

Summer Session News

Published every Friday during the Summer Session by students of the Pennsylvania State College in the interest of the College, the students, alumni faculty, and friends.

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WHAT GOES UP . . .

The tear of the she-hands and the weepings of those who "hate to see traditions pass" never fail as the greatest fact in under-lying progress Penn State, State College, the Nittany Valley, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have an admirable example of this in Old Main Building.

The structure, begun seventy years ago, as it was built stone on stone, was cemented and drenched with tradition and that which a student and only a student can bestow on an inanimate pile of building material that has housed and watched over his escapades, joys, and sorrows during a period of years.

From the rickety, flagpole-topped tower to the muddy, mended hall-basement with its temporary wooden supports, put in from year to year as they were needed, Old Main was included in thousands of hearts. Ever since the days when the stagecoach was used in this valley, home-coming residents and returning students and alumni alike have watched for the looming pile of weathered limestone where it jutted above the trees in the distance. It became a landmark.

But the tower and upper floors were condemned. A man of average weight could feel a tremor pass through the floor at his feet when the dusty boards were trod upon. Cracks appeared in the heavy sides of the huge old structure. The foundations, although aided by the puny temporary timbers, were strained. Progress and good sense demanded a new building.

And now that Penn State seeks to lift itself in physical appearance and safety to the level it has reached educationally, the moans of the alumni and "friends" of the College beat the air with as cheery a note as that of ravens' wings. Some even have gone so far as to declare heatedly that the persons who authorized the razing of the aged building should be tarred, feathered, and ridden out of town on a rail.

All such statements and the emotions that accompany them are foolishness. Dilapidation occurs in heads as well as buildings, it seems.

HONOR PREFERRED

Is there such a thing as honor among college students? Failure of the honor system in so many of the large universities and colleges seems to prove that the noble spirit is missing among these American students.

One of the most recent developments in this movement was the resolution of the Yale College Council no longer to attempt enforcement of the university's honor system. This announcement followed repeated failures at other institutions throughout the East.

Lack of student support has been given in a majority of cases as the cause of failure. The Yale body reported that one of the reasons for its action was the unwillingness of the students to report violations of the code. The student even refused to make it a duty to discourage offenses.

Instead of justice resulting from the application of the police, the New Haven officials believe that the opposite effect resulted. They stated that the occasional reports of cribbing sent in by a member of the faculty brought before the council men who were not deserving of expulsion or suspension.

With this background in mind, would it not be a worthwhile educational experiment for the Summer Session officials to adopt the honor system as a policy for next year? With teachers enrolled the system should have at least a fair trial.

STOMACH TROUBLE

If a man has been caught in a tightly-wedged crowd on a hot day away past his dinner hour, and apparently there is no manner of escape possible, he can understand and sympathize with the free-lodgers of Dannemora and Auburn prisons.

Although men during the summer months have taken French leave of Rockview penitentiary, there has never been an organized riot there. It is true that the structure, although new in comparison with institutions of similar purpose, is out of date in some ways.

Perhaps it all may be traced to food, for a man will fight as soon for his stomach as for his heart. A Holmesburg prisoner, transferred from the Philadelphia county jail to Rockview with other alleged tough ones because of rioting, after his first meal following the trip forgot, for a time at least, the traditional disdain of law-maintainers.

"By God," he stated, drawing his five feet and three inches of height up to lend emphasis, "that was the best meal I've had in seven years."

He had been a prisoner at Holmesburg for seven years and the meal he had just gulped consisted of beef stew, navy beans, pickled beets, and coffee.

"Report 40,000,000 Starving in China" screams the minor of opinion at Altoona. Why don't they come closer home and think of the 3,000 summer students on the verge of starvation in State College?

"Arrest and Grill O'Connell on Pool," is the startling statement of a New York World headline. It seems that the Albany (N. Y.) Democratic boss, who aspires to a baseball magnateship, has been getting into hot water.

SUMMER ALLIES

Marco Polo Visits Rockview

Casually the wagon came to stop beneath the apple trees near the Chaplain's home at Rockview penitentiary. The horses stretched their necks and took a few tentative nibbles at the fresh, green grass. The blue denimed figure seated on the box rose, also stretched, and cast a sleepy glance over the sunny landscape nearby. His sunken eyes took in the groups of similarly-clad men working in adjoining fields.

Apparently not a guard was looking his way. His rough (but honest) countenance lighted up with an almost unholy expression of joy. It was as though he had found the door of a mint unlocked and all the guards asleep. He looked around once more to be sure no one was watching him. Then suddenly he tensed and prepared for action. Two grained hands shot out and captured two green apples. He hunched down again on the box and jerked the reins.

"A-a-ah! Think they're smart, don't they!" he smiled to the unattentive horses.

Evanescence

Faint wind of dreams that brushes like a petal on my cheek Leaving a breath of star-touched Mystery.

Sifted ash of Love silencing just the edges of a heart Grown too old for Flame.

