

# 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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TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1927

### A STEP FORWARD

The Interfraternity Council is to be commended for its efforts to provide the national fraternities here with a rushing system that approaches the sensible. For the code that will be voted upon for approval by the Greek letter organizations, is a tremendous stride forward. True, it is not the ideal. But it is decidedly superior to the present system. The new code is a means to an end—a foothold in the attempt to free Penn State fraternities from the mire of helplessness brought on by the present "hit-or-miss" what have you, system.

The proposed code affords the freshman more than ten days in which to learn something about any fraternity which he may consider. Conversely it gives each fraternity just that opportunity to size-up the prospective rushee. First appearances are generally the most impressive and the most lasting. Oftimes they prove to be erroneous. Under the present system the rushee and fraternity must resort to snap judgment and when that judgment later happens to be wrong there is occasion for general dissatisfaction and embarrassment on the part of all concerned. If the new code becomes adopted, both the fraternity and rushee will resort to snap judgment but the addition of ten days will also give both a further opportunity to bring sagacity into play. The additional use of judgment will save many a freshman from taking a step that he would afterwards regret. Many a fraternity would be spared from pledging a newcomer who would fit in very well with any group but the particular one that was collecting money for the room and board of the "misfit."

Every fraternity at Penn State will be given an opportunity to express its opinion on the question in the form of a "Yes" or "No" ballot. At the present time there appears to be a group that threatens to provide a stumbling block towards the efforts of the I. F. C. to legitimize the new code. It is hoped, and with a sincerity nothing short of pathetic, that the group can see the light and vote "Yes" to the adoption of the rule that will go a long way toward clearing up the rushing "mess" that is now all too apparent. No one fraternity will benefit more than another by the new rushing code; all will be materially aided. The new rushing code is plainly a mighty step forward; the goal lies just ahead.

### LITERARY SOUNDINGS

Pre-eminently a college is an institution where one is free to teach and free to learn; and normally the best means of learning and teaching are to be found not within the confines of certain and rigorous classrooms, bannered strategically with Eng. A6 or Hist. B45 in the catalogs, but within the broader, franker atmosphere created by the students themselves. In brief, it is through original, if speculative, ideas that education is achieved; and in every instance, it is through student publications that genuine experimental thoughts are expressed.

Strange as it may seem Penn State was without a literary medium for several college generations. Then came the Old Main Bell: what an opportunity was ours! A literary magazine! A publication to which all students, even the freshmen, could tell what they thought about Mencken, Lewis, Ford, Wells, Erskine! An outlet for arguments, pro and con, a river on which to set afloat stories, poems, plays! The Old Main Bell was indeed an event. Here, the editors told you, was the place for your theories concerning literature and history and science. Here was the waters for your original thoughts; there were no professors, no cribbers, no examinations; you were left alone to sink or swim.

Since its inception the Old Main Bell has, all things considered, not received the support it has merited. Contributions, even for the May issue, are slow in forthcoming. Judging by the amount of material received an idea is at a premium. Yet there is an enormous field which students, with any literary inclination, can plow effectively. Enough themes, enough reviews and essays and short stories, are written for classroom purposes daily to fill a dozen volumes of Old Main Bells. Why then the sluggishness? Surely it is not prudery; and surely it cannot be that the quality of the classroom work is of such stuff that it cannot be published in a magazine. That would be a calamity; in that case there would be no need for a magazine.

The issue, if we may be pardoned for any oratorical fervor, is clear: either to contribute, or to confess ignorance. For it is the ignorant who neither read nor write.

### DO YOU BELIEVE IN SIGNS?

A long time ago, when this institution approximated the bovine stage, the campus was punctuated at intervals with sign boards. The years passed and the campus, while still fortunate in having sign-boards, is unfortunate in having the old ones. Many are the nails and thumbtacks that have been the means of securing notices on the various resting places.

These boards contain the signs that the average student fails to read in passing. They are queer objects. Weather-beaten into complete submission they assume, in position, all sorts of angles. A trip around the campus walks (remembering to "keep off the grass") will reveal to the tripper that one sign-board slants forward, another is about to fall forward-backwards, still another leans to the right while its neighbor inclines to the left. Every position is followed out by the boards—even to the horizontal after a wind-storm. The insidious (apologies) thing about the sign-boards is, oddly enough, not the boards themselves. It is the content that does the damage that we are soon to mention. Signs are placed on each of the boards about the campus—along comes a severe wind or rain storm and the boards are soon shorn of their adornment. The signs, thus involuntarily removed from the boards: where do they go? All over the campus—transforming beauty into a scene much resembling a second-hand picnic ground.

Glass-enclosed sign-boards would be a remedy but that would require money. A gift of glass-enclosed sign-boards to replace the present message-bearers would be greatly appreciated. In the next few years a senior class would do well to consider suitable sign-boards when its time comes to remember the College.

### THANK YOU

It is with gratitude that we acknowledge the granting on the part of the Senate Committee on Student Welfare, of a half holiday to the Easter recess. Classes close for the holidays at twelve-twenty o'clock instead of five-twenty as was originally planned.

On account of the inaccessibility of State College to the main highways of travel, it would appear that the most sensible time to start a holiday is at noon. It is.

Now that the Senate Committee has come half way in giving in to the wishes of the student-body, it is up to the undergraduates to do their part, namely, return to College at the designated time.

### The Bullosopher's Chair

"Heard the latest in college fads, Smithers?"

Smithers:—You mean drinking?"

"I said later."

Smithers:—But what, Bullosopher, is drinking, but a result of prohibition, which, may I remind you, is of comparatively recent enactment.

