue before the floor game would be officially recognized as a major sport.

Practically every large college in the country recognizes basketball as a major sport. That it is rapidly increasing in popularity is evidenced by the large indoor colosseums that are being erected side-by-side with its big brother, the football stadium. It is now no uncommon sight for a crowd of ten thousand persons to be present at an inter-collegiate basketball battle. Some day there will be a building in the Nittany Valley that will contain seats for more than five thousand spectators. (Some day.)

For sixteen years, or from 1896 to 1912, basketball was recognized as a major sport here. It was relegated to its present status for financial reasons alone. (In those days, student athletic pass books admitted the undergraduate only to major sports—the student "shelling out" good money for a minor sport event.) The financial reason has since been altered.

Although Penn State court teams have achieved a brilliant record since basketball was first started, if it were a major sport it would draw many more prep school luminaries who otherwise would seek an institution where it was recognized as a major activity. Gentlemen, you have all heard the question—

## The Bullosopher's Chair

### SESSION ONE

"Smithers, old chap, do you believe Penn State is a kindergarten, a grammar school, a junior high institution?"

Smithers—Far from it, old sage, far from it.

"Yes, far from it; but which way?"

Smithers—In advance of it, of course. What is there that causes the seeming doubt in your mind?"

"Certain professors, Smithers, their teaching tactics and low estimates of student intellect; their boring lectures clogged with insane and meaningless phrases of Greek and Latin that complicate needlessly the explanation of subject matter."

Smithers—But aren't they interesting, informative and educational, after all?"

"Quite the contrary. Such practices leave bad impressions on the students I notice. They believe, and perhaps rightly, that the instructor is playing the part of the all-knowing, that he is, in fact, trying to stage a grand show. What sense is there, for instance, in a prof telling his class that "ontogeny recapitulates phylogeny" when he means simply that individuals repeat the race. Why should another prof confound students minds by declaring that the words of Leibniz are, "quod non agit, non existit" when he could tell them simply that inactive things do not exist. As it is, it's hard enough to decipher some of our English scientific phrases."

Smithers—That statement seems to contradict your first one, that Penn State is often regarded as a kindergarten.

"And so it is. These same profs—they are few in number—drill us over and over again on the same thing, repeating explanations too often, as if we were grammar school children who cannot grasp a thing at the first or second hearing. It's not right! In one certain class we spent eight weeks discussing a theory that, shorn of its fancy and unnecessary Greek and Latin frills, could easily be taught in a week or two. It's a waste of time! We learned nothing and then had a blue book on it."

Smithers—Of course you passed it?"

"Just about."

### SESSION TWO

Smithers—Noticed quite a hub-bub in town during the interscholastics. Plenty of spirit and plenty of Tom, Dick and Harry types, what say?"

"True enough, and plenty of jack, too, if you gather what I mean."

Smithers—I judge you are using the slang term for money.

"Exactly. It seems that visitors were loaded with it."

Smithers—Well, what's the point? Let's have it.

"Just this, Smithers: It seems the money is not put to its proper use. I wouldn't object if it was confined to buying movie tickets, meals and gasoline for transportation. But when it is pooled for wagers on the outcome of each game, when it transforms a sociable athletic tournament into a veritable betting orgy that implicates even Penn State students, when the visiting rooters become booters and return the proverbial evil for good that's when I would object and suggest either reformation of such nefarious happenings or abolition, if necessary, of the tournament itself."

Smithers—Indeed! But tell me, who won?"

"Perhaps the man with the fat bankroll, the CENTER of attraction. Or maybe it was the visiting bootleggers who were so FORWARD with their money?"

Smithers—Yes, yes; but who actually won?"

"Oh, yes, the winners. The students who GUARDED their mazuma."

## IMPORTED STATIONERY

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## Psychologist Defends Absent-minded Traits

(Continued from first page)

ing a typical example of absent-mindedness, his mind is not a vacuum at all but is overwhelmed by a train of thought."

"But how is it that mental giants don't marry?" ventures a curious student.

