

# Penn State Collegian

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### THE MYSTERY TEAM OF 1929

It is common knowledge that football games are played on paper weeks before the opening kick-off. This year's pre-season combats are no exception to the rule. Already Notre Dame is giving Army a sound beating; California is running roughshod over Pennsylvania; and Pittsburgh is crushing Carnegie Tech. Withal, no mention is made of Penn State's engagements with N. Y. U., Lafayette, Syracuse, and Pennsylvania. No one hazards a guess as to the probable outcome of any of these important grid-iron frays.

Hugo Bezdek's 1929 edition of pigskin-toters is really and truly a matter for conjecture. The veteran mentor refuses to speak; the players are reluctant to talk; and the student body wonders what it's all about. Oh! Man Jinx, not to be shunned, paid a visit to the Lion camp. French, Eschbach, Shawley, and Stahley have been under the weather for more than a week; Miller has been declared ineligible; and Captain Martin has been shifted from guard to the backfield. To hide further Penn State's prospects for a winning eleven from the public eye, the Nittany coach dispensed with the annual practice tilt between the first and second teams and shooed his squad off to Eaglesmere over the week-end.

The first game is only five days off and no one knows what to expect. Except, perhaps, the *College Humor* forecaster who predicts a 9-to-6 victory over Niagara; or Jess Carver, Pittsburgh sports writer, who foresees nothing but enemy touchdowns. These to the contrary, the COLLEGIAN believes that Penn State's football team has earned already the distinction of being "The Mystery Team of 1929."

### THE BATTLE LOOMS!!!

Rushing season at Penn State will levy its usual toll of empty rooms upon the proprietors of town rooming houses this fall. Last year more than half the freshmen class was pledged to fraternities and this year the same and perhaps a greater number is expected to accept bids from the Greek letter organizations. The annual grand exodus of freshmen from rooming houses always causes a wave of discontent to strike each landlady and landlord in the town, and when the time for departure arrives a veritable battle often ensues.

As the fraternity experiences difficulty in selecting and pledging men, so does the freshman many times find trouble in vacating his room. If the first-year man has fulfilled his oral or written contract there will be little chance for an argument, but when the agreement has not been adhered to, complications almost inevitably result. There is a Pennsylvania and general legal law which states that oral or written contracts are not binding when made with persons under the age of twenty-one. With all other persons the contract must be carried out. Considering the question from this point, a freshman who is under the age limit could not be prevented from moving out of a room whether or not his lease has expired as long as he has paid for the time the room was occupied.

But that is only one side of the rooming question. There is a moral law rigidly adhered to by the College which looks to the honor of the student as well as to the loss suffered by the landlady. Under this unwritten Administrative legislation it is almost impossible for a Penn State student to break a rooming contract without an excellent reason. Whether or not he is bound legally to carry out his part of the agreement, the College forbids that any man retract his promise unless he finds a substitute for the room. Were the College authorities to take no action at all in that direction the rooming situation soon would become a much greater problem than it is at present.

A forward step in lightening the burdens of both the landlady and the student, especially the freshman, was taken this year by persons in the town who did not want regular roomers. These persons who for the most part are wives of Penn State professors set aside several rooms in their houses for yearlings who expected to join fraternities. The freshmen were under no contract when they entered the rooms and are at liberty to leave when they desire as long as their bills are paid. This plan has eliminated a great deal of trouble between the landladies and freshmen and its continuation would be a great benefit to the College.

### THE DAYS OF DEEPEST IMPRESSION

Freshmen sense it on the very first day of their college career. Upperclassmen remember it with increasing understanding even though they may have attained to the last degree in ultra-sophistication. Graduates never regain it. Writers find in it the theme for short stories, plays, novels. It is the deep sensitiveness of the college freshman to every experience.

This new sensitiveness misses no one. Sons of the farmer, the miner, the mill worker, the lawyer, the doctor, the minister, sons of men in any and every occupation all sooner or later become aware of the mystic atmosphere shrouding the freshman in college. Even the boy from a preparatory school does not escape.

A few years ago Percy Marks wrote a book on college life and entitled it "The Plastic Age." The term was, and still is, appropriate but could more fittingly be applied to the freshman year alone rather than to the full four years as did Mr. Marks. During his freshman year a boy is just like so much clay, plastic and yielding to outside influences, and it is safe to say that there never will be another period in his entire life when he will change so much.

