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Successor to The Free Lance, established 1887

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Tuesday, September 24, 1935

THE MERCHANT'S SIDE OF IT

Throughout the year, year after year, and particularly at this time of the year when there are some 1400 new freshmen in town for the first time, one hears the constant moan and wail over the prices of the local merchants.

A believing soul listening in on one of these wailing moments would be firmly convinced that the local merchants and tradespeople are a gang of highway robbers to whom everybody must pay the highest sort of tribute.

It takes but a moment's thought to see that the greater part of this talk is very much ill-founded and that it has little actual basis. However, these little bits of slander make interesting talk when rushing season conversation runs a bit thin.

Therefore, the young freshman is usually pretty well inoculated by the fraternity men with the idea that the local merchants are thieves and grafters bleeding poor students to death to live on the fat of the land and who have never known the depression.

These piece-meal bits of slander are, for the most part, entirely fallacious, and are very detrimental to the local merchants. Perhaps the only thing which is true, and then only in part, is the fact that prices may be a little higher in State College than in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, or Podunk.

However, this slight increase in the price of a commodity is not to bleed the students' purse so that the merchant may fatten his own. The cause for this price increase is something which is entirely out of the hands of the local merchants. It is forced upon them, since they are forced to earn a living, and pay a very heavy overhead for twelve months of the year, while their goods are marketable for only nine.

During the nine months which the College is in operation, the local merchant must sell an enormous amount of goods since he must foot the bills for twelve months, and in order to do this, he must spend a great deal of money on advertising aimed at his local customers are steady for only nine months.

Thus, the only way in which the local merchant can meet his overhead expenses and make a decent living is by slightly increasing the price of certain commodities.

However, there are many articles which may be purchased in State College just as cheaply, and in many cases cheaper, as in other communities. And anyone who thinks that the local merchants have an easy time of it should just take a look at their books.

It's very convincing.

WITH PUBLICATION OF fraternity averages in the last issue of the COLLEGIAN, a wail of protest has come from certain fraternities. It was unfair, they claim, to publish the facts so early in the year. Some fraternities have even gone so far as to claim that these figures were published with the intent of hurting them specifically.

Of course, that is an unfounded theory. The sole reason for the publication of the figures was the fact that they had a greater news appeal at the time when they were published than they would have had at any other time during the year. The COLLEGIAN sees no need to withhold from its subscribers news of great interest, and in this case, of importance.

It certainly is not the COLLEGIAN's fault if a fraternity's average is not what it ought to be or what they have said it to be.

THE ADDITION TO THE WOMEN'S RUSHING CODE

For many years in this College, women's rushing has centered itself about a certain chosen group of freshman women. By an addition to the women's rushing code, recently presented by Dean of Women Charlotte E. Ray, all freshman women will be entertained by the women's fraternities. For three weeks the fraternities are not to rush, the rule including the stipulations that freshman women are not to be entertained in women's fraternity houses all night nor will rushing be permitted in the rooms of freshmen. After the three-week period, the freshman women are to be divided into groups, each fraternity entertaining a different group every week, this continuing until December 1, after which time rushing will proceed as usual.

In the past, many freshman women knew nothing about fraternity life, their only observations being from the outside. Now each freshman woman will be given, during the period extending to December 1, an equal opportunity and there will be no slights. This also enables each fraternity, through making more contacts, to have a larger group from which to choose its rushees.

The amount to be spent on rushing each week is to be kept to the past rule of \$1.50 per week for each house. This will eliminate the problem which might otherwise have arisen concerning the added entertainment being too great an expense for the fraternities to defray.

The COLLEGIAN also feels that the three-week period of no rushing will give the freshman women a chance to get acclimated to college life without the enforced interruption of women rushing.

OLD MANIA

Hold-up:

One night last week all the Lambda Chi boys went out to a hunting cabin in the mountains as part of their tremendous rushing campaign.

Wm. S. Hoffman, well-known College registrar around here, went into the cabin some hours early, along with a few other Lambda Chi alumni, to clean the cabin and start the supper. Finishing their work, and finding time heavy on their hands, the party masked themselves, got shotguns, and started down the road to meet their undergraduate frat bros with pledges and dates, all of whom were coming in on a truck.

The bad men advanced with drawn guns. When they met the truck coming up the winding mt road, they held up the merry throng, just like they had seen it done in the movies. To put it briefly, bedlam reigned.

The dates screamed and all the boys threw their wallets far out into the woods. Mildly surprised to see the consequences of their crime, the Hoffman gang unmasked. Lambda Chis started hunting wallets in the woods. One poor chap didn't find his at all.

