

Penn State Collegian

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TRAINING STUDENT LEADERS

So many difficulties and intricate problems face the student leader entering responsible office that the consequent situation for him is often little less than a nightmare from which there is no awakening. The period of office is short. But during this time the contingent duties are legion. When the office-holder has adjusted himself to his term has expired. Hence, inefficient officials occur in series. There is one exception to the rule; namely, the man whose previous training has cast him for the role that he is to play.

Students at Lafayette College last week took the first step to guarantee efficiency in their campus leaders. They adopted a plan whereby all students chosen chairmen of committees or managers of athletic teams must take a special business course designed to comprehend the major points appertaining to the respective offices. Conceived by a group of students and faculty members, the proposal first passed the approval of the undergraduate governing board, and was later unanimously ratified by the student body. The plan becomes effective at once.

Members of the faculty will give the instruction simultaneously with the seasonal duties of the student chairmen and managers, or perhaps in part preceding the actual date that the student begins active work in his particular position. The special course will include bookkeeping, budgeting, financial statements, and schedule making. Obviously, such instruction offers untold advantages and aid to the student leader. If the course were given concurrently with the actual period of office, the instructor would serve as advisor to the official in all business problems. If it were offered preceding the inaugural date of the leader, the latter would have a basic knowledge of the work that he is required to undertake. Efficiency would result. Harmony would prevail.

Of course, at the present time Penn State athletic managers always have a handbook near to which they can resort for guidance. But this recourse does not always prove adequate for proper settlement of a moot point. The manager must get his information anywhere or from anyone. A course in business details, even though sketchy, would facilitate his labors. For managers one would think that the proper period to provide such instruction is during the year of service as a first-assistant, the time immediately preceding the final election as manager.

Nor would this special course need be restricted to managers. Practically every student leader has his official problems and would welcome an opportunity to equip himself for serving without reproach in his appointed capacity. Many leaders learn much from their extra-curricular work, but that work would profit to a greater degree those who are served, if this knowledge were a thing of second nature beforehand.

R. P. S.

SOLVING THE "STAG" PROBLEM

Recognizing the "stag" problem as an unwarranted abuse of the fine tradition of hospitality among Penn State fraternities, Dean of Men Wainock, in a letter published in Tuesday's COLLEGIAN, entertained the hope that solution of the problem would not entail closing dances to upper-classmen. "It will do so, however, unless the fraternities are able to check it," he observed.

There is a general agreement on this point. An unwillingness among the individual fraternities to abolish 'open' dances has delayed action on the problem heretofore. It is believed that closing dances to the student public would eventually destroy the democratic spirit for which Penn State fraternities are noted. Interested students have suggested abolition of the "cutting-in" privilege as a possible solution. It is their contention that undesirable visitors would be eliminated by this action, which would result in a more friendly attitude toward "stags" on the part of host chapters, while still retaining the system of "open" dances.

Another suggestion proposes an equal apportionment of fraternity dances during the college year. This apportionment would not affect the dances following all-College affairs but only the informal dances on odd week-ends. It is believed that such an apportionment would reduce the number of "stags" at each dance by a more equal distribution of week-end dances.

If the future of Penn State social life is to be assured, action on this problem should be forthcoming from the Interfraternity and Intra-Mural councils without further delay. It is the duty of these two bodies to push the movement until a happy solution is reached.

J. H. C. Jr.

THE COLLEGIATE PASTIME

If a diligent statistician, interested enough in the task, would make a general survey or estimate of the amount of time the average college student spends on that national anathema, bridge, his resultant figures would be the cause for wide-spread surprise and amazement. Some good-humored citizens, most likely professors, would, in defense of their downtrodden disciples, pour vile epithets upon Mr. Statistician's head and term him a propagandist employed by *College Humor*. The majority of Americans, however, would acclaim him for successfully completing an arduous piece of work and metropolitan newspapers would immediately find space in their columns to print such wide-awake information.