The young man who emerges at the end of nine months can scarcely be recognized as the boy who matriculated in September. Possibly, he may not be better dressed, but the past years lead one to believe that he will be. In physical appearance he may have changed not at all, but inwardly there will have been the most violent revolution.

But despite the changes which he undergoes the freshman will find that his first year in college is one of the happiest in life. Later, he may attempt to regain this happiness, but nothing is more futile, for the changes which the freshman year, the period of deepest impression, have wrought, raise themselves to bar the way. And perhaps this very fact was the agency prompting a noted writer to state recently that if he were to order his own life he would choose to be a perpetual freshman. Who would not? The answer is evident.

## THE LION'S DEN

BY DANIEL

The fact that football news is crowding baseball chatter off metropolitan sports pages reinforces the belief that the gridiron sport may supplant baseball as the Great American Pastime.

But, as a former Collegian editor argued, football won't be news until Niagara Falls:

Rushing, to us, is a grind that compares with the stiffest football training. Although the season is only four days old, we've tired of walking from Locust Lane to the far end of College avenue and back again. As if this were not enough, we must talk constantly of houseparties, Junior Proms, co-eds, football, and R. O. T. C.

Then it's a movie, which, to quote the Cathaum bookers, is "The Awful Truth."

By far the most original story we've heard yet of outstanding plebes is one which victimizes our College physician.

Dr. Ritenour: "Sit down!"

The Freshman: "Take off your shoes."

Dr. Ritenour: "Wot fer?"

The Freshman: "Aintcha got flat feet?"

Dr. Ritenour: "Aintcha got flat feet?"

The Freshman (impatiently): "Naw. Ulcers of the stomach."

Ulcers of the stomach.

One suggestion that reached our desk yesterday advised Bez to let his gradmen patrol the campus nowadays.

It is believed that signing date cards and not making note of the various engagements will lessen the difficulty of remembering signals hereafter.

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The Y. M. C. A. secretary refuses to divulge the name of the freshman who telegraphed for room and board reservations, "preferably in fraternity house."

What that freshman needs, Daniel agrees, is guidance.

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"Why I Cast A Blackball," in the opinion of one fraternity president, would be an excellent title for the next college Best Seller.

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The Ben Davis apples that burden the tree in Professor Fletcher's garden, according to our informant, are edible.

A red-apple propagandist, we'd call him.

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FRATERNITIES OPEN RUSHING SATURDAY

—COLLEGIAN Headline

Pledge Early! Avoid The Rush.

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"What course are you taking?" one rushee believes, should be barred from conversation by order of the Interfraternity council.

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Overheard at a Fraternity Meeting

"This Brown is a smooth apple. If you don't remember him, perhaps you can place him through that salt and pepper suit he wore this noon. I took a peek at his card and he's been salamaled by all the campus fraternities. I don't think we'd go wrong on this kid cause he's got beaucoup jack and that's what we need in this fraternity."

"When I walked him home tonight he told me he liked our bunch better than any bunch he's met yet. He thinks the Nu boys are a bunch of snobs and that we always act natural. We've got enuff dead wood in this house now and wot we need is boys like Brown who'll be noticed on the campus. I understand that he comes from a ritzy family in Plattsburg, and that they own a couple of cars. I know he'll make a good Chi, so I move that we cast a favorable ballot for Brown."

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PITT ESTABLISHES NEW HOUSE FOR ACTIVITIES

As a meeting place for undergraduate organizations, University of Pittsburgh has opened an Activity House for men where leaders will gather to discuss undergraduate plans.

The new unit, which has been established in the renovated Y hut, will house the offices of the dean of men and his assistant, the graduate managers of activities, the director of employment and housing for men, the secretary of the Pitt Y. M. C. A., the Pitt Weekly, the Pitt Panther, and the headquarters of the various musical organizations. In the center of the building there is a large lounge room for reading and study purposes.

Pitt campus leaders believe that great benefit will result from uniting the activities in one building. With the offices of the various organizations located in adjoining rooms, they believe that greater co-operation will be secured among the students while better relations will be made possible by the close proximity of the dean of men's office.

