

SUMMER COLLEGIAN

Published every Friday morning during the Summer Session by students of the Pennsylvania State College in the interests of the College, students, faculty, alumni, and friends.

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THE EYES HAVE IT

WHETHER the "electric eye" or the human eye is the most important is the case that presents itself at the College library in regard to the lighting system.

According to the present arrangement, the lights of the main reading room as well as those of some of the alcoves on the second floor are connected on one circuit and controlled by a photo-electric cell. The system is very convenient. It requires no attention. It is automatic and modern. When a certain degree of darkness is reached, the lights are turned on without any effort or strain on the part of janitors or other members of the department of grounds and buildings.

But that is where the trouble lies. The cell does not function properly. The lights are usually turned on between 7:30 and 7:45 o'clock after students in the main reading room have been forced to discontinue their studying or spend an hour straining their eyes trying to see.

If the department of grounds and buildings cannot change the time that the photo-electric cell turns on the lights, another system should be used. Students have no desire to ruin their eyes for the sake of an "electric eye."

ANOTHER ANNIVERSARY

THE SUMMER COLLEGIAN joins a host of others—publications, individuals, and organizations—in celebrating its anniversary this year.

Dr. Ralph D. Hetzel recently completed a decade of service as president of the College; Dean Will Grant Chambers will bring to a close this summer a half century of work in the field of education; La Vie, started in 1889, published its 50th volume last May, and plans are now under way for the Penn State Collegian, published during the academic year, to celebrate its 50th anniversary. It was first published in 1887 as the Free Lance.

Since the first issue was published on June 30, 1915, the Summer Collegian has waged a desperate fight for its existence. And now, with this, its 20th anniversary, we feel a climax has been reached. The failures of the past have been forgotten and the staff looks forward for a successful future.

CAMPUS CLIPPINGS

When grades shoot up all of a sudden, professors become suspicious and try to find the reason.

This one at Georgia Tech traced the skyrocketing marks to the fuse and discovered what was what. Grades had been just average until Clifford Witcher, a blind student, brilliant in his studies, entered the class, the professor noted.

In writing his quizzes, Witcher used a typewriter. Since all the tests were true and false, the poorer classmen would wait for the typewriter clicks and write "yes" when they heard three and "no" when they heard two. The professor smiles again, grades have slumped back to normal, and Witcher now has to tap a period mark after each "no" answer.

The boner pulled by a University of Minnesota freshman who wanted to know "what building the campus is in" was bad, but the one made by an adult visitor to the University of Cincinnati was worse.

A professor took the trouble to conduct the visitor and his party all over the campus and finally to the football stadium. "This," exclaimed the faculty member, "is our stadium!"

Impressed, the visitor studied the grounds for an instant and turned to the professor: "This is all very nice, but I hear you have a very fine curriculum here. Would you take us through that next?"

A smile plays on the lips of the University of Chicago's President Robert Maynard Hutchins when he recalls the harsh criticism of his "come if you like" system of class attendance, inaugurated in 1931.

Instead of cutting to see a movie or a ball game, students are attending classes in great numbers. And, explain university officials, instruction has taken on new life. Attendance is as high as it was in the "good old days," when penalties were provided for skipping a certain number of classes.

READER'S ALLEY

Despite the drubbings that Burton Rascoe's autobiography has taken from numerous reviewers, we are willing to go along with the Literary Guild which selected *Before I Forget* for June, and admit that the book makes good reading.

To read Mr. Rascoe's comparatively quiet book that in *Esquire*, you would never suspect him of being a "literary storm center" when he was on the *Chicago Tribune*. In those days, authors were people to fight for or against. Many a sly dig he gave the "stuffy New York critics." Often he sounded the tocsin for some unknown. So hard did Rascoe thump for James Branch Cabell before the appearance of *Jurgen*, that Cabell dedicated the much-disputed volume to him.

Starting his chronicle by describing his ancestors and their peculiarities, Mr. Rascoe soon brings the record up to 1892, the year of his birth in Fulton, Kentucky, where his rollicking father was a bartender. When Burton was still a youngster, the family moved to Shawnee, Oklahoma, and it was here that Burton started learning things about Greek, books, authors, journalism, love, sports, and formal information in the classroom.

The next chapters, those concerning his two years at the University of Chicago, and his rise from a space writer to book reviewer, drama critic, literary editor, and general factotum on the *Tribune* are the racy sections that distinguish the book. Authors and their idiosyncrasies are present in profusion (and sometimes in confusion), but these bits of literary gossip and anecdotes are amusing and informative off-the-record reading. Therein, aspiring writers can find hints and clues, guides and cautions that may keep them out of literary *cul-de-sacs*.

