

# 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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Managing Editor This Issue.....L. Mittlefer  
News Editor This Issue.....H. D. Hoffman

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1928

### BETTER DAYS AHEAD?

As an outcome of a rather lengthy period during which strife and misunderstanding were rampant, the senate committee on publications and representatives of the several student publications tossed aside any prejudices when they met at dinner as guests of the College last Tuesday evening. Widely divergent ideas were tossed into a general melting pot with the result that the diners departed from the banquet with clearer perceptions of the others' viewpoints than was formerly the case.

Someone assembled a group of intelligent words when he wrote "When there is mutual understanding between people who hate each other, the hatred disappears." The substance of that quotation adapts itself quite conveniently to the misunderstanding between the senate committee and the publications boards that reached a climax Wednesday. After the people involved met and began to know one another, it was generally realized that there was not a single "criminal," nor a "malicious slanderer," nor a "disloyal son of Penn State," in the whole gathering.

Before there can be the slightest understanding and co-operation between varying groups each must have a complete knowledge of the workings and feelings of the other. It is of primary importance, however, that a mutual respect exists before an attempt is even made to become acquainted. Unless this exists, agreement will be as remote as ever. It would seem that a new foundation should be laid.

### LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

Increase, development and growth invariably necessitate changes in the old order. During the past few years the number of students applying for admission at the portals of American colleges and universities has mounted with surprising rapidity. Institutions of higher learning have come into greater prominence and have therefore received more criticism. Magazine and newspaper articles entitled "What's Wrong With Our Colleges?" have appeared in great profusion and the number of disadvantages of the present system revealed by the self-appointed critics has been nearly as large as the number of reformers. On many of the faults of our education plan the doctors disagree.

That American institutions are overcrowded is however, an accepted fact. College presidents and scientific educators realize that the ever-increasing flood of students is turning our larger institutions into mere factories of education, degree mills, in which all personal touch is lost and culture dies. Cutting the undergraduate body into a number of small colleges on the Oxford and Cambridge plan is the most obvious remedy for the situation. Ever since Professor George Adams Burton of Yale pointed out the advisability of such action fifteen years ago, the question has been under discussion from time to time.

Two years ago the Student Council of Education at Harvard, in a survey of Harvard's education system, came out flat-footedly in favor of subdividing that institution's student body. Recently President Angell's suggestion that Yale establish a third college to stand parallel with Yale college and the Sheffield

Scientific school, after receiving the enthusiastic support of Dean Mendell, was turned over to a student-faculty committee and is now being seriously considered.

Some may object that breaking up our larger institutions into several smaller colleges would be opposed to the great American principle of democracy in education and would foster a stronger spirit in each individual unit, but would destroy that vague something called "college spirit." In an age of specialization, however, there can be no democracy in higher education.

The proposed subdivision would bring students who are preparing for the same walks of life into closer contact and would promote discussion of the subjects studied outside the classroom. Informal, intimate conversation and argument adds interest to otherwise "dry" courses, stimulates the student intellect to that rare reaction, "thought," and aids in the attainment of the cultural ideal.

Penn State has probably not yet grown to the point where division into colleges would be necessary or even advisable, but the present building program and the increased number of applications for admission point to rapid strides in the immediate future. It is not too soon to look forward to the time when the Oxford system, if adopted and adapted at Yale and Harvard, will spread to other institutions of America.

### A TRIBUTE

In the face of present development and extensive plans for the future, it is only natural that Penn State's glances should turn toward the rising sun. What distinctions and glories there have been in the College's brief history are easily relegated to dusty tomes and dusty shelves. The past offers little competition with the present and future as an absorbing, enchanting topic.

A meeting was held here last night to pay respect to one who unstintingly gave of himself in order that the Penn State of today and tomorrow might exist. Doctor Evan Pugh, first president of the College and foremost man of science, commands the attention and tribute of all friends of Penn State, especially in this, the centennial year of his birth. To the memory of one who devoted the prime of his life and his last energies toward furthering the interests of this institution, it is only fitting that the student body accord respect.

Doctor Pugh was not only a dominant man of efficiency and action, he was a man of character; he exerted a powerful, beneficial influence upon all with whom he came into contact. It is such personalities that are indispensable to any vibrant organization. Although it was in the infancy of Penn State that Doctor Pugh lived and served, the memory of the man and his contribution to the College will always endure.

### The Bullosopher's Chair

Smithers: I hear the girls are bawling again for equality, fair treatment by our masculine majority and recognition and respect as perfectly human Penn State students. It seems that the feminine element is striving desperately to strengthen the girls' division of the college by seeking the establishment of strong national societies. Yet every hope is blasted because of the false rumors broadcast by men students that the co-ed is a thing to be detested, that she is aloof, conceited.

"You've said plenty, Smithers, and you've said it truthfully. They are branded; they are abused, they are advertised falsely—all because of a silly tradition, which takes the form of a general opinion, handed to each yearling class and perpetuated by them year after year. It seems that freshmen during their first few weeks here are handed the age-old line by upperclassmen that co-ed are to be dreaded and avoided just like so many measles.

