

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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McCRACKEN AND BEZDEK

When Lafayette and Penn State clash on the Easton gridiron tomorrow afternoon, the respective coaches, Messrs. McCracken and Bezdek, two figures who have been under the sport microscope recently will be dissected more carefully than ever. Contrasting systems will be fastidiously analyzed and details fully recorded for future use. Style and spirit of play will be watched. Personal estimates of each man's value will be preserved conscientiously.

Generally speaking, the student bodies of either institution may fail to grasp the significance of all this critical observation and can only guess at the purpose of it, let alone the outcome. Neither can they understand why sports editors of the more or less metropolitan districts should become so suddenly belligerent and defiant as to poke their pens into the athletic affairs of Penn State and Lafayette and intimate in flagrant, highly-colored innuendoes masquerading under the guise of "spot stories," the removal of one or both of the coaches concerned. What motivating force underlies the propaganda must be conjectured, and it is another conjecture that the disturbing forces are so remote from Penn State that their knowledge of the actual situation is mere imagination and deduction and that they possess little or no real proof for their tainted beliefs and narrow insinuations.

Whether or not students have any rightful voice in the matter, they will speak their opinions regardless. On a previous critical occasion, it will be remembered how unwaveringly, how faithfully the general student body demonstrated its faith in the present mentor; and students would reiterate that fidelity this very day because it has been justified clearly, cleanly, because the men they have chosen to champion has worked indefatigably under distressing and harassing circumstances, has toiled vigorously under the strain of public embarrassment and near insult to maintain the firm athletic prestige that he himself was instrumental in establishing. The task has been an extremely difficult one and none can truthfully say that it has not been undertaken earnestly, vigorously and with all the devotion a man can give to the college he has learned to love, and respect.

TRADITIONS—GOOD AND BAD

Every college has its traditions—old customs and legends and opinions that are inherited by each succeeding generation and by the numerous classes comprising the generation. Usually such traditions are interesting heritages, heritages to be revered and respected, to be loved and augmented.

But there are injurious traditions just as well as there are helpful and constructive ones. Those which are beautiful and lend to the pleasant character of the college deserve to remain unquestioned, but those which are by nature ugly, unseemly, black, charred spots on an otherwise picturesque campus, should be challenged and, if found unsuitable, made outcasts in a colony anywhere distant from the campus.

For it is these undesirable traditions which, persisting year after year, pollute the minds of incoming freshmen and prejudice their opinions about certain institutions and personages about the campus. These derogatory traditions and not those things they condemn should be derided for the personages and institutions have existed year after year mostly by dint of their own merit while the luckless traditions have lived by mere false or unreasonable advertisement. At such a crowded college there is room for the deserving only.

Today the *Old Main Bell*, literary magazine of the College, goes to the printer's and with it goes our prayer that this worthy but ignored creation will thrive more prosperously than have some of our less valuable and less important projects. Another financial reverse may mean certain death for an infant institution that deserves to thrive on the nutriment of student support.

A FORM OF THANKSGIVING

As a rule college students are not addicted to philanthropy, although from the unwise and extravagant manner in which much of student currency is foolishly squandered, it would appear that they are unconsciously, unknowingly philanthropic.

Comes a time when they may become wisely philanthropic—and ignorant to that fact. The time is the present when the local unit of the Red Cross organization seeks aid in raising its puny share of the great national total. The State College quota is \$600, a mere speck if every student contributes a few pennies, but a seemingly vast sum if the burden is to fall upon a few.

The Red Cross organization needs no introduction;

its work is well-known and its existence not only justified but actually necessary. Perhaps those of us who have lived in constant comfort cannot fully realize the disaster of flood and storm. They are things which must be experienced before they are felt.

A contribution will be an appropriate form of Thanksgiving—for our happy and fortunate immunity from disaster.

The modern college Utopia is located in our own wealthy state of Pennsylvania if we are to interpret literally the words of Dr. James Henry Morgan, President Emeritus of Dickinson College, who, speaking at an alumni banquet in Atlantic City, claimed that "the boys of Dickinson are frowning upon drinking . . . so darkly that the number of boys who are drinking are reduced to practically none." Even the girls are refraining from smoking, he told the gathering. In fact, reform has come so suddenly to little old Dickinson that "the pendulum of college behavior is swinging from sophistication back to the Puritanical."

Whereupon Dr. Melvin G. Fuller, newly-elected president of Dickinson, disagreed. Perhaps it all depends on the point of view.

