

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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THE FORUM

Repeated attempts to encourage communications to the COLLEGIAN through the letter-box have proved almost futile. We do not believe that this is an indication that Penn State students are not disposed to do any original thinking, but rather that they are somewhat reluctant to express their views in print.

In an effort to get the opinions of students on questions of interest the COLLEGIAN in this issue is beginning a new department, THE FORUM. We will welcome concise contributions on any reasonable subject, and are listing a few topics in the column today merely as suggestions. In order to make contributions brief and to the point the communications must be limited to 150 words. The letters should be signed, but the signature will be withheld from print if requested.

We believe that THE FORUM will give students a chance to turn "restaurant gossip" into a little more than just passing comment. At any rate, here is the opportunity for students who have long desired means to express their pet theories.

Unable to restrain his militant attack upon compulsory ROTC, a Penn State student will go before a Congressional committee next week to broach his views and those of the groups he represents. To what extent he represents these people—how many of them read the petition before signing it—is indeed dubious. Disregarding this fact, the whole affair seems rather inappropriate at a time when the College awaits the action of its Trustee board on the same proposition. There is every assurance that this governing group will treat the matter fairly, will give it every consideration then why tilt at windmills?

QUALITY, NOT QUANTITY

It is admitted that too many people now go to colleges. The college diploma is today regarded much as the high school certificate of two decades ago. Yet the habit has grown to such an extent that a number of students plod through four years, not quite knowing what good it's doing them, except that at the end of eight semesters a diploma will be awarded.

Examinations to limit students for further study might do much to relieve the present tendency toward a high regard for quantity without quality. Accompanying this proposal of a senate committee is one which stresses a broadening of the educational system. Emphasis upon cultural, social, parental, and civic qualities, as well as upon some development of creative and independent thinking, is necessary if colleges are to turn out anything more than well-paid workers.

The students who prove at the end of two years that they are intelligent and capable leaders would, under the committee's plan, be allowed to continue in the upper classes. Other suggestions incorporated in this report are honor courses, freedom from compulsory attendance, the Quarter System, and a recognition of teaching on a par with research.

Any thinking senior who glances through the ideas incorporated in this report will declare with regret: "If I'd had that kind of education!" For undoubtedly these suggestions would make for an ideal system of education, in which the best would be segregated from the mediocre, would be allowed to expand. And after all, every organization is dependent upon leaders for its strength in the long run. A college that educates leaders is more truly a college than a mere grist-mill of knowledge.

The suggestions incorporated in this committee report would require much time in their application here. Yet the ultimate use of some of them should certainly prove valuable.

In attempting to bring the Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Basketball tournament back to Penn State the COLLEGIAN needs the support of not only the sports writers and coaches throughout the State, but every friend of the College interested in its athletic future. It is certain that such an event here would accomplish a great deal towards stimulating interest in the College among young athletes of the Commonwealth. Very few high school students have any idea concerning the athletic equipment at the disposal of Penn State students.

OLD MANIA

We've been hearing a lot of stories lately concerning James ("Schnozzle") Norris, Beta Bad Boy, erstwhile Thespian, Literary Guild, and Ordinary Seaman. For instance

It seems that at a recent meeting of Phi Mu (you know, that place on Foster Street) Miss Hurler, alumnae advisor, was cautioning the sisters assembled on the necessity for strict observance of college regulations. Rumors were rampant that certain Phi Mus were not paying very close attention to the eight o'clock ruling, and even that there had been men in the house after eight o'clock.

About this time (8:30 P. M., to be exact) who should stroll jauntily into the Phi Mu house but Mr. Norris. It appears that the Phi Mus hold their meetings in a side room on the first floor, and that the non-seniority residents of the house were all upstairs in a back room telling dirty jokes or something. Anyway, there was no one to be seen, so James, who was all filled with a feeling of intense joie de vivre, esprit de corps, esprit de meuthe, etc., stationed himself at the foot of the stairs and belted in his best Thespian manner the name of a certain Miss Culbertson. No answer. Not to be daunted, Jim repeated, crescendo

All of which, you can well imagine, was very embarrassing to Miss Culbertson, who was sitting directly in front of Miss Hurler.

And a couple days ago Mr. Norris dropped into one of the local eating joints for a dash of tea (you know how these Betas are). Eventually a waitress stopped at his table, whereupon Jim said that he'd like to have a pot of tea and a couple strumpets.

The waitress looked a bit puzzled, but took the order, and proceeded to go into conference with another waitress. The second waitress shook her head to signify that she didn't know what strumpets were either, and a third waitress was called into the discussion.

The situation was really getting serious, with everybody going around asking other people what the hell is a strumpet, when the very efficient supervisor came over to find out what was up. After she had whispered a few words to the first waitress, that person came back to Jim's table

"I'm sorry," she said, "but we don't have any strumpets"

The recent spell of balmy weather has aroused our longing for strange tropical (or even semi-tropical) places.—Tahiti, for instance, or Waikiki Beach, or Nassau. We even went so far as to develop a strange maraical gleam in our eye, grab a pencil, and come forth with the following travel note.

