

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, DECEMBER 2, 1932

POLITICAL PLUMS

What should the colleges of Pennsylvania do to protect themselves in the future from the sale of scholarships that are given to senators for distribution? Every year three awards, covering tuition at this College, are given to each of the fifty state senators. Five hundred and fifty-four undergraduates here now hold these scholarships. To the College this represents \$55,400 that never will be paid.

Accordingly, one of the main concerns of the College should be to make sure that this money is being distributed to students that actually are deserving from both the financial and the scholastic side. Fortunately there are only a few cases where students have bought their scholarships to Penn State. Why there are not more instances is through no particular virtue but simply because the tuition fees here are not high enough to make racketeering worth-while. However, this College might well aid her sister institutions, where the situation is more serious, in changing the system and placing the method of award above the faintest suspicion of graft.

What is there about senators that each of the four State-aided institutions should give to them the disposal of three scholarships annually? Charges that this is a legislative bribe have been emphatically denied. More reasonable is it to acknowledge this practice as a political plum—no doubt the product of some ancient and clever Pennsylvania politician. Even political plums can be condoned in a country where patronage has meant and still means so much—but with one requirement. The senators must take the trouble and have the personal interest to make sure that the scholarships are going to deserving students. Otherwise they should not be the distributing agents.

To abolish the scholarships might mean that some six hundred students who have known bosses or ward heelers would not be attending Penn State today. No doubt, through coincidence it would strike down many deserving students. That is the one reason why the awards should not be discontinued. But why must they be distributed as patronage? Why must they be left in the hands of senators who have become in cases, and what is worse may still become willing, or unsuspecting, victims of racketeers—that peculiar product of the present American civilization?

The awards should be continued under different management. What better method could be devised than one whereby the College would control the distribution? By this method the applicants could be tested much more accurately as to their scholastic and financial requirements. At best the system of making the awards on the basis of past political services of friends does not reach the most needy student. It is anything but democratic.

THE ART OF DEBATE

Distinct disappointment was the outstanding emotion aroused by the exhibit of the art of debate Monday night. An audience, nearly capacity size, was treated to a harangue of mediocre and haphazard quality. Obviously the speakers were sharply handicapped by the circumstances, but it was apparent that they were not much concerned.

If debating is to receive any moral support (the financial support being rather amply guaranteed), a large audience of interested persons must not be affronted by a set of careless speeches. The finest advertisement which the debating squad could have made of its activities and merit would have been polished speeches before that audience. Certainly polished speeches from the College representatives would have had ample opportunity to shine by contrast.

It is sad comment upon the system of taxing students to support student activities if the arrangement so paralyzes any concern about the quality of the performances that its earnest supporters are bored with it. It is easy to suggest far more entertaining and cultural purposes to which student fees might be put. Artists' Course, for example, which would bring real cultural values.

Of course, it must be realized that the visiting speakers were on a violent itinerary. Anybody present could see that they were weary, weary even unto reclining—with a fine disregard for dress shirts. It also appears that the arrangements for the speaking order were not conclusively decided until a few minutes of starting time. That really was a handicap, it must be admitted. Perhaps it will be possible at the next Anglo-American clash to make speaking contacts sooner.

Without doubt debating is excellent training. It should have support. But not even an editorial in bold face type could bring it support unless a worth-while and sincere performance is put on. The audiences cannot forever be drawn by desire to have their ear tickled by an Oxford accent.

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF

We're a decent, law-abiding citizen. At least we're law-abiding. We play square with the General Assembly and the State Constabulary. But there are times when it hurts. There are times when we feel like throwing up the whole thing and going out and saying down with the Republicans and to hell with the School of Education.

One of those times came when we were hitchhiking our way home before the recent occasion of gastronomical injudiciousness. We had managed to make our way down as far as the other side of Sand Mountain, and we were high-tailing along at a pretty brisk rate when what did we see but a sign, brazenly acknowledged as originating from the Department of Highways. The sign read, "DANGER, Walk Facing Traffic." Well, we trudged along backwards for about three miles, getting hotter under the choler every time we tripped over a stone or bumped into a post. It's all a pretty disgraceful imposition, and we think somebody ought to write an editorial about it. An editorial, at the very least.

Some days ago the Phi Sig's Charlie Landis left a book on the desk of his freshman roomie, with a note instructing him to "return this to the reserve room in the basement." Charlie arose the next afternoon and went to class, returning therefrom at about five o'clock. Upon entering the house he noted the aforementioned roommate, framed in the cellar doorway, with a vaguely baffled look on his face. "Say, just where is that reserve room in the basement?" he inquired. Charlie isn't exchanging gifts this Christmas.

One of the better known devotees of equestrianism about the town is a rather pompous gent, who as a general rule is tricked out in Abercrombie and Fitch's latest horsing habiliments. He is the very picture of what the jolly old English are going to wear when riding to the 'ounds or bounding for the bow-wows. He sits his mount gracefully, he rides with ease and dignity . . . and climbs aboard his fiery steed by means of a kitchen stool.