Collegiate Definitions

NUMBER 10—STAG

A stag is the male sex of the human college species who is the pre-occupation of that historic maxim, "He travels cheapest who travels alone" (by Scott). Stags frequent fraternal dances in great heads, outdoing the orchestra in noise and stationing themselves in such awkward positions as to make the dance more an obstacle race than an endurance contest. Co-operation is the keyword of the common herd of stags, for one stag, having wrested a fair victim from the rightful and unwilling owner, arranges to have his brother stag, accommodated one by one—until the dance is nearly over. Stags come early and stay late and even though half of them are barred from their usual haunts, they come anyway, since no one seems to know or to care.

The Bullosopher's Chair

Smithers: I've often wondered, Bullosopher, how it would feel to be the proud owner of a varsity "S". Would I feel padonably proud, chesty or even conceited? Would I be a man of affairs, a campus model for unknowing freshmen? Or would it give me that reckless, carefree, tough and tough, out-of-doors feeling?

"Well, I've never possessed a coveted letter, but I have imagination and have seen them. Possibly, your experience in gaining letters would have some bearing upon your attitude or feeling. Or your attitude might change in proportion to the length of time you've had the insignia."

Smithers: In other words—
"In other words, you would probably sport the first fresh sweater with a great deal of pride and show. The second, if it came your way, would seem just as coveted. But thereafter, possibly the value of the letter would decrease in your estimation. At least, the novelty of receiving woolen letters would have vanished and you would take them as a matter of course."

Smithers: Stole them away, eh?
"No, not that. But you would begin wearing the sweater inside out, as they say, so that the loose ends of the letter will give that extremely careless and rough-hewn appearance. After the novelty of that unique custom has diminished, you will likely begin wearing the sweaters backwards, according to a new athletic custom prevalent on the campus."

Smithers: Your remarks are becoming desisive. May I remind you that these woolen awards, as you call them, are the personal properties of athletes who may wear them as they please.

"That may be. But is it right? If the sweaters were meant to be worn backwards or reversed, they would have been manufactured so that they would be appearing, at least, in such a position. Besides, what sense is there to such a ridiculous vogue? From present indications, it's not impossible that these same sweaters, will be vordraped about the head like turbans or hanging from the waist like pantaloons."

"Furthermore, the insignia is supposed to be an honor and not a disgrace, contrary to the opinion of some Harvard men. Why, therefore, should it not be worn honorably instead of disgracefully?"

"If athletes feel that they are wearing the sweaters merely for the sake of warmth, let them wear them correctly or not at all. Surely they will create less disturbance by discarding them than they will by wearing them in distorted fashions."

Christmas Cards

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KEELER'S

Cathaum Theatre Building

Thoughts of Others

Grades and Education

There are two student attitudes, two viewpoints concerning a college education. The first of these is the viewpoint that a college education consists of securing so many grades above the passing average. This view looks on college as a place where studies are merely the necessary excuse for spending four years with people of the same age, for having athletic teams, for having clubs, publications and all the other extra-curricular activities. Viewed from this angle studies are an easy means of convincing people back home that college is worth its existence.

The other point of view looks on college life as an opportunity, not alone of growing in social poise, physical condition, spiritual strength, but also of gaining an intellectual mastery of principles that are necessary to meet the conditions and circumstances of a particular life. Now that mastery never comes through a passive reception of information, through the mere securing of few A's or even completing the fundamentals of a given course. Real mastery and a thorough education come through thinking, pondering, re-creating. Liking an active interest in the work for what it means to one's own life, doing a task the very best way it can be done. The deep and fundamental, though not the only, purpose of college is learning, and how can learning be accomplished unless there be active interest, careful attention and a strong purpose on the part of the learner?

The Invariant

A College Habit
Tardiness, certainly a thief of time if there is such a thing, is an evil that is far too common on the campus of this college. It is a habit that is not found in any particular group, neither in faculty, entirely not in student body but rather is an all-college sin. One is able to see people scurrying at all hours of the day across the walks of the grass to some appointment to which they should have hastened a few minutes before. One can walk into an office to meet someone at an appointed time, and find after waiting, that the appointment must be postponed until some later time.

No matter how important a man may be, there is no excuse for tardiness. It is characteristic of really great men that their appointments are kept to the minute, or that some excuse is given in due time. It is tradition on the campus of the University of Michigan that when President Frank says he will see someone at a certain time, he will be ready to see him at that moment.

One of the most remarkable things about Colonel Lindbergh is that he does things when he says he will, and arrives at his destination at the set time. Of the many fine qualities that make up his greatness, this is far from the least.

If consideration and thoughtfulness are used, a man can keep his appointments on time. No one who is considerate of a friend can ask him to give an hour of his time cooling his heels on the doorstep.

Coe College Cosmos

Twenty Years Ago

(From the Collegian files of 1908)

There is perhaps nothing being watched with so much interest by the students and alumni as the new athletic field, which is almost completed. The \$15,000 which was appropriated by the State is well spent and soon we shall have one of the greatest fields in the country.