"Still, Smithers, prohibitions are hardly recent, although I admit—"

Smithers:—But what's that fad about?"

"I was about to suggest it, Smithers, when you, with hardly decorous comment, interrupted. However, I admire candor. That is, when it is not too inconvenient. In this case, Smithers, you may have led me to observe that, even as his jungle brother—or cousin if you feel that way about it—needs chains, so does the human animal require restrictions. Prohibition, in the matter of drinking, does not, I agree with you, eliminate that pleasure—for it is a pleasure, after all. Rather it incites a feeling for more pleasure. And feelings of that nature are disastrous to the Constitutional Amendment. That is distressing."

Smithers:—Then you admit prohibition wrong?"

"No matter how much I try to prevent it, you seem destined to become an ass. Don't bray when spoken to. The Amendment, Smithers, cannot be wrong: it is in the Constitution; don't you read the papers? Practically, of course, prohibition, to judge by the resulting interperence, has failed. But rules have no reason to fear the practical. Rules must be only theoretical: they need not be logical. For the ideal, Smithers, engenders progress; and progress is beautiful."

Smithers:—But this fad, Bullosopher?"

"Ah yes, the fad. It seems that students at Illinois university either incensed by the automobile ban, or inspired by the necessity of spring sports, have taken to roller skating as a means of campus promenading. Skating, of course, is not as virile, or as statuesque as horse back riding; certainly it is not as dignified, nor, if I may use the word, as profound as bicycle riding. Now in the gay nineties . . ."

Smithers:—At Illinois, you say? Why that's peculiar. I noticed that nine Illinois students, three of them women, were dismissed within the last three weeks, for drinking, or for being members of a drinking party. Since they were members, it was assumed that they were active. So they were expelled—the efficiency of prohibition, no doubt. But, I missed that item about skating."

"I suppose that students wished to show their contempt of Regulation, and so adopted rollers. They should have taken cover in baby carriages."

### Garber Provides Special Entertainment for Prom

(Continued from first page) Jan's southern reputation was gained while a member of the Garber-Davis combination. Now, however, Garber has made the longest stay on record at the New York Hippodrome.

In addition to the regular orchestra, Curley Miller, who has recently completed four years on the Keith-Orpheum circuit, has been engaged to entertain on the banjo, piano and other musical instruments. Miller, by virtue of radio broadcasting, has earned for himself the title of "Ace-O-The-Air."

Miller has also performed with Goff's Miami club orchestra as well as with other leading bands of the north and south.

Booth drawings will be held at Co-op at seven o'clock at a cost of ten dollars.

### Helme Will Deliver Talk on Art Tonight

(Continued from first page) tacular pageantry of mediaeval history. This subject has long fascinated Professor Helme who will correlate the art and state of affairs existing in France in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, during the rise of the great structures which tell the Christian story in stone and glass.

Fraternity booth drawing for the Junior Prom will be held at Co-op this evening at seven o'clock. The price for booths will be ten dollars.

Junior Prom Booth Sale Scheduled for Tonight

**Sandwiches of All Kinds**  
—At Any Time—  
**Nittany Quick Lunch**

**BOSTONIANS**  
Famous Shoes for Men  
**Dress-up Shoes for Easter**  
A Comfort the Year Around  
**Women's Arch Supported Shoes as Low as \$5**  
New Spring Novelties for Women and Girls  
Select Your Easter Shoes From Our Window  
**COLLEGE BOOT SHOP**  
"The Place to Buy Shoes"  
125 Allen St.—Next to Whitey's A. C. LONGEE

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**May Order Invitations, Programs After Easter**  
Seniors may place orders for Commencement programs, invitations and announcements with the committee on Wednesday and Thursday, April twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth, at

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

TUESDAY—  
Simultaneous First Pa. Showing of  
"WHITE GOLD"

TUESDAY—Nittany—  
First Pennsylvania Showing of  
William Haines in  
"SLIDE, KELLY, SLIDE!"  
Special Prices:  
Adults 50c. Children 25c.

WEDNESDAY—  
First Pennsylvania Showing of  
Harry Langdon in  
"LONG PANTS"  
Special Prices:  
Adults 50c. Children 25c.

THURSDAY and FRIDAY—  
Gloria Swanson in  
"THE LOVE OF SUNYA"  
Special Prices:  
Adults 50c. Children 25c.


FRIDAY—Cathaum—  
Simultaneous First Pa. Showing of  
Constance Talmadge, Antonio Moreno  
in  
"VENUS OF VENICE"

**STARK BROS. Haberdashers**

**Special Combination Package FREE**  
With every box of  
**COTY FACE POWDER**  
—A—  
**60c Bottle**  
—OF—  
**Coty Perfum**  
In the same odour  
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**"See Your Orders Cooked"**  
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**CLUB DINERS, INC.**  
Cleanliness Courtesy Excellent Food  
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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT GEORGE W. . .

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed

E. I. SPITLER  
EX SOCCER MGR  
PENN STATE COLLEGE STATE COLLEGE PA 12

THERE IS JUST ONE TOBACCO THAT SEEMS TO CONSOLE IN MOMENTS OF WORRY TO STIMULATE IN MOMENTS OF EFFORT TO SOOTHE IN MOMENTS OF PEACEFUL ENJOYMENT TO BE AT ALL TIMES A GUIDE COUNSELOR AND FRIEND TO THE MAN WHO APPRECIATES PIPE SMOKING THE NAME OF THIS FAMOUS BRAND IS BLUE BOAR WHICH IS TRULY THE FINEST TOBACCO ANY MAN CAN ADOPT FOR LIFE

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**WEDNESDAY,**  
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