

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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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1932

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

One educational idea, common nowadays, seems to favor giving academic credit for the least little thing done by students. At the same time other educators, who have more the interests of real academic values at heart, object to lowering credit values by recognizing everything and anything as scholastic exercises.

The majority of thinking students will agree with Dean Stoddard in his contention that extra-curricular activities should not receive academic credit. Activities are not an essential part of a college education. In the strict and correct sense, credits and honor points are the result, insofar as any grading method can indicate, of work in scholastic lines. Activities are not scholastic lines nor does a person come to college for them. They are diversions—giving experience that could be gained much more quickly in the world if such experience were the only goal of the student in coming to college.

Even now there are too many things debasing the value of credits, and especially honor points in colleges and universities. Instead of extending credit to activities, educators might better eliminate non-academic subjects from the status of academic recognition.

For example, argue what one will whether military science and physical education should be compulsory for every student—no one can say that these basic courses are of academic standard and merit credit and honor points. They might better be placed as a requirement which must be met—giving no credit and no honor points. This drawing of a fine distinction between "giving credit" and merely "requiring" may at first seem pedantic. It probably is a small matter. But small matters can be important as bases for sane judgment among educators of other institutions. The reputation of an institution of learning is hard to analyze. It consists mainly in mental attitudes of scholars throughout the country. What can the reaction be to the knowledge that students get academic recognition for exercising?

OVERPOPULATION OF COLLEGES

Some satisfaction has been felt by students hereabouts in recalling the fact that the student body here is selected from the outstanding high school students of the State. It has made them feel a real pride in the high standing of the whole campus.

However, the registrar has suggested that every high school graduate should be admitted to this College if he has the desire to come. Even if he has been refused by every other college in the State, he should be admitted to this College because it is a State supported institution. The only reason, the registrar suggested, that the present system of selection exists is because there was not enough money provided to keep the facilities up to the demands for admittance.

State colleges and universities have long bowed before this democratic (to the extreme) theory of education which insists that no high school graduate, regardless of his qualifications, should be refused a college education. Western institutions still pay lip service to this creed, but mercilessly slice the ranks of their first-year classes during the first few weeks of school.

However, after much practical experiment, it has been clearly proved that not every high school graduate is deserving, desirous, or capable of a college career. To welcome the incompetents and undesirables into a college batters down the standards of both student and faculty work. The really earnest and deserving student is then deprived of the opportunity to obtain the best possible education from the school.

It has been clearly proved that to extend the total democracy of education beyond a certain point is both a waste of public money and of the individual's productive years. The college is that point. A college education is specialized far beyond the needs of the majority of occupations which must be done in this grubbing world. There is not need for everyone to go to college.

Not even everybody who thinks he wants to go to college should be admitted. Too many who are not at all of college calibre want to go to college. Desire to live on a luxurious campus should not be the only requirement for admission to higher learning.

Certainly it is agreed that every young man and woman who has the mental qualifications and the ambition should be given the opportunity of college. The new democracy recognizes that there are certain persons who have more ability and power than others and to these it must lend its resources so that they may develop.

However, some may say that, even if this difference does exist between high school graduates, it is impossible to separate the incompetents from the incompetents. Of course, the registrar is the best judge of that and, if he says they can not be distinguished before entrance to college, the opposition is silenced. But from all available statistics it seems that the record of the candidates in high school are a rather close index of their potentialities.

If this is so, let there be selection of the fittest from now on, not only through expediency but as policy.

OLD MANIA

Here you are, people, Zombie to remember us by! Certainly you noticed the Army in town the past week-end? And so did the ladies, bless their souls. 'Twas a great thrill and we think that recognition should be given to the lucky gals who got a break. Here you are, folks, the statistics as we have 'em:

Kappa: Midge Travis, Mil Bachman, Marion Howell, and Betty Brice.
Phi Mu: Six claims, nothing definite.
Chi Omega: Cass Gorman, Elma Carringer, Martha Bring; none of the varsity competed.

The Reese sisters together with 'Teen Briggs made out, and also four freshman girls. That makes eighteen and there were supposedly only fifteen men in town on the trip. Ah, well, girls will be girls you know. And . . . if there are any dates we slipped up on, who desire due recognition, just write to us we'll gladly . . .

We understand that there's a lady in town who has vibrations. No! We mean she's Psychic. So far she's given Erskine, Fishburn, Cook, and plenty of others readings of their future. Has written two operas, and claims to be a Yogi, and to have visited Indian princes. Seems to know the lady of whom it is said that:

There's something ritzy
About Miss Nitzky.

Pardon, our astral bells are chiming . . . warning warning . . . warning . . .

