

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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Tuesday, October 20, 1936

THE LETTER BOX

To the Editor: May I add from the wilderness an unwelcome word to the choral shouting about athletics at our College? I am an alumnus, an alumnus intensely proud of having been graduated by the College. And I find that I share with other proud alumni a view about the athletics situation that hasn't been much expressed. We came to the College because it had a fine reputation as an educational institution. And when we were graduated we found that we had a deep respect for it, and that we were boastful about being part of it because we came to know its real strength and power as a citizen-making apparatus. We think it is great because of its teachers, its campus, its laboratories, and its students—yes, even because of the violated privacy of the Penn State Jessies' stomachs. We think it has really great teachers and that it has done grand service to the world in its laboratories and its classrooms. This Penn State, you see, is the one we're proud of, and the one we want people to know as our Alma Mater.

But we find that in the hubbub of the last few years that this isn't the Penn State that lots of people are hearing about. They hear rather about Nate Cartmell leaving and about the alumni drive that got Hugo Bezdek and about how we ought to get a good football team and how we ought to keep tossing coaches out until we do. In brief, our complaint is that far too much good time and attention—studentes, facultas, et alumni—is being wasted on a business that is at best a side alley off the main streets of the College's purposes.

We find our College invidiously compared with Pitt, Notre Dame, Villanova, Bucknell, and such because their football teams can lick the pants off ours, while as educational institutions they don't touch our own College.

We find that the clear-cut non-subsidization policy of the College is being undermined by sneaking in through the back doors of fraternities, and that the whole purpose of College athletics—to cultivate the old sound body for transporting the old sane mind—is being forgotten because Bucknell can buy a better football team.

We find that the natural loyalty and helpfulness of alumni is being drained off into playing nursemaid to every high school kid who has snakey football hips, while, for example, the library, a far more accurate index of the greatness of a university, is allowed to struggle along in deep inadequacy without an audible alumnus chirp.

And we remember, too, how this athletics business can destroy a college as an educational agency.

Don't get the idea we dislike a good football team. But if Max Schmeling wins the heavyweight title we wouldn't think that the U. S. is thereby automatically relegated to a place beside Lichtenstein as a nation. And it's ditto about Penn State if Lebanon Valley takes a football game.

It seems to me a lot more important for the College to be concerned about the five or six hundred guys who play their own football in local vacant lots every night rather than to worry and spend thousands of dollars on a bunch of fifty who would be better off as men if they had more time to do things besides practice football.

I write about football especially because it is the glaring example, but the same goes about the placing of some sort of decent logical emphasis on all the other intercollegiate sports. And if gate receipts fall off, let them. The College can put provision for proper sports in its budget. That's its job. It doesn't need to run a semi-pro athletic circus in order to keep itself decently equipped to do its work.

I don't think we are alone in our feeling about the athletic situation. There are certainly a good many of us who don't go to alumni meetings in the various cities to express interest in the College because we don't care about football forums. And it's time we put in our two bits worth.

Sincerely yours, A Lion's Paw

OLD MANIA

Quote of the Week:

"Harsh tho' it may be to Mr. Bezdek, and others in similar roles, it looks like Penn State and Wisconsin have found the answer to their football perplexities! Two cooks are said to have spoiled more than one broth!"—Excerpt from the column, "Probing the News" in the Pennsylvania after the Muhlenberg game.

Unfinished Business:

Harry Henderson started it all with a little paragraph in his "Proofreader" column in the last Froth when he nominated the Clearfield Progress for assigninity for some reason or other.

In the last issue, under the caption, "Journalistic Brew," Campy ran part of the Progress' retort to Froth as printed under the heading, "RASberries." Richard A. Stewart ex-'39 (Get it?) ended this vituperative Bronx-jeer at Froth and Henderson's nomination with the punch line: "I read the COLLEGIAN." (Harry Henderson may be remembered by some of you as having had something to do with the COLLEGIAN last year).

If the thing had ended there... but, no! Norm "Hezy" Halprin, jittery business manager of the Bell, saw the Progress' article, gasped at the free publicity accruing to Froth and COLLEGIAN, and immediately took steps to get the Bell in on the gravy. Hastily and nervously, Hezy dictated a letter to his secretaries asking, "Where's Clearfield?"

Here Hezy made a slight mistake. In his attempt to get the Progress to say something nasty about the Bell, he sent his letter to Jack Rowles, Froth editor '35 and now reportorial stooge on the Clearfield Republican, which paper is a bitter enemy of the Progress. Excerpts from Rowles' answer to Halprin follow:

My Dear Mr. Halprin: You're cockeyed... I'm delivering your letter to the proper libelee, who may do with it as he pleases... What's it all about—the Henderson crack in Proofreader?... Froth editors took an awful beating in the defense article... Paradoxically, this weekly is a Democratic paper and always has been. That's something you didn't know about Clearfield.