"Don't they?" retorts the psychologist. "Don't you know that though a man be a wizard intellectually he is most apt to be perfectly normal in other respects. He will not lose his desire for entertainment, play or become emotionless. In fact he will be as much attracted by the charms of the opposite sex as is any other normal person."

It is rare indeed for the mental being to achieve complete dominance over the physical or emotional being. Though the mental phase may be stressed, it would be exceedingly unusual for it to displace the other phases of a person's life.

"If you insist that the intellectual wizard does not marry the explanation would be that social and economic factors are responsible."

He who hesitates is lost.

LOST—An unfinished sleeve of bright flowered crepe. Call 272-J.

"SPRING DAYS ARE KODAK DAYS" Get Your Kodak Out Penn State Photo Shop 212 E. College Ave.

## Prom Committee Plans For Souvenir Program

(Continued from first page)

Women at least one week before the affair. Guests will be permitted in the various hours until three o'clock.

Prices for booths will be ten instead of twelve dollars as was previously announced. Cards announcing booth drawings which will be held at Co-op Tuesday evening at seven o'clock, have been sent to all fraternities.

As has been the case in past years a poster contest will be held, the artist having a set of four accepted, being presented with a complimentary ticket to the function. These signs are to be in three colors and must be submitted to H. R. Hassel '28 at the Beta Theta Pi house by Sunday, April tenth.

New Line of Greeting Cards for all occasions. Special table of Easter cards.

Old Main Art Shop, Opp. Front Campus.

FIREPLACE WOOD COAL State College Fuel & Supply Co. Phone 35-34

THERE WILL BE A Plant Special AT THE Floral Shoppe Saturday

Not a tongue-bite in a ton of it! Edgeworth

ENJOY BEING SENSIBLE YOU'RE probably fed-up with food advice. It's a bothersome barrage. But you actually can enjoy sensible eating by just making one meal, any meal, every day, of Shredded Wheat.

Through thirty-five years of "Eat this and that," this pioneer whole wheat biscuit has captured ever-growing favor. Made of the most carefully selected wheat grains, shredded for utmost digestibility and cooked crisp clear through for appetite enchantment that's the Shredded Wheat Story. SHREDDED WHEAT

## Fraternities Broadcast Competitive Programs

(Continued from first page)

several selections. Dean A. R. Warnock next gave a short talk entitled "Fraternity Life at Penn State."

The judges for the contest were R. W. Grant, director of music, F. G. Williams, of the mathematics department, and R. E. Dengler, associate professor of Greek.

Monday night the station will broadcast a program offered by the Girls' Glee club and on Wednesday will transmit a program of music and speeches provided by the School of Chemistry and Physics.

Shoes Shoes New Spring Models for Men "Arch Preserver" "Just Wright" "Daytons" \$6.00 to \$9.00 HURWITZ 129 S. Allen

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SEE OUR DISPLAY Nothing Like Them Bristol Stripes By Society Brand The talk of the Campus today is Bristol Stripes When you have the right texture, right shade, and most unusual stripe of the season all in one fabric—you have the Bristol Stripe. There's nothing like them. Priced From \$40 to \$75 TOPCOATS AS LOW AS \$27 M. FROMM Opposite Front Campus

## Thespians Select Cast To Enact 'Girl Wanted'

(Continued from first page)

that all students living in the vicinity of Philadelphia urge their parents and friends to purchase their tickets early from Mr. Jordan Gauthier, 806 Finance building, Philadelphia.

Cathaum THEATRE AND Nittany Theatre (Matinee Daily at Cathaum)

FRIDAY—Madge Bellamy in "THE TELEPHONE GIRL"

FRIDAY—Nittany—Ronald Colman, Vilma Banky in "WINNING OF BARBARA WORTH"

SATURDAY—Warner Baxter, Lois Wilson in "THE GREAT GATSBY"

SATURDAY—Nittany—"THE TELEPHONE GIRL"

MONDAY and TUESDAY—First Pennsylvania Showing of "SLIDE, KELLY, SLIDE" Special Prices: Adults 50c. Children 25c.

TUESDAY—Cathaum—Simultaneous First Pa. Showing of Jetta Goudal in "WHITE GOLD"

STARK BROS. Haberdashers