Ben Alitosis, our Arab advisor, told us a few recently. For one he said that there's a lad at the Delta O Opsi-lodge whose pappy sends the family chariot and a chauffeur up for George whenever he wishes to make the trek home. Stand back girls! Benny also informed us that Sunny (statuesque) Merrill is staying in town over this year's vacation. Oh, yes! And that Jane Lee sent back that fraternity pin she'd been wearing. Thank's Ben . . .

We haven't quite decided which was the more crowded, the All College Brawl or the Delt dance, which is neither here nor there. What we really mean to say is that we got a great big bang out of watching the freshmen cutting our social leaders at the first one . . . that is until one of them pulled it on us, just when we'd finally succeeded in getting a dance with one of the belles! And we can't get revenge, nohow.

Speaking of Antony y Cleopatra and all that, I give you Yutch, alias Wayland III, stellar clinker pounder, who is at home to his many friends and feminine admirers at Carnegie's Library (right below the Liberal Arts building). Kappa's, Chi O's, Phi Mu's—it's all the same to this gent. The girl of the moment—"What Brice glory!"

For the Swine

Batty Jack Batorf, former football star, and summer school playboy, returned without the wife for a week-end, and was she worried . . . Did you notice . . . Paul Mitten had a date Friday . . . for the first dance . . . Angie Bressler, the girl who came back . . . the prof. who makes the children raise their hands to leave the room . . . Slusser's "learn boxing for a buck," sign at the Delt house, and the guy who didn't dance with Loveland at that affair? . . . Well, well, here's Thanksgiving and a chance to replenish the old pocketbook . . . maybe . . . remember: "Old soldiers never die!"

THE MANIAC

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College To Enforce Recess Cutting Fine

Strict enforcement of the five dollar fine for cutting classes before and after Thanksgiving recess will be carried out by College authorities.

The annual vacation will begin tomorrow morning at 11:50 o'clock and will continue until Monday afternoon at 1:10 o'clock. Absence from classes before and after these hours will only be permitted on presentation of recognized excuses.

JUDGING TEAM WILL COMPLETE

Penn State's livestock judging team will compete in the annual intercollegiate judging contest at the International Livestock exposition at Chicago, Ill., Saturday. The same team won the contest championship at the Eastern States exposition at Springfield, Mass., in September.

CLASSIFIED

BALLROOM DANCING INSTRUCTION—Individual instruction for beginners. Phone 773-J or see Mrs. F. J. Haurahan, Eye apartments.
ALTERATIONS—Suits and topsuits refitted, suits remodeled. Special attention and service given on ladies' garments. Dry cleaning, pressing. See Frank Kozel, care of Station D.

LOST—K. and E. Polyphase duplex slide rule on W. College Ave., Thursday. Reward. Call Ferrero at 412-J. 1tpdFT

THANKSGIVING BUS—To Camden. One way, \$4.50, round trip \$8.50. Leaves Wednesday, 1 p. m. Returns Sunday night. Phone R. Goldfine at 193 for reservations. 1tcompSHB

PUBLIC STENOGRAPHER—Typing of reports, themes, theses, and form letters on short notice at reasonable prices. State College Hotel. Phone 300. 1tcompSHB

FOUND—Wrist watch, southeast corner College and Abertown. Howard McMurray, 909 W. College Ave. Phone 484-J. Owner may have same by paying for this ad. 1tpdSHB

VACATION BUS—To Reading via Harrisburg and Lebanon. Leave State College, Wednesday, 12:45 p. m. Leave Reading Monday, 7 a. m. Round trip, \$8.00. Call 867. W. E. Schelman, A. C. C. House. 1tpdFT

BUS TO HAZLETON AND VICINITY—Leave Wednesday noon. Returns Monday morning. Round trip, \$6.00. Call Benjamin at 180 immediately for reservations. 1tcompSHB

WANTED—Passengers to New York or New Haven this week-end. Leaving Wednesday, 9 p. m. Returning Sunday, 9 a. m. Closed Reo sedan. Round trip, \$10.00. Call Hart 741-J. 1tpd

DRIVING TO PITTSBURGH—Leave Thursday, 6 places. Return Sunday or Monday. Phone 198-J. 1tpd

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Joe E. Brown in

"YOU SAID A MOUTHFUL"

WEDNESDAY—(Evening Only)

Doug Fairbanks Jr., Nancy Carroll in

"SCARLET DAWN"

THURSDAY—(Evening Only)

Ruth Chatterton, George Brent in

"THE CRASH"

FRIDAY—

Chas. Laughton, Maureen O'Sullivan in

"PAYMENT DEFERRED"

SATURDAY—

Sally Eilers, Ben Lyon in

"HAT CHECK GIRL"

NITTANY

(Open Tuesday Only this Week)

TUESDAY—

Return Showing of Irene Dunne, John Bols

In Fannie Hurst's "BACK STREET"

Also Cab Calloway in "Minnie the Moocher"

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