"This dictum is accepted, just like so many others, because it is an accustomed belief. Freshmen, either thoughtlessly or out of fear, never investigate the true facts of the matter. Yet they never fail to pass it on, and on, and on, and on. Even those who know for a fact that the co-ed is not a character to be despised help spread the devastating propaganda simply to keep in step with the "rest of the boys." I ask you, what chance do our females have against such overwhelming opposition? I ask you.

### Some Lady's Birthday Today!

### Greeting Cards

### All Occasions

### Orders Taken For Engraved Personal Cards Business and Wedding Announcements

### Samples

### KEELER'S

Cathaum Theatre Building

### Letter Box

Editor, Collegian:

I have had several occasions, recently, to accompany undergraduate Fraternity brothers of mine to the College Health Service. There are no words in English strong enough to express my opinions of the service rendered or of the attitude manifested while "tending."

I'd appreciate it, if you can find space enough in the Letter Box to print the accompanying note.

The permission offered to make such anonymous contributions would be appreciated.

To the Letter Box.

I'm glad to see that the press of Pennsylvania has been giving very favorable publicity to the proposed College Hospital and Health Center. This is the least that can be expected; "Doc" Rittenour and his nurses are doing fine work now (qualified), and the new building will give them the needed aids and facilities for their work.

Let's hope, though, that the "who-the-dash-are-you" attitude on the part of our dispensers of therapeutics will be changed when they get into their new quarters. Too many students are keeping away from the service provided by their college, and are going to doctors in the town (or, are not going to any doctor), because of the insulting attitude taken by the nurses, and (alas!) often by good old "Hygiene" himself. Paid as they are by public funds and student fees, these healers should regard the student who is ill or injured at least as one to be helped—not as one who means to annoy by inflicting on a medical practitioner a "feeling" with a medical stethoscope.

It is commonly accepted that doctors and nurses must be scientific, accurate and professional (sic)—but who under Heaven defines those terms to include gruffness, roughness, distinct lack of common good manners, and an attitude that helps one keep away from the house back of L. A. Students have feelings; believe it or not.

Editor, Penn State Collegian  
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Students who would like to have one of these blue prints should communicate with their parents at once in order that they may send it to the student after the parent has examined it.

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Students will be able to receive their grade reports at the office of the Registrar just as soon as the tracings which were sent to Pittsburgh are alphabetized. On account of the flimsy material this task takes more time than would be needed to the alphabetizing of a similar number of cards.

Very truly yours,  
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About the middle of December two representatives of a Baltimore tailoring company visited Clemson College with a line of exceptionally fine samples and took orders for probably two hundred suits from the students at \$25.00 each, collecting from \$5.00 to \$25.00 with each order.

A short time later when the suits began to arrive by mail, \$20.00 C. O. D., almost every student was quite surprised to find that when the package was opened the suit he received was not at all what he had ordered. In fact, only the boys receiving the first few suits got what they had ordered and paid for in good faith.

Some of those who paid in full in advance have never received any suit at all. Appraisal by a reliable local merchant of some of the suits received places their actual value at about \$7.00 or less.

It does not take a business man to realize that such tactics are unfair, low down, unethical, and against all principles of good business, but they are frequently hard to stop because most people do not care to admit that they have been swindled. The crooks who operate on such a principal are of even lower caliber than those who sell bogus stock to widows and orphans.

These cheap crooks work on a \$25.00 basis, using the United States mails to assist them. Tar and feathers are too good for men who deliberately plan to cheat poor college boys who in many cases have a hard time to earn their own way through college.

There are several ways to stop this business. One is to pass a local ordinance prohibiting any such non-resident agent from soliciting business without a local license. In order to obtain this license, the non-resident agent should be required to pay a high fee and deposit a cash bond guaranteeing to deliver the merchandise he sells. Another way is to pass a state law of the same variety. This may appear to be hard upon the legitimate

business, but it is necessary to look up and transcribe the address of every student who receives a failure, together with the fact that ten per cent of the grades recorded by the office of the Registrar are below passing, indicates the magnitude of this single item.

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manate manufactures, but if they do not protect themselves by putting such unscrupulous members of the same line of business out of the race, they have only themselves to blame. The name of this particular gang is immaterial. They probably get a new one every rainy day. However, they operate through the United States mails and it should not be hard, with the right people back of the movement, to put them where the dogs won't bite them very soon.

A movement in this direction should be of interest to every local state and national chamber of commerce, business men's association, legitimate clothing manufacturer, and anyone else who is interested in seeing the job get a square deal. They have worked many of all of the southern colleges, and probably those of the north. I will be glad to hear from any student who has had trouble with this outfit, or from any organization interested in curtailing the activities of crooks who swindle poor college boys at twenty-five dollars each.

Very truly yours,  
Charles E. Mullan, Textile Dept. Clemson College, South Carolina

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