Not that bridge-playing is a menace to society, but the amount of time spent by the average student in pursuing this popular indoor sport would justify the claim. The very day the unassuming plebe arrives he is confronted with the problem of learning how to play the game in order to obtain at least a little recognition in social circles. Thus follows careful studies of Work, Lenz and other prominent authorities until the beginner has become acquainted, at least a little, with some of the fine points. And from the time it takes to transform him into a sophisticated senior, the bridge lust has warmed its way sufficiently to warrant it the title of 'collegiate pastime.'

Outside of the fact that it sometimes generates social equilibrium and is a fair antiseptic for poker games, bridge serves as a first-rate time killer. Many a student intending to prepare his studies immediately after the evening's repast, is inveigled by fraternity brothers into bridge games that possess the happy faculty of maintaining the players' interest for several hours on a time. Before the victim realizes it, it is quite late and his former passion for study has vanished into the thin air. Result, no preparation for next day's classes.

Modern degree-seekers have become so enamored with the game that valuable hours of their time are wasted upon bids and finesses when they really could be put to some much better advantage. Although a little concentration is necessary, the mental benefits derived from the game are so little that they are negligible. Granted that it is an excellent medium for breaking up the monotony of classes, but its advantages should not be overlooked so that it becomes a hindrance rather than an aid.

H. T.

The Bullosopher's Chair

Smithers: Fine evening, Bullosopher, fine evening. This is a most unexpected meeting—

"Wrong again—and two ways. It's a terrible evening, in the first place, and, in the second place, meetings are always expected, especially when one has pledged his time and interest to an organization that has been foolish enough to give him a pin and a shingle before his graduation.

"I splashed my way through a mile or more of slush to attend a meeting that was subsequently postponed—postponed because the yarn, worthless nincompoops who call themselves members have neither the interest nor ambition to spend several minutes in conference with a few interested members. They have their key, or is it a pin, to offer as absolute proof that they are full-fledged brothers. Bah! The world is full of hypocrites and this locality has its full quota of them."

Smithers: Hypocrites? I don't understand.
"You wouldn't, innocent little soul. But they are hypocrites, poseurs, fakirs, students who wear their pins with pride and then set out to bring the society shame. When they are pledged—oh, goodness, the thrill of it! The distinct honor of it! The pride. Then the initiation and the ritual with all its solemn dignity. The pledge: so help me, God (More appropriately, God help the society now.) Yet after they have pledged support, time, interest with seemingly full faith, with a guinness that bodes success for the society, they forget the oath, the pledge, duty, promise—everything except wearing the pin or key. Yes, Smithers, the whole world is false."

Dodsworth

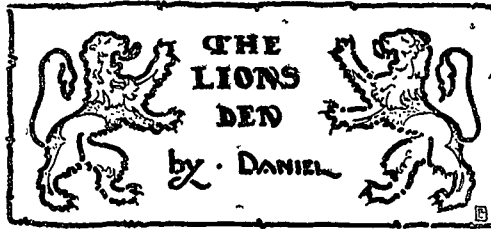
A Study of American Husbands and Wives

by
SINCLAIR LEWIS

Author of
ELMER GANTRY
MAIN STREET
ARROWSMITH

FOR RENT OR SALE

KEELER'S
Cathaum Theatre Building



Like Father, Like Son?

Leon Humberto Aguirre, a student at the Pennsylvania Military College and son of General Jesus M., leader in the most recent Mexican revolt at Vera Cruz, has no fears for his father, feeling that he "can take care of himself."

When the first of the month looms, Papa Aguirre probably wishes he could say the same for his son.

Whither Coolidge

Silent Calvin Coolidge, the Sphinx of the White House, the mystery of New England and the speechless wonder of the Republican party, is soon to break an eight-year silence by writing for a well-known magazine articles on the human side of life at the White House. After his years of political and diplomatic lockjaw, we are anxious to see just how verbose Cal is and if, indeed, he knows what is meant by the saying "money talks."

The New Hampshire sphinx was considered a good prospect for the silent screen until the talkie rage worked a double wrist lock on the American public.

