

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1932

SEVENTH HEAVEN, LIMITED

Long ago the College ordained that excellency in classes should be rewarded by the symbol '3'. It was presumed that those who learned most, to all outward appearances from any course, were honored with this sign. But since that time, there has grown up a school of professors who believe there is no excellency A '3' on a grade-sheet leaves them cold.

It is just possible that this logic is correct. There is no excellency, in the higher sense of the word. But when the majority accept a ruling which grants superior people a superior ranking, then the minority might at least abide by higher jurisdictions.

It is the second best students in some courses obtain high marks while the best in others are given inferior ones, the total averages are obviously unfair. And after all, when marks are stressed as much as they are in this institution, justice should go along with the emphasis placed upon them.

While student leaders are making an effort to hit upon a scheme for raising the student's share of the loan fund, it might be well for undergraduates to remember that on the social calendar this week there is an affair, Military Ball, from which all of the net proceeds will be handed over to the benefit fund.

Some time ago in the columns of the COLLEGIAN it was proposed that an all-College dance in the fall would greatly relieve the over-crowded condition of the spring social calendar. We can't help believing that if this suggestion had been carried out a great deal of the uncertainty connected with the class dances this year would have been eliminated.

With the basketball dances, benefit affairs, and numerous fraternity functions, some of the events are bound to suffer this semester. A little fore-thought on the part of class officials next year will place one of the larger dances sometime before Christmas. The novelty of the affair would assure its popularity if a suitable date is chosen. At any rate, the present strain of continuous dances, week after week, would be somewhat alleviated.

THE WAY IT APPEARS

The student loan idea is wrong in principle, according to the facile analyst. Here is an institution, ever struggling to locate enough funds to pay teachers properly and to provide equipment enough to fulfill the demands made on it, deliberately giving out funds to put men and women through college. And at its gates twice as many as are ever admitted clamor to be let in. It doesn't look sensible—not on the surface.

But at one's side at the dining table sits a man, a senior who is the mainstay of one of the college teams. He is a respected figure on the campus and in the fraternity. That he will be here tomorrow is taken for granted. It is impossible to imagine things without him, somehow. Yet he is at the end of his resources. He has worked all summer, saving feverishly. He works now in all his spare time. He has borrowed from home and town all he can. He mustered enough to pay his fees, but his family is in dire straits now and need the extra bit they promised him. Tomorrow he must go unless from somewhere comes a few dollars. He sits beside many a man at the campus dining tables. But he never admits to them that anything is wrong.

Student loan funds have given out to 135 such men and women as these amounts totalling approximately \$8,000 this semester. No loans have exceeded \$75 and all will be paid back when the man or woman who received them is out of college for two years. More than eighty percent who received loans are upper-classmen and all have proved their worth in college.

Dean Warnock points out that still there are as many as have already received loans who are in almost as hard a pinch this semester. Loans totalling \$3,000 would save their college years from mutilation. Already the faculty has given \$5,000; already the parents have squeezed out from their pockets \$600; already the alumni and alumnae have contributed freely—to help students. There are 5,000 students. The need is only \$3,000.

R. H. jr.

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF

Was your name on the select list for an invitation to the O E Club's Affair Saturday night? It was quite the Little Boy Maier's Hospitable Party, and if you arrived there in time you received a warm-hearted hand clasp from Jerry Himself. And we can hardly wait to tell you about the guest of honor. Remember Jimmy Gilder, who cheated the State College barbers two years ago? Well, Jimmy, of architectural fame, dropped in on the boys and made a week-end of it. On his manly chest he sported a dozen of so keys, earned in collegiate days. Ho Hum. Coming up for Mil Ball, Jimmy?

You probably think we chisled into the Ko-Ed Kibbitzer in a bassoon or something. Ifa ha. Wrong! We had a date with one of the 49 women who used the affair as an excuse to get a rather-late date.

Hearken to one of the best things we've heard in years! In Mr. Waller's Sociology class the other day the male students were asked one by one just how much money they'd have to be earning before they marched to the tune of Lohengren. The answers are unimportant—except that Mr. Howard R. Gravatt was high man with five thousand per annum. Pretty hard on the co-eds, Boni! When the co-eds were asked just how much the man of their choice must take down per week before they would say the good word the answers were widely ranged. But Miss Marjorie Smith replied with a bold twelve hundred. And she's got figures to prove it.

An incident under the bulky shadow of Rec. Hall the other night proved one of our long-standing points. Just as we passed one of the local arms of the law, an acquaintance hailed him with more curiosity than tact.

"What ya doin' George?" he shouted. The campus cop looked staid. His mouth opened wide. "I dunno," he said simply.