What a wonderful place is Bermuda, Where the women go practically nuda, Where there's no prohibition, (A lovely condition), And the onion's the principal fuda. Oh well.

According to the Brown and White, our Lehigh contemporary, a bomb was placed on the doorstep of Professor Heilert A. Lorenz of the Lafayette faculty. Naturally this caused a lot of excitement, until some hardy Easton detective opened the package and found that the bomb was composed of an alarm clock, two tubes of toothpaste, and a pencil.

It is slipshod methods like this that destroy our faith in humanity.

THE MANIAC

THE FORUM

When students gather, talk drifts to controversial topics. The college is full of them. In the following column, beginning soon, the COLLEGIAN proposes to print short letters on some of a variety of questions which most often come up for discussion. These letters, which must be under 150 words in length, are to be signed, but may be printed under pseudonyms if necessary. All topics of general interest may be discussed.

For instance:

- 1. What type of cutting system is most desirable?
2. Should the present variety of intramural football be played next year?
3. To what extent should all-college dances be limited this year?
4. Is the present system of marking satisfactory?

Chinese Student Here Asserts West Should Boycott Imperialistic Japan

"The Manchurian situation is a problem for the western world to handle, not for China," declares William Q. Wu '34, the only Chinese student studying at Penn State this year. "China is not in a position to resist Japan," he continued, "and unless the nations of the western world take action, she will be in serious difficulty."

Pointing out that Japan's attitude at the present time is one of defiance against the League of Nations, Wu declared the western nations could stop Japan by inaugurating a boycott of all commerce with the imperialistic country, a measure that they do not wish to take for financial reasons. Wu is a native of China, making his home in Canton, where his father is a professor of Chinese literature in the Provincial University.

"China must have help if she is to force Japan out of Manchuria," the Penn State student said, "although the Koumintang party, which is composed of students and is the strongest power in China today, believes that it can accomplish the task without aid from other nations. I am a member of this party, as are hundreds of other

Chinese students who are studying in this country, but I personally feel that we need outside help to solve the problem.

"Russia stands ready to furnish the needed aid, but China is fearful of Russian communism and does not want to accept aid from the Soviet government," Wu added. "There is already considerable Red activity in China and the leaders are fearful of further growth of this movement."

Discussing the causes of the present trouble, the student said that China's desire to own its own railroad in Manchuria to compete with the railroads operated by Japan and Russia and the uncertain status of Koreans were the underlying reasons for the dispute. Japan is over-emphasizing the bandit trouble in order to further her claims, he said, adding that the so-called bandits are not Chinese but Koreans.

Japan has her own railroad guards and operates her railroad in Manchuria entirely outside the jurisdiction of the Chinese government, Wu pointed out in explaining the trouble over the Koreans.

WILL MEET WITH COUNCIL

Robert B. Burleigh '32 was appointed to represent the student body at the meetings of the borough council, at a meeting of student council held last Tuesday night. H. Aubrey Myers, president of the senior class, gave a report on the Toledo conference of the National Student Federation of the United States.

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MINING EDUCATION PROGRAM PLANNED AT JOINT MEETING

A program of mining education for those employed in the industry and a high school vocational course along similar lines may be the outcome of a joint conference of educators and coal industry men at Hazleton last week, at which Dean Steidle of the School of Mineral Industries and Prof. Harry B. Northrup of the extension department represented Penn State.

The desire for a program of mining education in the Hazleton district was responsible for the conference, which was called jointly by the department of Public Instruction and the School of Mineral Industries of Penn State.

WILL HOLD CABIN RETREAT

The Hugh Beaver club, freshman F. S. C. A. organization, will hold a retreat in the Andy Lytle cabin this week-end.



(Matinee Daily at 1:30)

FRIDAY—Paul Lukas, Sidney Fox in "STRICTLY DISHONORABLE"

SATURDAY—(Complete Show at 9:30 Tonight) After Basketball Game Bert Wheeler, Robert Woolley in "PEACH O' RENO"

MONDAY and TUESDAY—Marie Dressler in "EMMA"

WEDNESDAY—George O'Brien, Roscoe Ates in Zane Grey's "THE RAINBOW TRAIL"

THURSDAY—Sylvia Sydney, Gene Raymond in "LADIES OF THE BIG HOUSE"

NITTANY

FRIDAY—"STREET SCENE"

SATURDAY—"STRICTLY DISHONORABLE"

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY—(After-School Matinee on Tuesday, Starting at 3:15 o'clock) Jackie Cooper, Robert Coogan in "SOOKY"

THURSDAY—"THE RAINBOW TRAIL"

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