

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

Published semi weekly during the College year, except on holidays, by students of The Pennsylvania State College in the interest of the College, the students, faculty, alumni, and friends.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1931

THE UNEMPLOYMENT FUND

Announcement that an attempt would be made to secure from Penn State's faculty \$25,000 for State-wide unemployment relief has naturally brought forth comment and criticism, not necessarily directed at the idea of contributing to the relief of the needy, but rather at the inadvisability of distributing funds throughout the State when local conditions are none too good, and when it is very probable that an unusual number of students will be forced to leave College next semester because of financial difficulties.

It seems that opposition to this charity fund is largely based on prejudices formed before all the actual facts were known, on suppositions that contributions were to be in the form of compulsory assessments, and on the usual suspicions directed at wholesale giving for general charity purposes.

In order to break down some of this opposition statements have been issued by the General Committee in charge of the relief to the effect that no great portion of the fund will be turned over to any agency for purposes not definitely known to the committee, that there is no implied obligation to donate, and that an individual's personal charities or relief work are not to be looked into or questioned and where such exist the prospective subscriber is entitled to fix his subscription accordingly.

In justice to the general idea behind the State College Unemployment Relief fund, it must be stated that the committee recognized student and borough needs by placing them first on the list of possible recipients of the relief funds. There are many, however, who believe that it is unreasonable to expect Penn State's faculty to contribute any part of the fund to other sections of the State where there may be individuals or institutions in a far better position to render aid.

There is no doubt that more would give and in greater amounts if it were definitely stated that the funds would be expended in such a way that every student in dire need of funds would be taken care of, and that every needy case in the immediate vicinity of State College would be attended to before any of the amount would be used for general relief work throughout the Commonwealth. The Student Loan fund at Penn State has always been drained to the limit of its resources and has inadequately met student requirements. Here is an opportunity for the establishment of an ample and permanent fund for student needs.

IN PRAISE OF THINKING

Thinking as an art, or a life work, is not revered by American colleges. In fact, the very suggestion that thinking could be a life work is good for a hearty laugh. As a pastime, now and then, it's a good way to relax from hard work; but any process that is more than sporadic would be looked upon as lacking vitality.

Speaking in rough generalities, students can be divided into three classes: those who talk strenuously; those who act strenuously, and those who emerge from a half-stupor for social occasions. There aren't any thinkers in the lot. The talkers chip the marble-encased outer coating of thought, find a quick solution to all problems, and mouth their findings. Those who act rush from meeting to meeting settling problems with a turn of the wrist, it's hard to tell what the final class does.

One's is a complex existence. There are fifty and one solutions to every problem, and as many deviating ideas about the correct solution. We aren't trained to delve far below the surface in this maze of conflicting evidence, to separate prejudice and propaganda from truth. Yet if college students had been so trained, there would not be so many public officials running around like chickens with their heads cut off. There is, no doubt, a solution to the problem of depression—but to date we have been given a thousand half-baked antidotes.

A college that trained five students a year solely in the process of thinking would probably be a great college some day, if only because of its singularity. It would refuse those five any activities, would segregate them from fraternities, would make them forget marks; would give them a chance to search out a few great truths... but why toy with the idea? Thinking isn't a great art any more, and what student would be willing to forego honor for the chance to think? Hemlock cocktails are a thing of the past.

CAMPUSEER.

BY HIMSELF

We want to correct an error we made last week. We mentioned, in connection with food at Mac Hall, that "aspargus on soggy toast" was quite an item on the menus over there. This was a misrepresentation of the facts, and we're sorry about it. The truth is that, for some time now, no such dish has been served at the McAllister Mess. The Girls complained about the soggy toast, and the management quickly did something about it. They don't serve any toast at all now.