American Tourist:

Lynn Christy, who, with his band, visited Europe during the summer, dropped into the office while we were writing the foregoing. Remembering our training as a COLLEGIAN newshound, we crept up to him, notebook in hand, and before he knew what had happened, got an interview.

Christy, who went through France, Belgium, and Germany on a bicycle, remarked about the tremendous manure piles to be found in front of most every villa in the country through which he passed.

"I aver," Christy averred, "that the German manure piles are vastly superior to the French ones."

"Things look black for Mussolini in Italy," Christy said. "That's what he gets for trying to mussolini." Christy did not visit Italy.

Asked what he thought about Harry Seamans' contention that Germany would be broke by October first, Christy said that they will have to work fast if they hope to fall in with the genial P. S. C. A. secretary's plan. His boyish face looking out through his glasses, Christy said, "I say that Germany will be in Dutch before this is all over."

About Town and Campus:

L. Werner, lit prof, got his name in the current issue of Vanity Fair. He is one of the few who were able to answer more than forty per cent of the questions in the literary questionnaire. We predict he'll use the questionnaire as the first question in future Lit 6 finals. Incidentally, Mr. Werner has added "Roll, River" to the reading list in that course.

We like Al Newmeyer's crack about the D. U. S. He says that they're building the freshmen into the new woodwork. Capt Wilcox, Dick Geiger, and Lynn Lansbury were up to the A O Pi house the other day sewing up the cushions.

Jules Vernik, Sandy Morrison, and Mary Simpson were sitting in the back booth in the Corner the other night waiting for dinner. They waited and waited. Becoming a bit piqued at the service, Queen Mary went into the phone booth right by where they were sitting and called the desk in front of the place to inquire about their order. It worked.

Dagmar Hansen back...

-THE MANIAC

Selected Shell Group Displayed in Library

A selected group of the finest shells from the Artemus Dean collection, numbering about 4,000 different specimens, is now on display in the exhibition room of the College Library.

Shells from Africa, Asia, Europe, Australia, and the East Indies are represented in the exhibit. A snailery and terrarium, are also included. These are the property of Hubert Frings who arranged the exhibit. The shell collection was presented to the College by Samuel H. Dean, the son of the Rev. Abner Dean, who made the original collection in February, 1934.

The exhibit will be open until the end of October.

DISC 'n' DATA

Reginald Foresythe's compositions lend themselves quite readily to performance by large bands, and "The Duke Insists" is just such a one, recorded by Paul Whiteman for Victor. The swing in the first part is by far the outstanding feature of the disc, made so by the triplets featuring clarinet lead and backed by saxes. The piano passages, solo and duet, are worthy of note, as are the trumpet bits toward the end. This is backed by another of the English negro's novelties, "Garden of Weed," in which the King steps down a bit in Burke's Peerage and goes Duke Ellington, especially in the intro and the piano finale. Both are danceable tunes, and should meet with considerable response. Victor-25113

Willie Bryant, new elite of the Harlemaestros, does considerable justice to his own composition, "The Voice of Old Man River," aided and abetted in the early stages of the number by tenor, then alto saxes, both backed by string bass that is ample to say the least. Trumpet, fair; vocals by Bryant, pleasing but undistinguished. An old W. C. Handy tune, "Long Gone," is found on the other side, notable chiefly for "Packy's" clarinet solo, and a brief trumpet flare. The boys contribute some effective work in swinging the vocal. Dance to the former, listen to the latter, and give them each about a 2 minus. Victor-25129

Ray Noble goes definitely velvety in "Top Hat," but with a verve that makes this number a definite treat. Trumpets against sax-background is standard enough, but wait until Noble puts his touch to it. Al-Bowly and the Freshmen take three for the vocal, but someone gets a zip for thinking that we would be interested in the virtuosity of the clarinetist that winds up the disc. "Piccolino" on the other side was created especially for the nimble feet of Astaire, and is noteworthy chiefly for the rhythmic pattern that fairly begs one to dance. These "comeback" tunes of Berlin make us wonder if he had ever been away. Victor-25094

Dr. Austin to Address Metallurgist Meeting

This next number is so patently up Eddie Nichols' alley that I hesitate to review it, but here goes. It's Fats Waller and His Rhythm in Victor's "Truckin'," the sensation from this year's Cotton Club show. Fats' spontaneity is infectious to the nth. The clarinet is reedy, but the trumpet bit following is considerably better. The string bass and drums furnish passable rhythm. The Waller right hand gets a workout, and for an intermission number at that next vic dance it is a must. The reverse side is a panic, no less. It's "The Girl I Left Behind Me," and my ribs are still sore. A 1926 piano and a 1907 model crooner are ribbed by the versatile Fats in the first part, and they get the year's award as the choicest Golden Bantam. Some good trumpet and unrestrained vocalizing feature the rest of the disc. Victor-25116

Stock Judging Team Wins Title 10th Time At Eastern Exposition

Harvey M. Russell '36 Places First in Individual Scores with 31.

