

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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FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1932

CLIQUE AND ELECTIONS

Although spring elections are some time off, representatives from Campus and Locust Lane cliques are naturally discussing possible candidates for the principal class offices. A review of Penn State politics may seem a bit premature, but nevertheless something can be said with propriety concerning the necessity for these parties to place on the ballots the names of men who can properly represent their classmates and perform the duties of their respective offices satisfactorily.

The system of "open politics" is still more or less in its infancy at Penn State, and although many flaws can be found in the system, there are few students who won't admit that it is far more satisfactory than the old underground method of forming secret voting societies.

The ideal method of electing a student to office would be to have each voter cast his ballot after careful consideration, for the candidate he considers best qualified for the position. This vote should be cast, of course, without any interference by political organizations. In a college as large as Penn State it would be doubtful if even then the best candidates for office were selected.

The need for our political cliques is obvious then, in that these groups are able to take a representative cross-section of the student body and select able undergraduates for the various offices.

Cliques have failed in their purpose in the past when they have strayed from the realms of class politics and entered fields that have no need for them and should be entirely free of them. In the case of an organization smaller than the class there has never been any need for cliques. Members of these groups are perfectly capable of electing good men for offices without the aid of "machine politics."

Such interference by greedy political leaders ought to be strongly resented by any clear-thinking student.

To summarize, then, we will grant a place for political cliques in Penn State's student life only when these organizations justify their existence by nominating capable, representative men for offices, and only when they have the good judgment to stay strictly within the bounds of class politics.

Evidently the Grounds and Buildings officials, seeing no excuse for snow and ice two weeks before the first day of spring, have decided to take no very serious notice of slippery walks. The College has been for five days in the position of having a great many paths, none of which is fit to be used for travel.

HELL WEEK MEASURES

Hell Week has been a protracted subject of controversy at Penn State ever since it was first observed. Reformers have continually exhorted social fraternities to curb their objectionable methods, in informal initiations. A campaign conducted by the COLLEGIAN two years ago caused some of the houses to abolish or lessen Hell Week activities.

Because the appeal was invariably directed to the organizations in general with the hope that each would adopt a suitable policy, the majority of reform movements failed to achieve any satisfactory solution. One recourse remains.

The University of Illinois has introduced a measure which promises results. Definite rules on which informal initiations will be based were adopted by Interfraternity Council there last week. Hell Week periods are limited to 72 hours and the informal rites are restricted to chapter grounds. This action resulted from an offer made by the Senate committee that the council assume complete responsibility of informal initiations.

Planning to take charge of the Hell Week situation, the University of Illinois Interfraternity Council has adopted two regulatory provisions binding its members as follows:

- 1 No requirements may take the initiates off the chapter grounds or be such as to attract unfavorable public attention. Where the initiation requirements of the national organization require some part of the initiation to be off the chapter grounds those fraternities may receive permission to do so providing the national officers certify this fact to the Interfraternity Council.
2 No pre-initiation (Hell Week) shall last more than three days. Where the initiation requirements of the national organization prescribe a pre-initiation of more than three days, permission may be received by the national officers to the Interfraternity Council.

A total lack of reliance on independent fraternity action seems to be the chief advantage of the above provisions. With these definite suggestions afforded by the University of Illinois, Penn State may well benefit with consideration of such measures by Interfraternity Council.

OLD MANIA

Quite a few very interesting letters come to the COLLEGIAN office. This department just received one from an anonymous co-ed (imagine getting letters from a co-ed!) who waxed pretty vitriolic about the dance which a certain campus lodge put on last Saturday p.m. The general idea seemed to be that the whole affair reeked of misplaced snootiness. Also, she broke a strap (or something). These women aren't very specific about things.

But even more interesting is a communicando which the editor of this rag found in his mail the other morning. It was from W. S. Amberson of 128 West Main Street, Waynesboro, Penna., according to the return address, and is reprinted below:

"By W. S. Amberson

"We have been ask about the United Standards of conduct and naturally have taken the time to ask ourselves what we consider proper. After being confronted with this question the following suggestions presented themselves.

"Ethical" conduct is usually expressed by some one telling of his neighbor's faults.

"It is not so much a question of what we should do, but how to do what we should do.

"Character is like a diamond set among flints. When heated diamond flies to pieces, not so with flint.

"We are some times governed by what we imagine our friends think of us. In the event, that we are not liked by our associates, is it safe to say that their purposes are not good?

"It has been said that the Human race may be led but not driven; that is we see the churchman lead his flock to Church, many also, have been led from the old fashioned saloon."

The whole thing has us baffled. What's the answer? Frankly, Mr. Amberson, we don't get you. We've read your message three times now, and Ethics is still a mystery to us. Come on, W. S., out with it! And you could at least have included the address of that old-fashioned saloon.

