

Penn State Collegian

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ATHLETICS FOR ALL

Citing the overcrowded conditions of New Beaver field, the tennis courts, and the golf course during spring competition, Hugo Bezdek intimated, in an interview story published in Tuesday's COLLEGIAN, that expansion of Penn State's intramural program of athletics is practically impossible. Limited facilities, in the opinion of the Director of Athletics, prohibit a more extensive system of mass athletics; but he maintains, nevertheless, that the present program is producing results. "We have here," he explained, "about 150 different athletic teams participating in interclass, interfraternity, and non-fraternity group competition each year."

With this conclusion the COLLEGIAN disagrees. The figures, no doubt, are correct, but the results are doubtful. Under the present plan a large number of teams compete in each of the groups mentioned but probably only once during each season. During basketball season, for instance, a league is organized by each of the groups; the member teams, however, only play until they are defeated, which, in the great majority of cases, is in the first game. And so, with few exceptions, each team plays only one or two games during the two or three months of competition. This situation exists likewise in baseball, boxing, wrestling, and tennis tournaments. By substituting an average rating system for the present elimination plan this objection would be overcome.

Another moot point is the neglect of freshman athletic schedules. In support of this the COLLEGIAN points to the four-game schedules of the freshman basketball and baseball teams, and the one dual meet for the yearling track team; the first-year cross-country, boxing, soccer, and wrestling teams were disregarded entirely. How a coach can interest the aspiring freshman athlete, and send him through the rigors of a training period, without assuring him of active combat against formidable foes is a problem for a diplomat to solve. Freshman athletes invariably look forward to opportunities to display their wares before public eyes; it is a human failing. Moreover, there are a number of nearby college and preparatory school teams that would be only too willing to place Penn State teams on their schedules. And, if preparatory school luminaries are to be attracted to Penn State without the assurance of financial help, more extensive schedules might serve as the magnet. To make this possible the ban on athletic contests against preparatory school teams should be lifted.

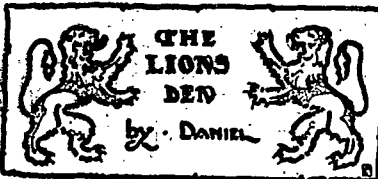
The foolhardiness of certain "Hell Week" practices was illustrated in Pittsburgh last week when a Carnegie Tech freshman collapsed after walking the city streets all night as part of a fraternity initiation.

UNLOCKING HER DOORS

Unrelenting in their efforts to establish a Phi Beta Kappa chapter here, faculty members of the national honorary scholastic fraternity are preparing new petitions in the hope of gaining membership at the Triennial convention in 1931. Unsuccessful in previous attempts to secure a Penn State chapter, the faculty association is responding to its task with renewed spirit; already the group has begun work on pamphlets to be distributed to the various chapters in this district, and later to be presented, with the signed petitions, to the national Senate of Phi Beta Kappa.

Organized since 1916, the faculty association has made a number of attempts to gain admittance into the national fraternity. Last year sentiment favored the Penn State petitioners but it was thought advisable not to force the matter to a vote. A revision of districts since last year's convention is believed to have increased Penn State's chances of securing a chapter at the next convention. Formerly this section had a membership of 44 chapters; now this district, which is known as the Middle Atlantic district, has a membership of 24 chapters. Since two-thirds of the district members must vote favorably on a new member before a charter is granted, there are faculty members who believe that it will be comparatively easy to gain the assent of sixteen chapters in this district.

Membership in the fraternity is based primarily on the character and organization of the School of Liberal Arts. There are chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, which was founded December 5, 1776, at William and Mary college, at more than one hundred colleges and universities throughout the United States. The more prominent schools in the East that are represented are the University of Pennsylvania, Lafayette, Lehigh, Dickinson, Cornell, Colgate, Princeton, Syracuse, and Rutgers. If Penn State is to be admitted into the inner circle of the educational world, she must first unlock her doors with a Phi Beta Kappa key.