This autobiography is "must" reading for students in journalism, and likewise for majors in composition whose minds are filled with a desire to join magazine staffs or become reviewers or critics.

When we finished *Before I Forget*, we returned to Carl Van Doren's *Three Worlds*, (now in its sixth or so edition in as many months) because we thought we might get a few supplementary ideas. We did. We decided that young writers should read that too. It is richer, broader, calmer, and deeper than Rascoe's opus, but then Van Doren went through the academic labyrinth before he emerged as a critic. Because he brings his experiences up-to-date and includes many more episodes involving human unhappiness than Rascoe does, one puts down the book with the feeling of personal depression. Still, when one reads the sympathetic portraits of Elinor Wylie, Mary Austin, and others who were close to Van Doren, one has reason to feel that the pursuit of the literary life is decidedly worthwhile, in spite of personal sorrows.

As a matter of fact, we feel that both these books should be added to the dozen we have been recommending to undergraduate journalists and writers for the past year. If you haven't been among the inquirers, but would like to know what they are, we submit the following:

- Personal History.....Vincent Sheean
- I Found No Peace.....Webb Miller
- City Editor.....Stanley Walker
- The Way of the Transgressor.....Negley Farson
- I Write as I Please.....Walter Duranty
- Autobiography.....Lincoln Steffens
- Ladies of the Press.....Ishbel Ross
- The Story of a Novel.....Thomas Wolfe
- We Cover the World.....Eugene Lyons
- 'T Ain't Right.....Westbrook Pegler
- It Seems to Me.....Heywood Brown
- Inside Europe.....John Gunther

Sackett Retires



DEAN ROBERT L. SACKETT who retired yesterday after 22 years of service as Dean of the School of Engineering.

Alpha Chapter of Iota Lambda Sigma Meets

Beginning sessions last Wednesday at the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity house, the Alpha Chapter of Iota Lambda Sigma, holding its convention here, will meet weekly until August 3.

L. H. Dennis, executive secretary of the American Vocational Association of Washington, D. C., is scheduled to address the group on July 7 while S. Grant Conner, advisor of Industrial Education of the Department of Public Instruction at Harrisburg speaks August 3.

Other business to be enacted by the convention includes the appointing, auditing, and nominating of committees, banquet and initiation, election of officers, and election of representatives to National meeting.

Farmers of 3 States Will Hold Picnic Here

The Master Farmers and their families of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland will hold a picnic Thursday, July 22, in the Grove near the Horticulture Building. An attendance of 100, is expected.

There will be several prominent Dean Ralph L. Watts, of the School of Agriculture will make the welcome address. Dr. Steven W. Fletcher, director of agricultural research will speak on "The Experimental Work of the Science of Agriculture." After the picnic dinner a tour will be made of the College farms.

LETTERS

To the Editors:

The glaring example of papal inconsistency of attitude toward "Communist" Spain and "Fascist" Germany which your "On The Front Page" editor gloated over last week might not have pleased him so much if he had troubled to recall the problem that concerns the Church in those countries. Interference with religious freedom, which seems to be common to both the Loyalist and the Nazi governments, is naturally opposed by the papacy, whose attitude toward the Spanish factions perhaps should be interpreted more as opposition to the Loyalist principles than as support of General Franco.

As for that purple reference to the veiled diplomacy of the papacy since the time of the Medici—twiddle—twaddle. I'll bet you don't know a darn thing about it. Besides, doesn't "veiled diplomacy" strike you as a redundancy anyway?

A CONSTANT READER

DANCE Hecla Park

Wednesday, July 7

Bill Bottorf

9-1

Admission \$1.00 couple

ON THE FRONT PAGE

All sorts of reasons have been advanced for Vice-president Jack Garner's departure for a six weeks' vacation in Texas while Congress stays in session with a number of FDR's "must" measures still in the balance.

It's been the signal for a good bit of wishful thinking on the part of those who have been waiting for a public split in Administration ranks and who are hoping that popular Mr. Garner will lead the away-from-Roosevelt trend. Those "agin" FDR say that Garner can no longer stand the strain of backing measures he is really against but rather than cause an open break, he and Mrs. G. have folded their tents and stolen silently back home.

Pro-administration writers have it that Garner's departure merely signals that the President plans no drive for passage of his "must" measures in the next six weeks, hence it's okay for Garner to do a little farming. They say that he'll be back on hand when the fireworks start and once more allow his party loyalty to override his natural conservatism, thereby doing his bit for the New Deal.