This tough football is the Bozderexercise we know . . . Col. Bill Barry's freshman roommate got himself a below grade in ROTC . . . What DU tossed Sunny Merrill out of the card-room window? . . . anyway, we think it was a rothan trick . . . The Froth Mugs, or Ballyhoodlums . . . or Old Skirts, as you prefer . . . figure thusly: "College Humor uses our jokes, so why shouldn't we use theirs?" . . . Dick Beamish, Journalism lecturer and Secretary of the Commonwealth, is in his lighter moments contractor for the foreign rights on George Arliss' movies . . . Incidentally, we wonder if the Board of Censors actually does approve of all the guff it says it does . . . Another semester in the offing, which will soon be under the awning, and Shux Tanner is about due to break out the old mimeograph and write another book . . . Heard that the Kappa Sig victrola dance last Friday was really sponsored by a group of sophomore girls of State College High School . . . Alderfer admits having fallen asleep while lecturing to a class . . . The New Yorker cover of a week or so ago reproduced the expectoratin' image of Johnny Naylor in the garb of horseman sans specs . . . Sue Reeve can write upside down . . . write her name upside down, we mean . . . Al Nowell, AKPI, has a male parent who owns the best bar in McKees Rocks, bar none . . . he's waiting, like the rest of us . . . A battery of riveting machines across the way will be replacing the SAE alarm clocks before long . . . local chapter of the Sons of Rest perks up some . . . A plaintive harmonica reminds of better days, when we were rather younger . . . distinguished visitor and slightly-too-casual observer inquires how comes the SPCA to have offices on the third floor of Old Main . . . At least three down-state people who will read this are expecting letters from us . . . silly of them . . . Carl Wilde, cultivated flower culturist, preserved his quota of cookies intact on a surprise lunch-to-dinner air trip to other day . . . Eddie Nichols is planning to take his new convertible to a revival meeting . . .

SAVE

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Collegian

Advertisers

Oriental Students Display Greater Interest in Politics, Corbett Says

"Students at Oriental colleges and universities are far more interested in politics and national government than the American undergraduate," Charles H. Corbett, internationally known lecturer, said in an interview Wednesday.

Mr. Corbett, who addressed several audiences at the College this week, has spent the last seven years lecturing at universities and educational institutions in all parts of the world.

"Interest in communistic principles by both Chinese and Japanese students is particularly acute at the present time," Mr. Corbett said. "Student strikes, organized demonstrations, and boycotts are not at all unusual. Political unrest in Far East educational institutions has increased measurably in recent years."

Communists acting as centers of propaganda may be found in every college in the oriental countries, Mr. Corbett said. He also declared that the American influence in these schools is exceedingly strong because of the numerous American scholarships issued to oriental students, who later return as teachers.

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Campus Bulletin

Candidates for the varsity boxing team and all second assistant managers of boxing should report to Recreation hall every afternoon at 4 o'clock.

All students who contributed to the P. S. C. A. finance campaign and have not yet received their membership cards may call at the association office in Old Main for them.

Announcement

Texas Lunch

at 139 South Allen Street wishes to announce that it is under new manager and cook.

Good Home Cooking
Home Baked Pies
and

Sandwiches of All Kinds
are offered to the public at reasonable prices
Drop in and give us a trial.

CATHAUM

(Matinee at 1:30. Evening Opening 6:30. Complete Late Showing After 9:00 p. m.)

FRIDAY—
Kay Francis, Herbert Marshall, Charles Ruggles, Miriam Hopkins in
"TROUBLE IN PARADISE"
Also Laurel and Hardy Comedy

SATURDAY—
Ralph Bellamy, Slim Summerville in
"AIR MAIL"

Also Burns and Allen Comedy
Special Children's Matinee—10 a. m.
"THE WIZARD OF OZ"

Admission—Adults or Children 15c

MONDAY and TUESDAY—
Paul Muni in
"I AM A FUGITIVE FROM A CHAIN GANG"

WEDNESDAY—
Clara Bow in Tiffany Thayer's
"CALL HER SAVAGE"

THURSDAY—
Ann Harding, Richard Dix in
"THE CONQUERORS"

NITTANY

FRIDAY—
"MR. ROBINSON CRUSOE"

SATURDAY—
"TROUBLE IN PARADISE"

TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY—
Stuart Erwin, Allison Skipworth in
"HE LEARNED ABOUT WOMEN"

THURSDAY—
"CALL HER SAVAGE"

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\$1.00 Probak Blades 69c
50c Old Gold Shaving Cream 39c
50c Williams Aqua Velva 39c
35c Gem Blades 21c
75c Shick Blades 59c
60c Joy Menth Lotion 49c
50c Squibb Shaving Cream 33c
35c Palmolive Shaving Cream 28c
50c Swav Shaving Cream 37c

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50c Ipana Paste 32c
50c Pepsodent Paste 32c
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55c Forhan's Paste 43c

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