

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, APRIL 5, 1934

STUDENT GOVERNMENT
I. Farce or Benefit?

"Student self-government on the American campus can never be more than a legend, a legend with many unpleasant associations."

In line with the current tendency to submit established institutions to the test of usefulness, the Syracuse Daily Orange recently published an editorial, containing the above sentence, in which it was pointed out that even the best and most honest student governmental leaders are never more than "errand boys" for the College administration.

Although we are ignorant of the conditions on the Syracuse campus which gave rise to the editorial, it is safe to say that they are fairly general. There can be no denial of the statement that students govern themselves only with the permission of university administrations and that the final responsibility does not rest with the students.

Yet the issues are these: Do the current conditions justify tearing up constitutions for the sake of definitions? Would complete student responsibility be desirable? Are there no good points in the present set-up?

Granting that student government here or elsewhere is not completely in control, it is doubtful just what benefits would result from its abolition. Even under a half-way system there are certain advantages. First of all, it is better for the students if they are given some control over their own affairs.

Even if the student senates are "puppet senates," there is some good in them. "Training in leadership" is a trite expression, but in which connection with student government has not been diminished. The student who holds a governmental position gets some valuable experience in dealing with people.

One undesirable feature about student government must be admitted. When election to an office breeds the attitude that now is the time to make a little pocket money, then some change is necessary. The sight of student leaders making "grat" is detrimental to a healthy attitude on the part of the student body as a whole, and is certainly not desirable "training" for the leaders themselves.

(A second editorial on this subject, will be published in the next issue. It will discuss what student government at Penn State has accomplished this year and what might be done in the future.)

IS SPECIALIZATION PARAMOUNT?

Although it has been contended in the past that the jack-of-all-trades is unable to maintain his assumed position of importance, the subject seems more pertinent today with the rapid advancement that is being made in specialized sciences.

While it may be granted that specialization is necessary in all technical branches, yet to disregard the group of "culture" students is unfair. They maintain that to grasp specialized courses would be to narrow the world's cultural outlook.

The "specialist" selects his course and studies assiduously until he masters it. Yet even after he has acquired all the fundamentals of the course, there is a possibility that something may go awry to make his chosen vocation distasteful.

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF

It was in the midst of a last-minute rush home for Easter that Tony Robeson, Phi Psi from Indiana, decided to take his white bucks along after all. He pulled them out of the clothes press, jammed them into his suitcase and departed for Indiana.

He returned here yesterday and tried the shoes. They seemed a little large and he wondered if his feet had shrunk. They hadn't. He became sure of this when he discovered that the white shoes belonged to his roommate, Don Sanders, who was duly grateful for the improvements.

A lot of important people, it seems, didn't join the emigration last week. They liked State College. Among the waiting-for-school-to-begin-ers was Bill VanKeuren, hurdler par excellence, Bezieck-baiter consistent, and punster lousyextraordinary.

Monday night was a right nice night, except for one thing. There was definitely but little doing in town. But Wood wouldn't be stopped. He thought of something. He broached the subject to VanKeuren, who was dubious. Wood, it appears, thought a spot of ale might go well. VanKeuren didn't.

The track was wallowing in the moonlight as the comic editor got down to fundamentals in the matter of clothing and started his journey. One lap. Two laps, three laps. Would the man never stop! He lagged, and the vicious Van urged him heartlessly on.

You'd think that was enough? No! VanKeuren had to have his full sixteen ounces of the discouraged Wood's flesh. "A little ale, please, it brings in a big gain," he muttered encouragingly. Wood's hands fled of the idiot up, faced him towards the hurdles, and pushed. Woody picked up speed, leaped, and CRASH! — the hurdle fell, and Wood was all the while.

ent manner of rationalization is not in the same category. In college, he is content with general knowledge of art, history, sociology, and other subjects because it gives him a broader point of view.

The "culture" student may spend four years here in an expensive apprenticeship, yet the expense is justified by the knowledge that he has obtained a general appreciation of a large number of subjects.

Apology

On Thursday, March 22, there appeared in the Campuseer column of this paper a reference to Burgess Leitzell and other unnamed parties.

The COLLEGIAN board now considers that comment an inexcusable act, and hereby apologizes to Mr. Leitzell and those other unnamed persons for causing them unwarranted embarrassment.

Library Building...

This is the second of a series of short messages from Willard P. Lewis, College Librarian, explaining the need for a new library here.

In this College library we have a small narrow catalogue room with an available working area of 270 square feet for desks for five assistants, book shelves, shelving, etc., where we should have approximately 1,000 square feet.

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LONG ILLNESS CAUSES DEATH OF '84 GRADUATE

Former Board of Trustee Member Dies At Home in Scranton March 16

Last member of the class of 1884, Milton W. Lowry, former member of the Board of Trustees, died at his home in Scranton on March 16, after a long period of illness.

Mr. Lowry was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1907 and served until 1923, when he resigned because of poor health. He was admitted to the bar in 1886, and was married on October 8, 1886.

SENIOR FORESTRY STUDENTS LEAVE TO TAKE C. C. C. WORK

Several senior forestry students left College April 1 to assume positions with the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters as well as with departments of this nature in Maryland and New Jersey.

Speakers for the occasion included Dr. Ralph D. Hetzel, president of the College; Dean Ralph L. Watts, of the School of Agriculture; Hon. Lewis E. Staley, secretary of the State Department of Forests and Waters.

COLLEGE LEASES LIVE STOCK TO PENNSYLVANIA DAIRYMEN

Five outstanding herd sires were leased to dairymen in five different counties of the state during last week.

by department of animal husbandry. The plan of construction breeding adopted by the department has resulted in the present average yield of the herd of ninety cows to 10,000 pounds of milk and 400 pounds of butterfat annually.

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