Anyway things must be on the up and up with the Bell. I can remember when a business manager with a stenographer was a museum piece (Ed. note: was?)... Give my love to Lewis, and never, never again address me as the Editor of the Progress, because I really am't.

Burton Rowles, Jr.

Progress is asinine... Froth editors are more asinine... COLLEGIAN is swell (adv't)... Ex-COLLEGIAN editor Henderson is asinine... Where's Clearfield?... Republican reporters are Progress editors... Progress is Republican... Republican is Democratic... Please, Major Bowes, the Bell!

Be Sure Your Sins, etc., Dept.:

We had forgotten all about it until we got the following curt note in yesterday's mail:

Yeh, I know that I owe you a buck and a half. TRY AND GIT IT !!!

Remember the dirty write-up ya gave me last year? Heh, heh, heh...

Hoping you flunk out of school, I remain lovingly:

Carrick's Favorite Son

Regular readers of this column will have no trouble placing that despicable abnegator of lawfully contracted debts as none other than the Sex Craved Wombat of Brazil, Frank H. Hilgartner, ex-Froth editor '36. And in reply to Mr. Hilgartner we wish to say that unless he remits \$1.50 IMMEDIATELY we will tell an eager world just WHAT HE BORROWED THAT MONEY FOR!

Heh, heh, heh, yourself, Mr. Hilgartner.

—THE MANIAC



FORMAL WEAR

AUTHENTICALLY CORRECT EVENING ACCESSORIES FOR THE COMING SOCIAL SEASON.



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Pine Conifer Display Exhibited at Library

The current exhibit at the College library is a display of conifers. The cones in all shapes and sizes were collected from the various parts of the United States, and a few from other countries.

The exhibit is a project of the visual instruction classes of Prof. Oliver P. Medsger, of the teacher training extension. It is used as a demonstration of the method for setting up school or college exhibits. The specimens were collected on the campus, in the mountains east of State College, and from the private collection of Professor Medsger which he has been accumulating for years.

There is a cone at least eighty years old from the cedar of Lebanon, originally collected in Lebanon by a missionary. There are cones from the Abe Lincoln tree, a sequoia gigantea, and from the General Sherman tree of the same species, the largest and oldest tree of California. One section of the exhibit is devoted to the nut pines, whose seeds are used for eating purposes.

CINEMANIA

Tonight, "The Big Broadcast of 1937" plays at the Cathaum. This supper musical stars Jack Benny, Burns and Allen, Bob Burns, Martha Ray. Featured are Benny Goodman's hot outfit and Leopold Stowkowsky's symphony. Story is comparatively insignificant. Mainly dancing, singing and comedy, with a couple of new gags, hot jazz and symphonic numbers intermingled.

At the Nittany tonight, another Gaumont British production, under the dramatic title "Everything is Thunder" comes to town and remains over tomorrow.

Constance Bennett, Douglass Montgomery play the parts of a beautiful German girl and a dashing British officer respectively in a war-time saga with high romance. Montgomery, as the story goes, kills a sentry to escape a German prison camp and flees to Berlin. He is picked up by Anna (Constance Bennett) who thinks him a fugitive from a front-line trench gang. They fall in love and are saved by the self-sacrifice of Anna's former lover.

Kay Francis and George Brent are together again in "Give Me Your Heart" which is on tomorrow at the Cathaum. Kay Francis is a motherless English girl who has been brought up by her scientist father and has acquired a taste for the gay life. George Brent is an American business man.

Kay falls in love with a British nobleman whose wife is an invalid and becomes the mother of his child. She gives up the child at birth so that he can inherit his father's title. Then Kay Francis marries George Brent and tries to forget her former by becoming a socialite. Cast also includes Roland Young. Comes to the Nittany Thursday.

It looks like pro-British week with another GB production playing at the Cathaum Thursday. George Arliss, the grand old gent of many a fine picture, has been residing in England recently making "East Meets West." Arliss plays East and lovely Lucie Mannheim plays West, and the twain meet. Arliss is the suave Sultan of Rungay, whose little dominion is a buffer between a great colonizing power and another Eastern power. The jewel-bedecked plot develops when the Sultan's son, also an Aryan, falls in love with somebody else's wife.

After a series of entanglements, his suavity, the Sultan of Rungay, manages to stick the British and the other colonizing power for ten million dollars, the husband and wife are united, and the sultanate remains a buffer between two great colonizing powers.

See the New 1937 Chevrolet Saturday, Nov. 7

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ALL THE EXTRA WAFFLES YOU CAN EAT

BURKEY'S DINER

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Scarab Begins Series Of Monthly Lectures

This year Scarab Architectural Fraternity is inaugurating a series of lectures relative to architectural topics that will be held monthly in Room 107, Main Engineering building, at 7:30 o'clock.