The backgammon craze has finally invaded our little metropolis. Almost any evening you can find the Kappas sprawled on the floor, throwing the two little cubes. (We haven't heard definitely, but probably if the Kappas are the Thetas are too.) The game is not exactly backgammon inasmuch as the Kappas don't use a board, but that doesn't reduce the excitement. On the contrary, it makes the game a good deal faster, and much easier to play. It's more fun, too, you don't have any incentive to snap your fingers in regular backgammon. But the same game is fashionable now, and we expect the Kappas will get a head pretty soon.

One of the first things that a Liberal Artist learns is how to think on his feet, to stand up and talk. The more advanced students can do it almost any time, whether they have anything to say or not. It requires a little resourcefulness and the knowledge of a rhetorical device called developing a paragraph by repetition. For instance, if you're called upon to discuss the foreign policy of the United States in regard to Cuba you get up and say, "The United States has a paternalistic attitude in regard to Cuba. We have a fatherly interest, and we watch over Cuba as though she were a child or something. There's a father and son relationship, sort of, and we keep our eyes on Cuba and kind of see that nothing happens down there that isn't all right. In short, it's a paternalistic attitude, sort of."

The difficulty with that method is that you have to have one fact with which to start. We know some people who get around that successfully, and some more who can speak pretty long by talking in circles. For people who have distinguished themselves in this field we have founded our Long Lung & Tongue Club. We nominate for membership Red Laudenslager (President), Slim Harris, G. Kelso Davis, Bert Lum, and the mustachoid Anderson from Alpha Kappa Pi. The fraternity group is a satchel of air.

Putting these books in Old Main lounge was an excellent idea, although we don't get much chance to look at them because we usually have enforced reading to do when we're there. We think it would be better to put the books in the lounges at Grange Dorm, Mac Hall, and the Women's Building. If the books were in those waiting rooms we'd have lots of time to read them.

About Town & Campus: An S. A. E. named Hippler got honorable mention on the All-Inter-Mural Football team without playing once... The Alpha Zets had a ball dance, overalls and everything... Mongose Malmel didn't make any noise at the Phi Ep affair, but Mooney and Jim Norris were there... Was it the English Lit Department that sent the faculty those announcements of the marionette show with this new and original spelling: "William Make-piece Thackeray"... Shame on somebody... We went to a pledge dance last week-end where several of the pledges had dates.

WPSC TO SURVEY PROGRAM APPEAL

Reports From Extension Agents Alumni Forms Will Serve as Method of Evaluation

The popularity and scope of programs over WPSC, College radio station, is being determined through reports from extension agents throughout the State and returns from questionnaires in the Alumni News, Director of Programs Herbert Koopp Baker has announced.

It is now a regular part of the duties of faculty members engaged in field extension work to submit regularly reports on the reception and clarity of broadcasts. Mr. Koopp-Baker said. Extension workers report also on the popularity of the programs in their sections of the State, he said.

Reach Every County Although the agricultural, engineering, and mining extension centers are confined to this State, reception of WPSC broadcasts outside the State is being gauged by answers to questionnaires in recent issues of Alumni News which reaches all Penn State graduates.

"We are highly encouraged by the returns from these surveys," Mr. Koopp-Baker said. "We have found that our broadcasts are heard in every county of the State, and in many sections of adjoining states. The educational series has been given wide acclaim."

LIBRARY WILL CONTINUE EXHIBITING COLLECTIONS

Arrange Displays Similar to Carroll Show for Second Semester

A series of exhibits similar to the Lewis Carroll collection now on display will be sponsored by the College library during the second semester. Willard P. Lewis, College librarian, has announced.

The series will open with an exhibit of Washington material, which will be on view during the month of February in honor of the Washington Bicentennial celebration. An exhibition in honor of the centenary of Goethe's death will be held during March sponsored by the department of German.

A collection of prints or book illustrations will feature the May exhibition, while in June material dealing with Penn State will be on display. The Penn State collection will include programs, announcements, and records of the College.

