

**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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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1933

**LOOKING OVER THE FINANCES**

Students who have often wondered just what happens to their class dues or other assessments now have an opportunity to find out where almost every cent goes. With the publication of the report of student activities for the year ended June 30, class and publications statements are open to inspection by every student at the Student Union desk.

The present report is the first of a series of annual published reports on the finances of student organizations. In the face of several questionable items on the report, the student and administration authorities who released the complete report are to be commended for making it available to every student this year. In general, a glance at the report will dispel the idea that graft runs rampant here.

The most vulnerable item in the report is the one on caps and gowns for the June Commencement. Last year, according to the report, the senior class president received slightly over \$600 from various sources. Of this total, \$273 he received from the rental of caps and gowns to graduating seniors. The student committee chairman received \$157.50 for his services, while \$18.50 was divided among a committee of four. Considering that the part-time work connected with taking orders and distributing the outfits lasted only one month, the money received is all out of proportion to fit the effort spent. One reason for the large profit was that the seniors were assessed \$2.50 for the rental of each outfit—fifty cents more than the listed retail price. The fact that the rental last year was paid out of class funds in no way alters the injustice of the profits.

A similar item that brings a raised eyebrow is the invitations and programs statement for last June. Here again the senior class president received \$170.70 for services which were certainly not worth that much. Likewise, the committee chairman received \$113.80. Both this and caps and gowns situation need a little investigation by a student committee. If both concessions are to be given again as political rewards, then certainly the margin of profit per item should be reduced. A reasonable return for the committee's services could still be realized by reducing the price of the goods to each senior. Another suggestion has been made that these services should be performed by needy students, who would be paid by a regular hourly rate. It has also been suggested that caps and gowns be bought by a student or outside agency and rented every year at a reduced price. Certainly some change should be made before next May.

Another discrepancy in the report is that seniors graduating in February were charged only two dollars for the rental of a cap and gown, while seniors graduating in June were charged \$2.50. Why the difference?

Most of the other financial compensations to student officers, committee chairmen, etc. can be justified. Some of them may seem a little high, but aside from the two mentioned above there are no particularly questionable handouts. Those idealists who are still astounded at some of the items should remember that it was not so many years ago when the Junior Prom chairman could make around \$1000 instead of slightly over \$100. Reform comes gradually; not all at once.

The publications statements at the end of the report are illuminating. Certainly this field is no longer the financial paradise that it once was in campus conversations. The fact that the senior class president received over \$500 more for his services than the entire senior staff of the *Old Main Bell* received for their combined services, points to an obvious discrepancy between effort and remuneration. According to the report, the *La Vie* seems to be about the most profitable publication. Last year the senior staff received approximately \$900 in compensations and refunds of class dues. Some reduction has been made in the 1934 *La Vie* budget, but there is still room for improvement.

An analysis of the report should prove, at least, that the Interclass and Student Union supervision of student income and expenditures has been very worth while. Even though the system has not entirely eliminated disproportionate compensations, it has greatly reduced them. The students are getting more for their money than ever before. Class finances are conducted on a comparatively open and honest basis. And the contention that administrative control has crept into the editorial policy of publications is as yet a myth.

A LETTER BY A. J. K. PUBLISHED IN the last issue contended that the College's failure "to advance the liberal and cultural aspects of the student body... justifies complaint, not merely editorials." Well, there is a Letter Box in this paper that is open to all complaints (or praises) that students may have on any matter. But it isn't used very often.

**CAMPUSEER**

BY HIMSELF

Isn't it funny the way just one 'little-bittis' skunk can cause so much trouble? We think so, anyway. About nine o'clock last nite we noticed some sort of rumpus over on College avenue in front of Schlow's and the "A" Store. About a hundred and fifty people (men, women, and children) were jumping around, screaming, and going through all sorts of antics. Fearing that we might be breaking into a Holy-rollers meeting we didn't want to get too close, but we did finally over far enough to see a small furry animal scampering about. The little devil had an air of nonchalance which we rather envied too. He didn't seem to mind his audience one bit.

Pretty soon a nice fat man bravely stepped forward from the wide circle which the crowd had formed around Master Skunk. Mr. Plump, we'll call him that for convenience, carried a broom and a large box. It was quite evident that Mr. Plump intended to do battle with Master Skunk. After a little stalling on Mr. Plump's part during which his antagonist maneuvered into a strategic position in Schlow's doorway, the fray was on.

Master S. made the first move. Suspecting a flank attack, he glanced cautiously to the right and to the left, executed a left turn, and maliciously arched his back. Ah! Mr. Plump beat a speedy retreat and the crowd made ready to take to its heels. But the skunk's victory was only momentary for Mr. Plump now marshalled some shock troops in the person of one of Chief Yougel's henchmen.

Now the fight continued with new vigor. Master Skunk scurried over to a new position, but Mr. Plump (box, broom, and all) marched after him. M. S. was cornered. A few minutes more and the battle was over. Amid the loud acclaim of the spectators, Mr. Plump proudly bore his captive off the field of battle. A smile of victory played lightly around his lips; as for the skunk, well, he was in the box so we couldn't see whether he retained his "devil-may-care" appearance or not.

