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A DEFINITION OF COLLEGE SPIRIT

For years a definition of College Spirit has been sought. Student leaders have attempted to explain the meaning of this so-called spirit to incoming freshmen, but without apparent success. It was conceded that newcomers to the campus sensed it without knowing what it was. Upperclassmen and graduates, likewise unable to diagnose it minutely, were satisfied that everyone felt it. Withal, they believed that no one could define it.

This impression persisted. Each additional year reinforced this belief. The inability to define College Spirit gained such prominence that it was adopted as a Penn State tradition. This intangible something—College Spirit—became so heavy with tradition that generations of students shed tears because of their failing. They lamented the fact that they couldn't pass this knowledge on to their successors. They contented themselves, however, by expressing the hope that each succeeding generation would experience the thrill, capture the sensation of this indescribable something.

Thus, College Spirit, to us, was a closed book until President Hetzel made public his definition of the indefinable at Convocation exercises Wednesday morning. College Spirit, the President said, is unqualified, constant, sincere devotion to the highest objectives and highest ideals of our College. He firmly believes that constant pursuit of a larger objective, a larger purpose comprises what we have hitherto called Penn State Spirit.

WORKING ONE'S WAY THROUGH

In the days when the pulpit, the bar, the school of medicine was the goal of every student in college, working one's way through was considered both desirable and commendable in that it helped develop character as well as the mind. Pages of history are filled with the life stories of great men who have earned their own education. And today, with the cost of living and education doubled and even tripled, American colleges are filled with men working for put, if not all, of the cost of their degree. At the present time, the young man who has the courage to face the difficulties of making his way is still more to be commended.

But today, there is another side to the question. In the college of former years the curricula were fixed for the average mind. The men with superior intellect, therefore, were left with much free time, and consequently their academic pursuits did not suffer when they performed odd jobs in the evenings and spare hours. Tutoring in the required subjects was the favorite occupation, which not only helped the one being tutored but also gave the tutor a firm knowledge of his subject. But today, academic standards have been raised, and curricula are based more upon the superior student's ability than upon that of the average mind. As a result, to gain the fullest benefits of a college education, every student must spend his full time upon his studies. The young man who does work is forced to slip by the best way he can instead of fitting himself thoroughly for his future career. Then, too, the work that a student does at present is not in itself mentally uplifting. He waits tables. He mows lawns. He does office work.

To remedy this condition foundations are being formed to loan money to deserving students, and it is to be hoped that a few years will see the last of the working student.

THE LAST LAP

At noon tomorrow the fraternities of Penn State will enter upon the second and last lap of their race for pledges. The first week of rushing season was merely a period of gathering together and selecting a large number of freshmen who appeared to be likely fraternity material. During that time every Greek-letter organization carried on a process of culling and eliminating the doubtful ones from its list in preparation for a more extensive campaign during the next four days. With the weeding-out process completed, plans are now being laid for the finishing spurt.

The freshman who is being sought by several houses will find it exceedingly difficult to select his home for the next four years. After enjoying the meals and hospitality of the numerous fraternities for one week, he senses a more serious situation as the last period approaches. He feels that he must not become obligated to any one organization and if he has not made a definite choice he must consider each group carefully. He realizes that many of the fraternities will have "their best foot forward" and that it will be his task to discover and erase those houses from his list. Perhaps he may be enlightened by talking over the situation with his dean or with someone familiar with the character and reputation of the fraternities in question. Whatever the case may be the rusher is in a deep quandary and must, after all, find his own way out of the labyrinth.

By Tuesday night both the rusher and the fraternity men will have become exhausted, the former from shaking hands and the latter from spending money for entertainment. By that time the freshman will have learned more about the past, present, and future of the house than many of the upperclassmen ever knew. Besides that he will have answered all questions that thirty or forty men in a fraternity could ask him and will have begun to think that he acquired at least some measure of intelligence from this "third degree" method of rushing. After pledging ceremonies will come a brief respite and then the work will begin. The freshman's kingly reign will be at an end.

THE LION'S DEN

BY DANIEL

Without a doubt rushing season is the poorest season of the year for fraternity salesmen. Unless, of course, expenses are deducted from the monthly assessment.

