

# 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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### COLLEGE AND CHARACTER

There is no greater hypocrite than a student who spends four years at college hiding a narrow mind behind a graceful, superficial intellectual front, who deliberately tricks his parents and friends into believing that he is an individual, educated soul who has taxed his mind and body severely in order to profit by advantages that will send him flying ahead of the uneducated mob of young men of the world. There is a diploma and perhaps a few gold keys to prove his superiority over the uneducated, to testify mutely for his especial worth and merit.

Beyond these trivial trophies, however, he has acquired little of value unless he has been a student at heart, developing his personality and striving consciously to strengthen his character, to broaden his mind and to nurture his intellect, not with the poison of superficial knowledge and mere information but with sincere effort to understand himself, his companions and the problems of both with intellectual honesty. He may evolve with social polish and charming refinement, both of which are helpful to the young man setting out on the serious venture of earning a living. Or he may have had his tongue so loosened that he can speak with apparent intelligence upon almost any subject. Yet how has he prepared himself for the years of perseverance that the world so often demands and how has he fitted himself for leadership and responsibility? Certainly not with selfishness. Surely not with fickleness. Not with a weak and unexercised will. Nor thoughtfulness.

Perhaps students are hypocritical because they are bred of a world whose nature is essentially the same. Or it may happen that heredity and environment are to blame. But there is no denying the fact that the man who earnestly and honestly wish to live and act with a clear conscience and with justice toward his most profound convictions will eventually be most respected for his true character, will shed his cloak of hypocrisy and will cease to be a nonentity parading about in a mere sham.

Willingness to follow the mob, to surrender to the slightest whim, to accept traditions and institutions simply because it has been convenient to do so, to think always as the majority does, or worse, to be unthinking, have become such strong tendencies in college students that seekers of sheepskins have lost their individualities, their personalities, their very characters. As a rule local students, for example, foster an unjust derision and hatred toward the co-educational representation, toward R. O. T. C. and toward other institutions that have been much belittled merely because it has become smart and accepted custom to do so. Without making personal investigation and without reason of their own they have avoided professors conceded to be the least desirable. They have doubtlessly spread propaganda about matters which come to them second-hand and have ignored companions because of the evidence of others. How else could man do more needless harm?

Surely college students need to do more serious thinking and investigating and retrospectively if they hope to validate what now appears to be a bogus stamp on the college product. Of course character will develop with or without will, with or without deep thought. But there is a right way—and a wrong way.

### NARCOTIC EDUCATION WEEK

The World Conference on Narcotic Education has set aside the last week of this month, February 21-28, for the extension of narcotic education throughout the universe. And although the College is planning no official observance of this occasion, it would be well for students to acquaint themselves with the anguish and incalculable sufferings wrought by one of the worst menaces to society, narcotics.

The crime waves of New York, Chicago and Philadelphia, their gang wars and feuds, serve as convincing proof of the power and influence of drugs. Statistics show that more than one-half the crimes committed in these cities have been attributed to dope fiends and drug addicts. In addition to causing criminal acts, narcotics undermine the health and well-being of their users. It is no wonder that James J. Walker, mayor of New York, should cry: "Drugs are the most damnable curse of modern humanity! They are the most devastating scourge the New York police have to face at the present time."

### IT IS TO TRY

Harvard college, in spite of its proximity to the "Hub of the Universe" and its central location in New England, proverbially a conservative institution has usually managed to maintain a liberal attitude toward new educational methods. This has not always been wholly true, however, as indicated by former President Eliot's retort to a reactionary faculty that "there is a new president at Harvard." It took some time, but once the "new president" had convinced the standpatners that times were changing and that Harvard must keep pace, it was easier going and the Cambridge institution became a leader in the field of elective study. It was in this case that the New England conservatism stood Harvard in good stead for the elective

system was never carried to the extreme extent which some institutions did.

President Lowell has still kept Harvard to the fore, working on the assumption, however, that progress does not necessarily involve something new and radical.

At the present time Harvard is conducting an experiment which faintly suggests the Oxford plan of alternate vacation and residence at the college. Twice during the regular school year students are released from classes for three weeks of so-called library work. This is not a review period but the students are assigned special reading on which they are examined. In his annual report President Lowell states that the experiment has worked successfully to date. This is attributed to the intensive and continuous studying which students can do when not molested by classes and lectures. Professors, beside noting the improved quality of work which their students submit, also appreciate the recess from classes which they have during the periods and the opportunity for research in their own behalf.

