

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, OCTOBER 2, 1928.

AFTER THE BATTLE

The rushing battle is over. Freshmen have emerged happily and unrippled for the most part. Fraternities return to normalcy and scant meals with mild satisfaction if their freshman flock numbers into the teens and with wild indignation if some of the prize pets have joined the "lost, strayed or stolen" contingent.

Even the new rushing code, experiencing the first actual test of its existence, emerges in a more or less battered condition to receive the applause of fortunate fraternities and the invited thumbs of unfortunate biethnes. Some laud it as the only thing; some score it as impractical; others compromise in declaring it a step in the right direction, but a system far from complete, full of loopholes and lacking all-inclusiveness.

Incidentally, the last-mentioned opinion resembles that which we entertain. The rushing code, we feel, has a purpose which should bring beneficial results to both fraternity and rushee. It would discourage, in fact, prohibit lead piping, it would set the freshman fairly before the fraternity and the fraternity fairly before the freshman; it would have the rushee make a voluntary choice; it would offer each fraternity an equal opportunity to secure desirable men; it would eliminate forced pledging and hence insure more contented fraternity life.

These are the ultimate aims of the new code and although they were not unanimously attained after the first trial might be procured after the experiment is more perfectly developed. In pursuance of this perfection, future compilers and experimenters would do well to profit by the present experience and remember the present difficulties.

It is almost unanimously agreed, for one thing, that the period of rushing is too extensive. Three engagements with a prospect should provide sufficient opportunity for a fraternity to decide upon him, especially when each engagement endures six hours. Furthermore, the apportioned system of dating, allotting four to a fraternity, is distasteful to the house which arrives too late to register even a single appointment, while those who have dared to fill four blocks, uncertain as to the impression a prospect may make, may discover too late that they are under the undesirable and sometimes embarrassing necessity of spending useless time and expense, both of which could be spent on other and more desirable prospects.

Those who would flail the code unhesitatingly must remember that it is but an experiment, a system of one year's age, one that eliminates much of the unhappiest and unfairlest evil that accompanies rushing, namely, lead piping. If, in time, the new system, aided by the improvements which are bound to come, can eliminate all lead piping, it will have effected a benefit which outweighs by far all of the present evil results.

TO THE WISE

The secret is out, Stunt Night, when nocturnal pageantry, underclass revelry and mass initiation will prevail, will be held this week. Sophomores are smiling with knowing expectancy. Freshmen are trembling in fearful curiosity. Yet there should be little cause for fear. There will be no brutal treatment. None at all. Just a night of carnival fun, of gauntlet running, of paddling—but come and see.

The night should provide entertainment for all. And in return for the diversion, all classes should co-operate in assuring the success of the pageant. There should be no interference by playful upperclassmen, no attempt to vex the sophomore or to provoke a mass brawl that will do the College no real good during this period of transition, during this most critical period when a good name and good behavior are essential to the future success of the College.

No one need be told that Penn State is seeking the gracious blessings of an \$8,000,000 bond issue. No one must be informed that bad news travels fast, that collegiate pranks are emphasized in front page newspaper stories and that voters are probably the most faithful readers of newspapers. Adverse publicity arising from a Stunt Night fracas between upper and underclassmen may be the cause of many lost votes and may undo the splendid work accomplished by indefatigable backers of the bond issue. Penn State's real chance for progress.

Here is an opportunity for students to prove their fidelity, judged not "by what they do, but by what they do not do."

THE DEAN'S REQUEST

Not far to the right of these printed words is a request, written by Dean Warnock, for student co-operation at fires. Surely, some authentic request is in order after the childish display of student fire-timers last Wednesday night.

For many years, an amusing sort of conflict has existed between students and borough firemen. Just as it has been the custom to evince popular and unjustified disdain for co-eds, military training and College health service, so has it become traditional to belittle the firemen in spite of their sacrifice and risk of time, energy, health and even life.

Obviously the unpaid firefighters are not responsible for the conflict. They have neither time nor desire to quarrel with silly, rollicking students. And inasmuch as they are prompt, efficient and faithful, how are they deserving of such ungrateful reception as those which greet them at almost every fire?

Perhaps students would do well to remember that fraternity dwellings as well as College property are protected by the borough firemen, that they are unpaid and hence under no obligation to risk their lives and extinguish flames for no reward but unappreciative laughing and jeering.

The Bullosopher's Chair

"Why the folloin look, Smthers, has your dog died?"
Smthers: No.
"Has you houseparty spouse betrayed you?"
Smthers: Certainly not.
"Have you bluebooks begun?"
Smthers: Silly. Of course not.
"Then, why all the suppressed lamentation? There must be a reason—good or bad."
Smthers: We only got four.
"Only got four? You mean pledges?"
Smthers: Yes.
"Well, old chap. There's one consolation you have. It shows that you abided by the rules of the new Rushing Code with fanatic fealty. Think of that!"

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Out in th' World

Johnny Roepke '28, former Lion and captain, is playing football with the Frankford Yellowjackets. In Saturday's fray, he was outbooted, sport writers say, by the rival punter. "Impossible," is the comment of five interviewed third-assistant football managers, who never knew anyone who could kick better than Johnny—unless it is Joe Miller.

Roger Mahoney '28, former center, and Jack Filak '26, one-time tackle, are two other Penn State busies working with Roepke in an attempt to make a Lion out of the Yellowjacket.

Jack Rugenberg '28, is working for the Bell Telephone Company at the McKeesport branch. So is Roy Hassell '28, former Senior Ball chruiman, not particularly adept at wrong numbers.

