

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 EVENING, JANUARY 11, 1934

AN AMERICAN YOUTH MOVEMENT?
2. Student Radicalism

If it pointed out nothing else, the recent National Conference of Students on Politics held in Washington showed the unconscious humor and ineffectiveness in radical methods. The L. I. D., a student socialist group, and the N. S. L., with communist leanings, dominated the conference.

To many others at the conference, this was a fine demonstration of the futility of radical procedure. It gave the impression of much "hot air" and little effective action in the end. By demanding certain things, by drawing a circle around themselves and saying, "We are right!" the radicals unconsciously drove the neutrals to the other end of the arena.

This uncompromising attitude, this unwillingness to see some good in the other fellow's point of view, is one of the real defects within the ranks of the radicals. The split at the conference between two groups with essentially the same ends is typical of the whole radical movement.

By the very nature of their tactics, therefore, the student radical groups are excluded from the possibility of ever forming a united Youth Movement in this country. Just what is their worth, then? They can, and do, arouse other students to a realization of the pressing problems confronting American students and non-college youth.

INDIVIDUALISM

Dean Sackett's support of American inventiveness with a view to profit might be questioned in the light of what is known about inventiveness in general. The majority of inventions in the technical field are the result of research financed by large-scale industrial organizations, and the reward accruing to the inventor is at most a royalty, which doesn't compare with the financial gains made by the employer.

The Dean's reference to the panic of 1907 as a "dip in business" is important. Is a depression a "dip in business?" Able-bodied men walk the streets, breadlines stretch out for blocks, huts rise on city dumps, disease spreads because hungry people dig in garbage cans.

There is very little security in the lives of the working people. Any day they might be thrown out of work; any day another "dip in business" might come. Dean Sackett recalls the depression of 1893, and says, "People advocated new systems, but as soon as industry and business revived, they soon reverted to the old state of mind."

The problem of initiative resolves itself into one of definition. Dean Sackett seems to define the term as coupled with the profit motive and inseparable from it. Individualism of this kind, brings subsistence living for the masses and luxury for the few, is too costly, both economically and socially.

There is another kind of individualism which all people can practice. It is the cooperative individualism which allows each to work according to his ability, with the geniuses and specialists bringing benefits to all rather than crushing them in their rise to the top. This is the desirable individualism which will come about with the alteration of the present system.

-M. P. K.

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF
ECSTASY

Corpses in the Gym

"Cadaver see a corpse Walke? Well we didn't." (That's a pretty stiff one). However, we are told that there are seven human carcasses lying in state up at Rec Hall—six whites and a black, all bandaged neatly and ready to be jugged, gored, and butchered by a bunch of heartless Phys Ed-ers.

You'll have a hard time finding them if you don't know your way around, for, understand, they are not strung from the rafters for the entertainment of visiting teams. First, you go down an innumerable number of stairs to about the sixth or seventh underground level. Then you start going through doors, five of them. As you open the fifth you see before you, in a weird grayish-green light, seven corpses, a "choir invisible," all decked out in mummy-fashion lying in huge sardine cans.

Already some playful students have been carrying choice chunks to the privacy of their own rooms. One student is the proud owner of an ear while still another, probably an aesthete, possesses an unburied piece of very artistic tattooing.

As a matter of fact, we have our doubts about the whole ghastly business. Is Director Bezdek a sadist? Why is he converting Recreation Hall into Requi-ation Hall? Do these mortal remains, these "tenements of clay," represent the seven cardinal points of the New Athletic Policy, or is this food for worms to be used to scare off a few more coaches?

Hel-pan Things Along

If some enterprising, public-spirited co-eds do not step forth bravely within the next twenty-four hours and offer Pan-Hellenic dance bids to this columnist and to the Maniac, we promise faithfully to Pan-Hell out of the whole affair. In the meantime, perhaps we might mention some of the more elite who will pair off together when promenading to the bar tomorrow night.

- Females: Isabel Loveland, Emily Rose Gans, Hortense Ditto, June Brown, Sunny Merrill, Ed Williams, Helen Taylor, Helen Hinebauch, Mao West, Lydia Pinkham
Males: Bob Morini, Bob Scarlet, Chick Poster, Bob Hanawalt, Bob Gans, Carl Wittum, Don Ross, Al Warehouse, Satch Clark, Frank Musser

CHEESE PARINGS

Deans Sackett and Warnock discussing the Athletic Situation while trespassing on Mr. Ebert's nice grass in front of Old Main... Recovery Note: MacFarlane had his hair cut... Revolution Note: Doc Dengler bought a new hat... Skallions to the Watts Hall boy who thought he'd keep his pet gold-fish from freezing during the Christmas holidays by putting alcohol in the bowl... A bad combination of mandolins and guitars serenading the gals in Grange... What were two Grange Dorm co-eds doing in Old Main about 2 o'clock last night?... Academic Note: Doc Alderfer read a book review of a nice set of volumes costing nine dollars... a lot of money, but he bought them... now, however, he's thinking about sending them back... the review didn't say they were written in Latin...