The Simile King

Instead of soliciting similes by means of a contest and allowing the likeable little things to accumulate on the desk for days and days, Daniel has decided to pick the winners issue by issue and to announce them semi-weekly. This Friday's "as-dash-as-a-so-and-such" winner is a blonde-haired youth, a most unusual chap who prefers to have himself announced as W. K. (The initials, to explain, mean Which Kind?), a sobriquet which the modest youth acquired during his four years experience as a soda-jerk, known to polite Boston as a refreshment dispenser. And the winning simile. Yes, the winning simile: "He was as big and red as a Lancaster barn." That literary delicacy won first honors from a select field; it was the only one submitted. But, as in the club room of a newly built fraternity lodge, the crack still goes. It won honors from a select field.

Biography of W. K.

We remember having alluded to W. K., this week's simile king, as a most unusual chap. He has only three gold keys, two gold teeth (a practical use indeed for excess keys; that is, for all of them) and not enough shingles to patch the roof of a bird-house. He belongs to a broiling house (with rituals), wakes every morning at seven without the aid of an alarm clock—or freshman, and has been seen on stormy evenings carrying his own laundry pack to the post office.

Our hat is off to a most unusual chap—W. K.

The World At Its Worst

(Likewise, Poetry)

When the prom is but three days off, amid all the happy anticipation of a week-end with the favorite pash, comes suddenly, unexpectedly a slip of paper (usually yellow) from a slip of a girl (usually red) cancelling all the expected tersichorean hostilities, and you feel as though the end of the world has come, be brave (or even dramatic, if you will) and pen a classic comeback, like the following: (It came back.)

When first I read
Those disappointing words,
I felt the world
Come to an end
For being "left" is Hell—
But getting rid of you
Is Heaven!
Thank God!

Sophomoric Wit (Premature)

Between the last bean and the dessert, when the boys had to pause for breath, Daniel saw an opening, an opportune moment to awe believing freshmen, and others who had to listen, with the ghastly, nauseating details of his sinus operation. (It should be called minus, because he lost part of his nose.)

"Yes," he sighed, "I've went through it all. No ether, no gas, no nothin' except a local anesthetic (from the Neighborhood druggist) to dead the pain. Then the doctor, he took a skinny chisel and slid it up my nose, took a little hammer—"

And the fascinated freshman, agog, unable to wait, whispered, "And did he put your head in a vice?"

The Grammarian's Funeral

"The only difference between a working man and a college boy," says a contemporary wit, "is that the working man says 'I seen' and the college boy says 'I have saw.'"

Tan Shoes With Tuxedo

An excerpt from the *Pennsylvanian*, daily newspaper of the University of Pennsylvania, states something like this:

... some startling end runs were made by Rosenbloom, Quaker halfback ...

Little Bow Peep

Press agents for Clara Bow, having outworn the IT propaganda, the red hair and personality stuff are seeking among college students (and elsewhere) for a new and fresh feature that they may advertise far and wide. But it needn't be far, nor wide. Why not boost her as the girl with the most beautiful Bow-legs in the world?

Twenty Years Ago

The sophomores met the freshmen last Wednesday in the initial struggle of Penn State's first inter-class baseball game—that is—the first one since way back in the 90's. The freshmen won 6-5 through costly errors, for McCain allowed the freshman only four hits.

The proposed honor system, as presented for signatures has so far failed to gain the necessary number of names for its adoption. Though practically all the students in the engineering and agricultural schools have signed the measure, it still lacks sufficient power to institute the change.

A crowded house witnessed the initial performance of "Popocatepillar VII" last Friday night. To say the least, no College organization could be expected to furnish a more finished production than that offered by the Thespians. The scenery was good, costumes splendid and the dancing artistic.

Last Thursday night the preps of 1913 held their class banquet in McAllister Hall. The banquet was a great success and the preps are looking forward to a large freshman class next year.

Not only was the final baseball game of the Eastern trip called off at the University of Pennsylvania on account of rain but the annual Princeton struggle had to be called off on the same account.

