

**PENN STATE COLLEGIAN**

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1933

**ONE MOMENT, SIR**

Before six o'clock Saturday night, some five hundred freshmen will have made up their minds on one of the most important problems confronting them during their four years here. What fraternity is best? In this period of open rushing, some freshmen may have decided in advance the fraternity they will pledge. But a thoughtful reconsideration will not be amiss for any rushee.

Freshmen have heard many times, perhaps, that the calibre of men in the house is the most distinguishing feature about a fraternity. The triteness of the advice in no way detracts from its truth. Most freshmen who pledge a fraternity intend to live there for four years. The type of men whom they will have as fellow lodgers is more important than the newness of the house, its social standing, or some other superficial, rushing season talking point.

Secondary matters, contributing to the major item, should receive the freshman's consideration also. Have its members shown an active and successful interest in student activities? Do the interests of the fraternity conform with the interests of the rushee? Is gentlemanliness only skin-deep? Is the scholastic standing of the fraternity such that it indicates a real interest in the true purpose of college? Is the cost of joining and living in the fraternity too high? The answers to all these questions will point to the type of men belonging to the fraternity. If the freshman can look beneath the smooth veneer of suave rushers and get at the true man, he will make few mistakes in choosing his fraternity.

Those who do not get bids should bear in mind the status of fraternities. They are social groups, not honorary societies. Their selection of new members is by no means faultless. They are only a part of college, not the center of it.

**SUPPORT NEEDED**

One of the many services performed by Penn State men, which undergraduates of late years seem to have forgotten, is the work of G. W. "Daddy" Groff '07 and his associates in Canton, China. Some may smile derisively when "Penn State in China" is mentioned. Yet behind this phrase is a heritage of unselfish service which has become a tradition here.

The Penn State man who left the campus in 1911 to go to China was no spineless idealist. "Daddy" Groff was a very real man, imbued with the spirit of pioneer work for that chaotic country. Armed with his knowledge as an agriculturist and fortified by the support of his friends at Penn State, Groff made real progress. Today he is a leader in the agricultural reconstruction of China. In addition to his activities as Dean of the School of Agriculture at Lingnan University in Canton, he has distinguished himself as a botanist. And besides these services he has proved to be a sort of good-will ambassador between the two countries, as testimonials of representative Chinese show.

Realizing the importance of this work, College officials have set aside each year one chapel service as an occasion for the honoring of "Daddy" Groff. On Sunday the customary request for student support of this enterprise will be made. At a time when China is more in need of expert services than ever before, students here should not fail in the support which has made some of these services possible.

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY rumors of violations of the men's rushing code. Some of these may be pure fiction, but there is one fraternity at least that has proved itself as chronic a violator as it was last year. Forfeit of the fifty-dollar bond seems to be no deterrent for this house. Feeling that a few pledges acquired by illegal methods will be more financially profitable than the keeping of the fifty-dollar bond, this fraternity has not hesitated to go forward with its unfair tactics. For cases of this sort, a punishment more severe than usual must be inflicted, and the rushing committee would be justified in using some such means as withholding that fraternity's bid cards. A few "terrible examples" will demonstrate that a rushing code is not made to be violated.

THE LETTER ADVOCATING the abolition of women's fraternities here was published in the last issue because it represented the point of view of a number of sincere Penn State women. An equally stout response from the defenders of fraternities was expected. But the mail box was empty. Either the sisters were too busy with rushing or they tacitly agreed with their critic.

**CAMPUSEER**

BY HIMSELF

There's a gentleman up in the English composition department who prides himself on being quite a connoisseur of tobaccos. Most of the time he smokes a pipe, but sometimes for variety, usually when he's grading freshman theme papers, he uses cigarettes. At these times he insists on Piedmonts. Last month (when it was still hot enough to go swimming at Whipple's Dam) our instructor walked boldly into the tobacco shoppe of the town and, without even blushing, asked for a pack of Piedmonts. The clerk looked at him suspiciously for a moment. Finally, he drawled, "Sorry, but we're all out of Piedmonts. You see, in the summer months most of the workmen in town go away."

rw rw rw

**LIMERICK DEPARTMENT**

Said the co-ed date to the Campuseer,  
 "Men think of me as they think of Boehm."  
 Said the Campuseer with a sexy leer,  
 "In that case you'd better atone."