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## NEW INSTRUCTORS TAKE L.A. POSTS

### Professor Butt Returns From Year's Leave of Absence To Resume Duties

Many new instructors have been added to the staff of the School of Liberal Arts, Dean Charles W. Stoddard announced Saturday, in giving out the list of changes and additions to the teaching staff.

In the department of mathematics, Dr. H. E. Curry and Dr. L. M. Sheffer, both graduates of Harvard, assume the posts of assistant professors. Dr. Leo Zippin, of the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. C. H. Graves, of Millersville College, and Mr. W. Mann, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, become instructors.

Prof. S. McClellan has returned from a leave of absence at the Brown University to resume his duties in the department of philosophy. Mr. T. L. Probert, from the Columbia University, becomes an instructor in the department of economics and sociology, and Mr. H. H. Williams becomes a graduate assistant in the same department.

In the absence of Prof. A. Howry Espenshade, who is on a year's leave of absence at the University of Honolulu, Hawaii, Prof. Theodore J. Gates has resumed his position as acting head of the department of English composition. Mr. J. P. Kirby of Hamilton College and Columbia University will be an instructor in the same department. The department of English composition gains an instructor in Mr. K. C. Walz, Cornell University graduate.

Prof. Jacob Tanger has become head of the department of History, in the place of Dr. Asa E. Martin, who has resigned his position to complete his literary work. Wallace B. Brewster has been advanced to the position of instructor and Albert J. Gates '29 has been granted the position of graduate assistant in the same department.

Former Dean Returns

Dr. Robert E. Dangler has replaced Prof. William D. Crockett, who has withdrawn as head of the department of classical languages. Prof. Leslie M. Bourge has been appointed acting head of the department of romance languages.

The department of music gains a former member of the faculty in Mr. Emil Fishburn, who was once the assistant Dean of Men; Mr. Fishburn becomes an assistant professor in music. Miss Marion Kerr, who received her degree from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and Mr. H. C. Smith found out the list of new arrivals in that department. Both are assistant professors.

## NEW FACULTY MEMBERS AID GAS, OIL RESEARCH

The \$50,000 legislative appropriation to the College for gas and oil research next year brings to Penn State four new instructors who will aid both in teaching and experimentation.

Clark F. Barb of the Colorado School of Mines, appointed associate professor of petroleum research, and M. R. Fensket, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who will be

assistant professor in chemical engineering, will carry on oil research work.

Paul G. Shelley, of the University of Oklahoma, and E. F. Williams, graduate assistant in mineralogy at Penn State last year, will be instructors in the new oil and gas production course.

Coach Lew Andreas will probably rely upon Sam Sebe, veteran back to do most of the ground gaining during the coming season. A number of promising ball carriers have come from last year's freshman squad.



Matinee daily at 1:30 except on Saturday during football season. Last complete afternoon showing starts at 3:00.

TUESDAY—  
Matinee at 1:30  
Sue Carol in  
"WHY LEAVE HOME?"  
All-Talking Romantic Comedy

WEDNESDAY—  
Matinee at 1:30  
Robert Armstrong, Carol Lombard in  
"BIG NEWS"  
All-Talking Newspaper-Drama

THURSDAY and FRIDAY—  
Matinee Daily at 1:30  
George O'Brien, Helen Chandler, Stepin Fetchit in  
"SALUTE"  
All-Talking Romantic-Drama

SATURDAY—  
Greta Garbo, Nils Asther in  
"THE SINGLE STANDARD"  
Synchronized Picture-Music only

### For These Crisp Autumn Days . . .

YOU REALLY MUST DROP IN AND SEE  
OUR NEW TOPCOATS FROM BONNIE  
SCOTLAND.  
WE'D BE PLEASED TO SHOW THEM TO  
YOU.



# TEXT BOOKS

## New and Second Hand

## Art Materials

# Drawing Instruments

## Fountain Pens

SCHAEFFER  
WATERMAN  
PARKER

ALL

# Student Supplies

at

## KEELER'S

Cathaum Theatre Bldg.



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TAILORED ESPECIALLY FOR THIS  
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\$5.00 to \$8.50

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NEXT TO THE MOVIES