

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.

THE MANAGING BOARD

- CHARLES A. MYERS '34 Editor
FREDERICK L. TAYLOR '34 Business Manager
GEORGE A. SCOTT '34 Managing Editor
WILLIAM M. STEIGMEIER '34 Assistant Editor
BERNARD H. ROSENZWEIG '34 News Editor
JAMES M. SHIEN '34 Sports Editor
RUTH M. HARMON '34 Women's Editor
EVA M. BLICHIFFELDT '34 Women's News Editor

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

- James B. Beatty Jr. '35 John A. Brutzman '35 Phillip W. Fair Jr. '35
A. Conrad Haiges '35 Kenneth C. Hoffman '35 Burton Rowles Jr. '35
James B. Watson Jr. '35 Fred W. Wright '35

ASSOCIATE BUSINESS MANAGERS

- Harry J. Knoff '35 H. Kenneth Lyons '35 Jack A. Martin '35
John J. Matthews '35 George A. Rutledge '35 Earl G. Keyser Jr. '35

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATE EDITORS

- Margery B. Daniel '35 Flicke M. Douthett '35 Margaret W. Kinlosie '35

Editorial Office, 313 Old Main... Telephone 500
Business Office, Nittany Printing Bldg... Telephone 292-W

Managing Editor This Issue... Phillip W. Fair '35
News Editor This Issue... James B. Watson Jr. '35

THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 1, 1934

WHAT DO THEY READ?

The old question of what college students read and what they don't is raised again by a letter published in this issue. The writer considers the two humor columns, the Campuseer and Old Mania, a waste of space. He suggests increasing student and faculty circulation by running two other columns in their place. One would be a summary of campus events and the other a column of national and international news.

It is true that the humor columns often contain "nothing of importance." But that is precisely what the student readers like. In a survey made last year, almost ninety percent of the seniors said that they liked the humor columns more than anything else in the COLLEGIAN. In the face of such a demand, it is not so easy to dispense with the foolishness. Names are news, however trivially they may be used.

As to the first suggestion, the Student Union Bulletin gives a summary of the coming events of the week, while a summary of the past events can be gathered by a glance at the headlines of the two issues for each week. And a column of national and international news was run weekly during the first semester. Its temporary discontinuance, however, has caused no great outcry. It was read by a minority, while the majority gobbled up the humor next to it.

This, then, is the conclusion that one must reach after observing student reading habits for some time. Perhaps, however, the lack of student interest in serious reading has been exaggerated. If so, additional suggestions or criticisms, such as the one in the Letter Box, will be welcome.

CLASSICS VS. MASSES

College students have become accustomed, in the last few years, to hearing increasing moans from the more classically-minded in our faculties and among our writers. They point out semi-annually that not enough so-called "cultural classical" courses are included in our curricula.

This plaint is especially heard in reference to such colleges as Penn State, where the condensation into four years of study of enough technical knowledge to last a lifetime prohibits, for a large percentage of the student body, the scheduling of Greek and Latin studies, the learning of intricacies of the Bible, and research into Virgil and Plato, Horace and Demosthenes.

Students, as a defense measure, have come to the point where, when an argument either for or against classicism starts, they either mumble assent, pointing at the same time to a catalogue filled with required subjects, or answer, simply, "I wouldn't want to study that stuff, what use would it ever be to me?"

In the latter student reaction, we can find the real answer to at least one side of the problem. Students don't want to take classical courses because they are of no practical value to them. A glance into the history of higher education shows the point clearly.

In the medieval university, and up to about 1850, students stayed for four, five, six or more years, learned Greek and Latin very well, learned what was known of history very well, learned the intricacies of the Bible very well. Students in those days came either from the upper reaches of the social hierarchy, to which they would return after graduation, or from a slightly lower tier—sure to rise after college was over. On their level, the language of the classics meant something—they could use it, and be understood.

Today, with mass education as it is, things are decidedly different. Students don't come from the upper classes, they come from all classes. They don't float off the commencement platform into assured positions that will place them higher in the world, they step down from the graduation stand to look for a job, to return to the class level of their parents.

To a man who has but for a moment stepped away from the world of work, classics mean little. For his personal satisfaction, for an appreciation of the better things in life, they very definitely have their place, but from a strictly pragmatic point of view, they are worthless. Culture, the study of social science, of human history, will give him a much deeper insight into the affairs of the world today than would any amount of stored-up knowledge of the intricacies of Greek and Latin, or a knowledge of the Bible. Classical culture, as such, lost its place, and rightly so, with the spread of higher education to where great middle classes could reach it.

-J. B. W. Jr.

