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Friday, January 15, 1937

PROSPECTUS FOR IMPROVEMENT

THE statement of Frank Osterlund, senior class president, on the front page, is, perhaps, the most important proposal of a student leader in recent times at Penn State. Echoing his suggestion, which was adopted unanimously at the recent National Student Federation convention, the idea presented opens up manifold possibilities for genuine student government at Penn State.

His proposal is simple—it is already the procedure of government in our national affairs. Parties in national, local, and state electoral contests face each other with a difference of opinion on basic issues—the man who stands on a platform most agreeable to the people wins. His incumbency is measured in terms of his adherence to this set of pledges.

At Penn State there has been, for some years, a general apathy toward student government. Charges and countercharges of graft and broken promises, favoritism and discrimination have not helped the prestige of campus politics.

Student leaders in the past have conscientiously attempted to alter this feeling by searching out graft and malfeasance in office. Their efforts have been failures because the root trouble—an absence of democracy in campus government—has not been found.

With this plan working, one might see the cliques presenting in platforms a set of constructive plans for carrying out the business of student government. They would present, for instance, concrete proposals on the dispensation of class money, the athletic policy, on NYA, on ROTC, on war, on matters of curriculum, classroom procedure, discipline, town and campus relations, and the numerous other matters affecting the student body at Penn State.

The idea is not in opposition to the present method of electing officers: instead it will supplement the existing set-up. The same political organizations will continue, but will be responsible to the student body through platforms presenting choices on various issues confronting students.

In other universities, as well as more perfectly in England, a similar idea has led to an admirable system of student government. As the idea unfolds, more students are interested in participation so that democratic government may actually be achieved.

The COLLEGIAN strongly recommends the adoption of Osterlund's idea to become effective in the next election of class officers at Penn State. The widest possible discussion should be given to the idea, through forums and comments in the Letter Box of this paper.

WOMEN VERSUS WOMEN

BETTER cooperation and broader friendship between the fraternity and non-fraternity women here is one of the definite needs on our campus.

Friendship is of primary importance in that it is the outcome of intimacy obtained through cooperation. These two factors, are unfortunately absent in many cases because of a feeling of agitation between some of the groups. This tension may be interpreted as jealousy or hard feeling caused either by a conception of superiority within some of the fraternity groups or by rushing.

Approximately one-fourth of the new women eligible for fraternal membership are overlooked. There are some who are not suited for this type of affiliation and others who are financially unable to join. These three categories constitute the non-fraternity group.

Fraternity women are those who pledge themselves with expectations of mutually giving and receiving something advantageous. Definite laws exist within the fraternity, but it still operates under the same college regulations as does the non-fraternity group. It is important that the fraternity women cooperate with this College supervision and not feel that they are privileged to take advantage of it.

There is undoubtedly an unconscious feeling of superiority among some fraternity women which seems quite obvious to the non-fraternity woman. This fault is even more evident because the fraternity practically monopolized our campus organizations.

Therefore it is the duty of these women to suppress this idea of superiority among the non-fraternity in actions, and conversation.

The non-fraternity woman must overlook petty jealousies and realize that fraternity women are their equal, since a fraternity is not a social aristocracy but an invitation affair based upon congeniality with a specific group. With such a set-up on this campus a friendly and cooperative feeling is bound to result, which will be an enormous asset to the personality to our women.

—C. T.

ACTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL in admitting to membership Omega Psi Phi, national Negro fraternity, is encouraging for two reasons. The most obvious, of course, is that it is another sign of the barriers of race prejudice on the campus. The other is that it serves as evidence of a growing unity and organization of the Negro group here. It would be a good idea if some of the town business men realize that student attitudes on this question are changing and acted accordingly.

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF

Fun In College:

Now that this semester is really under way there are all sorts of things happening in the class rooms to relieve the monotony which is particularly noticeable around this time.

In Prof. Koopp-Baker's public speaking class they have the understanding that the student speakers can put on demonstrations with their talks so one of the students came prepared the other day.

As his subject he chose the fascinating topic of "How to Make a Better Tom Collins," and into class he brought with him a bottle of gin, lemons, seltzer water, and a shaker. Accompanying his talk with the actual process of slinging together a super Tom Collins, he passed the results of his labor around for the class to judge. The only criticism received was that there was only one drink for each.

While walking through Engineering A Monday afternoon we were surprised to hear a round of applause float through the transom of a class room. Immediately we began wondering what went on behind the closed doors because we had never before heard a class applaud a prof for a lecture.

After hanging around the door for several minutes we learned from one coming out of the class that psychology prof Brown had put on a demonstration of hypnotism on one of his students.

