

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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THURSDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 16, 1933

A GENERAL REACTION

The current investigation of honorary and professional societies and clubs is not confined to Penn State alone. The reaction against a situation in which a majority of the students can wear keys on their watch chains has spread to institutions all over the country.

Last year a group of upperclassmen at Syracuse University made a complete survey of honoraries. They recommended that there should be only one honorary fraternity in each college and school of the university, and that both sexes should be admitted to the organization. In addition, they suggested that initiation fees should be limited to a maximum of eight or ten dollars, that each organization should be required to keep a model financial report, that not more than fifty percent of the budget should go to the national organization, and that a general scholastic requirement of "B" should be established as a prerequisite for admission to any of the honorary societies.

At the present time, the men's senate at Syracuse is holding public hearings in an effort to curb honorary rackets. It has already resolved that "every honorary and professional fraternity shall conform to the standards set by the senate . . ."

An expose of flagrant financial abuses in honoraries by the Colorado Silver and Gold last spring led to the appointment of faculty sponsors for each organization. In an editorial attack on honoraries, the Colorado Mines Ore-digger recently said: "Honoraries cost too much. . . Honoraries should get in step with the times and do a little deflating. If they don't, they will lose all the the purpose that motivated their beginning and mean less than they do now."

Likewise, the Purdue Exponent stated: "Few needs are more apparent than reactivation of many of the organizations now existing. It is small wonder that permission to create others has been hesitantly given. In cases where injection of new life is not plausible, a complete and final dispersion would be a logical move." And at Tulane University last week, a campaign against "joiners" was instituted by the Student Council.

Just what the exact results of the investigation here will be, is difficult to say. However, unless the situation is different from that on other campuses, it will probably be found that there are too many honoraries in a given field, that fees are too high, that some groups are inactive, and that the whole system of honoraries is somewhat of a farce, anyway.

THE VANISHING RED-BAITERS

Almost anything can happen, it seems, in these days of rapid change. One of the most surprising things during the past week or two is the complete absence of any howling about the present negotiations with an emissary of Soviet Russia. The "red-baiters" seem to have swallowed their words overnight. Finding their views now at variance with those of the government, they have apparently gone into hiding lest they be denounced in the same words with which they have so long branded the Bolsheviks.

If only to illustrate progress, the following quotations taken from a 1919 speaker's handbook endorsed by the government are significant:

"The rule of Lenin in Russia illustrates for the first time in history the carrying out in practice on a grand scale of a system of sociology evolved out of the brain of a literary fanatic."

"The aim . . . is to abolish human nature . . ."

"Business (in Russia) is largely a matter of bribery."

"Every month now sees the founding of new publications (in America) devoted to Bolshevik propaganda . . . sees new efforts of the 'intelligencia,' the highbrow theorists, who have so little understanding of the awful disaster that would result from the accomplishment of their sophomore yearnings."

The fact is that Mr. Roosevelt and his "highbrow theorists" with their "sophomore yearnings" have very definite reasons for wanting to recognize Russia. At London last year Litvinoff offered one billion dollars worth of Russian trade to capitalist countries which could offer suitable terms. America stands a good chance of getting a large part of this if formal recognition is achieved. Furthermore, the fact that America and Russia are now on speaking terms again should serve as a check on the sword rattlers in countries like Germany and Japan. Both America and Russia are busy with problems of internal reconstruction and neither wants war. Consequently, they are likely to look with disfavor upon any nation inclined to stir up trouble.

Thus the "highbrow theorists" have again proved themselves to be practical. Let those dear old souls, who fear the invasion of Communism as a result of this move for recognition, air their hallucinations if they wish. At least student opinion, as expressed in editorials in other college and university newspapers, harbors no such worries.