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF

Collegiate morals are definitely on the down-swing. From all sections of the country we hear of new lows in undergraduate culture traits. Co-eds are painting their finger nails a brighter, more suggestive shade of red, an increased number of dogs are running around college campi with tin cans on their tails. Two students at Drexel have allegedly kept dates in a fraternity house until after three o'clock in the morning, and Bob Ellstrom has abandoned training rules.

Shocking things are taking place in all collegiate institutions. From Bucknell we hear reports that just the other day a Bison basketball player removed his sweat pants right before a game and revealed to all the spectators that he had not bothered to wear a pair of trunks underneath. Lack of forethought, you may say, but did the student audience blush, did they turn their faces until the matter could be properly adjusted? No. Instead, they gave their vociferous approval by uttering cat-calls and cheers.

Our own undergraduates are not any better. Most shocking scenes may be observed in any of the numerous drinking parlors which infest the town. All sense of propriety seems to have vanished as suddenly as, if not quicker than, a pack of cigarettes in a rushing season.

The action of the town authorities is encouraging. They are meeting the situation just as Brandt met the Governor. In other words, Burgess Leitzell, Chief Yougel, and his entire corps of officers are taking a hand in the matter and shaking that hand vigorously. One incident just last week proves the point.

A prominent manager-elect who should have known better was sitting in a local beer cellar with a just-as-prominent-co-ed. They were drinking their third glass of ale, the third glass! This pair of drunk-en sots would have probably taken a fourth, and so have drunk themselves into a stupor had it not been for the timely appearance of the Burgess and Chief Yougel.

"You've had three glasses of ale. You're drunk now, aren't you?" the Burgess asked very kindly. There was a quizzical gleam in his eyes.

"Waddaya mean, drunk? Who's drunk?" the student answered rudely. And his co-ed friend littered disrespectfully as unbefits any co-ed with a Sense of Decency.

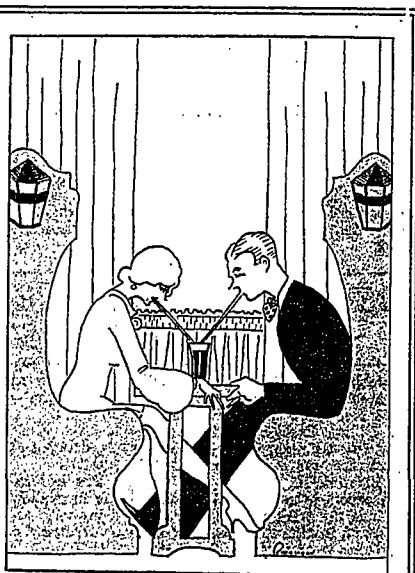
"Aro you over twenty-one?" our good Chief Yougel then interrogated in a pleasant tone of voice.

"Hell, yes," replied the nasty student who seemed to have no respect for his superiors.

It was quite obvious to the Good Chief and to our Honored Burgess that the fiend which sat before them was lying. Why he might even be some desperado from Chicago, they rightly reasoned. Well, the conversation continued, and it finally developed that the two culprits really were students—undergraduates at our own Glorious State (whose name we all dearly love). It seems a shame that our Borough officers have to spend so much time keeping unruly, immoral students from disgracing the town with their sodden habits. Yes, you can definitely say that College morals are on the down-swing.

"Dear Old Panzer." For weeks before the gym team's match with Panzer College, Charlie Speidel raved about the institution. "Dear Old Panzer," he would say, "how I long to be back at my Alma Mater. Oh, you'll love the place." And so, for weeks the gym team looked forward to the trip to New York and Panzer with expectation. The Great and Eventful Day arrived and they speeded away to Panzer. In New York they had difficulty finding the place. Charlie had given them explicit directions and yet the place just didn't seem to exist.

Finally, they stopped and inquired. "Oh, yes," said their informant, "you want to go to Panzer. Well, drive down the street two blocks, turn to your left, and it's the third house from the corner."



and after all

The Corner unusual

Letter Box

To the Editor: Believe it or not, but the COLLEGIAN of Penn State wastes space and opportunity. The "Old Mania" and the "Campuseer" columns fill about one and a half columns of space in each issue. And they contain nothing of importance.

Why not substitute for these worthless columns a column written in the manner of "Time" magazine and containing a brief history of the campus activities for the week? Your second issue of the week could contain a similar column dealing briefly with the trend of national politics, governmental policies, and international news of the week.

If you reason that these are unimportant, also remember that:

- 1. Such columns would create more faculty readers.
2. The COLLEGIAN would certainly prove of more value than it is today.
3. Student circulation would probably be increased.
4. Penn State has more serious students than is realized.
5. Such news columns should be worthy of a trial.
Ernest C. Miller '34.