Locked Doors:

It would seem that there is at least one person around this here U. who would carry out his job to the letter. Walt Wiggins, head cheerleader, couldn't get in the basketball game Wednesday night because he had forgotten his A.A. book.

A few minutes after Wiggins was repulsed Jerry Weinstein and Ridge Riley, sports editor for the publicity office, came up to the door. Jerry, who was working for the publicity office and the COLLEGIAN, flashed his press card and started through the door but was stopped when the tender noticed that the press card wasn't signed. "That's all right," explained Jerry, "this is Mr. Riley with me. "Yes," said Ridge, "It's all right to let us in." But the tender wasn't to be fooled and with a determined "It gotta be signed," he blocked the door in no mean manner. The outcome was that Ridge had to sign the card then and there before they could get into the game.

Pick-ups:

From the Philly Inquirer's Personal Grievances column we picked up the following: "Oh, the girl who thinks it's devotion to wear a man's fraternity pin every hour of the day, pin it on her pajamas at night, and clutch it between her teeth when she bathes." . . . More interesting is to note that it was submitted by Eileen Ritter . . . Rumor has it that Sam Gallu had an audition with Major Bowes . . . Mal Penneck '34 has announced his engagement to a comely Miss Dorothy Virginia Woods of Lancaster . . . To link the names of Parkham and Karhan is to do more than rhyme . . . Quote of the week: Jean Lauffer, "Who is Bob Higgins?" . . . We just couldn't help noticing the gem on the back of the Corner Room checks for the past week: "One almost unconsciously appreciates good food for breakfast." . . . Max Derum, ski coach, is slowly going crazy looking at the weather reports since there is a big ski meet planned here this week-end and several schools have been invited to enjoy the winter sports on the snow-covered slopes of Mount Nittany . . . We were interested in a story about a strip-tease dance, put on by Betty Kennedy and Mart Shaner until we learned that it was at the A.X.O. Christmas party . . . What this college won't get is a nice collection of bird's eggs . . .

On Artists Course



UDAY SHAN-KAR

Shan-Kar Cheered In Dance Opening By N. Y. Audience

A capacity audience in New York's Majestic Theatre cheered Shan-Kar and his Hindu Ballet, which will appear here Tuesday as the second number of the 1936-37 Artists Course, in a dance program Sunday which opened a six weeks' tour of America.

John Martin, writing in the New York Times, said, "Uday Shan-Kar and his company of Hindu dancers and musicians, in this country for the first time in three years, brought persistent demands for repetitions despite an unusually long program."

"The seasons have wrought certain alterations in Shan-Kar and his beauty of his delicate art or his expert and eye-filling manner of presenting it. Among other things, he has acquired a bit of additional avoirdupois, which does him no harm," Mr. Martin said.

Madhaven Praised Commenting on a newcomer, Madhaven, in Shan-Kar's company, Mr. Martin said, "His movements are sharp and quick and remarkably controlled; his feet are as sensitive and plastic as his eloquent and mobile hands, and there is flavor to everything he does. His two solos were among the program's highest spots."

Among the dances interpreted by Shan-Kar were his familiar "Snake Charmer;" a witch-doctor in an effective group number entitled "Harvest Dance;" and as a flirtatious young gallant in "Rashik."

Letter Box

To the Editor: I believe it was our experience to be the only paying passengers on the Bellefonte Central Railroad in some years, when, on Saturday last, we made the eighteen-mile trip from here to Bellefonte on the B. C. Flyer in the quick run of one hour. The trip took us away from the midst of bustling civilization here at State, and carried us back into the wilds. We made a stop at Waddle to water up. I doubt if many of the students have ever heard of this bustling town of about four houses, a church and a water-tower, and the remains of a station, now occupied by one of the local families. We were forced to wait in the wide-open spaces of the Bellefonte yards in the luxurious car while the rest of the train was switched off onto the Pennsylvania Railroad siding. Then we were

We Women

By MARION A. RINGER

One more week of rushing, then a silent week and then back again to an even more hectic two weeks rushing. It's a good thing that silent period comes during exam week; it will give the women a little breathing space and a little time to study for them.

Fraternities, theoretically, are groups of girls drawn together by strong friendships based upon genuine liking, similar interests and a desire to help one another, socially and scholastically. Now, however, fraternities have developed with the modern era until the present rushing system amounts to a business.

The fraternity with the best appearance as to house and members, the cleverest ideas in parties and refreshments, and the most time and energy spent upon the freshmen wins out by getting most of the best freshmen.

Stop and take cognizance of yourselves in respect to rushing, freshmen. Do you go for "rushing" or do you value the less noisy and ostentatious but more sincere approach? Do you allow nice houses and pretty good furnishings sway you? Know, then, that the fraternities didn't choose, they got what was available when they received their charter. All the furnishings are provided by the College and to get new curtains or a rug a fraternity must exert pressure for a long time (they know it's almost impossible to get a new piano or some good beds for quite some time).

