

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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Friday, October 29, 1937

THE COMING ELECTION

The election of a Burgess of State College Tuesday will be a matter of interest to both students and faculty. They should be anxious that the man who wins will do all he can to promote harmonious and fair relationships between the local authority and the student body.

It should not matter to the students what political party the winner is backed by. The students are interested only in the man that will play fair with them.

Students provide most of the capital that keeps the town of State College running, that keeps the faculty men in their positions. Certainly the providers of a livelihood for the town should receive consideration.

Statements have been made by both Leitzell and Mohlman as to their policies. Both men must be excellent politicians, because they have said little if anything.

The present Burgess' reticence in committing himself to any statement as to his future policy may be significant. Certainly he has been less in the public eye during the nine months preceding this election than he was for the first three years of office. This, too, may be significant.

Little is known of Mohlman. Whether he would be a good Burgess is hard for the student, who can but guess, to tell.

Faculty members are the only College constituents who can vote. They are in a better position to judge the men. The faculty generally is intelligent. They should serve the students by voting, considering carefully all angles before casting ballots.

NEW HIGH IN ENROLLMENT

The 6,345 total enrollment for the present semester is the highest in the history of the College. It is proper that as many persons as possible be given the opportunity of education at a state institution.

The old housing problem, however, is not helped by a large enrollment. Already with proposed buildings still far from on the way toward construction, the number of students has been increased.

This is significant: It means that the College is expanding rapidly into one of the largest educational institutions in the East. It means that a definite program of increased enrollment has been launched. It means that when the new buildings are finished, and the housing facilities are slowly brought up to take care of the new students, that the enrollment will increase in proportion. It forebodes a housing problem here that will continue for many years, possibly never reaching a solution.

The tax-payers and their children will be happy as the result of higher enrollments, as will those who are interested in seeing Penn State increase in size.

MUSICAL ENCORE

Now that everybody has affirmed and denied the interest of the Music Federation of America in organizing campus musicians for various reasons with and without merit, the whole issue threatens to come out in the wash, leaving things pretty much in the same shape they were before.

It appears that an understanding will be reached concerning the situation about the time this will reach the readers. Just so the student who wants to and has hired campus bands comes out of the melee with the same amount of shirt on his back as he went into it with, apparently everyone will be satisfied.

That will be nice, because most people don't know what it is all about and would hate to have to worry about it any more.

A HOLIDAY

The students who have organized a petition, requesting a Thanksgiving holiday have some grounds upon which to stand. Last year they signified that if Thanksgiving vacation were to be taken away, they would like to have two football holidays or class time clipped off somewhere to make it up.

The result was curtailment of Thanksgiving vacation, with no other provisions being made to provide the vacation time due.

It is highly improbable that a Thanksgiving vacation will be provided at this late date. It is not impossible. At least students should get a football holiday for Pitt as well as Penn in part compensation.

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF

Questions Deserving Answers:

What initiate to the Animal Husbandry Club was caught wandering around the halls of Grange Dorm the other night as part of his pledge duties? Co-eds there probably will not be flattered to be treated as animals.

Where was Otto Kline when Marge Barnett was being entertained by two ex-boy friends at the Alpha Sigma Phi house Sunday afternoon and evening?

It would be nice to know the prof who was talking about Youngstown steel the other day. He explained in class how that city lowered its tax rates, etc., to encourage steel to leave Pittsburgh and go to Youngstown.

Natalie Atkins raised her hand and asked, "But wouldn't that be illegal?" Replied the prof, "Now, now, now, Miss Riding Hood! Comprenez-vous?"

Up to the Minute:

Bob Kirby was busy explaining and defending music unions at Blue Band practice the other night. It was quite a timely subject in light of the recent fuss. Bob was avidly explaining what a great thing the union is, what a great bunch of boys they have, what they do, etcetera? When asked what it really did for the boys, he answered, "Why, it threw a party for us."

Dale Trouble Again:

Bobby Steckel, miniature baseball player, really has his troubles. He became embroiled in four (count 'em) houseparty dates. This is enough to worry any man, let alone Steckel. We are happy to announce that his load has been lightened, however. One of his dates is quitting school to get married.

Collegiana:

Frank Kozloski, ACC boy, swears up and down that he found that green ribbon that freshman women wear and which he now has hanging on the wall in his room.

Happy Boy Chouinard, of public information, who has sort of dropped from the news lately, comes back again. It seems the blotter he has on his desk at the present time is one commonly known as the "Collegian blotter."

Cecile Metz who crashed Life recently with photos of herself, her sister, and her papa, showing the metamorphosis of the college co-ed from the undesired to the desired has her troubles as the result. She has fan mail now in great quantities, the most ardent epistles being from a lad down in the Naval Academy who has fallen hard. Tsk, tsk, and after all those nasty things we've heard about the Navy.

Students in Prof. Wueller's Econ 14 class are wondering if it was necessary for him to explain the facts of life to the class. It seems that he can tell the sex of a baby in a passing baby carriage by merely leaning over and lifting the covers. Or so he says. It bewilders us, too. College boys had more finesse, we thought.

Doc Davis has been very nice about being included in the Phi Kappa Sig's Big Apple last week, for it seems that Doc was not in it at all. Merely an interested bystander, was he.

"Hootin' Bud Clark, Phi Gam flash, has his fraternity brothers worried. Bud, we learn, pulled out of town Monday without telling anyone where he was going and hasn't been heard from since.

Ray Hays, Phi Sigma Kappa, and Kay Forsythe are taking advantage of the opportunities that Mac Hall offers these days.

Bill Green and Jane Kistler are much more than merely interested.

-CAMPY

Average Student Goes To Bed on Band Issue

(Continued from page one)

point, wondering what it is all about. They have unions here, but they want a union here. It doesn't make sense, thinks he.