In a somewhat similar manner the engineering students here have their inspection trips during their senior year and the agricultural students also have certain courses which require inspection trips. As yet the Liberal Arts and Education schools have no such classes in their curriculum.

If such a plan worked with success for the entire Harvard college it certainly should work with a similar degree of success for seniors of both the Liberal Arts and Education schools here. Perhaps it would be impossible to arrange for a three-weeks period without classes, but certainly two weeks could be used for such a period along the same lines as those followed at Harvard.

The senior would not receive a special reading assignment from each instructor, but one dealing with his major subject. It is plausible that if such a period were granted with a quiz after the rest a great deal more work by the individual student would be done than is now accomplished with a solid semester of classes.

Q. E. B.

### The Bullosopher's Chair

"Hello, Smithers boy! You look angry. Have a cigarette."

Smithers: Thanks. I've just come from the library—

"Ah now I understand. You must have been reading Plato or Aristotle or perhaps 'The Front Page.'"

Smithers: Not at all. You see I was—

"Then you've been doing one of those continuation digests for Economics."

Smithers: No, I'm finished with that course. I was in the library trying to unfathom some philosophy but was so distracted that I gave up in disgust.

"Yes, Smithers, they do tell me some co-eds are quite attractive, even though *F, O, L* doesn't seem to think so."

Smithers: I'm in no mood for joshing. And furthermore girls, especially co-eds, are nothing to me. But in earnest, did you ever go into the library, intent upon studying hard for the next class but leave after unsuccessful effort to concentrate?

"'Tertium Organum' must be affecting you. Why the library is the quietest place, everything conducive to study. Not a bit of noise, opportunities for research and reference, good ventilation and lighting system. I don't think you've recovered yet from the effects of the final exams, Smithers."

Smithers: I can see right now that you're a stranger to the Carnegie library. Just step in there some time and try to prepare an assignment, and you'll take back your words quick enough. After tipping several times over articles strewn across the aisles and reaching a seat, a noise something like that emanating from a huge sawmill strikes your ears. Despite your most earnest efforts to concentrate and glean some knowledge, this constant prattle frustrates you at every turn.

"Reminds me of Dickens and his 'buzzing of the blue flies.'"

Smithers: Blue flies nothing! College men and women who could well afford to direct their energy to texts, but instead gab and giggle until the time for their next class arrives. Carnegie library is losing its name as a place for study. It is considered only as a meeting-house where misty bart meet, miss and make a date for the evening. Or, better, where misters can see miss, sit in front of her, stare, smile, nod, and in collegiate phraseology 'make' her. You can see then what a fine matrimonial bureau the library would make.

### THE Latest Novels Added To Our Rental Library

The Bishop Murder Case  
A Philo Vance Story, by S. S. Van Dine

Expiation  
By "Elizabeth"

The Flying Squad  
By Edgar Wallace

Footprints  
By Kay Cleaver Strahan

Joy Ride  
By Berta Ruck

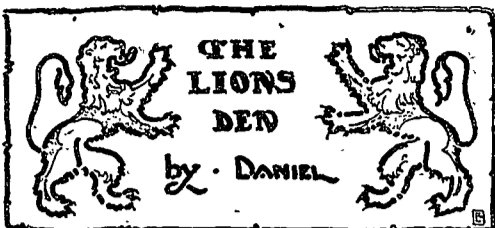
Life Steps In  
By Rudy M. Ayres

Mamba's Daughters  
By Du Bose Heyward

Murder at the Keyhole  
By R. A. J. Walling

We have listed only the best new fiction, and the current best sellers; you will find many other good books in the Library. You can order from us any book in print.

**KEELER'S**  
Cathaum Theatre Building



The Lion's Den is covered with dust like the furniture of a well-kept fraternity. On the floor of the cage are some bones, once covered with a lion's sumptuous meal but now stale, noisome and dried by the air and sun of nearly three years. It had become the habitat of spiders, a carnival ground for the fragile tents of the little scorpions until Daniel, brave Daniel, came upon it, awakened the Lion and virtually cleaned house.

