

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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THE "ABUSED" STUDENT

Oberlin college's decision to abandon the "no grading" system because of a growing discontent—more than likely in the student body—furnished us with the occasion for a good laugh. The plan was adopted last spring upon the insistence of the students that "they came to college for an education, not marks." Since then we have wondered whether the "pass or flunk" method of grading had, after all, met with undue graduate favor. The recent announcement that the faculty had returned to the former grading system aroused our curiosity; we wondered whether the "discontent" was in the faculty or in the student body.

Our guess is that the student body turned on the plan. More than likely the sponsors of the idea stuck to their story to the end, but apparently someone was dissatisfied. If the dissatisfaction really was in the student body, we believe we know why. It's not hard to imagine the "border-line" student—one who staggers between a passing and flunking grade throughout the year—expressing disfavor with any such plan as Oberlin tried. The first reaction of such a student after receiving notice of a "flunk" is to complain that only one or two grade points separated him for a "pass," and to score the system on the grounds of personal misgiving. That is why we sometimes are reluctant to consider the poor student in matters of vital import to the better student.

Expressing faith in the student who does meritorious work in the classroom, Dean of Women Charlotte E. Ray adds her name to the list of College officials strongly in favor of a system of unlimited cuts for seniors of marked ability. The Dean, in pledging her support, points out that the plan is a workable one, and one deserving of a fair trial. She recommends the adoption of the plan for a stated period, during which time the faculty and students should weigh its advantages and disadvantages. A period not less than one semester nor more than two semesters would, we believe, furnish the answer.

THE STATUS OF CO-EDS

For a long time following the introduction of co-education at Penn State there was a general tendency, that soon developed into a habit, to look down upon the women students as beings unworthy of the recognition of the men of the College. The women were always the subject of jests perpetrated by the men students. The expression, "homely as a co-ed," (the original meaning of "homely" by that time had been discarded for the present-day interpretation) was heard frequently about the campus. This practice gradually developed into a tradition among the men students of the College and was passed down from year to year. As a result a feeling of enmity arose between the two groups.

Fortunately, however, that condition has improved greatly in recent years. The co-ed is now beginning to assume her rightful place in the College. She is appointed to various class and dance committees and to the staffs of publications, and has proved time and again that she is capable of filling responsible positions. Furthermore, she has not been lacking in a social way. She has formed clubs and local sororities, several of which have been made chapters of national sororities, while others are now petitioning national organizations for charters. In this manner she has been instrumental in lifting Penn State to a position of prominence among other colleges and universities.

Before a national sorority accepts a petition it will first of all investigate the character and reputation of the petitioning group at that college. A great deal of information is gathered from the men's fraternities concerning the petitioners, and if the report is unfavorable the charter probably will not be granted. Were the men, when questioned by national sorority delegations, to speak disparagingly of the co-eds they would be doing an injustice to both the College and the women students. Perhaps the men unthinkingly make certain remarks concerning the status of the women at Penn State, which remarks prejudice the investigating body against the local sorority. Assuming that such might be the case, it is only fair to the College and to the women that the men regard the co-eds from a more tolerant and constructive viewpoint.

The Show Window

It's a shame that they put the Grange Dorm out in a field with experimental cabbages and potatoes, stock pavilions, dairy barns, and the like, to say nothing of infirmaries and doctors' houses. Those things may be innocent enough in themselves but think of the atmosphere they create. Let us not dwell on such things.

And while on the subject of the Grange Dorm, we were considerably confused when ushered into its parlor. We believed that in some mysterious way we had got into one of the downtown furniture emporiums, and it required ten minutes and five co-eds to assure us that we were really in the dorm. Finding no ash-trays in the room finally convinced us. We estimated that practically the entire R. O. T. C. corps could be comfortably seated for the Monday afternoon sessions in this room and if one more divan were to be placed in it, there would not be room for even one fairly rousing game of tiddly-winks. And they have the cutest little truck tables full of drawers without a thing in them.

About the campus: Bessie Wolfson, one of last year's little girls who got a big hand... And, oh, those big dark eyes... Schofield, the Phi Sigma Kappa Adolph Menjou, thinking—probably about Bellefonte... Buck Powdrell as a traffic cop... we've seen worse... somewhere... You should hear him blow his whistle authoritatively... The brightest smile on the campus belongs to Peg MacGuffie... It's simply dazlin'... Between her smile and her haircut we believe she possesses that elusive thing called personality... Thirteen dinars reward to anyone who guesses how many freckles Bill Mehlman has... Those bright red jackets the co-eds wear on the campus... A dozen being worn on the individual plan, or one on the fraternity plan?... Brewster, the jesting young political scientist... The gleam in Marty McAndrew's eye.