DEAN DESCRIBES STATE RESOURCES IN SURVEY

A picture of Pennsylvania as the greatest industrial commonwealth in the world is painted by Dean Edward W. Steidle, of the School of Mines and Metallurgy, in his recently completed survey centered on the economic outlook of the basic industries of the State. "The importance of Pennsylvania as a mineral territory," declared Dean Steidle, "is clearly shown when we stop to consider that our mines and products derived from minerals account for approximately two-thirds of the State's productive wealth, and that the Keystone State alone produces about one-fifth of the nation's wealth."

"No single political unit," the dean states, "can display such a firm grip upon resources and such a valuable use of mineral products. Its relative position as first in production places it as the trustee of that share of this nation's wealth which determines industrial progress or decline."

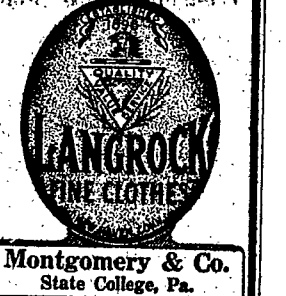
DAIRY GROUP WILL HOLD EXPOSITION HERE MAY 11

The seventh annual dairy exposition will be held here May 11, officials of the local chapter of the American Dairy Science association announced yesterday.

Six contests will be run in conjunction with the show. Four breeds of cattle will be judged and various dairy products will also be rated. Other contests will be the fitting and showing of the five major dairy breeds in the college herd, clean milk production and a co-ed milking contest.

Following the show, \$300 in prizes will be awarded to contest winners and medals will be presented to members of the college dairy teams.

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Collegian-a

A professor at Columbia University despises the sharp, jingling sound of the American alarm clock and recommends a Large Benjamin with a more pleasing and musical manner of alarming those who would be startled into consciousness in the morning.

He would have men wakened not suddenly and quickly but by degrees. They are. In winter, it is ten below that chills a man back to consciousness. Or maybe two below in more than half his credits.

In summer, it is 90 above that melts him out of bed. But perhaps the Columbia educator meant something different: that a man should be first wakened softly, then stretch himself limb by limb until he has come into full consciousness.

That would entail extensive supervision and make a useful animal out of a freshman. For instance, the underling enters timidly at seven o'clock, strums a few soft chords on the banjo until his overseer wakes and then leaves.

He re-enters at 7:15 with a soft "Time to stretch the right leg, sir" and leaves quietly.

At 7:30—"Your left leg needs exercise, m'lord." Leaves as stealthily as he entered.

At 7:45—"Please, your right arm." Etc. By the time the student has carefully stretched leg, toe, ankle, thigh, neck, arms, fingers, mouth, eyes, ears and a few miscellaneous segments of the anatomy, the freshman, tired, drooping, worn, exhausted, enters (now it is 12:30). "Time to eat, please."

And the student, hampered by the strenuous waking, is forced—actually forced to cut the first hour in the afternoon to eat breakfast.

If musical alarm clocks are the ideal means of gently and harmlessly waking college students. Why not replace the Old Main Bell. With chimes?

Co-ed Chats

The best methods of helping the freshmen have been a topic of colloquial interest during the last year or two. A few years ago the University of Illinois began a movement among its women which was known as the "big sister" movement. By this plan, members of the upperclasses were assigned freshmen whom they were to help.

When this plan was adopted at Penn State, juniors, as the sister class of the freshmen, were given the sole duties of directing them. Every year this relationship has grown firmer as far as class functions are concerned.

At many other colleges "little sisters" cannot be assigned until after registration because of the many girls who apply but never enter. Also, at some institutions, an early system of pledging frequently causes a breach between the girls when the "little sister" joins a different sorority from that of her "big sister."

We have fewer of these difficulties at Penn State. Most schools do not have such an appreciative body of freshmen as the class of 1932 proved itself to be when it presented a beautiful set of jewelry to its advisor from the junior class.

Frequently individual freshmen fall in their respect to juniors but more often we find juniors, who for no reason at all or for an insignificant one, have failed to do their duty. Juniors should realize that it is their place to make advances. The "big sister" system can be well applied at Penn State and it can prove the most effective means of giving individual direction to each freshman girl; This can be accomplished only when juniors are unselfish and farsighted enough to take the time to supervise a freshman or two. Juniors, let's do it!

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