Which means, of course, that everything is in readiness for the first meal and that whoever would partake of rump of lion must make application of Daniel's wisdom by the way, re-opened the Lion's Den not to lick Leo's roasted limbs but to make his own bread and butter.

This Daniel fellow, let it be known, is not only a highly original fellow but also as broad-minded as a college student around houseparty time. He has set himself to avenging the insult of highbrow editors and will henceforth introduce a column entitled Poems That Most Editors Refuse, thereby enabling any one to contribute without fear of rejection slips. Here is a masterful little ditty that will serve merely to start the bull rolling. A valentine greeting from the dean:

Roses are red,  
Violets are blue,  
Enclosed please find  
A minus two!

While here is one that comes from a country that is far off yet close, an old Scotch ballad containing a beautiful Christmas sentiment. Readers who feel that the verse is perhaps a bit belated must keep in mind the old Scotch custom of delaying their Christmas (shopping and all) until the first Spring dollar day is created:

Many months ago, my dear,  
Merry Christmas passed;  
I'm not the first to wish you cheer—  
But waver I'm the last

### Twenty Years Ago

Two hundred and fifty members of freshmen class banqueted on Friday night in Williamsport and according to all accounts, they had the time of their lives. The sophomores found out the plans of the freshmen and were at Lemont early in order to attend to the train properly. Journals were scattered and soap put in the tank. Then the railroad men took a hand and with guns drawn to stand off the sophomores, liberated the freshmen from the freight cars into which they had been locked by the sophomores.

William H. Salmon '08 died at 5 o'clock Sunday morning from the effects of being kicked in the head by a colt.

Swarthmore's 25-20 victory here last Monday night was the first defeat our team suffered on the Armory floor since January 1907 when Leigh accomplished that feat. From the beginning to the end there was no let-up in the enthusiastic cheering and the visitors received a full share of applause for their good work.

The library has received from General Beaver thirty volumes to be added to the collection on Pennsylvania History. This is a very welcome addition to our rapidly growing library.

President W. H. Reaser of Wilson college will preach a very interesting sermon in chapel Sunday morning.

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MRS. A. C. MILLER  
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Typescripts Reports

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### Dean Ray Approves Freshman Carnival

"Freshman girls are co-operating fully in arranging for the proposed Freshman Mid-winter Carnival," stated Miss Charlotte E. Ray, Dean of Women, in an interview yesterday.

According to the Dean, class meetings concerning the carnival have been well attended. She thinks the girls are showing considerable interest and enthusiasm in the event, which is the first of its kind to be held at Penn State.

"All indications point to an affair that will promote real friendship among the members of our youngest class," Miss Ray stated.

### Don't Experiment with your Appearance



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### Nittany Theatre

FRIDAY—Cathaum—  
Matinee at 2:00  
Emil Janning's Ruth Chatterton in  
"SINS OF THE FATHERS"  
Laurel-Hardy Comedy

FRIDAY—Nittany—  
Richard Dix in  
"REDSKIN"

SATURDAY—Cathaum—  
Matinee at 2:00  
Nancy Carroll, Lawrence Gray in  
"THE SIN SISTER"

SATURDAY—Nittany—  
"SINS OF THE FATHERS"

MONDAY and TUESDAY—  
Matinee Monday at 2:00  
Karl Dane, George K. Arthur in  
"ALL AT SEA"

TUESDAY—Cathaum—  
Matinee at 2:00  
Lew Cody, Aileen Pringle in  
"BEAU BROADWAY"

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Haberdashers  
In the University Building  
NEXT TO THE MOVIES

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### STATE COLLEGE BAKERY

### What To Wear This Spring

THESE THINGS ARE NEW! UNIVERSITY STYLES FEATURED BY SOCIETY BRAND, BRAEBURN, KIRSCHBAUM & LEARBURY

The Style Lines: Shoulders are liberal—waist lines and hips are snug—trousers are easy hanging—lapels notched—coat worn with two or three buttons.

The Colors: Honey, each season favors a new color—Here is the favorite for spring. Scots grey is a grey with a liberal amount of black in it.

TOP-COATS ARE STRAIGHT HANGING FROM THE SHOULDERS—WITH SET-IN SLEEVES

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