In our office (Booth No. 13) there was much discussion concerning the sex of the possessor of those skulls adorning the latest engineering temple. Some insisted that it was the skull of a bull, others that it was that of a cow. Our infant prodigy gave birth to the Louencing brain-child that if it were a cow's skull it would rightly belong on the agriculture buildings—and architects do not make such grave errors. We accepted the rebuke calmly until the suggestion was made that it might be the skull of a buffalo, gnu, or yak. Meeting adjourned at \$1.20.

Everybody is whistling tunes from The Gold-Diggers of Broadway. It's too bad that Disraeli and Noah's Ark didn't have these songs... Those terrible odors around the Chemistry and Physics building on the way to class in the morning... Who was the semle humorist who placed an ash can beside our revered memorial to the Old Willow?... Something ought to be done about this... It is rumored that the local R O T C cadet corps is planning to choose co-eds as sponsors for the regiments; that is, honorary student colonels... Well, well, well... Who's going to be the sugar daddy and buy the nice new uniforms for them... And then comes the big question: does a blonde or a brunette make the best colonel?... Personally we prefer red-heads.

Ken Deike offers ten to one odds on the fact that the rumored forthcoming Lindbergh heir will be a boy and will be named Charles Augustus Lindbergh jr. Another example of the sporting spirit.

Bright thought for this week: Spring is only four months away.

CAMPSEER

Gifts Men Like... AT THIS ESTABLISHMENT YOU MAY BUY WITH THE ASSURANCE THAT YOUR SELECTION WILL CONFORM TO THE DICTATES OF PRESENT STYLE TRENDS... MANHATTAN PAJAMAS, MANHATTAN SHIRTS, INTERWOVEN SOCKS... Stark Bros. & Harper, NEXT TO THE MOVIES, F. S.: Gifts mailed to any address.

Co-ed Chats

Persons who have spent their lives at a task and done it well and persons who have accomplished several things well usually admit that they have a diversion which has proved a relief from the every-day grind. No matter how interested one may be in a particular profession or the preparation for that profession, still at times the need is felt of working at some different enterprise which will ease the nerves and leave one with a sense of life and enthusiasm for more work.

In college a great many students find such relief in outside activities, properly balanced with real college work. Some complain that they want to get relaxation at the movies or playing bridge. While pleasure may fill this gap there are times when only a sort of work that is different from that in which one is ordinarily engaged and which is interesting will serve as a means of keeping the individual's life properly balanced. Hobbies used in their broader sense can serve this purpose well.

In choosing a hobby that is to last through a lifetime several factors must be taken into consideration. First the individual must ask, "Is it worthwhile?" A useless hobby may prove a relief but time spent on it may just as well be spent on a profitable diversion. For instance a chemistry student might well take a liking to photography, remotely connected with his work. Later it may be found that some of the pictures taken have a monetary or an intrinsic value.

A hobby that is within the purview of the individual pursuing it should also be sought. A sense of ease and satisfaction should be derived. A hobby developed in college may prove indispensable in later life.

RUTGERS FRESHMEN REVEAL DESIRES OF COLLEGE LIFE

Of the 443 freshmen at Rutgers there are only three who came to college because of a desire to take part in intercollegiate athletics. The remainder chose that university for educational and varied other reasons, according to the annual questionnaire held last week.

Forty-three came to the university "to get a good education" while ninety-eight came to Rutgers because of the reputation of the college and its scholastic standing, and two of the first-year group frankly admitted that they had been "sent."

26 POULTRYMEN REPRESENT 3 STATES AT SHORT COURSE

Twenty-six poultrymen from eight counties and two other states attended the ninth annual poultry short course, which ended yesterday, Prof. Herman C. Kandel, head of the poultry department, announced yesterday.

College poultry specialists were assisted by experts in conducting the course, which lasted for five days and included instruction in poultry management, nutrition, houses and equipment, as well as poultry diseases.

