

# 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 welcomes communications on any subject of campus interest. All letters must bear the name of the writer. Anonymous communications will be disregarded. In case the writer does not wish his or her name to accompany the letter, this fact should be so indicated and a non-deplorable name accompanying the communication. The editor reserves the right to reject all communications that are deemed unfit for publication. The COLLEGIAN assumes no responsibility for statements expressed in the Letter Box.

News Editor This Issue—Louis H. Bell, Jr.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1927

### A STUDY IN PATRIOTISM

What is happening to America when a bellowing public jackass like William Hale Thompson gets away with an orgy of simple-mindedness, in which he is wallowing amid the perfect practiced applause of his corrupt pecuniary colleagues? The press has been amused and rightfully so, but its amusement has given Thompson a publicity which is getting a grasp on the mealy-minded American citizen. Thompson is no longer a joke, but a menace—a menace which should stir our shame to witness such moronic action in the head of America's second greatest city, a menace which should prick our pride until he is hooded from his dictatorship, a menace which should stir the righteous wrath and indignation of a hundred million Americans until Chicago is ostracized as a harborer of crooks, galling simpatons, and pathetic morons.

How long, O Democracy, how long shall you endure when pig-headed fools take advantage of your blessing to crown insipid and bigoted ignoramus? Free speech, free thought, a free press trampled and besmirched by a gang politician! A scholar, a gentleman, a capable leader, ousted without cause from a great public office which he served with intelligence and with public spirit! Corrupt practices, insidious un-American propaganda, false pretences, ignorance shielded by an "America first" campaign, so shallow and empty and false that we blush for Chicago,—all this the sole basis of Big Bill Thompson's circus, but a hallvoo so effective that from the American mass of numbskulls he is getting an audience which is taking him seriously.

Usually, when a braying fool indulges in antics akin to a simpleton, we allow him to "bray on," so long as he is harmless to others. But when he becomes a menace to society, he is "put away." Bill Thompson is lucky. Instead of being "put away," he was "put in" as Mayor. Perhaps in Chicago the two ideas are synonymous. At any rate we would pity Thompson as a pathetic figure, if he didn't play upon the American mind so effectively with such a hypocritical nonsensical standard of "Americanism."

Every intellectual citizen knows that Thompson's platform is made up of rotten timber. He knows the Chicago bully's principles of activity are false, as truly un-American in foundation and unfounded in the same degree of emphasis that he places upon the influence of England's presence in America. A simple analysis is ample refutation.

Every great thinker in our history, from Thomas Paine to Emerson and beyond has held tolerance a primary American virtue. Whether capable or not, the American citizen holds it his privilege to think for himself. Our judgments are to be our own. At least, we are to have the privilege of thinking so. Upon the right of every citizen to form his own judgments, the whole American structure is founded. Supposedly, we resent anyone's making up our minds for us. The sanctity of the ballot, the freedom of religion, the openness of the press, the desire for education, the multiplicity of organizations, the frankness and individuality of the American character, of the American personality, all are permeated by the presumed right of the American citizen to think for himself. This option is limited only in its social implications, as long as our opinions do not have a derogatory relationship to society. Theoretically, even our patriotism may be a result of our own thinking. It is true, however, that multitudes sell their birthright for a song, or even give it away. To many the printed word is law. By the same right, anyone with a semblance of authority is saluted. Thus the Thompson following. Nevertheless, when a gang politician, a corrupt club wielder presumes to dictate to the public what constitutes Americanism, he is usurping a public sanctity. If British propaganda is in America, it is the American's privilege to accept or reject in his own right. Thompson has a right to his opinion, to his version of the insidiousness of Britain's attempt to conquer America, but when he uses the authority of his office to bludgeon his distorted ideas upon the public, he is violating the fundamental American principles of Tolerance. When he chooses to brow beat his subordinates, to hammer his colleagues with his sophomoric ideas and unwholesome principles of an Americanism which is anti-American, it is time for a distinct and effective repudiation of a simple but powerful public moron.

