Page Two

PENN STA E COLLEGIAN ents of The Pennsylvania

the College year, except on holiday, State College, in the interest of the mult, and friends.

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UNJUSTIFIED OPTIMISM

From many quarters arises doleful wailing on the unfortunate lot of the college students who are to be graduated this year. Some people, however, believe that there are advantages to graduating in a year of depres-sion. They point to men who in 1907 were in the same position as this year's senior class. Successful gradu-ntes of that panic year are reported to have been very thankful too the molding lesson of their leng year. And They point to it as the source of their later use And they express sories for the student who starts out it our times-rever to have the advantage of bitter xperience

This all seems to be a noble attempt at making a dari situation appen bught and it ments the scoffing at the graduating class this year. What if these men of the earlier depressions do claim their molding lessons as the reason ioi then rise' There is nothing to prove that they would not have succeeded otherwise and, in fact, there is every reason to believe that they would have risen much more rapidly if they had been favored with good times.

Perhaps some of these men gauned then position by taking advantage of the unsettled conditions of their times. In that event they should lay their success not to moral upbuilding by the conditions, but to luck and, possibly, to unscruppious factors. As in all political, economic, and social upheavals, the present depression will give also to many new fortunes. As far as moral whe give rise to many new fortunes. As far as moral upbuilding is concerned it is a travesty on student in-telligence to think that complete deprivation of work will evert good. Most students start out low enough on the working scale in prosperous times to secure the sensoning of moderation in all things

Every year sophomores interested in public speaking go through eliminations for the Extemporaneous Speaking, prize Every year audiences have been con-spicuous for their small size. It must afford a great deal of inspiration to the declaiming sophomores to face 1600 Cr low of empty seats. Certainly their efforts and the work of the sponsors are describing of more cooperation from the student body.

MARK MARTYRS

Just about this time of the year the educational process quickens in pace and begins to shape some pe-cultar phenomena. Just about now the grading system terminal phenomenal a site about now the grating system begins to press down its yoke and to steer students away from real education. The means to an education be-come an end in themselves. Reports and examinations begin to loom in size all out of proportion to their importance and then place

The g.ading system works at these times of last munute pressure to fashion a peculiar procedure. It poes this way. If a man is to gain enough honor points end credits to be graduated, he must have certain grades and credits to be graduated, he must have certain grades Now in order to obtain these grades he must turn in a specified number of reports of a certain quality and rust put down so much information on the final exam-nation. So it becomes far more important that these reports of a certain quality be turned in than that the happy logic of the college man he agrees with himself that just so long as he gets them in before the deadline it does not spreatly account anyone to know who wrote it does not greatly concern anyone to know who wrote them Then, his conscience dealt with, he proceeds to find the best reports that are available and that are not too familiar to the instructor With diligence he copies them. He hands them in, feeling that all is well and that nobody is wronged. The instructor gets the re-ports, the student gets the grades and his diploma All's well.

But, as is so thoroughly propounded during Fiesh-rian Week and not so much later on, the student is not it college tor grades. It's the education he is seeking. Ho is in college to gain learning, to learn thinking, to think originally. And so instead he gathers a large amount of practice in the art of the copyst. He is press-cd into this copyst habit by the grading system and the attitude of mind which it creates.

Unless the student of characteristic from this basically illogical attitude, he stands in danger of being left with proficiency in copying as his only collegistic gain Either the realization of the true significance of the present grading an angement must be brought to the student of this grade system must give way to a control presents that for a basic density of the student of rew pressure that affords a less dangerous incentive to

OLD MANIA

If you're even in the Free Library at Logan mare in Philadelphia, sidle up to the desk and ask Square in Franciephin, side up to the desk and ask for 974 853-M45, 974.853-M45 is a volume entitled *Industries And Institutions of Centre County* by a guy named Maynard, and was published at Bellefonte in 1877; It's all about the industries and institutions of

Centre County, with a red covel You'll find it an interesting hook For example, you can read about the hanging of Negro Dan in 1802 The rope bloke And then there was James Monks, who was hanged in 1819 to the tune of "Mary's Diear" $a \ la$ the Also Messers Lewis & Connelly, which had not not entered a state of the content, which had forth on enteress of pillage & arson at about the same time, and were shot up by the indignant citizenty. As a partial retribution for his crimes, citizenry As a partial retribution for his crimes, Brother Connelly contributed his skull to the science

of phrenology. Under "Smaller Villages" we find that "At the State College there is a village containing a dozen o two dwellings, store, &c." ********