For the tenth time since 1921, the livestock judging team won the judging championship at the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Mass., last week with an aggregate score of 2,397 points.

Competition included the Connecticut State College, Cornell University, Massachusetts State College, and the University of New Hampshire. Penn State took first places in beef, cattle, and sheep judging.

High man was Harvey M. Russell '36, who placed first in the individual scores with 831 points. Maxwell Smith '36, took second place with 800 points, and Ward W. Studebaker '36 took seventh with 766 points.

Other members of the squad are William P. Campbell '36, Karl P. Catterall '36, Walter S. Gabler '36, and Samuel F. Simmons '36. Prof. William L. Henning, of the department of animal husbandry, is coach.

The team has had a high record of victories. From 1921 to 1923, Penn State won three consecutive victories. In the alternate years of 1925, 1927, and 1929 teams representing the College again won. From 1931 to 1933, the livestock judging team turned in three consecutive victories. Last year, the team placed third.

Fraternity Future Not in Danger, Say Advisers

The future of college fraternities was the theme of the recent convention of the Delta Chi fraternity at Yellowstone National Park, according to Prof. Marsh W. White, of the department of physics, who, with Prof. Richard W. Grant, head of the department of music, and J. Norris Barnard '36, attended the conference as delegates from the local chapter.

Discussion of the situation disclosed that the present trouble in fraternity circles is centered mainly in the metropolitan areas and particularly in the New England states, Professor White reports.

There is no cause for alarm in the immediate future as far as the fraternity situation at such universities as Penn State, where isolation from the metropolitan areas makes necessary such a system as the fraternity life which exists here," Professor White stated. "The consensus of opinion is that institutions like Penn State will be the last to be affected by these changes," he said.

When the National Interfraternity Conference meets in New York City in November, the theme will be "The Future of College Fraternities." Delegates representing every national fraternity from all sections of the country will attend to discuss the vital problems facing the Greek-letter organizations.

CINEMANIA

Kay Francis and George Brent, who played together in "Living on Velvet," are again teamed in the romantic leads of "The Goose and the Gander," which plays at the Cathaum tomorrow.

Miss Francis plays the part of an ex-wife, whose millionaire husband has fallen for the wiles of a pretty blonde, married her, and then attempts to flirt with his first wife.

Kay seeks revenge and manages to get the husband to visit her and at the same time maneuvers wife number two and an escort, bound on a phillandering trip to a mountain resort, all under the same roof. Accidentally, a gentlemanly jewel robber and his moll also are sidetracked into the lodge.

The untangling of the marital mix-up, as well as the jewel robbery, leads to a surprise climax. Miss Francis and Brent are supported by Genevieve Tobin, Ralph Forbes, Claire Dodd and John Eldredge. Alfred Green is the director, and Charles Kenyon wrote both the story and the screen play.

Julie Epstein '31, local boy who made good in Hollywood, had a hand in devising the screen play for "Little Big Shot," which comes to the Nittany tomorrow night.

A new juvenile screen star makes her American debut in the picture. She is Sybil Jason, and she is not yet six years old.

"Little Big Shot" is a story with the picturesque and colorful background of the Great White Way, depicting the lives of the denizens who make their living by their wits.

It is not a gangster story, but some phases of gangster life are touched upon. Two men who live by their wits are left in charge of a little girl a few minutes before her father is put on the spot by killers. When the courts take the tot from them, they get honest jobs so they can keep her.

But the gangsters are after them and kidnap the girl so they can locate the two. The two get into the crooks' den, where they are lured for the slaughter. Here the plot winds up to a surprising climax.

The lovely Merle Oberon discards her exotic character and emerges in a new screen personality in the feature picture at the Cathaum Thursday and Friday.

The play, which is from a story by Guy Bolton, is a love story laid in New England. It follows the life of Kitty Vane and her neighbors, Alan Trent (Frederic March) and his cousin, Gerald Shannon (Herbert).

Since childhood Kitty has adored the indifferent Alan and Gerald has been in love with her. Comes the make the ending happy.

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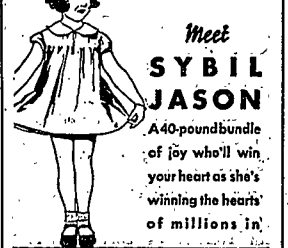
war and Alan realizes his love for Kitty. He tells her while home on leave, but cannot marry her because of lack of time. He is reported killed in action, but turns up in time.

NITTANY

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