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF
PAGING MR. AESOP

Paul Tonks and Butch Simpson of the Phi Psi lodge have been pals for many a clouded moon, but they're not any more. Of course, they still slip each other the fraternal grip and say, "Hello," but it's not a very hearty greeting. At least, not as hearty as the "Hi, Pal," of old. It seems they both had dates for the late lamented bacchanalian festivities. But, e'en as you and I, they soon tired of their Queens. Saturday night they both got conveniently tired very early in the evening, so they tucked their women in bed at an early hour and returned to their own lodge. Within three minutes (by the trusty Phi Psi grandfather's clock) after the boys parted, Paul left the house for a date with Butch's girl, and two minutes later Butch followed with a vice versa act. Not until dawn (in all its rosy splendor) did they realize that they had been digging each other's cellars. And they didn't see the humor of the situation. Instead they got pretty sore. Now Mr. Simpson goes around saying, "I Tonks I went have any more late dates," and Paul retorts, "You Butch your life you won't."

Col. Venable was scheduled to give a speech to the Sunday School kids at the Wesley Foundation the other night, but he never delivered a word of it, not even the words, "Millions for defense but not one cent for tribute." The Venable gentleman had the best intentions and all that, but he couldn't seem to find the right room. For five, yes ten, minutes he groped his way around the subterranean passages of the church. Unfortunately, he couldn't find his audience, and since he didn't happen to have any skirmishers along with him, he couldn't do much about it. Finally, he found an exit and vacated the place in a military huff. Maybe it was just as well—he was in no mood to speak on "Pacifism," anyway.

FOR THE GUINEA PIGS

The wusga prexie is so straight-laced that she turns her back when she sees a sorority sister smoking. . . Johnny Miller, Campus Owls tooter, lost half of his clarinet over the week-end. . . we don't know, but we imagine it would be pretty hard to toot on just half of a clarinet. . . FLASH: Mitch will cut a class tomorrow. . . Dean Ray would like Leon Mirbach to return her wash rag which he swiped from her apartment last week. . . What Musser Club co-ed rushed up to the Men's dorms the other night with a jar of Vicks and a bottle of Castor Oil tucked under her arm? Yes, the boy friend was sick. . . Sue Hoffer is that way about Doc Kelly. . .

DUMB FROSH DEPARTMENT

In Galbraith's class: Q. Name one of the leading dramatists of our day. Dumb Freshman: Irving Berlin.

In Wyand's Class: Q. Who won the World's Series? Dumb Freshman: I dunno. Q. Well then, who won the Battle of Gettysburg? Dumb Freshman: Gettysburg, 3-0.

LITTLE NELL

They took a freshman girl to the infirmary the other week. When they dragged her out of the dorm she was whoopin', and ahollerin', and raising all sorts of commotion. Doc Ritenour was baffled as usual but he finally diagnosed her case as a severe attack of hysterics. The cause of her epileptic fit: well— It seems that some catty so-an-so told the little girl that in the estimation of a certain fraternity, her reputation was nil. And furthermore, that she was at the head of an "easy" list which the brothers of that fraternity kept in a convenient spot. (We think it's a damn shame and we're out to "get" the brotherhood that "done harm to our little Nell.")

AS YOU LIKE IT

There's a girl from Bethlehem in town who says she knew Philo Hines when he was a funny-looking Boy Scout at Camp Minsi-on-the-Delaware. . . and she adds, "that wasn't so many years ago." . . King Cole hadn't heard from his New Jersey girl friend for two months. . . up until yesterday when she sent him a letter asking for a sample of his fudge. . . Connie Glace arises at six o'clock every A. M. so as to have enough time to get just the right amount of lipstick, rouge, etc., on her face. . . incidentally, Connie's the girl that is making all the janitors' hearts flutter no end. . . Item for Bandmaster Thompson: Did you know, Major, that there was a gentleman, Hoffman by name, who carried a clarinet in the Rotisserie band for two years without being able to play even a note? . . . no, you can't do much about it now, Major, because he was graduated last year. . . The battle of the century, the Maniac vs. Helen Taylor, is still going strong. . . the Maniac had a slight edge in the last round. . . incidentally, Jim Norris claims that our contemporary's most recent sock was below the belt. . . can you take it, Helen? . . . Who was the wench who all but drowned in a Women's Building bath tub the other night? . . . she was slightly under the weather and couldn't turn the water off. . . Pledge Golightly of the Sigma Pi lodge didn't Golightly over the week-end in spite of his name. . . as a matter of fact, he shelled out over sixteen-bucks just to bring his girl to and from the old home town. . . that's one for the record books. . . The mascots caused trouble no end at the Army-Navy soccer game that the co-ed staged last week. . . the feminine booters know now that mules and sheep are rarely "housebroken" . . .

