

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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Member Eastern Intercollegiate Newspaper Association
Entered at the Postoffice, State College, Pa., as second-class matter.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1932

ALL WORK AND NO PLAY

It has always seemed to the outside observer that many students in technical courses at Penn State are swamped with work to the extent that they are unable to indulge in many of the cultural and recreational advantages of the College without seriously jeopardizing their chances of graduating in four years.

Whether this cultural and recreational side of college life has been over-emphasized in some Schools and under-estimated in others, it is difficult to determine. But it does seem that the proper proportion of the two evaluations of what a student should get out of a college course should be the goal of administrators. And, furthermore, it is difficult to see how a student with from forty to forty-five hours a week of almost purely technical work can indulge in any of the social activities of college life or can make any attempt to take advantage of some of the "less practical" courses which he might choose.

Wouldn't it be possible in some fashion to eliminate some of the technical courses after a well-directed investigation and evaluation of their necessity in professional work after graduation? Wouldn't a pointed inquiry sent to graduates who have been in the field for some years and designed to find out which courses they considered unnecessary from a professional viewpoint help to solve the problem? From the standpoint of practicability itself it would seem that under the present system administrators are defeating their own ends by cramming a curriculum so full of technical courses and laboratory work that the student either gives up all hope of completing his course in four years or else merely memorizes enough of the necessary data to receive a passing grade.

As a modified, but still existent Hell Week draws to its close, one fraternity at least has shown the way to more dignified and impressive initiations. This house, instead of conducting a rough and tumble celebration for several days, put its pledges through an intensive period of probation. They were strictly separated from the brothers, and given a series of rigid tests on constructive topics about fraternities and college. While this method may be less humorous, its application more generally might be a saving quality in preserving loyalty to brotherhood. Men respect worth-while things, and the paddle never yet made pledges proud of the house they joined.

INHERITING YOUR BRAINS

"Passed on from year to year—" is all right for traditions, but hardly the thing for notes and problems. There are plenty of students who are getting through school not merely in the footsteps of fraternity brothers, but in their shoes as well.

When books and experiments remain the same for eight or ten semesters, it is natural to expect that those who bow down before the great god Honor Point will copy, word for word and figure for figure, the efforts of those who have gone before. One can scarcely blame students for becoming indifferent when they know there is nothing more important to a course than the kind of work they did when they were learning to write in the primary grades. And perhaps we should not blame the faculty for trying to cut down on their work and reduce expenses on new books.

But does this sort of thing fit a man for a position where analytical thinking is necessary, or does it rather start him toward a high stool and a green eye-shade and a none too princely salary? Here is where those who enjoy the sound of their own voices find an excuse for saying that colleges are killing individuality and turning out automatons.

A child can copy a list of words and symbols with scarcely a mistake. And a child can compare the marks on one sheet of paper with those on another. Should students continue to rob themselves and faculty members continue to draw salaries for work that is little more than a series of ditto marks?

A student has slept through a few first hours and has wrangled an excuse from dispensary officials. He is sternly informed that "All work must be brought up to date." He yawns and goes home and digs into his desk for the reports of a long-departed brother. (There is some question as to who did do the work in the first place.) He copies the reports and takes them to class—and "sleeps in" the next morning because he can't seem to get interested in the course.

R. C. S.

OLD MANIA

"College is a place where responsibility is paramount. As a general thing, students spend money they have not earned, use what they did not buy, and break what they did not mend. The only other place this ever happens is in story books."—Professor Givler, Tufts College.

We culled the above item from the December issue of the Penn State Alumni News. And after pondering over it for some time, the best comeback we can make is, "So what?"

In the first place, it's a lot of fun being irresponsible. Look at Mayor Walker. Look at Mr. Probert. (We haven't seen him for two years, but we'll bet that he's still pretty irresponsible.) Look at Casanova. Look at any irresponsible person. Don't they have a lot of fun? They may not run around in Hispano-Suizas or buy diamond tiaras at Tiffany's, but they generally enjoy life. And after all, Professor, that's something.

In the second place, there are a lot of nice people spending money that they never earned. Paul Mellon, for example, or Cornelius Vanderbilt, jr. And why not? Do people earn money as an end, or as the means to an end? If some kindly soul died and left a sizeable legacy to Professor Givler, would he refuse to spend it because he hadn't earned it? We think not.

Professor Givler, we maintain should take his nose out of his story books and look around.

We do like these British actors, but we thought those cardboard back-drops would Dreyfus crazy.

And a bashful professor at Northwestern complains that the women in his classes put crib-notes under their fish net hosiery, and that he can't do much about it—says it's beyond his jurisdiction or something. All of which might be used as a point against fish net hosiery, co-eds, or married men on a faculty. We should worry.

More Things We Never Knew 'Til Now

... that Dean Warnock was bounced out of Illinois in his freshman year for making beer in the chapel basement. He finally got his diploma from another person of the same name, in exchange for the beer formula.

... that Professor Cloetingh ghost-wrote all of Hendrik Ibsen's plays. He finally had to give up the work because of the harsh Norwegian climate. As soon as he got to a warmer place he was seized with some sort of lethargy, which has been going on ever since.

... that the Andy Lytle Cabin is used as a distillery except when the Y. M. C. A. crowd uses it for weekends. (You didn't think those Y boys hiked clear out there for their health, did you?)

... that the editor of the Student Handbook makes enough on graft to pay for his four years at college.

... that Charlie Spiedel doesn't know a thing about wrestling, being a former tap-dancer at the Golden Pheasant, but has memorized the entire Spalding Handbook of Wrestling, from which he can quote glibly.