Perhaps a corollary to the theory of tolerance is the right of every American to Education. Every American has the right to benefit by the enlightened minds of his countrymen. Ever since education has been taken from the hands of the church, ever since the theological aristocrats of early America released their once powerful grasp, the function of education has been delegated to specialists, scholars whose training has fitted them for the "enlightening" of the masses. Unfortunately, too often, educational administrators have been political appointees. But past and frequent violation of our code of education does not nullify the principle of a "hands off" policy in American education. If the British so desire to convert America by propaganda, and if the American mind cannot distinguish the facts in the case when both sides have been presented, the degree of intelligence in our land has taken a lamentable slump. It is a distinct insult to the intelligence of the American mind to ballyhoo British propaganda. Moreover, when tainted political fingers reach out to clutch control of free and unbiased education, it is high time to deplore the degradation and deterioration of the morale of any community which permits such distinctly un-American tactics.

### CO-OPERATIVE FRATERNITY BUYING

More than fifty fraternities at Penn State are to a certain degree dependent upon their individual catering departments for financial success. Each organization has practically the same problems in the manipulation of its catering budget for the realization of profit that helps defray the expenses incurred in the upkeep of the fraternity.

Yet it is surprising that no attempt has been made by the Penn State organizations along the line of co-operative buying of foodstuffs and other commodities. It is obvious that the purchase of goods of known quality and in large quantities will cut down fraternity bills. The time is ripe for the formation of a co-operative purchasing system for the Greek letter brotherhoods and we venture to suggest a method.

To give an interfraternity purchasing association a financial foundation, each organization should contribute a specified sum. This money would be the equal of a share of stock. With the appointment of a salaried manager, the unit may proceed to buy foodstuffs or other commodities in wholesale lots and sell them to fraternities at the lowest possible price. Prices will certainly be lower than those in effect at present. At the end of the year, if any surplus of funds exists, it may be distributed to the fraternities in proportion to the extent of their purchases. Details such as interest, location of a storehouse, purchasing manager can be arranged with little difficulty.

Of course, to establish such an organization requires careful thought and investigation but the benefits are easily seen. Again, if this project is too far for fraternities at the lowest possible price, smaller groups of fraternities may initiate co-operative buying units with five or six houses as a nucleus. After sufficient experimentation on a small scale, a merger could be effected to include every fraternity house at Penn State.

A system similar to the one suggested, is in successful operation at the Oregon Agricultural college. Penn State fraternities would do well to study the co-operative buying methods of the western institution. Certainly the Penn State Interfraternity Council should give the matter careful consideration.

H E H

### The Bullosopher's Chair

"Smithers, I got a peach of a date for tomorrow evening!"  
Smithers—"Who is the fan one? Stenog or a co-ed?"  
"Not this time! I have an engagement with 'The Family Upstairs'."  
Smithers—"Upstairs? Why the sudden interest in the neighbors?"  
"You have misunderstood me again, Smithers, I mean I've bought tickets to see 'The Family Upstairs,' staged in the Auditorium by the Penn State Players tomorrow night."  
Smithers—"Well, I hope you enjoy yourself."  
"Thanks, I'll tell you all about it the next time I see you."

### College Style Display

## FLORSHEIM SHOES

December 7 & 8

at Our Store By

L. C. GILMAN

Special College Representative of  
The Florsheim Shoe Company

An exhibit that includes the  
advance styles for the college man—as  
as designed by the foremost makers  
of men's fine shoes

M. FROMM

East College Avenue

### LOCAL EXHIBITS CAPTURE HIGH HONORS AT CHICAGO

Penn State Hogs Receive Seven First Prizes and Sheep Get One in Show

Penn State captured eight first and three third prizes in the show rings at the international livestock exposition which was closed yesterday in Chicago.

A first, second and third prize constitute the awards made to the College by its sheep. The Penn State hogs had the most merit points winning seven first, prizes and one second. One second and one third were awarded for the steers.

In the judging contests for college students the Penn State team composed of Robert K. Hamilton '28, Sidney W. Eise '28, Minot D. Day '28, Harry R. Lanson '28, Claude R. Koch '28, and Clifford H. Bucher '28, placed twentieth. This is the same team that won first honors at the eastern states exposition this fall.