The Corcoran-Cohen crowd—the "left wing" of the New Deal feel that Garner committed one more act of "sabotage" to their program when he appointed all conservative members on the committees investigating tax violations, thus putting the quietus on the millionaire hunt which was expected to enliven the hot summer days.

The arrest and confession of Robert Irwin, the "mad sculptor," brings to mind once more the shameful treatment accorded the father of the Gideon girl by several of the New York papers. You'll recall that Gideon was under suspicion for some time and during that period all the adjectives the by-line boys could dig up were applied to him. He was "furtive," "sinister," "cold-blooded," "a reader of sex magazines," etc. It was told with gusto how he played billiards while his wife and daughter lay in the morgue, and how the walls of his room were lined with pictures of chorus girls.

Then the spotlight turned to Irwin and the hounds passed Gedeon by and continued the chase elsewhere. To the credit of the press associations, most of the copy that went out on Gedeon from their New York bureaus was okay but unfortunately the sensational press seems to provide coloring in the public eye for the entire Fourth Estate.

We believe we noted recently that the anti-lynching bill was reported favorably by the Senate committee. A number of Southern senators, however, have pledged themselves to filibuster the measure to defeat. With so many of the President's "must" bills having now but a few votes potential majority it is unlikely that FDR will apply enough heat to force through the lynching bill and thus endanger some measure he considers more important at the present time.

Note to Constant Reader: In your letter in this issue you say "the attitude (of the papacy) toward the Spanish factions perhaps should be interpreted more as opposition to the Loyalist principles than as support of

General Franco." It seems to us strange that when high Catholic dignitaries, especially in the American church, take a prominent part in the meetings which raise funds for the Franco cause, you can justify it by saying that they're really not for Franco, they're just against the Loyalists. In a war, it seems to us that if you're definitely for one side, you're just as definitely against the other.

In your final paragraph, you take exception to our "purple reference to the veiled diplomacy of the papacy." We take exception to your adjective "purple," although we're surprised you didn't use "red" instead. As to use of the words "veiled diplomacy," we simply referred to the accepted policy of the Vatican state which is to work quietly through its lay members rather than through diplomatic channels.

Finally, you say, "doesn't 'veiled diplomacy' strike you as a redundancy anyway?" We don't know, does it, and so what?

French Institute Plans Series of Addresses

In the first of a series of five lectures, Dr. Mathurien Dondo, professor of romance languages at the University of California, will address the French Institute tomorrow on the "Evolution of Art in France."

On July 7, 8, and 9, Prof. Daniel Monet, of the department of French literature at the University of Paris, will deliver a series of three lectures on "Student Life in the Middle Ages," "The Classical Period," and "Modern Times."

The Institute, attended by about 70 students who are eager to devote their time to an intensive study of French, is being directed by Prof. Frederik Ernst, of New York University.

Besides the advanced French courses offered, French songs are sung and French plays are enacted in the miniature "French village" which includes Frear and Irwin Halls, and Willard House. The French language will be the only tongue spoken by Institute students and faculty during the session.

Meeting Hours Listed

Hours for the meeting of the Church of Christ during the Summer Session have been announced as follows: Bible study will be held at 10 a. m. and worship at 11 a. m. There will be no evening service. All meetings are scheduled for room 405, Old Main.

125-Foot Water Tank Very Near Completion

Construction work on the College water tower is rapidly nearing completion as workmen lay the brick that form a casing for the tank. The lower half of the tower has already been enclosed. It will serve as a general utility room for the department of grounds and buildings.

After the brick casing is completed, it will be finished with Indiana limestone. The base and steps are of the limestone while a copper cupola will complete the lead dome.

The tank, resting in a tower, 60 feet in diameter and 125 feet high, has a capacity of one-half million gallons. The water is being drawn from the College reservoir in Musser Gap and wells on the College farms.

'Wegs' Hold 1st 1937 Meeting in Old Main

The first meeting of the "Wegs," an organization of wives of graduate students in education, was held in the Sandwich Shop of Old Main on Wednesday afternoon.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. E. Guy Greenawalt, who welcomed old and new members of the organization. Minutes of the last meeting of 1936 were read by Mrs. Llewyn Thomas and a social hour and tea followed the business meeting. Mrs. Greenawalt acted as hostess at the tea.

The next meeting of the group will be held at 8 o'clock next Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Will Grant Chambers, 333 W. Park avenue. Mrs. E. B. Long heads the committee in charge of entertainment for the meeting, to which all wives of graduate students in education are invited.

Capital—\$200,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits—\$275,000

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STAY HERE FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION