

Penn State Collegian

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THE "AVERAGE" FRESHMAN

Discussion in I. F. C. meeting, Wednesday night of a deferred pledging system indicated clearly that Penn State fraternities are looking forward in their search for a satisfactory solution to the perplexing rushing problem. There is no doubt but that "lead piping" has had its day, now sentiment is being marshalled for the avowed purpose of substituting a deferred pledging plan for the present code, not this year or next year, but in the not-too-distant future. Belated rushing is supposedly the ideal system; whether or not it is designed to remedy the particular problems of fraternity life here is a question that must remain unanswered until the system has been given a fair trial. Circumstances forbid such an experiment now, but conditions will undoubtedly be more favorable in two or three years.

Meanwhile, the I. F. C. solons have formulated a draft of next year's code, which is closely patterned after that of last year. The proposed change in the method of dating is hotly contested by a number of delegates, and is likely to be defeated if it is submitted to the legislators for a vote next week. The proposed change prescribes that a second date may not be arranged until after the first has been fulfilled, and the third only after the second has been fulfilled. The COLLEGIAN adds its voice to the din of objectors because:

- only stringent provisions will prevent a fraternity from waiving its right to one engagement in the first period in order to secure a desired date in the second period,
- such a plan would lead to petty agreements between the anxious fraternity and the talented freshman;
- such violations would destroy the worth of the entire code;
- fraternities that deem three dates necessary would be seriously handicapped; and,
- certain freshmen would be denied a fair chance to reveal their virtues.

Supporters of the plan maintain that the method of dating is designed for the "average" freshman. Presumably the "average" freshman is one who is earnestly sought by seven fraternities. The proposed periods provide for fourteen dates in the first division and eight in the second. By permitting the pledge-hunter to arrange three dates at once with a prospect, the COLLEGIAN believes that all five objections would be overcome and that the average freshman would be given his rightful share of fraternity hospitality.

Dr. Eugene Johnson of Syracuse university is of the opinion that the crying need of this nation is bigger and better swear words. We'll swear he never "listened in" when an instructor announced an unannounced quiz.

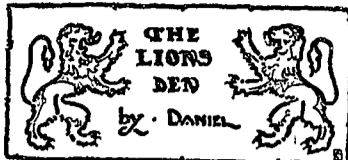
VOICE OF THE STUDENT BODY

Direct action with the curriculum is nothing new. On the contrary, broadsides have been hurled at school and college curricula since the student body learned to voice its protests forcibly and with intelligent forethought. An illustration of how student opinion on the curriculum problem has gained momentum throughout the educational world is furnished by the College of the City of New York. For the past five years a student curriculum committee at the New York institution has submitted comprehensive reports to the faculty for its consideration. These reports have seldom had any immediate effect; many changes suggested in these reports have been made, however, a year or two after they were advocated.

These reports are, for the most part, mature considerations of the courses of study at the City College. The present committee of twelve able seniors will make its report public during the next two weeks. Among the matters they have delved into are those of entrance requirements; the establishment of honor courses; the abolition of final examinations; the desirability of a lecture system; and the status of military training. The final report is a consolidation of the individual recommendations of the committee members, suggestions from the student body, and responses to questionnaires which were distributed among prominent persons in educational and public life.

It is not to be expected that these reports are unassailable, but they should, nevertheless, prove valuable to the faculty and to the compilers of college curricula. Assumed suggestions invariably are disregarded while mature recommendations are given serious consideration. This, in the opinion of the COLLEGIAN, is an admirable way to cement student-faculty relations. If for no other reason than that, the candidates for class offices should join hands in urging, through their platforms, the creation of such a committee at Penn State.

The six-letter grading system, ranging from A to F, has been abolished at Oberlin college. Hereafter Oberlin students will either "pass" or "fail," never knowing whether it was an A or D that passed them. The new system is, after all, more compatible with our future in this and the next world.



College Humor

Even droll, dry, dull, dead State College has its moments of fun and pun and laughter. To wit two wits and two co-eds sat in a secluded booth, where booths are booths, enjoying as much as possible a cross-wise conversation. That is to say, the co-eds became cross when the wits became wise. Anyhow, when the conversation began to lag, one of the female partners tried honestly to sustain the interest by reading fortunes from the palms of hands.

Knowing men's weaknesses, she had been successful in her first attempt to diagnose the fleshy grooves. She began, therefore, fully confident, on her second venture. Where there were lines and only lines, she saw independence (perhaps another term for bachelorhood), sincerity, meditation—and, lo, what was that—that mysterious little track that ran only as far as the Bellefonte Central?

"A woman!" she almost shouted. "I declare, a woman," she repeated and pointed frantically to where she saw the woman, right in the center of the meshwork of lines.

The victim looked hard, puzzled, almost abashed, but finally mustered the courage to smile and say, "Himn. Well, I've always wanted to have a woman in the palm of my hand!"

The co-eds payed the bill

This Week's Worst Joke

The visiting sorority sisters had come from New York, fully equipped—plenty of clothes, plenty of style, plenty of weight and plenty of Manhattan accent. They entered an eating house.

"Girl," called one to the shy little waitress from Centre Hall, "come heah. Listen, deah, can you get us a lodge booth, if you please?"