—P. W.

A Minus 2 in English

A member of the faculty who prides himself on his dialect stories recently was trading some on the Brits with the visiting English institute lecturer. Said Mr. Davison, "Your Scotch and Welsh, Northumberland and cockney are fine, but your 'high class Englishman doesn't drop 'is hatches'."

Another Wet One

Which, of course, brings to mind another one told at the expense of the amiable young Scotsman.

Once upon a time a Scotsman from Glasgow was found riding on a train without benefit either of ticket or pass. The conductor, rightly wroth, stopped the train and bundled the sponger, baggage and all, off the end of the last car.

As it happened the two men were standing on a trestle and the conductor, to vent a bit of spleen, booted the Scotsman's handbag off the ties into the rushing river below.

This action brought the first sign of remonstrance from the passenger who protested.

"Man, man, I dinna mind bein' put oot the car, but you dinna have to droon the bairn!"

The Grass Widow Waltz

The Keystone Gazette, Bellefonte weekly news-monger, avers, "that an Englishman was seeing some of the late style dancing for the first time. He seemed greatly impressed, and after a lengthy pause inquired of his guide, 'I say, my dear chappie, they marry afterward, don't they?'"

St. Simeon Stylites, Jr.

It is foolish to deny the beneficial influences of saints of old who sacrificed themselves for man-kind. Take St. Simeon Stylites, for instance, who made his home at the top of a rock pile for forty years.

Inspired by the example set by the man of morals, a 11-year-old Baltimore (Md.) boy remained at the top of flag-pole for 250 hours and then found himself the owner of a set of golf clubs, a lucky stone, an offer of dental attention, a pair of shoes, a lot of ice cream, cake and candy, and \$60 in cash. He intends to buy a bicycle.

TRY ONE OF THESE . . .

CAGLIOSTRO by Johannes Von Guenther

—A rich romantic tale in which the figure of the Charlatan dominates the pageant of the court life of this time. Gives another angle on a story made famous by Dumas.

JOHN JACOB ASTOR by A. D. H. Smith

—The life of a German immigrant who landed in New York with \$25 in cash, seven flutes and a spare suit of clothes, and sixty-four years later died leaving a fortune of some twenty million dollars. Gives a picture of the development of the fur trade and the beginnings of big business in the United States.

THE VAMPIRE, HIS KITH AND KIN by Montague Summers

—A mine of out of the way information on witches, were wolves and vampires based on sources in many literatures and languages.

MID-CHANNEL by Ludwig Lewishson

—An intimate personal revelation continuing the spiritual autobiography begun in "Up-Stream." Records happier experiences in life and work and is packed with the wisdom resulting from such experiences.

CAVANDER'S HOUSE by E. A. Robinson

—A long narrative poem in blank verse, powerful and stately tragic. If the theme is somber the poem itself is luminous with insight and imagery.

PREFACE TO MORALS by Walter Lippmann

—The author has thought through his philosophy of life in terms of the world he sees about him. The result is a clarification of confused doubts, a realistic approach to the new problems of religion and conduct.

HENRY THE EIGHTH by Francis Hackett

—With strict fidelity to historic facts, the author has recreated Henry VIII and his time. It is a revealing history of the network of politics and of the great political figures of that day.

SWORDS AND ROSES by Joseph Hergeshelmer

—A study of the days and persons of the vanished South before and during the Civil War. A book exceptional in its selection of material and distinguished in its presentation.

ROPE AND FAGGOT by Walter F. White

—A documented story of lynching in the South told with complete understanding of the traditional illusions which surround the subject. A book that is at once an indictment and a treatise.

DOLLARS FOR BULLETS by H. N. Denny

—Traces the history of Nicaragua and her relationship with the United States through various stages of diplomacy.

ANALYZE 1074 FOODS

One thousand and seventy-four samples of foods and beverages were analyzed for the State bureau of foods at the College last year, according to a statement issued by officials of the department of agricultural and biological chemistry. Among the samples analyzed were milks, ice creams, candies, meats, eggs, oils, and beverages.

The Playgoer

In spite of several "featured" numbers, the Penn State Summer Revue pleased approximately 300 persons when, sponsored and produced by Thespian club members, the curtain Saturday night was drawn on the first program of its kind ever to be put on at the College during the summer.

Kenneth T. Deike, as master of ceremonies and end-man extraordinarily, easily carried away the honors of the evening on his fat, slouched shoulders while Herbert G. Sapper, slender tap and soft shoe artist, took whatever others the entertainment may have revealed.

The show was divided into two parts, the first consisting of four acts of vaudeville and the second ostensibly a revue broadcast by television from a cabaret.

PICK-UP VAUDEVILLE AS A CURTAIN-RAISER

The curtain-raising act, the well-received Varsity Ten orchestra, drowned out the commotion raised by the late-comers and opened the show in popular and fast tempo. The next performers, Ken Deike and William T. Teas, black-farcing under the names of Asthma and Malaria, were better than their act-titling might indicate.