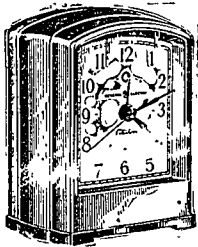
Students and others possessing any material which might be used in the exhibits are invited to communicate with the librarian. The exhibits will be held in Room K on the second floor of the library.

WPSC SCHEDULE

Wednesday
1:00—Anton Tchekof's "The Bear" a drama directed by Prof. Arthur C. Chetwinch
Friday
11:15—"Penn State's Farm Short Course," by Prof. A. L. Patrick
1:00—Prof. Thomas E. Shearer, Topic: "The Christmas Tree and Its Conservation," by Prof. George R. Green

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KEELER'S

Cathaum Theatre Building

Staff Would Aid Students in Need

(Continued from first page)

oward the application of a large amount of the fund for student aid, Dean Charles W. Stoddard said. It was his own opinion that students should be helped with loans to complete their work here.

Dean Robert L. Sackett, of the Engineering School pointed out that at least six students from his school had been forced to leave College from lack of funds. These men had already invested the greater part of the necessary money, but were unable to obtain the small extra margin necessary to carry them through the semester.

In the Engineering School there was a large number of the faculty who favored placing the relief funds on student use and to aid members of the School who had lost their work here recently, Dean Sackett said. Dean of Women Charlotte E. Ray estimated that ten percent of the women here would find it necessary to have aid from loans during the next semester. Up to this time available loans have been established largely by the Pennsylvania Federation of Women and by alumnae clubs in the State.

Practically no aid for students could be expected from local banks, Dean Warnock said. Only students with substantial local credit or backing could expect loans from them and then only for short terms.

Pressure for jobs at the Christian association office bureau becomes greater each day, while opportunities are practically non-existent except for short odd-jobs, the association reported.

Y. W. C. A., HUGH BEAVER CLUB HOLD JOINT YULETIDE PARTY The Freshman Forum, composed of all fourth-year members of the Y. W. C. A., and the Hugh Beaver club of the Penn State Christian Association held a joint Christmas party at 7:30 o'clock last night in Room 405, Old Main.

A program, closing with the singing of Christmas carols, was given by members of both organizations. Claire M. Lichty '31 is the president of the Freshman Forum, while William H. Glover '34 heads the Hugh Beaver club.

TO DISTRIBUTE PROCLAMATION The freshman proclamation will be distributed to yearlings at a class meeting sometime before the close of the week, according to Maynard P. Wood '34, chairman of the sophomore committee in charge.

PROF. MACK TO INVESTIGATE SILK FOR WINTHROP COLLEGE

Prof. Pauline B. Mack, of the department of chemistry, has been asked by authorities at Winthrop College, South Carolina, to assist in preparing specifications for the material used in the uniform silk dresses required there.

Pauline E. Keeney '33 and George Fulton, graduate assistant in chemistry, will assist in the investigation. Professor Mack's report to the American Home Economics association on the prevalence of mineral weighting in silk was responsible for the request from Winthrop College.

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CATHAUM A Warner Brothers Theatre Note: For gift purposes, special Christmas Ticket Books at \$1.00 and \$2.00 are on sale at the box office. A most acceptable gift. Ask about them. No matinees after Thursday. Vacation opening time of 7:00 p. m. starting Saturday. TUESDAY—Eddie Cantor, Charlotte Greenwood in "PALMY DAYS" WEDNESDAY—Wallace Deery, Jackie Cooper in "THE CHAMP" THURSDAY—Stan Laurel, Oliver Hardy, in their feature length comedy "PARDON US" FRIDAY—Helen Twelvetrees, H. B. Warner, Lew Cody in "A WOMAN OF EXPERIENCE" SATURDAY—Seth Parker and Jonesport Neighbors in "WAY BACK HOME" NITTANY THEATRE TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY—Lionel Barrymore, Kay Francis in "GUILTY HANDS" THURSDAY—"THE CHAMP" (Closed After Thursday)