Student Union To Hold Dance on Sat. Night

The first Student Union dance of the year will be held Saturday night

CAMPUS BULLETIN

TODAY

The Sophomore seminar will meet in room 405, Old Main, at 7 o'clock. John H. Ferguson will discuss "Modern Political Trends."

Freshman women's discussion series will be continued in Room 302, Old Main. Harry Seamans, P. S. C. A. secretary, will discuss "What Do Students Really Want?"

All those interested in coming out for the business staff of the Bell may report to Room 412 this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Students desiring to sit in the Penn State Club section for the House-party football game should turn in their AA tickets at Student Union office before 5 o'clock.

Red Wing Bird Club will meet at 7 o'clock in Room 35, Education Building.

Varsity rifle team will meet at the Armory at 7:30 o'clock.

Chess Club will meet in Room 418 Old Main, at 7:30. Dr. C. A. Rupp will discuss the Alligator Gambit.

TOMORROW

Freshman commission will meet in Hugh Beaver room at 7 o'clock to nominate officers for the year. All members are urged to be present.

Psi Lambda Sigma, pre-legal honorary society, will hold a smoker at Beta Theta Pi fraternity at 8:30 o'clock. All pre-legal students are invited. Attorney Edward Willard '27 will discuss "Problems Relating to Students in Law School."

Fraternity presidents will meet at Sigma Nu fraternity at 7 o'clock. Dean Arthur R. Warnock is the speaker.

All interested in the study of Bible history will meet in Room 407, Old Main, at 7 o'clock.

Camera Club will meet in Room 418, Old Main, at 7 o'clock. Ralph Cohen '39 will discuss "Microphotography."

THURSDAY

Louise Homer club is sponsoring a series of musicales at the Presbyterian church every second Thursday night.

Les Sabreurs will meet in the Armory for fencing and a short business session at 7:30 tonight.

Advertising committee of the Players will meet in the Player's office at 7:30 tonight. New applicants are invited to attend.

Interfraternity Council will meet in Room 405, Old Main, on Thursday at 7:30 o'clock.

MISCELLANEOUS

Second assistant manager candidates for the swimming team will report to the Athletic Association office.

Tickets for the Students Union dance are now on sale at Student Union office.

For Courteous, Efficient Service Cassidy's Barber and Beauty Shop

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In Recreation hall. Bill Bottorf's band will play from 9 until 12 o'clock.

Customs for freshman will be lifted for the affair, Joseph M. Bray '37, president of Tribunal, has announced. It has not yet been determined whether the freshman women will be given a free 1 o'clock that night.

Co-Edits

Harriet L. Lamb '36, president of Kappa Alpha Theta, gave a tea for the presidents of the women's fraternities Saturday afternoon.

Alpha Chi Omega held a formal tea for transfer students on Sunday afternoon.

Jean McIntyre '33 spent the weekend at the Kappa Kappa Gamma house.

Arlene Weaver '38 visited the Gamma Phi Beta house for the week-end.

SPECIAL SHIRT SALE

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FALL BOOK NOTES

The tough boys are at it again! With THE TALLONS, by William March, and Faulkner's ABSALOM, ABSALOM coming up, the South is in for another hard season. THE TALLONS is guaranteed to give you the same kind of hangover you had from SANCTUARY—if you got one—for March dips his pen into the same can of anesthetic used by Faulkner. Or, possibly, Faulkner and Erskine Caldwell wrote this book in collaboration with March. George Milburn helping occasionally, providing low-comedy relief during some of the more morbid moments.

The central theme of THE TALLONS is jealousy, and Andrew and Jim Tallon plus Myrtle Bickerstaff form the menage that is wrecked by the horrible conflicts arising from the hatred of the two brothers in their love for the same woman. The murder which comes off has a distinct Russian flavor. March is not yet a Dostoyevsky but he may some day write a very important novel. THE TALLONS gives every indication that he will. (350 pages, \$2.50. A Random House book)

Lincoln Steffens wrote a book shortly before he died—LINCOLN STEFFENS SPEAKING will be published on October 29th at \$2.50. His famous AUTOBIOGRAPHY now sells for \$1.69.

Note to local Swing fans: Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong has written a book. We haven't seen it yet but if some ghost hasn't made a stock arrangement of it SWING THAT MUSIC will be a natural, because the great Louis writes the way he sings—we refer you to his introduction to LE JAZZ HOT.

Satchmo tells the story of Swing in America, the publisher tells us, in terms of his own rise from newsboy and reform school inmate to one of the world's greatest hot artists. He also includes scores written by eight famous American Swing artists, each showing how he handles a given melody. In addition, there is an original Swing number written by Armstrong and Horace Gerlach. Rudy Vallee predicated SWING THAT MUSIC by contributing an introduction but that probably won't take up much of your time. Ready November 4th, \$2.50.

KEELER'S

Cathaum Theatre Building

State College