We have also been leading a numeographed sheet tled "June Commencement" which contains inentitled "June Commencement" which contains in-structions to be observed by the commencees during the avesome ceremony There are ten articles of con-duct, and everything is beautifully worked out The ider is that the College Maishal reigns supreme, and you car't do anything unless he gives a signal. When the Maishal is through giving signals, the graduates march out singing "The Blue & White," just as if nothing had happened. It's all very academic and impressure, and just goes to show what a wonderful thing is E-lucation. A simple flick of a tassel from the right side to the left side of the cap, and presto! You're educated' Under item No 9, however, we find this The

Under item No 9, however, we had this 'The Picsident will naively give a graduate his sown diploma There you are, ladies & gentlemen, there you are' This dep't comes to college, works like hell for four years, gets ings under its eyes. & bells on its toes, loses weight, learns to dissemble an automate rifle, and, what do net get? Somebody else's diploma. Somebody elsc's diploma

In times gone by we may have heaved a casual ocl- or two in the direction of the Reseive Officers Training, Corps & those who foster it But not any Why, because for years we had been bother any Wey why, because for years we had been bothered by the sight of those wretched varsity tennis courts. They preved or oar mind We laid awake at night brooding over them, and thinking how many bushels of potatoes A could insee on that piece of land, and sell to B @ 40c a peek. We thought of the tenement kil-dies who would be happy with all that space to romp cve.. We shuddered at the sight of frivolous person batting a silly ball about in the hot sun, when there coults might have been put to some useful occupa-tion. We became morbid and morose, and would walk clear around by the power plant to avoid the sight of the little clay rectangle so wastefully dedicated to

But now, all is well? The good old Army has stepped in and commandeered the courts, so that they will have more noom to march in. From now on, we shall saunter past the Armory with our head held but it sumter pust the raining with out an item item high, in the knowledge that those coults no longer, but a solid, substantial, & beneficial drill field We suggest that it be set aside for the exclusive use of the Perishing Rifles But why stop there? After all, the Libi ary is an

eyesorc on the campus, and contains nothing but a few dity books, several of which are dangerously Com-munistic in tone. The South Liberal Arts Building is rather hideous—and more than one L A professor r openly pacifistic Why not rip out those two buildings, and get yourselves a real drill field?

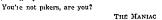
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FRED WARING Dances Here at Penn State Gave Me Start'-Waring "Playing for Penn State fiaternity honseparties and week-end dances cave me mv stait in orchestra work," Fred Waing, dince band leader and foimer student here, said in an inter-view to the COLLFGIAN Wednesday. We the ColLivian weenessing. "I paid my way through College int way, as I needed the money and ne work applealed to me," the or-hesiva leader said. The "hythm ing" was at the College Monday and /cduceday, accompanied by lus broth-r, Tom, and Miss Dorothy Lee, mov-to warking characteristics.

THE PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

Band Leader

ture star. "My first expenses with a travel-img orchestra came duing the sum-mer months of my College vears. Later, I organized a bunch of College boys including several Penn State students unto an onchestra myself," he said smiling reticently

Waring has just complete 1 a win-ter contract at the Roy y theatre, New York City, where he conducted a systy-piece orchestia "This is the first vacation I've had in ten years," he suid



Smith—"Kamongo" Kamongo is the Jung-fish, that strange half fish, half himmal which is able to breathe in water or in the ground Perhaps we ought to say mud rather than ground for he spende almost half his, time burred in the dy packed mud where he takes a long summer sleen shall off from both water and food. He apparently is the closest hiving object to that 'extinct link between the fishes and the first land animals.

Speaking

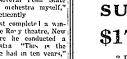
"Laboraties serve three functions" A library poeuros, cares for, and makes available the maternale of schola archip. These three steps may be called collection, preservation and use The last is the unpotation one Col-lection and preservation on encessary but it is for use that all the other steps are taken."

Smith-"Kamongo"

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