

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, JANUARY 8, 1929.

THE INFLUENZA SITUATION

Recent rumors predicting the dismissal of college because of the gradual spreading of the present epidemic of influenza have filled students with so much anxious anticipation that books have probably not yet been cleansed of their vacation dust by some of the more hopeful and optimistic students.

Students have been unwise in placing absolute faith in false, misleading and exaggerated rumors, for believing them, they have been foregoing another vacation, whose almost certain failure to arrive will cause some real disappointment. At such a time, when it is difficult to return to tasks of studying, students are so desirous of returning to the comparatively leisurely life that the frustration of this new hope may cause not only disappointment but also discontent and ill-feeling that is entirely without justice.

College authorities who decided to open college at the regularly scheduled time arrived at their decision only after a careful consultation with health officials at Harrisburg. The situation was thoroughly analyzed by the Harrisburg and local officials who deemed it advisable to follow the College calendar.

The decision was sane. There is certainly no reason in sending students from a healthy climate to localities where the epidemic is more dangerous and more likely to spread. Besides, at the time for opening college the epidemic was not at its highest danger point but was spreading so rapidly that health officials felt that it was reasonable not to open at that time it would be just as reasonable to remain closed for the remainder of the session.

Perhaps students who feel that the institution should be closed as a preventive step, if for no other reason, forget that there is not the frequent public contact which is necessary in large cities such as Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. The State College situation is not dangerous, although the greatest precaution should be taken by the individual students to remain immune. In the new infirmary there are less than a score of patients, few of whom really have influenza. Town doctors have discovered no serious cases, probably no more than were recorded during the severe epidemic of 1919 when college remained open with no disastrous results.

Surely the present epidemic is not more perilous than that which swept half the world following the most recent great war.

EXPLAINING THE "HATCHET" MENACE

Some time ago indignant cries were raised against the seeming butchery of the campus landscape. The "hatchet menace" was loudly bewailed. Students felt that the once beautiful scenery of the campus was being destroyed in a merciless and haphazard manner. As each new tree or shrub fell before the pruning shears or axe of the tree surgeons, another lament came forth. Students regretted the passing of some of the familiar portions of the landscape. An explanation was demanded.

The query has been answered. The College has engaged one of the best landscape architects in the country to re-vamp and beautify the natural surroundings of Penn State. This capable artist is working from a plan calculated to improve the local scenic attractions. There is nothing haphazard or careless in his method. Of course, it is natural that students should bemoan the disappearance of some of their favorite trees and shrubs, but according to officials, these changes were necessary in order to carry out the new plan. When the innovations have been completed, perhaps even skeptics will be forced to admit that improvement has been wrought.

WE HEREBY RESOLVE—

New Year's resolutions, like Scotchmen, mothers-in-law and female clothing, have furnished grist for the humorist's mill for numberless decades. Yet women continue to expose more and more of the epidemic and toilet sticks, and people go on making New Year's resolutions. As reformers the funny men are evidently reverse now.

At the present date it would be safe to bet your semester's movie money that more resolutions have been broken since the first of the year than the total death list in Chicago during 1928. The individual who goes through life without breaking a New Year's resolution is extremely rare. Yes, extremely rare. Thus far there is only one

per on who can justly claim that distinction, and he never made any.

Yet people go on making New Year's resolutions and breaking them. Perhaps there is something in the practice after all. To begin with the actual composing of the resolutions gives the individual a certain pleasant feeling of nobility, which carries him nearer to heaven than anything else on this earth. The enjoyment of that momentary inspiration is, in itself, worth more than the pleasure that proceeds from the neck of a gin bottle on the mouth of a fanatic evangelist. Another pleasant sensation, similar to that of Adam when he tasted the forbidden apple, is derived from the supercilious breaking of the seasonally conceived resolutions.

New Year's resolutions from one viewpoint are tangible evidence that the human animal, whatever his status in society, does have a ideal. The prevalence of broken resolutions, then, would indicate that each of us falls far far short of the attainment of his ideals.

CONGRATULATIONS

Shortly after every major football reverse the great mob of grandstand grid experts was loud and lusty in their denunciation of the coach. During the 1928 football season Penn State suffered a quartet of such defeats and a small number of students and alumni raised a howl against Coach Hugo Bezdek. Their howl has been answered. During the Christmas holidays the National Association of Football Coaches held their annual convention at New Orleans. They elected Coach Bezdek as their president for the coming year.

The conferring of this signal honor upon the Nittany mentor shows what men who know football and know it thoroughly think of Bezdek. It was a great honor to Coach Bezdek and to the institution he represents. Hence, we congratulate you.