Do you think you have to accept an overnight invitation? Dean Ray asked the fraternities some time ago to cut down overnight rushing to a bare minimum. It's a silly idea to rush overnight from a health and comfort standpoint. The fraternity girls definitely don't like it but the rest of the fraternities do it, it's a good rushing policy and they think the freshmen like it.

Both parties get to bed extremely late and fail to get any real studying done. Each fraternity girl hangs around the freshman to get an idea whether she wants to argue for or against her at the next meeting. Do you freshmen like sleeping cramped up in a small bed with a mere acquaintance? Do you really like missing an evening of study which is so valuable right now? This overnight rushing problem could be eliminated entirely by Panhel and everyone would welcome it. Leaving the matter to personal honor and good sense is inadequate when each fraternity strains to "keep up with the Joneses" to get freshmen.

Now is the time for freshmen to watch over their own actions. Some of them are too silly and loud and others too retiring. Freshmen should be as gracious as entertaining as fraternity girls. These points might prove helpful: refrain from talking too much about yourself, be neat and clean in clothes and person, if you are leaving one party for another don't seem anxious to go, try to remember and speak to the fraternity girls who especially talked to you.

once more attached to the engine and carried down to the local station. Leaving State at 12:48 we pulled into Bellefonte at 1:45 p. m. The trip cost the enormous sum of thirty-six cents. At least the local railroad is up to date on its fares, if on nothing else.

We thought this might make interesting reading for some of your readers, and induce others to make this trip. Perhaps in this way, the B. C. may be restored to its former glory as a passenger road, and State may say that it has a passenger road almost to its backdoor.

All for the cause— Yours truly, John M. Lester '37 Jack Martin '38

Honored at Dinner



DEAN F. C. WHITMORE

Chemistry Dean Receives Tribute

Fellow Scientists Hold Dinner Honoring Frank Whitmore For Dual Honors

Fellow scientists paid tribute to Dean Frank C. Whitmore, of the School of Chemistry and Physics, in the Sandwich Shop last Thursday at 7:30 o'clock. Dean Whitmore's election as president-elect of the American Chemical Society for 1937 was announced a month ago.

At the dinner Dr. Grover C. Chandlee, head of the chemistry department, presented Dean Whitmore with a congratulatory scroll signed by all staff members and graduate students in the School of Chemistry and Physics.

Dr. Edward B. Weidlein, of Pittsburgh, 1937 president of the American Chemical Society, spoke at the dinner. Dr. W. R. Hamm, head of the physics department, served as toastmaster.

Dual Testimony The college scientists feted Dean Whitmore for dual honors that have come to him in recent months—as the man who in 1938 will serve as president of the 19,000 members of the American Chemical Society, and as the recipient of the William H. Nichols Medal, an outstanding award in chemical science, which the New York section of the Society will present to him next March 5. Dr. Weidlein, director of the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research,

Players Choose Period Comedy

Sheridan's 'School for Scandal' Picked for Feb. 12, 13; Neusbaum Directs

The Penn State Players will present Richard Sheridan's "School For Scandal" as their third performance of the 1936-37 season February 12 and 13, it was announced today by Prof. Frank S. Neusbaum, of the division of dramatics, who will direct the play.

With action depicting eighteenth century society, the presentation will be the only period play on the Players' program. Commemorating the seventeenth anniversary of the Players' organization, "School For Scandal" ranges from high comedy almost to farce, always having biting satire.

Cast Selected The cast is composed of Thomas S. Francis '39, Edward T. Binns '38, Harry W. Reed '38, Thomas L. Bolster '40, William K. Hile '40, Robert H. Thompson '40, Jack L. McCain '37, Kenneth S. Kagen '38, Frank B. Henderson '39, Jola D. Murray '39, Miriam E. Hawkins '40, Jane C. Eames '40, and Hilda L. Hanson '37.

Dorothy Scott will design the scenes, and Wilfred C. Washco '38 will act as stage manager. Beatrice M. Conford '37 will assist Professor Neusbaum in directing.

took office as president of the Society on January 1, and Dean Whitmore will follow him, January 1, 1938.

Dean Whitmore has written widely on scientific subjects. He is the author of "Organic Compounds of Mercury." His advanced text on organic chemistry, which will appear soon, is the first work of its kind to be written in English, chemists previously having been dependent upon the translations of European works for such reference books.

Before coming here as Dean in 1929, he had taught at Williams College, Rice Institute, University of Minnesota, and Northwestern University. He holds three degrees from Harvard University.

Harris M. Sullivan, graduate assistant in physics, was chairman of the committee arranging the dinner.

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