jb jb jb

The girls in Grange are all sissies! We didn't always think that, but there have been so many Peeping Toms, spooks, prowlers, morons, etc., making their way up to the upper floors of their dorm that you'd think they'd do something about it. Anyway, that business is getting monotonous. Why the devil don't they retaliate; the boys up in Varsity Hall haven't had a co-ed visitor for many a moon.

cpr cpr cpr

We're very glad to hear that Bob Higgins is not neglecting the aesthetic training of our athletes. Ever since the beginning of the practice season, Bob has given the boys special permission to croon in the showers. Of course, they were warned not to overdo the thing. After all, a Charlie Horse in the throat would be pretty bad for Penn State's football season. However, the boys are bears for punishment. They just can't get enough! Lately they've been continuing their vocal efforts around the training table in Old Main. If you're one of these dopesters who like to predict about football, you'd better get around to the Sandwich Shop about six thirty some evening. The team's coming along fine. They have a swell arrangement of "Down by the Old Mill Stream." Fifty-seven—forty—ninety-six—hike!

jhb jhb jhb

**I. F. C. LAMENT**

Sing a song of violators,  
 Pockets full of buttons—  
 Four-and-twenty pledge pins  
 Jangling not for nothin'.  
 When the season's over  
 And the bids begin to float,  
 They'll take 'em out their pockets  
 And pin them on their coats.

pt pt pt

**SMATTERINGS**

Doc Hasek is the latest addition to our list of absent-minded professors... Gentle advice to Freshman Gretchen Stewart: "Tame down!"... We are charter members of the Penn State Improvement Association... M. P. K. is making a strong bid for the presidency of the organization... Calling Police Car Number 65: Fraternity men rushing freshmen at Flatrock Inn. Shoot to kill... The Beta Sigma Rho smoker was a wow... bar-maids and everything... We heard something else about "Boop-a-doop" Taylor, Jane Town, and Helen Hinebauch, but we can't tell it... And speaking of the Town Jane, it's said that she helped the Thetas no end in rushing...

**LOOKING OVER THE NEWS...**

While we're busy watching the strained developments between Germany and the countries interested in saving the civilization from barbarism, the stage for the next cosmic cataclysm is being set in the East. Japan has promised to stop her military advance in China at the Great Wall, but latest reports tend to indicate the contrary.

Russia's opinion of the Sino mob is not too commendatory, and since the U. S. A. and U. S. S. R. are beginning to pal around and exchange favors, it might be wise for Japan to treat Uncle Sam nicely and not to incur the wrath of the American interests in the Pacific and in China.

Taking a few more drags on the Chinese dope pipe we can visualize Hitler and his crowd titubating into the argument because of Adolf's disrespect for words like Bolshevik, Red, and Non-Aryan, and because the ensuing excitement would keep his subjects from regaining their senses and getting wise to him.

After we envisage France and Italy, blood-thirstedly on the trail of Germany we've just about succeeded in conjuring up the next free-for-all devastation. With ruthlessness admittedly the penchant of today's "men of destiny," same thought and fraternal feeling in humanity will lose their effectiveness in blocking such a terrible threat and challenge to our civilization.

With Roosevelt's statement of the new monetary policy scheduled for release next week our journalistic prophets are pre-empting the "commodity" dollar. After stabilizing the value of the dollar the ensuing problem for the administration will be the stabilization of the minds of hysterical speculators.

The athletic and literary worlds

**"HANK" ROGERS TO COACH CROSS-COUNTRY PLEBES**

Graduate Will Tutor 43 Aspirants For Positions on Squad

Henry H. "Hank" Rogers, graduate assistant in physics, will coach the freshman cross-country squad this fall, it was announced yesterday by Head Coach Chick Werner, Lion track mentor. Forty-three aspirants for the team have reported this far.

Rogers, a former distance runner at North Carolina State College, who was considered for the Olympic team in the distance events, will take up his coaching duties immediately. Rogers is still in training for possible future competition.

Coach Werner regards the material in the freshmen squad as exceedingly promising. From all reports, he said, the squad this year should be the basis of an exceptionally fine team in coming years.

Join 'us in mourning the death of Ring Lardner. It was under his leadership that sports-writing was elevated to a more interesting and clever literary style.

—B. H. R.

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