At this point a Mr. Gregg Plummer from the Tyrone local writes in and offers objections to the interpretation of his union. He and Mr. Butt seem to agree in all they say.

Then Mr. Booth Watmough, much interested in the matter, as he leads another campus band, writes and claims that a newly organized band is trying to demand prices that it does not yet deserve. He mentions no names, but that leaves the answer up to Mr. Vespa who himself conducts a band and Mr. Butt of the Campus Owls. But the identity becomes quite clear when Mr. Vespa comes forth and says that he doesn't believe in the union here and that he is against it.

The average student begins to think that maybe the boys in the different bands here don't get along too well together in some cases. All the bands seem to agree that the musicians aren't getting too much money now, but that they shouldn't get any more. The average student agrees on the latter point, is slightly skeptical about the former. Certainly it is enough, thinks he.

The average student concludes after all this that all he is worried about is this: that the prices are not increased, that organizations are not blacklisted, and that he dances as much as he did before. For the average student, as he has implied before, is very much interested in dancing.

With this the average student decides to go to bed and leave it at that. The average student pretty generally is right.

Gridders Face Orange

(Continued from page one)

Ellwood and Dean Hanley, tackles; Joe Peel and Ter Torelli, guards; Bernie Briggs, center; Harry Harrison, quarterback; Co-capt. Sammy Donato and Tony Ginnantonio, half-backs; and Joe Metro, fullback.

This outfit will be outweighed by the team that Ossie Solem will probably send on the field. The Orange line averages 200 pounds, while the fleet-footed Marly Glickman is the only starting back under 180 pounds.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

In this A. P. of L. movement, I see only an attempt on the part of a certain newly organized band to either demand prices which it does not yet deserve, or to eliminate competition by forcing out other campus bands which are not in favor of the movement. Many of my men are union, and the rest had intended to join in the very near future in order to facilitate the booking of out-of-town work, but we will not be forced into such action merely to line the pockets of one or more individuals on this campus. Personally, I am very much against the unionizing of this school.

Heretofore the dance band situation at Penn State has been characterized by a healthy competition between all units, the new organizations fighting for recognition and a fair price—the older, more experienced, and better rehearsed bands enjoying the prestige for which they had formerly struggled. What better, or more natural system than this could evolve from union activities here?

I am sorry that the writer of the Collegian's last editorial on this situation thinks the present bands are demanding exorbitant prices for their services. If he had divided each musician's income by the number of hours spent in individual practice, full band rehearsal, and actual working time on engagements, he would have been amazed at the low hourly rate of the "horn tooter." My first trumpeter, an E. F. who is quite handy with the slip stick, has figured out such a rate and found it to be in the neighborhood of forty cents an hour. Is this such an unfair wage? Possibly it is—to the musician.

-BOOTH WATMOUGH

Oct. 25, 1937

To the Editor:

The current issue of the Penn State Collegian seems designed to create an impression of the activities of the American Federation of Musicians which is inaccurate, and which this office wants to correct.

The A. P. of L. is not, as your banner headline proclaims, launching any organization drive in State College. The American Federation of Musicians, Local 660, of Tyrone, is trying to secure new members, but so far as we know neither Mr. Olin Butt nor any other representative of the organization has been appointed organizer for State College. Mr. Butt is a hard-working member of this local and an investigator of the credentials of traveling bands. He is also available to help employers of orchestras who want to secure the highest type of musicians for jobs in State College. He has no other appointment.

Your correspondent's prediction that "the campus will be embroiled in la-

bor agitation movements" is rather amazing in view of the fact that about 30 per cent of the members of our local either now attend the college or live in the town, that all but a few of the campus bands are already affiliated with the A. P. of L., and that fully 75 per cent of the State College musicians are now in the ranks. Even the most persistent efforts to persuade the other 25 per cent to join the union would hardly disturb the campus seriously.

As for "blacklisting" and "branding" of violators through newspaper advertisements, we can best point to our record: In the twenty-odd years during which this local has existed, it has yet to levy a fine on a promoter, nor has it placed any person or persons on UNFAIR LIST of the A. P. of M.

But perhaps you think the most pertinent charge is that "unquestionably the motive in organization here is to jack band prices." Nothing could be further from the truth. For years the bands in business at the college have been getting the set scale of prices. In fact, in 90 per cent of the engagements played, the bands have been getting more than the scale set by the union. The union neither will nor can jack these prices. If not to raise prices, then why the union at all? We naturally exist to advance the interests of our members. Well, we do try to eliminate cut-throat practices, which occasionally appear, and to substitute a spirit of cooperation. We have been successful in securing jobs for our members; only four members of the local, and those

now retired from the game, are not now profitably engaged musically. Whenever a job is open for bids, the officers of the local inform all member leaders of the place, the time, and the committee in charge, so that they may apply. The initiation fee for members, incidentally, is \$5, and the annual dues are \$2.

Finally, it is only fair to point out what the existence of a union means to those who employ the bands. We try in every way to help the fraternities, as those who have come to us when some non-union band has cancelled will testify. We ask that contracts for engagements be filed with this office. Thus both contracting parties have redress. The violation of a contract by an orchestra means a stiff fine and suspension. In short, a union contract is satisfaction insurance. Can you think of a "name" band or a really good campus band that is non-union?

Except for the occasional cut-throat orchestra, you pay no more for the union bands. You are more certain of satisfaction. You have a contract that will be fulfilled. To accuse us of racketeering, price-jacking, or threatening to embroil the college in labor agitation appears, to put it mildly, beside the point.

Sincerely yours,

E. GREGG PLUMMET, Secretary, Local 660, Tyrone, Penna.

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