E. Carl Matheson '28, former manager of the Glee Club, writes to say that he is stuck on a job with the Portland Cement Co., of Allentown.

Despite our prediction that M. D. Berrhill '28, brother of "Sunny," would become a doctor, he has emulated C. C. at the Chicago Theological Seminary. At that, the business of healing souls might be classed as some sort of surgical profession.

Tom Cann '26, former business manager of the Collegian, has retired from school teaching to enter another hard-won business. Rumor has it that Tom is contemplating an eternal plunge.

Twenty Years Ago

The principal problem for Penn State in the Lebanon, Valley game Saturday was that of gaining ground without physically maiming her opponents. The game ended with the score of 75-0 but the visitors played a plucky game and at one time threatened State's goal.

One of the most successful and arousing events of the season was the reception to the shot-course students by the Agricultural society last Friday evening. The assembly hall in the new building was turned over to square dancing, Virginia reels, stags and feasting.

A welcome bit of news to every student in College is the fact that in McAllister Hall and in Main Building an organization is to be effected immediately to supervise the fighting of any fire which may occur in these buildings.

The drinking fountain which has stood for several days in the middle of the street at the Athletic Store corner has aroused considerable speculation as to what is to be done with it. The fountain is a gift from the local women's club and certainly will be appreciated by thirsty horses and dogs.

The Bellefonte Central will run a special train between Bellefonte and the College on Friday. The football special will leave Bellefonte at 1:50 p. m. and will arrive in time for students to catch the Pennsylvania train to Philadelphia.

Talks by Deans

I want to ask the student body to co-operate with the local fire department on the occasion of fires. They can do this by refraining from crowding, in close to the place of the fire and from yelling to the extent that it interferes with the directions being given to the firemen by the fire chief.

Our town enjoys a very high standard of fire protection. Recently fire insurance rates in the town were lowered upon recommendation of fire insurance underwriters who had inspected local conditions. The local rates are lower than in the other larger towns of the county. This came about because of the increased equipment of the fire department and the fine record of the department in handling fires. The members of the fire department are on a voluntary basis, but no matter where the fire is or what time of day or night it occurs, they get on the job with remarkable promptness.

The borough and College officials do not intend that the effectiveness of the fire department shall be hampered. I think the great majority of students will respond to this appeal. Those few who may persist in untidy practices will be dealt with as offenders against law and order.

A. R. Warnock,
Dean of Arts

Gas Proves Fatal to Mr. Frank B. Bennett

Mr. Frank B. Bennett, recently engaged by the College as an instructor in the agricultural extension department, was asphyxiated in the home of his father at Williamsport Sunday night.

The cause of Bennett's death was attributed to gas leaking out of a defective burner which gradually filled the room in which he was sleeping. He was making a visit to his father and had intended to return to the College yesterday to resume his duties.

Bennett was a graduate of the Agronomy school here in 1918 and immediately after leaving College he enlisted in the army. At the conclusion of his term in that organization he became supervisor of agriculture at Spring Mills. In 1926 he entered the graduate school and received his M. S. degree in 1927. He accepted the position of instructor in the agricultural extension department September 15, 1928.

PROF. MOORE RETURNS FROM YEAR'S ABSENCE

Prof. Bruce V. Moore, of the psychology department, who recently returned from sabbatical leave announces that he spent most of his time with the Personal Research Federation of New York City.

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Side Lines

In commenting on Penn's chances on a successful football season, Ed Pollock says in Saturday's Public Ledger: "As last year, much will depend this season on what happens in the engagement with Penn State." It is remembered that a great deal happened last year. It appears as though the Quakers are due for another poor grid season.

The Philadelphia sports writer also said the Lions "had everything" the lay they smothered the Red and Blue on Franklin Field. According to the number of Penn graders carried off the field during the process of the game, one wonders if the Lions had sledge hammers.

Mr. Pollock also says in part "One thing in Penn's favor when the Penn State game arrives is that Roepke this season is playing with the Frankford Yellowjackets."

Things weren't all bright for the Lebanon Valley quarterback Saturday. He didn't gain a yard the whole lay.

When Frank Diedrich ran fifty yards for a touchdown against the visitors Saturday, a happy youngster in the press box shouted to one of his buddies, "Sani, he did the trick!"

When George Delp was knocked unconscious for a few minutes during his game and time was called, Cy Lungren, erstwhile Lion grid satellite, jokingly remarked to Al Lesko, another former football star, "I wonder what George is thinkin' about."

A stray dog created a little disturbance between halves of Saturday's game. Larry Conovel came strutting into the press box and happened to brush against the canine, who promptly snapped at him. Red Griffith cried "Larry, get some hydrophobia medicine."

Ag School To Sponsor Poultry Exhibit Here

Known as the "Show Window" of the poultry industry in Pennsylvania, the sixth annual State Standard Production poultry show, which will be held here October twenty-fifth to twenty-seventh, is expected to attract poultrymen from every corner of the State.

Numerous cash prizes, loving cups and medals will be offered for the winning entrants, according to officials in charge.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

Cathaum
THEATRE

Nittany Theatre

TUESDAY—Return Engagement of Margaret Mann and All Star Cast in "FOUR SONS"
Special Prices—adults 70, children 25c

TUESDAY—Clyde Cook, Louise Fazenda in "PAY AS YOU ENTER"

WEDNESDAY—Tom Meighan, Evelyn Brent, Renee Adoree in "THE MATING CALL"

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY—Ronald Colman, Vilma Banky in "TWO LOVERS"

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY—Sue Carol, Arthur Lake in "THE AIR CIRCUS"

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