CASH for USED BOOKS SEE OUR LIST OF BOOKS WANTED January 13th to 17th (Saturday to Wednesday) KEELER'S CATHAUM THEATRE BUILDING

'Collegian' Letter Box

To the Editor:

It is indeed strange and sad news to hear a Penn State Dean disregard one of the first principles of an adequate educational philosophy. Primarily, education is a means of emancipating people from antiquated customs and ideas by offering a new and better system of thought and conduct. Education assumes that human nature can be changed.

The age-long dictum that "human nature being what it is, we are helpless to do anything about it" is perceptibly bound up in the statement, "We can never abolish American individualism." Thus, human nature in America can never be motivated by anything else than the desire for private gain. (A rather low estimate of the human family). But what is human nature? Human nature is Napoleon wrestling for power in Europe, but it is also Immanuel Kant saying, "Two things fill my soul with awe: the starry heavens above and the moral law within."

In 1934 certainly, students need faith in human nature; they need educators who will be willing to draw out that side of human nature which has heretofore been thwarted by a misinterpretation and false application of the philosophy of Darwin and Huxley. Human nature needs a chance to express itself cooperatively.

-Roland R. Ritter '34

To the Editor:

Dean Sackett said some interesting things in the last issue. It will be interesting to scrutinize them a little, the first statement anyhow. There probably won't be room for any more. He said, "This administration or any other administration cannot remove individualism and initiative from the American make-up."

If I did not think that this statement was meant seriously I would consider it a clever travesty on the present state of affairs, a little thought on the matter should convince anyone that ever since the rise of the industrial barons, since the day when Rockefeller, Morgan, Hariman, and the others of that motley crew set up the prototype of Insull, Mitchell, and Wiggin, this nation of ours has been a nation of floundering sheep, content to be exploited by ruthless capitalism, euphemistically called 'individualism and initiative' fighting for profits.

We have degenerated into a nation of wage slaves—that is, in times of prosperity. In depression, we don't even have the advantages of slaves. They, at least were fed and

clothed. We are given neat phrases of over-production, retrenchment, business cycle, etc., kicked out of a job, and allowed to starve.

Can there be true individualism in a system where every worker's mind is moulded by the constant necessity of holding his job? Can there be true initiative in a state where economic insecurity is a constant threat? It is absurd. The only people left with any individualism and initiative are the gangsters and the big-time capitalists. That's not exactly true—the unemployed are manifesting great initiative and ingenuity in bringing up a family of five or six or seven on three dollars a week.

It is conceivable that under the proper stimulus, this initiative will be turned to revolutionary processes. I hope so.

-RAGGED INDIVIDUALIST.

To the Editor:

That the events and ideas of 1893 are deeply ingrained in Dean Sackett's mind and prevent his realizing clearly the failure of certain features of our increasingly complex economic system and resulting need of change seems clear to a student who attempts to reach an unbiased understanding of the reasons for our troubles. I question that inventors have the profit motive in the foreground. Most inventors love their work, and are happy to have the opportunity to carry on their research. Some of them, in fact, are prevented from achieving a full realization of the value of their work by narrow desire for profit on the part of 'big' business men.

Studies have shown that inventors, of all people that the Dean could have chosen, work under the profit motive as only a minor incentive, if not actually as a hindrance.

The provincialism of the Penn State campus must have affected the Dean's understanding of the extent of human suffering and social waste caused by a "dip" in business. The complacent prediction of a future depression is at the best an admission of defeat and of inability to attack these problems rationally, at the worst, the best possible argument for the need of immediate redistribution of power by revolution.

The development of a more highly mechanized system must not be permitted to result in lessened security for 95 percent of the people or utter misery for one third of our population. Should not logic suggest that the increasing ability to produce so well ought to carry with it a more abundant life for all? Until a social consciousness can be aroused that will make possible a cooperative commonwealth, gradual progress may best be maintained by measures which insure security to all who will work, at the expense of limiting the mass of profits to be piled up by 'industrial' executives, Peruvian bond

EXPERT WATCH and JEWELRY REPAIRING at Crabtree's

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boosters, and Mitchell-Wiggin-Insull.

F. B. Jr. '34.

THOMPSON HEADS COMMITTEE

Betty B. Thompson '34 was appointed by the Panhellenic council to head a committee to revise the Panhellenic rushing code yesterday afternoon. Other members of the committee are Claire M. Lichty '35 and Martha J. Bring '35.

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Photos for Application Purposes FROM YOUR "LA VIE" or Other Negatives Are Seasonable Needs MODERATELY PRICED The PENN STATE PHOTO SHOP 212 EAST COLLEGE AVENUE

The manly art of self-defense now applied to telephone cable Western Electric, manufacturing unit of the Bell System, now makes a tape armored telephone cable ready to meet all corners. BELL SYSTEM WHY NOT TAKE A TRIP HOME BY TELEPHONE? - TONIGHT AT HALF-PAST EIGHT