At the meeting of the trustees of the College held last Friday it was decided that at the end of the present college year, the preparatory department of the College be abolished. Candidates for the freshman class who are deficient only a fixed number of hours, to be determined hereafter, may be coached in them without cost.

A Pittsburgh paper has selected for its "All-Penns" team, right guard Cyphers and right halfback McCleary on its first eleven. Smith at right tackle, Vothus at left halfback and Hirschman at fullback were placed on the second eleven, and Ballow was honored with the position of left halfback on the third team. It is a significant fact that the White and Blue team has helped greatly to place the name of State before the people of Pennsylvania more forcibly than ever before.

RENTAL LIBRARY

A BOOK FOR EVERY MOOD

The latest fiction is being added constantly

STUDENT SUPPLIES

The Athletic Store
On Co-op Corner

Collegian-a

Penn State's gridmen are hobnobbing with nobility here of late.

Last week they were rubbing elbows with George Washington.

And bumping heads!

Tomorrow they take ten with Lafayette.

T. N. Tea!

Mingling with such famous companions, the gridgers might do well to brush up on their history.

And any other below grade subjects

This year the Lafayette boys are out for vengeance for the 10-6 defeat last season.

Inflicted by Johnny Roepke.

It was really an off-day for the Eastonnans. They didn't get a single good break all day.

Until the final whistle blew.

This year two McCrackens—may figure in the game.

Brother Herb, coaching Lafayette, and Brother John, carrying the ball for Berdek.

There may even be a family dispute (who knows?)

Especially if Herb is wearing the tie Johnnie left behind!

Besides that, it ought to be a good game.

Embryo Footlight Notables Possess Retreat Above Auditorium Platform

Up in the recesses of the Schwab auditorium, above the stage and the pipes of the organ, is a "land of illusion," the Penn State Players' workshop, where the activities of that organization are directed.

At first glance one is reminded of the dressing room on the old-time theaters of the small towns. Above the familiar make-up table glares a row of bright electric lights, accentuating the pallor of those appearing below them. To one side of this is the make-up box, filled with paints, powders, and all the rest.

Pasted on the walls are the placards and signs recording past successes of the dramatists. They range from comedy to tragedy, from famous masterpieces to student productions. All over the room are strown mementoes of the past.

Famous thespians, too, are not forgotten in this sanctuary. Pictures of the Barrymores, of Bernhardt, and many others attest to their greatness. Scenes photographed from famous presentations of the Players are also arranged on the boards.

Cluttered in one corner are the miniature sets made by members of the classes taking stagecraft. Here are desert scenes, forest scenes, garden scenes, and even the futile scene used in "Beyond the Horizon," and presented by the Players last year. The famous balcony scene from "Romeo and Juliet" occupies its little niche among the rest.

Over this little kingdom, Prof. Arthur C. Cloetingh, director of the Players, holds sway. On his desk rests the trophy won by the group in the intercollegiate drama contest held here last year.

Junior, Senior "La Vie"

Cards Due This Week

Seniors and juniors who have not turned in *La Vie* activity cards, must do so Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Photo Shop in order to receive consideration in the 1930 yearbook.

INDUSTRIAL HEAD TALKS

Engineering seniors will be addressed by W. R. Webster, vice-president of the Budgetette Brass company, Budgetette, Conn., in Old Chapel at 1:10 o'clock this afternoon. Mr. Webster has held numerous executive positions and is familiar with the problems encountered by college graduates in industry.

ENGINEERING EXTENSION LISTS 23,872 STUDENTS

Correspondence Courses Reached Residents of 20 States and Other Lands

Represented in most of the counties of Pennsylvania and in many of the States, the extension department of the School of Engineering counts 23,872 persons reached by its various courses.

Extension courses have been established in 45 of the 67 counties in the State. Every one of the 19 cities in Pennsylvania whose population exceeds 25,000 has one or more classes enrolled in the courses. In 41 cities between 5,000 and 25,000 population the extension classes have been established while 12 towns below the 5,000 mark have been reached by the department. This service reaches 4,653 residents.

Correspondence courses have been established in 64 counties in Pennsylvania and in 20 states of the Union as well as in Canada. The formal correspondence courses have an enrollment of 8,872 while the informal courses, consisting of lectures, news from the department, shop talks and other types of service reach 15,000 persons. In addition the short courses offered in State College in the form of conferences add 377 to the total enrollment.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

WEEK-END SPECIALS Winner's Meat Market

111 Pugh Street

- Dining Room Chairs - - - - - \$3.50
- Student Desks - - - - - \$12.50 to \$25.00
- Student Tables - - - - - \$5.00
- Book Racks - - - - - \$1.75
- Book Shelves - - - - - \$4.00
- Bridge Lamp Stands - - - - - \$1.00

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING
First Floor, Engineering B