Furthermore, we're worried about our diamonds. Are they going to fly to pieces the first warm day we wear them? Will we have to go around wearing flint in our tie pin? What's the world coming to? *****

We also have at hand a clipping from a Morgantown, W. Va., journal. This article goes on and on for eight lengthy paragraphs describing in grimy detail the horrible rooking which West Virginia's boxers took in the Penn State meet, and ends up by pointing out that the Snakes' Post to Penn State because the referee was biased, unfair, and totally unworthy of representing a class of men who daily try to give decisions as they see them and see to it that a fair fight results in the ring."

In the next-to-the-last paragraph, the wrathful writer admits that he didn't see the bouts himself. Maybe he's psychic. *****

Among the more recent factors in influencing public behavior we would include the renowned Literary Guild. For instance, the Guild puts out a book called The Way of the Lance, which has to do with Poles and Russian Hussars and Cossacks and people. And the next thing you know, Boney Gravatt is out parading about town & campus attired in boots and an exotic brown fur shako. He looked very out of place carrying a laundry case into the p.o. It should have been a chibouque. Or a samovar. Or whatever full-blooded, self-respecting Russian would carry into a post office.

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Simpson Selected for '35 Class Presidency

By the narrow margin of eleven votes, William J. Simpson was elected president of the freshman class and Willard D. Moyer became vice-president at a freshman meeting Tuesday night. Simpson polled 199 votes, while Moyer received 188. All other candidates failed to gain a sufficient number of votes for the nomination. The offices of secretary and treasurer were not balloted upon at this meeting but will be voted on at a meeting in Chemistry Amphitheatre at 7 o'clock Thursday night.

LIBRARY EXHIBITS BOOKS OBSERVING POET'S DEATH

Will Display Memorabilia of Goethe in Room K Until March 31

An exhibition of rare memorabilia of the German poet and author, Goethe, will be on display in Room K of the College library until March 31, according to Willard P. Lewis, College librarian.

The exhibit is part of the College celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of Goethe's death, which is being observed this year. It consists of rare books, illustrations, prints, and other Goethe material. In addition to the library observance, members of the German department are giving weekly lectures treating on phases of the poet's life and works.

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Fashion Tea Nittany Lion Inn SATURDAY, MARCH 12 2:30 o'clock You Are Cordially Invited To Attend The Band Box State College

WPSC SCHEDULE TODAY 11:45-Agricultural News Notes 4:00-Dr. Bruce V. Moore speaks on 'State vs. Dynamic Psychology' Dr. Frank H. Koop speaks on 'Educational Administration' TOMORROW 11:45-Campus News Briefs SUNDAY 11:00-Chapel Service 4:00-Dr. William S. Dye, Jr. speaks on some phase of 'English Literature' Dr. Frederick W. Pearce speaks on 'Historical Highpoints in Goethe's Life' MONDAY 11:45-Agricultural News Notes 4:00-Chester L. Wiseman speaks on 'The Home and Its Relation to Present-Day Civilization' Mr. J. S. Taylor speaks on 'Modern Light Verse'

EDUCATION SCHOOL TO GIVE SENIOR ACHIEVEMENT TESTS Comprehensive achievement tests will be given to all seniors in the School of Education during the first week in May, as the final stage of a State-wide study of students who entered various colleges four years ago, according to Dr. Bruce V. Moore, of the Education School. These tests, compiled by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, were given to the same students at the end of their senior year in high school and of their sophomore year in college.

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TO ATTEND ANNUAL MEETING Dean Frank C. Whitmore, of the School of Chemistry and Physics, will attend the annual meeting of the American Chemical Society in New Orleans from March 28 to April 2. He will stop in Washington, D. C., to meet with the executive committee of the Chemical Division of the National Research Council on March 26.

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CATHAUM A Warner Brothers Theatre

(Matinee at 1:30 - Evenings at 6:00) FRIDAY-- Ina Claire, Joan Blondell, Lowell Sherman, in 'THE GREEKS HAD A WORD FOR THEM'

SATURDAY-- Charles Farrell, Marian Nixon in 'AFTER TOMORROW'

MONDAY and TUESDAY-- John and Lionel Barrymore in 'ARSENIC LUPIN' Also Washington Bi-Centennial Film

WEDNESDAY-- Chic Sale, Lois Wilson in 'THE EXPERT'

THURSDAY-- Fredric March, Kay Francis in 'STRANGERS IN LOVE'

FRIDAY-- 'THE BROKEN LULLABY'

SATURDAY-- 'THE GREEKS HAD A WORD FOR THEM'

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY-- A Sparkling French Farce 'LE MILLION'

French Dialogue, but Easily Followed.

THURSDAY-- 'THE EXPERT'

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Easter Time IS Bible Time GIVE BIBLES FOR EASTER - - You will find our stock of Bibles complete in every respect. Bibles, Testaments, and Episcopal Prayer Books and Hymnals. Keeler Cathaum Theatre Building E. B. Z.

Student Loan Fund Dance 8:00--12:00 Varsity Ten Blue & White Campus Owls Bill Bottorf RECREATION HALL Wed., March 16, 1932 Subscription \$1