LOOKING OVER THE NEWS . . .

The State legislature has been in session only a few days and already various interests are embarking on the famous "blocking and choking" tactics that characterized its session last spring. For the chairmanship of the House Labor committee a man definitely allied with the Pennsylvania manufacturers has been selected.

We wonder just how the friend of the manufacturers will act on the child labor legislation, minimum wages, shorter work hours and unemployment insurance bills that are to come up at this term. At the time that the federal government was enacting legislation for the social welfare of the laboring classes, a child labor bill could not even be brought out from the House committee for consideration. Will there be a repetition of this shameful practice?

President Roosevelt's parley with Foreign Commissar Litvinoff on Russian recognition is now in its last stage. The cause for the delay is the failure of the Soviet to assure Americans residing in Russia freedom for worship. To many the religious question is the greatest major point objectionable in the Soviet government. America's ideal for the tolerance in religious belief makes it imperative that Russia agree with the President's request.

Our federal administration, we can see, will continue to put its heart and soul into everything it undertakes. With Secretary Woodin taking a "leave of absence" one of the big obstacles to President Roosevelt's plan for managed currency is eliminated. Morganthau, his successor, is an outspoken advocate of the present monetary plan, and the administration is thus giving assurance that the experiment will receive every chance for success.

Orchestra Attractions of America subsidiary of the Music Corporation of America announces the appointment of RAY BLOCH as the Penn State agent for POPULAR BANDS Beta Sigma Rho Phone 199

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LIBRARY WILL DISPLAY 32 PORTRAIT PRINTS

Exhibit of Self-Picturizations To Open in Room K Saturday

Including self portraits of thirty-two contemporary artists, a special exhibit of portrait prints will open in Room K of the College Library Saturday, Willard P. Lewis, librarian, announced.

Representing years of endeavor in collecting, the representatives here are only a small part of the total collection of many hundred items in a variety of mediums, such as wood-cuts, etchings, and lithographs. A few of the artists are George Bellows, Howard Cook, Roger Buck, Timothy Cole, Rockwell Kent, and R. Ruzicka.

Secured through the efforts of Prof. James B. Helme, of the department of architecture, the exhibit is part of a collection of Elmer Adler, of New York City, who also serves as editor-in-chief of the Colophon, the book collectors' quarterly.

CHOIR TO SPONSOR CONCERT
Sponsored by the Westminster Student Choir, the third in a series of Saturday musical concerts will be held in the Presbyterian church at 7 o'clock Saturday night.

MARTIN VISITS WASHINGTON
Dr. Asa E. Martin, of the department of history and political science, returned Tuesday from Washington, D. C., where he spent two days in history research at the Congressional Library.

It's the Talk of the College!
DANCE
To the Blue and Gold Orchestra
ON FRIDAY NIGHT
Starting at 9:00 P. M.
THE New Green Room Rathskeller and Beer Gardens
UNDER THE GREEN ROOM
Opposite Front Campus



A bird's-eye view showed the way

Telephone engineers recently found the best route for a new telephone line by taking a bird's-eye view of their difficulties.

The territory was heavily wooded, spotted with swamps and peat beds, with roads far apart. So a map was made by aerial photography. With this map, the best route was readily plotted, field work was facilitated.

Bell System ingenuity continues to extend the telephone's reach—to speed up service—to make it more convenient, more valuable to you.

BELL SYSTEM



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to attend

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.... at

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Friday, Nov. 17, 1933

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