The Month's Worst Joke

Cynical Student (to co-ed) Do you know Suse Klapp, that home-ly little girl with the crooked teeth and the long neck?

(Dumb) Co-ed Can't say that I do.

Cynical Student Well, you ought to know her, she's in your class!

N.B. For the worst joke of this year (or any year) consult almost any page of any issue of this year's *Froths*.

A Limit To Everything

There's a limit to everything, even to the college student's faith and sympathy for religion, as this true story reveals:

Two students stood discussing one of their more fortunate brethren who had been willed several hundred thousand dollars by his father. "That's quite a sock, quoth one, whilst the other proceeded to startle his companion by informing him, "Why that's nothing, his father left a cool million to the church."

"A million?" exclaimed the other. "Was he crazy?"

"Of course not. Why, don't you believe in God?"

The surprised youth became perplexed and uneasy but answered in all seriousness, "Not to that extent."

ENGINEERS TO PREPARE REFRIGERATION EXHIBIT

An exhibit showing the development of refrigerating apparatus has been arranged for the annual convention of the American Society of Refrigeration Engineers which will be held at the Pennsylvania State College June 20 to 22, according to Professor A. T. Wood, of the School of Engineering at Penn State, who is president of the society.

Additional interest is attached to the society's meeting this year because of the symposium on transportation of food stuffs which will occupy the session of June 21. The railroad division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers will be represented at this meeting and has consented to present two papers dealing with problems in reference to refrigerator car transportation. The refrigerating engineers will contribute discussion indicating new developments along these lines and will outline some of the major problems which are being seriously considered.

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Twenty Years Ago

Those who heard Strickland Gillilan at the time of his last visit here will be glad of the opportunity to listen to some of his rare jokes on Saturday evening, and those who have never heard him may feel sure of at least a few hearty laughs. Since he is engaged in newspaper work, being connected with the *Chicago News*, he is able to constantly add to his store of humor.

The trials for end men in the Pharoisians were held last week with the result that four new men were chosen. The specialties committee is on the alert for any good stunts which can be used on the trip, while in the circle a desirable place as interlocuter is waiting for the right man.

The women students used their new gymnasium in the basement of the Women's building for the first time on Tuesday. The new quarters are a great improvement over those which they occupied in the basement of the auditorium.

The matter of a class banquet was discussed by the seniors at their last meeting. It was unanimously voted to hold it in Bellefonte some time after the Easter vacation.

It appeared the other day that Main building was on fire and considerable alarm was aroused but fears were quieted when it was discovered that the smoke issuing from the windows of the fourth floor came only from a mattress which had caught fire, from a cigarette spark no doubt. The students in the dorm rid themselves of the ignited mattress by throwing it

from the window.
Baseball practice is well under way and it is expected that Penn State will have one of the best teams in the history of the College. The games to be played this season are with teams of a higher caliber than those which the former nines have met but with the usual State spirit the men are practicing daily in the Armory and the heavier opposition has not daunted them in the least.

Men from all over the state have visited the College during the past week to inspect the various activities and the work of Penn State. They were particularly impressed with the up-to-date methods of farming and the breeding of cattle.



Matinee Daily Starting at 1:30—Last Complete Showing Begins at 3:00

FRIDAY and SATURDAY—All Star Cast in "THE GHOST TALKS"

First All-Talking Feature Comedy MONDAY and TUESDAY—George Bancroft, Nancy Carrall, Baclanova in "WOLF OF WALL STREET"

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Synchronized Picture—Music Only NEXT FRIDAY and SATURDAY—Edmund Lowe, Dorothy Burgess, Warner Baxter in "IN OLD ARIZONA"

First 100% Outdoor Talking Picture

Nittany Theatre

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FRIDAY and SATURDAY—Victor McLaglen, Leatrice Joy in "STRONG BOY"

TUESDAY—Eddie Quillan in "NOISY NEIGHBORS"

THURSDAY—Ben Lyon, Lya Mara in "DANCING VIENNA"

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