The Bullosopher's Chair

Sinthers: Greetings, Bullosopher, and the best wishes for a year full of honor points and devoid of below grades. By the way, have you made any resolutions for the new year?

"Resolutions? Bah! I suppose you still believe in Santa Claus. Are you under the impression that people actually make resolutions?" As my friend the columnist says, it happens only in comic strips among our exaggerated black and white neighbors.

Sinthers: Well, I can see you're in no mood for discussing resolutions. Perhaps co-ed cheerleaders would be more interesting.

"That reminds me! Last year our co-eds finally resolved to fathom the mystery, they called it, of their unpopularity and were determined to discover whether the general student body was justified in taking their personal derisive attitude toward them.

"Of course, they concluded, after conferring with some representative male campus leaders, that it was traditional to shun the co-eds just as it was to show contempt for R. O. T. C. The co-eds resolved, furthermore, to do all in their power to earn the favor and respect of the dominating male faction. Need I go further?"

Sinthers: Just a bit farther, Bullosopher. A light is beginning to beam.

"Now the co-eds are planning to have a representation in the cheer-leading squad. I admire their ambition and even their courage but I fear for another derisive outburst in case the earnest attempts of the co-ed cheerleaders should be regarded as satirical by the critical mob.

"Of course, if the new noise-makers become asudent and pudent and clever as some of our male cheer-leaders or even as graceful as the feminine cheer-mistresses at Syracuse, for example, there should be no danger of such an outbreak, unless the novelty of their appearance should provoke laughter that may be mistaken for a belittling gesture.

"If the worst happens, and students return to their customary manner of speaking ungracefully of the general body of co-eds, then the co-eds have only themselves to blame, for it is within their power to recall the present plans."

Sinthers: And do you feel that these new cheer-leaders will conduct themselves in such a manner as to provoke laughter instead of praise?

"Hm. I've made a new resolution not to answer any more embarrassing questions."

Twenty Years Ago

(From the Collegian files of 1909)

With Captain Farnston out of the game and several other players in a crippled condition we team lost three games on its first eastern journey. The University of Pennsylvania triumphed 20-2, Georgetown 42-26 and Maryland Athletic Club 28-26. Manager Lindomuth's team is now determined to finish the season strongly in true State fashion and interesting developments can be expected in the approaching games.

A plan is under way whereby a public road will be built past the Experiment State building and extending through the College property north easterly to connect with a street of streets in a plot known as the High-Land Addition.

REDUCTION

On All Suits and Topcoats

GERNERD'S

Cleaning, Pressing, Repairing

Smoker "J" Awaiting Loved One

Jamesburg, N. J., December 2, 1927

Just a-tittin', smokin' Edgeworth
 An' a-thinkin', dear of you,
 An' a-midle's burnin' brightly,
 An' it says your love is true
 For the days are long, of waitin',
 An' the nights are longer still,
 An' sometimes (always smokin')
 I pick up this old quill—
 An' try to write some poetry
 To tell you of my love.
 As poetry it ain't much good,
 But—holy days above—
 It's just the best I can, an' so
 You'll find me, when I'm through,
 Just a-tittin', smokin' Edgeworth,
 An' a-thinkin', dear, of you.

Edgeworth

Extra High Grade Smoking Tobacco

SPECIAL
 Rexall Milk of Magnesia Tooth Paste, Klezo Brush and Holder, usual Price 79c
 NOW
 ALL FOR 39c

Rexall Drug Store
 ROBERT J. MILLER

Montgomery's SEMI-ANNUAL CLOTHING SALE

HICKEY FREEMAN SUITS and OVERCOATS \$43.50

ADLER - ROCHESTER SUITS and OVERCOATS \$31.50

MASTER TRIM SUITS and OVERCOATS \$27.50

ANOTHER LOT OF SUITS and OVERCOATS \$22.50

MONTGOMERY'S
of Penn State

Letter Box

Lands Basketball Team
 913 W. Michigan Avenue
 Jackson, Michigan
 January 1 1929.

Editor: Penn State COLLEGIAN
 State College Penna.

Dear Sir:

It is always a pleasure for an Alumnus to see an athletic team from his Alma Mater in action. Did it is much more pleasurable for him to see a team from his school play a hard, clean, always fighting game such as the basketball team played against Michigan State Wednesday evening. Though the officiating was terrible the boys kept fighting in such a clean manner that I gained the attention of more than myself. I would like to congratulate them upon their gentlemanly attitude and assure them that they acted in a truly Penn State fashion.

My best wishes to you in the constant effort put forth to keep the Penn State spirit of sportsman-ship ever before the student body. It has been a great pleasure to me in these last few years to discover that few student bodies treat their visiting competitors with the friendly attitude and with the lack of "razzing" such as exists at Penn State. A tradition which I hope will never be forgotten.