### Electrical Engineer Lectures at Meeting

E. L. Sholl, District Representative of the Holophane Glass company, manufacturer of prismatic high efficiency lighting units, will be the speaker of the evening at the next meeting of the Electrical Engineering Society to be held Wednesday night, December seventh, at seven o'clock in Room 200 Engineering D.

Mr. Sholl will give a lecture on the most up-to-date methods of commercial and industrial illumination, supplementing his talk with a number of illustrations and demonstrations and using lighting equipment supplied by the Holophane company. All persons interested in the subject of illumination are cordially invited to attend this meeting.

## Cathaum THEATRE

### Nittany Theatre

TUESDAY—  
Matinee at 2:00  
Ramon Novarro and Al Stief Cast in "BEN HUR"  
Special Orchestra Accompanying Film  
Admission:  
Adults 50c Children 25c  
TUESDAY—Nittany—  
Sally O'Neill, Owen Moore in "BECKY"  
Fox News and Spotlight  
WEDNESDAY—  
Matinee at 2:00  
Lillian Gish and Norman Kerry in "ANNIE LAURIE"  
Stan Laurel Comedy  
THURSDAY and FRIDAY—  
Matinee Thursday at 2:00  
William Haines, Joan Crawford, George K. Arthur in "SPRING FEVER"  
Our Gang Comedy  
FRIDAY and SATURDAY—  
Matinee Friday at 2:00  
Clara Bow in "GET YOUR MAN"  
Charley Chase Comedy

STARK BROS. Haberdashers  
In The University Manner  
CATHAUM THEATRE BUILDING

### For Xmas

Leather Goods

Stationery

Manicure Sets

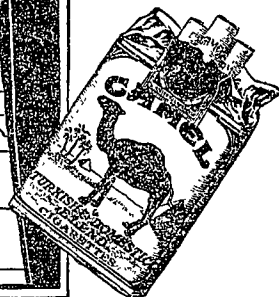
Military Brushes

Toilet Articles

Whitman's Candies

RAY D. GILLILAND

Druggist



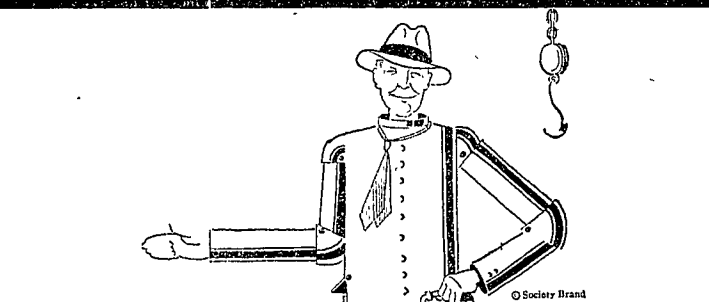
## Good. That's what it is . . .

No USE trying to put a definition around Camel. It is as diverse and fugitive as the delicate tastes and fragrances that Nature puts in her choicest tobaccos, of which Camel is rolled. Science aids Nature to be sure by blending the tobaccos for subtle smoothness and mildness. One way to describe Camels is just to say, "They are good!"

Each smoker telling the other, we suppose. At any rate, it's first—in popularity as well as quality. It has beaten every record ever made by a smoke. Modern smokers have lifted it to a new world leadership.

Camels request a place in your appreciation. Try them upon every test known. You'll find them always loyal to your highest standard.

Somehow, news of Camels has got around. "Have a Camel!"



## An Iron Suit

would be considerably longer wearing, we admit. But on the other hand and foot, it would have its disadvantages—for example, the loud ringing sound of the pocket flaps. When you want a suit made of mere cloth—and goog looking cloth at that—of a kind that wears well—you can't beat a suit of Haddons by Society Brand. It isn't quite "as strong as iron," fortunately for your skin. But for cloth it's mighty serviceable! Particularly good in Oxford gray or blue.

HADDONS  
by Society Brand  
\$40 to \$85

Stetson and Schoble Hats

J. & M. and Florsheim Shoes

M. Fromm

Opposite Front Campus

Since 1913