... that the "stones" in the walls of Old Main were manufactured by the Portland Cement company.

... that the clock in Old Main loses twenty-four hours every time the bell strikes an even hour, and is now back somewhere in the late nineties.

... that Dr. Ritenour treated himself for grippe in 1914 and died.

THE MANIAC

ROCHESTER PASTOR TO SPEAK SUNDAY

Dr. Nixon Will Discuss 'Making Life an Adventure' at Chapel Service

WILL SPEAK For First Time in Schwab Auditorium



DR. JUSTIN W. NIXON

With "Making Life an Adventure" as his subject Dr. Justin Woe Nixon, pastor of the Brick Presbyterian church at Rochester, N. Y., will address a Penn State audience for the first time during the regular chapel services in the Auditorium at 11 o'clock Sunday morning.

Dr. Nixon was graduated from Doane Academy in 1901 receiving his bachelor's degree four years later from Denison University. He was also graduated from Rochester Theological Seminary in 1908. After graduate study at the University of Chicago and Columbia University, the speaker obtained a doctor's degree from the College of Ozarks and Denison University.

Served as Professor as early as 1909, Reverend Nixon was ordained into the Baptist ministry. He served for one year as assistant pastor of the Cavalry Baptist church in Minneapolis, Minn., later becoming minister of the Judson Memorial church there.

Teaching classes in Hebrew language and literature for some time at the Rochester Theological Seminary, Reverend Nixon later became professor of the English Bible and Christian sociology there. He has been pastor of the Brick Presbyterian church in Rochester for a period of eight years.

The chapel speaker is author of a book entitled "An Emerging Christian Faith," published in 1930. Besides being a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the American Sociological Society, he is a director of the Auburn Theological Seminary. Rev. Nixon is also active as one of the division secretaries of the Young Men's Christian Association.

MEDICAL COLLEGES ADMIT 18 OF 23 GRADUATES HERE

Of the twenty-three students who received degrees in the pre-medical curriculum here last year, eighteen received admission to medical schools throughout the country, according to Prof. Oscar F. Smith, head of the curriculum.

Considering that of those who were graduated, all did not elect to apply for entrance into medical schools, the percentage of accepted applications of Penn State students is between eighty and ninety percent. About 7000 of the 15,000 applicants, or less than fifty percent of all available students were accepted by the medical colleges in the country.

OFFERS NEW ITALIAN COURSE

Prof. Joseph W. Fosa, of the romance languages department, will conduct a course for all those interested in beginning the study of Italian without college credit or requirement. The first meeting will be held in Room 206, North Liberal Arts building at 7:30 o'clock Wednesday night.

A GOOD IDEA

Bring Your Car Here for Final Inspection and Overhauling. We Are Fully Equipped to Take Care of Your Every Need. RISHEL'S GARAGE and SERVICE STATION. BOALSBURG Phone 14-R-4

Pinchot Endorses Athletic Policy in Letter to La Vie

Governor Pinchot expressed his approval of Penn State's new athletic policy in a letter from the governor received recently by Charles W. Rice '32, editor of the 1932 La Vie.

"I believe that Dr. Hetzel and his associates are right in this, as in other things they have under way," said the Governor. "The thing to do is limit college football teams to actual college students—to men whose schedules are regular and whose work is what it should be."

"Pennsylvanians have every reason to be proud of Penn State. I know of no institution in the United States that is accomplishing better work. . . . I congratulate Penn State for its excellent work along scholastic lines and along athletic lines."

CATHAUM

(Matinee at 1:30 Evenings at 6:00)

FRIDAY—

Constance Bennett, Ben Lyon in "LADY WITH A PAST"

SATURDAY—

Buster Keaton, Jimmy Durante in "THE PASSIONATE PLUMBER"

MONDAY and TUESDAY—

Joe E. Brown in "FIREMAN, SAVE MY CHILD"

WEDNESDAY—

The Year's Queerest Picture "FREAKS"

THURSDAY—

Marlene Dietrich, Clive Brook in "SHANGHAI EXPRESS"

NITTANY

FRIDAY—

"COCK OF THE AIR"

SATURDAY—

"LADY WITH A PAST"

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY—

The Year's Best Foreign Film "TWO HEARTS IN WALTZ TIME"

German Dialogue But Easy to Follow

THURSDAY—

"FREAKS"

COLLEGIAN DIRECTORY

Rooms Available for Interfraternity Conclave and Soph Hop

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MRS. J. W. GROVE 242 South Burrows Three Double Rooms Phone 169-R

GARMAN CLUB 206 West Beaver Phone 535-M

MRS. JAMES MILLER 206 West College Phone 779-R

R. S. MYERS 730 West Foster Phone 271-R

THE DEAN CLUB 331 West Beaver Phone 863

Burglars Don't seek the Limelight

DARKNESS is their stock in trade. They work by stealth—unheard and unseen—their movements cloaked in secrecy. It's honest folks that seek the light. They are the only ones who can risk it.

It's the same way in business. The manufacturer or the merchant who is not sure of his goods does not dare to advertise. Advertising would hasten the end of his business career—put him to a test he could not meet.

The man who advertises, deliberately invites your inspection. He tells you about his product or his merchandise and then lets it stand on its own merits. You can depend on him. He knows his product is good.

That's one reason why it pays you to read the advertisements you find in the columns of this paper. It is through advertising that you are able to keep in touch with the good things that progressive business men are spending their money to introduce and to keep before you.

Advertisements are interesting, instructive and profitable. They throw a powerful light on the very things that concern you most. Read them.

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