MORRELL'S BILLIARD PARLOR 10 Tables—Opposite Post Office

PLAY SANTA CLAUS to The Kid Sister or Someone Else's Sister Penn State Song Books — 50c Penn State Records — 75c Carlisle W. Taylor Music Room HOTEL BUILDING

No Richer Gift Than RINGS, WATCHES, COMPACTS, LIGHTERS, PEN SETS at Hann & O'Neil Opposite Front Campus

U.S. Industry Need Not Fear Europe, States Professor

"American industries have nothing to fear from European competition when it comes to high scale production," Kalman J. De Juhaz, assistant professor of research engineering, who recently returned from a three month trip to Europe, declared yesterday.

"In producing hand-manufactured products, however, Europe has the upper hand because of the cheapness of labor there," he revealed.

"Each country," Professor De Juhaz continued, "is attempting to develop both its agricultural and manufacturing industries regardless of whether it has the necessary resources or not. Not only does this retard efficiency, but it tends to cause financial depression as there is no market since each country is producing what it needs itself.

"Another barrier is the great number of boundary lines," Professor De Juhaz stated. "The high tariff excessive since each country is determined to become independent, has raised the cost of even the most necessary commodities to such a high price that the people cannot afford to buy much."

Grass Experiments Will Improve Turf For Golf Courses

The only experiment in the country being conducted on turf grasses for golf courses is being undertaken at Penn State by the School of Agriculture and the agricultural experiment station.

Golfers have manifested interest in the project through contributions from Pennsylvania golf clubs. Under the proposed plans the work is divided into two parts. One part of the experiment, which will take eight years for completion, is outlined to determine the effect of soil acidity on the growth of turf grasses and its controlling influence on the growth of weeds.

This work will be led by Prof. Jonathan W. White, professor of soil technology, Howard B. Musser, assistant professor of experimental agronomy, and Charles D. Jeffries, assistant professor of soil technology.

A second part of the experiment has been planned to improve turf stains by breeding and selection. The

ART WARES DISTINCTIVE CHRISTMAS GIFTS Moore's Specialty Shop 121 East College Avenue

DEAN RAY FAVORS CUTS FOR SENIORS

(Continued from first page)

sary for the success of the plan. Above all, there is the absolute need for cooperation between the students and the faculty.

One obstacle in the path of the project, she stated, was the fact that certain classes could not be cut without being detrimental to the pupil. In these cases, she feels that department heads can best determine the requirements of the course.

Dean Ray also supported the use of scholarship standard as the basis on which seniors be allowed cutting privileges. This average might be either for the entire three years previous or merely for the preceding year.

"It seems to be a reasonable experiment that has been tried with success at other institutions," she declared.

The speaker thought that much of the plan's success rested with the individual students, who would be either in the position to abuse their rights or else take complete advantage of them. She also felt that the plan was assuming as much significance for women students as it was for men.

object in this part will be to develop superior turfs. This course will cover ten years and will be under the leadership of Prof. J. Stanley Cobb, assistant professor of agronomy, and Prof. Musser.

The experimental project has already been started on plots back of the College barns and in the laboratories of the department of agronomy. Later the cooperation of the department of botany will be sought in determining disease resistance of strains.

CO-EDS DISCUSS TREATMENT OF MIND AT GROUP MEETING

Finishing the second set of group meetings, the freshman girls discussed the topic "How Do You Treat Your Mind?" when they met in the apartment of Miss Charlotte E. Ray, dean of women, last week.

The third series of meetings will begin in January when the freshman girls will discuss "Friendship." In conjunction with this discussion Miss Ray will compose a list of books to be used as reference material.

THEATRE

Beginning Friday, Vacation Opening Time 7.00 p. m. No Matinees after Thursday.

TUESDAY—Matinee at 1:30 Janet Gaynor, Charles Farrell, E. Brendel, Sharon Lynn in "SUNNY SIDE UP" The Screen's First Original Musical Comedy

WEDNESDAY—Ralph Ince, Aileen Pringle in "WALL STREET" All-Talking Drama

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY—Matinee Thursday Only Belle Baker, Ralph Graves in "SONG OF LOVE" All-Talking, Singing Drama

Nittany Theatre TUESDAY—(Evening Only) Sally O'Neil in "BROADWAY SCANDALS" All-Talking, Dancing Comedy

"Gifts Men Appreciate are Gifts to Wear" We can assist you, with our knowledge of color harmony and correct style, so that your choice will suit the wardrobe of the man you have in mind. For the convenience of our patrons we are making up attractive gift boxes boxes which may be sent home C. O. D. MONTGOMERY'S at First State

Give FLOWERS this Christmas STATE COLLEGE FLORAL SHOPPE