The waitress made the rounds, the s. s. trailing her and stopped at the booth with an expansive window view. "Here," she said, coyly surveying the customers with a glance, "this is the largest we have."

Mechanical Wisdom

Practicing our typewriting exercises last night, we sped over the keys with such rapidity in typing the good old "Now is the time . . ." exercise, that when we surveyed the line we were humored by the following significant mistake:

"Now is the time for all goof men to come to the aid of their party . . ."

Getting Personal With Pronouns

A columnist
Can lose a leg,
As car,
A thumb,
A thigh,
Can work (and does)
Without a brain—
But not without an I.

Add: Simile

"As dull as a Fourth of July celebration in England."
—W. W.

More Word Play

(so near and yet so far)
condemnation
clump
I. Q.
news
fraternity
commendation
clump
H. P. Q.
new
fraternity

Collegiate Comment

The Holy Cross Tomahawk contains a news paragraph under the above heading, stating:

"... students at the University of Georgia are subject to a fine of three dollars when absent from class when said absence occurs on the two days preceding or following a holiday."

We know of a college (capital c) that can go that one better.

Or, perhaps we should say *two!*

Answer to Query

Aside to Q. Q. P. Correspondence schools do not enroll co-eds. Their field is restricted entirely to male students.

The Book Worm

As the critical reviewer examines an advance copy of the forthcoming issue of *Old Man Bell*, which is scheduled for distribution next week, his comments can be naught but favorable. Few could gainsay that this number is not a real literary publication, the function which *Old Man Bell* is intended to serve at Penn State.

The number commemorates the passing of a man out of active life at Penn State, a man rightfully lionized as a literary authority and author, a man to whom we all owe an incalculable debt for invaluable services rendered to the College. The man—Dr. Fred Lewis Pattee, who resigned from the faculty only a few months ago. The frontispiece of the magazine is a woodcut of the author of "Alma Mater." The following caption is below:

FRED LEWIS PATTEE

"... while he worked, he dreamed. To whom we dedicate this issue."

Naturally enough, not all of the contents is of professional origin, although in addition to the works mentioned, Wendel P. Lawson has contributed a feature entitled, "Oxford," in which he treats the life at that famous English institution as well as its architecture. This article is accompanied by drawings.

The table of contents shows an abundance of verse, which ranges from the enamored twitterings of love birds to sombre expressions of the puzzle known as life. All the old poetic contributors are well represented in this issue, Scott S. Geesey '30, with "Mors Venit," Philip A. Shelley '29, with "Solace," a gem of translation; and others with appealing bits of poetry.

In the leading article, Dr. Erwin W. Runkle, College historian, writes of "Professor Pattee and Penn State." Then follows a facsimile of Dr. Pattee's letter of resignation, and one of President Hetzel's reply. The jewel of the entire issue is an unpublished four-stanza poem by the venerable professor entitled, "When Evenings Die." It begins:

Ah, glorious is the battling noon



FOR downright good looks—for accuracy and dependability—for remarkable value—you can't beat a Trojan! Three handsome models to choose from at only \$7.50



Now Finds Sad World Young Again

DREAMS THAT COME TRUE
I am sitting alone in my room tonight,
Dreaming and smoking my old cob pipe;
I smoke and dream, and dream until I get a plot, and get a thrill.
I am in the writing game, you see;
And the pipe-dreams softly bring to me Scenes of carnage where the red blood ran,
And the dreams all come from a bright Blue can.
It's just a can of Edgeworth-cut—
Fragrant as flowers—sweet as a nut;
Of all Fate's kindly gifts to man
Is this gift of dreams from the bright Blue can.
I sit me down at eve, to smoke;
And soon am wrapped in a magic cloak;
It has banished trouble, it has banished pain,
And the sad old world is young again.
J. E. Rockwood
Midland, Michigan.

Edgeworth
Extra High Grade
Smoking Tobacco

When suns are high,
And glorious is the contraband
When evenings die.

Six short stories are presented for the approval of Penn State patrons, all of which are worthy of reading. True, none of the art may be of a caliber sufficiently high to make a magazine editor tear his hair with delight at the chance of being able to print it; but, then, no professional writer is known to exist in the undergraduate body at the present time. "Phlopaena" is back again, too, giving more advice on the art of love. Several clever, as well as valuable, pointers are included in the second installment of "A Correspondence Course in Love-Making."

Twenty Years Ago

The daily practice at the targets near the Armory is but the beginning of a larger work and Captain Hay is going to endeavor to develop a strong rifle team from the men qualifying in the elimination trials. His plan includes the formation of a regular Rifle club and affiliation with the Intercollegiate Rifle association.

Old State continued her fine base

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The Penn State alumni living in and about Boston have subscribed a sum sufficient to purchase medals for the inter-class athletic contests this spring. A beautiful design which will be appreciated by the winners is in the process of being cast.

The Penn State alumni living in and about Boston have subscribed a sum sufficient to purchase medals for the inter-class athletic contests this spring. A beautiful design which will be appreciated by the winners is in the process of being cast.

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IT HAD TO BE GOOD TO GET WHERE IT IS