To the Editor:

For their gallant and witty reply to my charges of last week I have only respect for the shoguns of The Old Mania Dell. Their good wishes are encouraging and I thank them deeply.

In drafting their reply they have fallen into their prevalent attitude of flippancy, a state of mind which

Unfortunately has become identified with the Bell. The fine Italian hand of Mr. M. P. Wood was too frequently employed, one believes.

They have chosen to take up the gage and have set about concocting a plot story. They define their subject matter in no uncertain terms; "slave-running in Pago-Pago, incest in a New England farm house, gangster vengeance, the breath-taking adventures of a beautiful female spy in the Russian White Army, and 'How Frank Meriwell Came to be President of the International Harvester Company.'" With this bold stroke they have removed all cause for the existence of the Bell. They have outlined the ideal Froth plot; nothing now stands in the way of the merger of Froth and the Bell.

They have also shown a rather weird conception of "things remote from the collegiate merry-go-round" by their admissions that they know little of "the exotic and alluring South Seas, of the new Russia, China, elephant hunting in darkest Africa, and other subjects. . . ." By "remote from the collegiate merry-go-round" I meant things no farther away than Bellefonte. I choose to believe that their association of these colorful items with my recommendations was more a clever evasion than a misunderstanding.

Their kind treatment of my wretched usage of the language brings a loud shout of, "Banzai!" Mr. Eddie Nichols is working on this department and a turn for the better is expected.

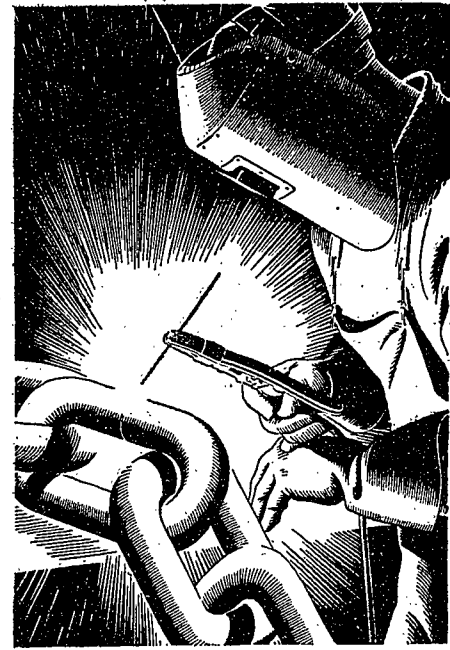
Lest the matter descend to what Mr. Lynn Christy calls, "more fun in college," it is agreeable to me that, the war end here, our shafts duly shot and exhibited. —James Dugan

SOPH HOP FURNISHES THEME FOR CURRENT 'FROTH' ISSUE

Soph Hop tomorrow furnishes the theme for the current issue of Froth which will go on sale tonight. The cover is especially drawn for the occasion by Benson Eschenbach '26. Froth's masterminds have drawn up plans and made suggestions for the vaguely proposed armory in which

they present pertinent plans for the military.

Jack R. Rowles '35 and Robert A. Dickinson '34 collaborate on an epicurean appreciation of fine liquors in the Julian Street manner. F. Lynn Christy '35 is present with several pieces as are Jacob S. Krakusin '35 and others. The drawings are by Don Gordon, Bob McKean '30 and Jimmy Dugan '37. A sports supplement for Saturday events will be distributed with the issue.



From 27 links . . . ONE STRONG SYSTEM

Welded together by common policies and ideals, the 27 Bell System companies work as one.

Operation is in the hands of 24 associated telephone companies—each attuned to the area it serves. Scientific research and manufacture of apparatus are delegated to Bell Telephone Laboratories and Western Electric. Co-ordination of all System activities is a function of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Thanks to the skillful teamwork of these many Bell System units, you can talk to almost anyone, anywhere, anytime!

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM



WHY NOT TELEPHONE HOME ONCE EACH WEEK? REVERSE THE CHARGES IF YOUR FOLKS AGREE.

SOPH HOP CORSAGES Marimor Florists 222 West Beaver Avenue PHONE 861

College Cut Rate Store Scot Towels 15c, 2 for 25c Towel Holders 25c Winter Chocolates 1 lb. 39c Old Fashioned Peppermints 1 lb. 33c Large Can Talc 29c Vantines Dusting Powder 39c

GOLD-N-SNO By Stroehmann's of Course 59c AT YOUR GROCER'S Same Cake in Bar Shape 2 Layers and Icing 30c from a Betty Crocker Recipe To be sure you buy the genuine Stroehmann's Gold-N-Sno Cake, look for the Betty Crocker seal on each cake. Stroehmann Bros. Company Bakers of Kew-Bee and Prize Winner Bread