Very truly yours,
 Donald H. Mattern, C. E. '26

Collegian-a

1929 has come to stay.
 For a year, at least.

And in conjunction with the New Year, everybody is making resolutions.

In comic strips, at least.

In view of the prevalent epidemic, even college students are making firm resolutions.

To get the flu.

With the hope that school will be dismissed.

In fact, some of the more optimistic students haven't unpacked their luggage yet.

Maybe that's why the epidemic is only mild instead of wild.

As it would be if everyone opened up with their grippie!

Everyone has a new angle on the situation and there are more idle rumors in town than there are in the county poor house.

But, seriously, (as well-paid humorists say after a subtle remark) this epidemic business is dangerous.

Think of the number of co-eds who are eating onions as a preventive for the flu.

That reveals the pathos of such an epidemic.

But there is also the humorous side of the plague as illustrated in the following true incident of a local student who found occasion to crawl beneath the covers during the past week-end.

The doctor, weary from days and nights of treating patients for the flu, sat at the student's bedside, lifted his wrist methodically, withdrew his watch and counted his pulse-beats.

"Your pulse is absolutely normal," he announced as he dropped the wrist and slipped the watch back in his pocket.

"So is your temperature," he meditated after he had examined the thermometer taken from under the patient's lip.

He looked at the student suspiciously. "Is your stomach upset," he asked. The student admitted it was not. (This is not a fairy story.)

The doctor became still more suspicious as he faced his final question. "Do you have any dizzy spells?"

The patient shook his head.

"Why man, you don't have the flu," said the doctor, half in disgust.

"I know," replied the patient meekly, "but I've got a big blister on my foot."

SKATES

Nester Johnson "Flyers" with Shoes, \$7.50

OTHERS WITH SHOES AT \$5.00

The Athletic Store

On Co-op Corner
 ALL STUDENT SUPPLIES

College Opens Modern Hospital For Students

(Continued from first page)

By dumb waiters. An electric elevator shaft has been built but the elevator has not yet been added to the infirmary equipment.

Men's wards fill the second floor, accommodations being provided for twenty patients. A sun parlor is situated in the west wing. Seven single rooms, three four-bed wards, three rooms containing two beds each, and one three-bed room enable the health service to take care of a total of twenty-eight men and women patients. Each room is provided with a telephone and bed lamp.

An X-ray room equipped with apparatus donated by a woman doctor of Harrisburg, a physio-therapy room, drug and storage rooms are situated in the basement. A laundry room, nurse's dining room, kitchen, and service room complete the basement plan.

ROOMS—For three students at 118 North Atherton street. Call 101-N.

Cathartm

AND
 Nittany Theatre

TUESDAY—Cathartm—
 Matinee at 2:00
 Lou Moran, George O'Brien in "BLINDFOLD"

TUESDAY—Nittany—
 Jack Holt, Dorothy Revier in "SUBMARINE"

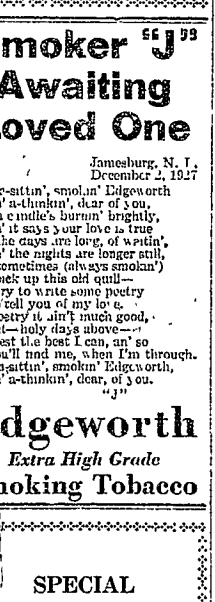
Special Prices—Adults 50c, children 25c

WEDNESDAY—
 Matinee at 2:00
 William Haines in "EXCESS BAGGAGE"

THURSDAY and FRIDAY—
 Matinee Thursday
 Lon Chaney in "WHILE THE CITY SLEEPS"

FRIDAY and SATURDAY—
 Matinee Friday at 2:00
 Billie Dove, Antonio Moreno in "ADORATION"

STARK BROS. HARPER
 Haberdashers
 In the University Store
 NEXT TO THE MOVIES



He united the country with nails

BEN FRANKLIN made the horseshoe nail a symbol of the importance of little things. "The kingdom was lost and all for the want of a horseshoe nail", goes one of his wise sayings. So when he became Postmaster General, he knew full well the need for proper horseshoeing as one step in punctual mail schedules.

The care given to details can still make or break a great plan. In the telephone industry, for example, the development of compact paper insulation helped to make possible the small diameter cable and therefore the vast underground plant necessary to serve large cities.

A multiplicity of details, from the testing of long fibre cotton to the "voice with the smile", offer a continual challenge to the Bell System men who unite the nation with telephones.

BELL SYSTEM

A nation-wide system of 19,000,000 inter-connecting telephones

OUR PIONEERING WORK HAS JUST BEGUN