Tex Sapper, Thespian dance veteran, capably held down the third spot on the program with his Up and Down Stairs dance. Although the make-shift set of steps were a trifle shaly, Sapper managed a recognizable imitation of Billy Robinson's famed dance in "Blackbirds of 1929."

CABARET REVUE VIA TELEVISION

Ken Deike, his squatly figure and amiable face proving an irresistible magnet to the audience, guided the fate of the cabaret revue which came next in line. To him should go the majority of the credit for the act's success. His patter, confidence, and easy humor carried the paying customer's front along in a happy mood from start to finish.

Sitting in the background of the cabaret arranged on the stage, the Varsity Ten again acted as program opener. Dances, tables, gringer ale, and cigarettes with the ancient public backdrop from the 1925-26 Thespian show, "The Kid Himself," completed the temporary ensemble. The seved-up entrances in the drop were taken for granted by the audience as closed before. It all breathed real places where the cabaret had been.

DANCE CHORUS PERFORMS

A dance chorus consisting of Van Seiver, Sapper, McNeill, Ayers, and the Misses Houston, Pottefield, and Johnston presented a number that reflected a great degree of credit on the tutors when the comparative greenness of material and brevity of opportunity for rehearsal was considered.

Kansas City Kitty, portrayed by Peg Johnston, was a brilliant spot on the evening's schedule. Miss Johnston, clad in flaming red, with red cheeks and slender ankles, brought plenty of color into the cabaret scene. The songster danced with considerable ability in the chorus number.

SAPPER DANCES THE MILITARY

Sapper was given the next turn and although he did not bring the Military up to professional speed, and missed a few minor taps, the dance

Thoughts of Others

What Is A Diploma?

Much as Pontius Pilate might have said, "What is truth?" someone once asked, "What is a diploma?" and the problem has puzzled us ever since. Diplomas can be explained, of course, on the assumption that they are a certificate of education, or a five-dollar parchment, or a criterion of social position; but the explanations fall short of the mark. The only safe description would appear to be that a diploma is the documentary evidence of the completion of a specified amount of work to the satisfaction of the college, whether that satisfaction be merited or not.

Acquiring an education merely for the sake of a diploma has, it seems to us, a quixotic aspect about it. An education begins quite simply, then it unfolds and expands, major courses intervene like quickest hedges, the flowers of campus activities bloom, and three fields off, like a wounded partridge, crouches the diploma, making one wonder as he picks it up, poor little thing, whether after all it is worth such a tramp, so many guns and such expensive dogs, and what after all is its relation to the acquiring of an education, begun so gayly some four years back.

On the other hand, colleges and employers are influenced in their opinion of a man to no inconsiderable degree by his possession or non-possession of a number of Latin phrases inscribed with due formality on a sheet of parchment. Since, however, there seems to be no great amount of unanimity on the subject, we are inclined to think that no better definition of a diploma can be found than that it is a receipt for seven thousand dollars.

—Lehigh Brown and White

deservedly brought down the house. The Singing Waters, Palumbo and Cattusello, followed Sapper with a set of Dish-Rag duets. Close harmony, full volume, wide range, and a pair of voices not usually found together in collegiate performances were presented to and appreciated by the audience.

Ken Deike then took the spotlight for a specialty number, singing and playing the barjo. Superlatives being ruled out, suffice it that the act was the best of the lot.

Sapper, Van Seiver, and McNeill closed the bill as an abbreviated chorus, doing a semi-hot-hippity from the recent Thespian-Glee Club show, "H. M. S. Pinafore."

—W. K.

NATION'S STUDENTS USE SELF-HELP BUREAUS IN FIGHT FOR EDUCATION

One-half of the men and one-fourth of the women in the colleges and universities in the country are working their way through school, according to a bulletin on "Self-Help for College Students" recently issued by the Bureau of Education.

College students, the bulletin reports, produced more than \$33,000,000 by their own efforts and labor during a recent term. Jobs at which they were employed included automobile repairing, clerical work, publishing, transportation, specialty selling, food handling, household service, and other odd pursuits.

Colleges and universities are aiding the unemployed student by installing employment bureaus and service agencies.



FRIDAY (Return Showing Day)

Return Showing of Maurice Chevalier in "INNOCENTS OF PARIS" All-Talking, Singing, Dancing

SATURDAY—

Marguerite Churchill, Kenneth Mackenna in "PLEASURE CRAZED" All-Talking Drama

MONDAY and TUESDAY—

Norma Shearer, Basil Rathbone in "THE LAST OF MRS. CHEYNEY" All-Talking Comedy Drama

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY—

Victor McLaglen, Myrna Loy in "THE BLACK WATCH" All-Talking Romantic Drama

NEXT FRIDAY—

Patsy Ruth Miller, Ford Sterling in "THE FALL OF EVE" All-Talking Farce Comedy

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