The woman pays and pays, urges tell us. But not at Penn State. One of the new articles under the co-ed rushing system stipulates that there shall be no personal rushing which incurs the expenditure of money.

Then, too, of course, there is the case of the freshman co-ed who wanted to see where the ladies were housed on the golf course.

Freshmen, it seems, are not as green as all that. At least the one we have reference to isn't.

He had paid for his room one month in advance but, after one week of school, he decided to move. How to get his money back was his only worry. He solved that problem by giving a "Shout Yell, Landlady" in the hallway at 2 o'clock in the morning.

"I'm having William John Williams out for dinner tomorrow night," the innocent sophomore announced at last night's fraternity meeting.

"William the First or William the Second?" COLLEGIAN reader inquired hurriedly.

Two high-powered fraternity rushers beamed in the dorm. One of the more thoughtful brothers was talking to a jewelry salesman in the reception hall.

"I don't believe we've met this man," the two youths interjected with a flourish.

"You don't have to meet this one," the dumfounded brother replied.

It's Tight Like That

"Be good, but not too good," was the advice telegraphed to Colgate university students by Dr. James Colgate, president of the Board of Trustees.

The message was sent from Scotland.

The most insignificant things generally trouble us. It has always been so.

Which explains why we were so perturbed when we noticed the hyphen between Penn and State on the large banner above the speaker's platform at the Convocation exercises Wednesday morning.

Then, too, we wondered if the insignia on the Liberal Arts banner was intended to call attention to the "midnight oil" which is burned by the undergraduate members of that School.

Withal, the lives of undergraduates are not clouded in secrecy. Dr. William S. Dye, for instance, claims to know enough about college men and women to be able to call things by their right names without fear of shocking anyone.

Oddly enough, the students feel the same way about that.

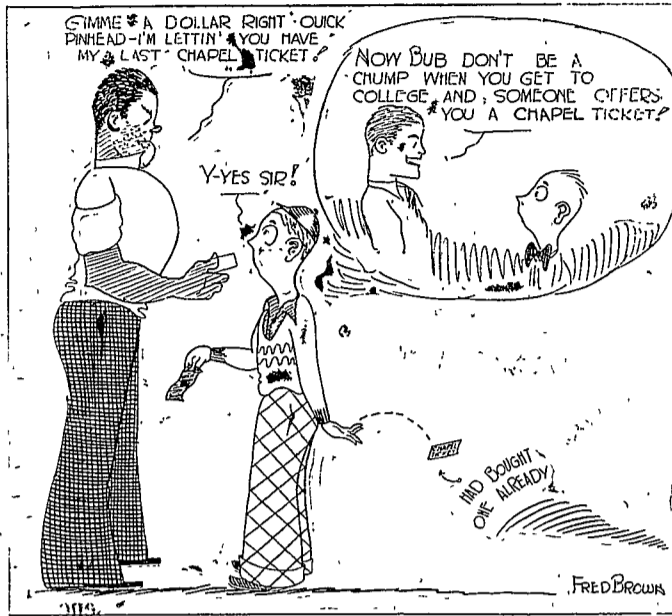
Efficiency Plus

Registration, from all indications, is becoming more complex every year.

That is readily understood, however, when one realizes that Registrar Hoffman can probably give the life history of a student by consulting the perforations on these class cards.

The Gullible Freshman

By Fred Brown



FRESHMEN BEGIN WELL, STATES DEAN WARNOCK

"There can be no doubt that the class of 1933 has started off better than any class in recent years," said Arthur R. Warnock, Dean of Men, when asked his impression of the incoming class.

"The lectures and assemblies were well attended throughout Freshman Week and favorable weather has been a factor in making the week a success. The spirit of the class as evidenced on the campus has been commendable," Dean Warnock added.

INDIANS' REMNANTS MYTH THRILLS ARCHAEOLOGISTS

Thrilled archeologists were ruthlessly thrust back into normalcy yesterday when a rumor that the bodies

of several Indians had been found in the excavations for the new Mineral Industries building was discounted by Mining School officials.

When traced to its source, it was found that the story grew from the unearthing of several Indian graves at Milesburg. It is believed that State Highway workmen discovered the graves.

The story was not verified.

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