Mr. Plump won, but we still admire Master Skunk. He was a real soldier! Even observing the rules of international warfare! After all, you know he might have resorted to the use of poisonous gases.

jsr jsr

When we think of rushing, we think of the S. A. E.'s, and that brings tears to our eyes. However, we do want you all to know about the climax of the Phi Delt rush. It's marvelous. At six o'clock Saturday night all the bros. had finished smoothing up and were ready to greet the ten or fifteen boys they had apparently sewed up. Well, some did come. Three to be exact. But six-fifteen rolled around and even six-thirty but still only three pledges. Well, by this time Johnny Ryan and Skinny Cole were tearing each other's hair out. What to do? What to do? They were frantic. Not until almost seven o'clock did the atmosphere become more peaceful. Then, low and behold, up to the very door of the campus lodge drove two taxi loads of freshmen. Patience, it seems, is a virtue—at least, that's what Phi Delt freshmen think.

bjd bjd

**For Posterity**

Sunny Merrill was seen bicycling out Locust Lane Sunday afternoon... with a male passenger on the tandem... "Boopadoop" Taylor was denied her nightly Corner rations one evening last week when Tom Church forgot his wallet... Church, incidentally, is the exceedingly bright boy who insists on mailing his laundry bag to himself... that makes him eligible to become a member of the faculty of the School of Education... Jerry Parker brought Jane Town a baby-rattle to Greek 25 class yesterday... Doc Dengler was delighted... Grief Note: Gib Coskery is leaving school... he has a real job... Good luck, Gib...

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**LOOKING OVER THE NEWS...**

Just how strong is the politician's power to evade the law which he ostensibly represents and secretly flaunts? That question will be answered with the result of the trial of State Senator John J. McClure and eighty-nine co-defendants, which was begun this week in Philadelphia.

If true, the charge by the federal prosecutors that McClure, who, incidentally, was once mentioned as a possible candidate for governor of this Commonwealth, headed a vast bootleg ring, under cover of his high political position, calls for punishment to the full degree. Here is an opportunity for the federal department of justice to display its worth to the people of Pennsylvania.

The drive of "Big Business" against possible inflation action by the government received support from an unexpected quarter this week. William Green, president of the A. F. of U. presented a new viewpoint for labor, that of desiring less inflationary action.

Mr. Green advocated this despite the fact that agricultural prices are lagging far behind industrial price increases, thus making the farmer's position even more hazardous. Although low agricultural prices may benefit labor interests in the immediate present, in the long run Mr. Green is making a great mistake in preferring the anti-inflationist banner of the industrial czars to the more fraternal camp of the farmers.

Despite Mr. Green's rather selfish recommendation President Roosevelt acted very sagaciously this week in coming to the aid of the destitute with an authorized expenditure of \$75,000,000 to be used in buying food and clothing for the needy. Realizing that this relief will not fully solve the problem the administration is now making plans for a greater relief program. Whether by the same indirect manner of inflation or by a more direct method, President Roosevelt's vigorous action points to increased purchasing power by farm and industrial labor in the very near future.

—B. H. R.

**Letter Box**

To the Editor:

This fellow, A. J. K., who raved in the Letter Box last issue, sounds like one of those communists we read about in the papers. It's people like him who brought about the terrible and destructive Russian revolution. If he doesn't like this College, why doesn't he go somewhere else—they

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FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

tolerate people of his ilk at C. C. N. Y. I don't see how anyone can criticize this College, which most of my fraternity brothers think is the best in the country.

As for culture, what more could be asked than that those admitted here come from the first two-fifths of their respective high school classes, and have been trained by men who, themselves, were trained by our excellent education schools.

Let A. J. K. walk into the class in Greek literature and see the fifty-odd students who have elected this course (it is not required) because of their wish to widen their reading scope. The same may be said of several other courses. Is this not evidence of a high degree of culture.

A. J. K. asks for music. He is evidently unaware of the fact that, at every chapel service, there is a well trained choir which enthusiastically renders numbers inspiring the soul and lifting up the spirit. Has he never heard of the symphony orchestra culled from the best talent the College provides?

A. J. K. thinks he is expressing the sentiment of most of the students when he asks for the abolition of the R. O. T. C. He is not. We may grumble about it and dislike it, but there are few who would be willing to do away with so important a fact-

tor in our national defense system. In addition to our culture, Penn State has progressed far in another field. Ten years ago we were a cow-college. Today, thanks to the fraternities, our men are as well, if not better, dressed than those at other schools. This emphasis on dress is not mere vanity; it is the outward expression of the internal feeling for beauty and uniformity. (We must all have uniformity in our lives, other-

wise people would rightfully think us "queer.")

I guess that's all I have to say and I think I've done my duty as I've seen it. In closing, I should like to express my astonishment at finding such a letter in the COLLEGIAN. After all, you have a certain mission, and it is not to sow the seeds of discontent and Bolshevism on this campus.

—LOYAL SON

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7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00, 8:15

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