About Town and Campus: An oriental motif pervaded the Skull house imitation this year... the neophytes were spread on an unsuspecting mule (Jack-ass to you, sir) we hear that the A. T. O. freshman bugler interrupted Franny Schill's slumber over at the Taxi House. Mathews and Bryan were in New York looking for a band. They didn't come to any decision... Dean Will Grant Chambers was flouncing about sans o'coat in the blasts which swept around the ed. bldg. Friday. One of the stenogs ventured the remark that the executive was probably composing a summer session travel guide. One of the additions to the permanent fixtures in Grange Dorm lobby is W. F. Grauch, a very Spencerian whosis... Which makes us think of Jim English, perennial Kappa Kustom. No, James (Don't-Use-My-Name) Norris did not write this column... We discovered a Dummi and a Smart in Dutch Heimann's History '35 class. Where does The Duke Morris go after each performance of the Varsity Ten Friday and Saturday nights. It's only a question of a few weeks until Joe Allan, Chuck Kline, Dave Young, and a few more will begin wearing sport shoes... June Holmes has taken to the week-ending vice... Lucille Lavo deeply engrossed in a musician in Old Main lounge... Bob Faries, the Pink Cheeked Lothario of Theta Chi... Jay Kennedy's Larry Tibbett bow as he accepted the Glee Club's loving cup in Philly... We understand that the Pitt loving subs will work out on New Beaver field following Saturday's meet.

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Gates, Harris See English Composition Dimmed by Literature in High School

This is the fifth of a series of interviews to determine the adequacy of high school preparation shown by Penn State freshmen.

Opinion of the English composition department concerning the quality of high school courses in this field was voiced yesterday by Profs. Thomas J. Gates and Merritt M. Harris.

While both instructors see a gradual improvement in the preparation afforded high school pupils, they also unite in the belief that English literature courses are over-emphasized at the expense of the instruction in good usage and composition.

"The student is expected to digest the masterpieces of literature before his knowledge of writing itself is sufficiently mature," Professor Harris said. "As a result, he develops a distaste for literary work while at the same time sacrificing an opportunity for acquiring better control of the English language."

Professor Gates looks upon standardization of high school English instruction as an advance toward less difficult work for the college teacher. It is easier for the college instructor to appeal to whole classes now, he believes, for the extremes in student preparation have been eliminated.

"On the other hand, the tendency of high schools to give a broader range of courses minimizes the student's mastery of some of the 'key' subjects in college. This, of course, reacts to the disadvantage of college professors, but turns out more diversified high school graduates," Professor Gates said.

Professor Harris believes that many high school teachers fail to make English composition as interesting as it could be made. He is inclined to sympathize with the high school teacher, however, in that some of the pupils are open to poor English usage while living at home.

FLETCHER TO GIVE ADDRESS Dr. Stevenson W. Fletcher, director of agricultural research, will address the Pennsylvania Horticultural society in Philadelphia today on the topic, "Small Fruits for the Home Garden."

BLUE KEY ELECTIONS (Junior Campus Society) Harry A. Bauder '33 Charles R. Smitzel '33

45 TEAMS WILL ENTER I. F. BRIDGE TOURNAMENT Auction Playoffs Scheduled To Start This Week, Manager Announces

Approximately 45 teams have entered the interfraternity auction bridge tournament which is scheduled to open this week, according to Herbert E. Longenecker '33, manager.

Sponsored by Interfraternity Council, the contest will be conducted on an elimination basis with each house entering two teams. The finals, which will be played in Old Main, will be held about three weeks from now.

Plans for a similar tournament of contract bridge are being made. This contest will get under way as soon as the auction tourney is completed, Longenecker said.

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ELLIOTT ADDRESSES CHAPEL AUDIENCE

Says Students Will Keep Attitudes Acquired While in College Throughout Life

"The attitudes you acquire during your college years are the attitudes you are going to keep throughout life," declared Arthur J. Elliott, associate national secretary of the Young Men's Christian association, in opening his three-day series of religious talks at Sunday morning chapel in the Auditorium.

Speaking at Penn State after an absence of 16 years, Mr. Elliott said, "If you face the facts, you will realize that what we are to be, we are now becoming. Thus, a student's attitude while in college determines largely his later life."

Experience gained from individual talks with over 27,000 college men enabled Mr. Elliott to cite various examples as actual proof of his beliefs. Although statistics show that only one out of every forty college graduates will succeed, we can be reasonably sure that the power to become one of those on the top tests within the stu-

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WPSC SCHEDULE

TODAY 11:45--Campus News Briefs TOMORROW 11:45--Agricultural News Notes 4:00--Prof. Robert E. Garbreith speaks on the Short Story Prof. John Hibbit speaks on "The Value of Mathematics"

THURSDAY 11:45--Campus News Briefs

dent himself, the speaker said. "What is right and what is wrong?" Mr. Elliott next asked "My answer is that whatever is injurious to persons when universally practiced, is wrong; on the other hand, that which is beneficial may be termed right," he said.

CATHAUM Warner Brothers Theatre

(Matinee at 1.30. Evening at 6.00) TUESDAY--Carole Lombard, Paul Lukas in "NO ONE MAN" WEDNESDAY--Pat O'Brien, Mae Clark in "THE FINAL EDITION" THURSDAY--Barbara Stanwyck, Adolphe Menjou in "FORBIDDEN" FRIDAY--Charlotte Greenwood, Tom Meighan in "CHEATERS AT PLAY" and On the Stage AUSTIN WYLLIE and His Military Ball Orchestra First Evening Show Only SATURDAY--Ann Harding, Adolphe Menjou in "PRESTIGE"

NITTANY TUESDAY--"MURDERS IN RUE MORGUE" WEDNESDAY--"NO ONE MAN" THURSDAY--"THE FINAL EDITION" FRIDAY--"FORBIDDEN" SATURDAY--"CHEATERS AT PLAY"