

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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Tuesday, November 23, 1937

PETITION VS. VOTING MACHINE

TOMORROW AT NOON, we close our books and return home to enjoy a four-day Thanksgiving holiday. Not called for in the College's official calendar, a last-minute petition caused the administration to grant the recess.

But this same Senate refused to put the holiday on the calendar even after the A. A. election returns last year that the students were in favor of the four-day Thanksgiving vacation. Why?

In the Athletic Association election, only men students were allowed a vote. Of the 3,000 odd male students in the College, less than 500 voted on the proposal, although these were heavily in favor of the full Thanksgiving holiday.

The Senate apparently did not consider the ballots because of its lack of true campus representation in number and that it did not carry the women's opinion, although the measure affected them as well.

Late last month, a group of students began a petition asking for the four-day holiday. Close to 3800 students, both men and women, signed the paper, most of them half-heartedly but with a hope that it would sway the administration from their original decision. The question in everyone's mind was if they refused it on the A. A. ballot, how will they accept a petition?

Subsequent results bear out a point that has been sadly overlooked by past administrations; namely, that the College Senate will consent to reasonable student requests, if they are representative of the majority. It also emphasized the women's part in College matters that directly affect them. Totally left out of the A. A. balloting, the co-eds fell behind the petition and added new strength to its working powers.

It further stressed the true fact that men students are uninterested to walk to Old Main to press a lever on even such a measure as this. A petition, circulated by a few interested and energetic people who go directly to the students, will collect more votes, and thus carry more weight with the College officials, than the office-seekers can muster into the voting machine.

NURSEMAIDS NEXT?

On one hand the modern, progressive viewpoint—'Let the student decide for himself whether he can afford to cut—freshmen included.'

On the other—'Cuts represent the attitude of the student toward his work and should be taken into account as far as his final grade is concerned.'

The former opinion is that of Dean Marion R. Traube of the School of Education, the latter that of Dean Carl P. Schott of the School of Education and Athletics. Opinions of the deans of the various other schools listed in this issue of the Collegian range in between, as may be expected. Dean Charles W. Stoddart of the School of Liberal Arts would limit free cutting to students with '2' averages, and not flunk students for cutting alone; Dean of Women Charlotte E. Ray points out the salient fact that, 'The most obvious effect of unlimited cutting would be that of putting each student on his own responsibility.'

In the face of this gust of scholarly opinion, students well may wonder just what form they take in the minds of their College officers, and substitute lollypops for their books. Students come to College, under the supposition that they are effectively preparing themselves for a lifetime of work in which they will, in the main, be upon their own responsibility. Four years of making one's own decisions as to the relative value of attending this class or doing something else possibly more worthwhile would certainly be no detriment to anyone's education.

It is felt that the major portion of the student body will support the viewpoint expressed by Dean Traube, not because it makes school easier, but because it removes unnecessary attendance regulations and enables students to feel capable of doing some small portion of their own thinking.

Although leniency is a question that will cause heated controversy, there is still admittedly a need for some sort of uniformity of cutting regulations within and between the various schools. The petition of the Student Board is not one to be lightly considered by the faculty.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO participate in peace discussion is offered by Forensic Council on Tuesday night after vacation when four students will lead a forum, concerning the question to which all the world wishes it had the answer today.

OLD MANIA

The urge to write comes to many young girls. When these budding ink bloods come to College, they find a haven for their efforts by going out for the Collegian although the smart boys say the Collegian is not a training base for would-be journalists. Maybe they're right.

Three outstanding examples of the works of two of these maidens are printed below. They're pretty good. That they're a trifle risqué is no reflection upon the girls. It might be the subjects.

These hits are printed for their face value. If any person or institution is libeled, it through no intention of the Mania.

A New Word for Just Dating:

'Time and tide wait for no man but still the vapors of house party catch up and drift past, leaving a feeling of something seething under a heap of ashes, favors and empty bottles.

'One temperamental social psychology student, feeling the same as we, decided to investigate the matter, believing that here lay the solution to the peculiar primary group intercourse known as dating.

'Gathering up a scanty amount of courage, the chap contacted a group of girls (co-eds to you) on front campus and put the question to them: 'What did you like best about house party?'

'The girls were responsive. They mentioned the game, the meals, the corsages, the dances and so far into the night.

'The boy timidly asked about their dates. 'The girls looked startled, exchanged looks, smiled cadescendingly upon the poor chap, and walked on.'

Sex Has No Place Here:

'There isn't much difference between Penn State and State Penn.' This was the astonishing conclusion reached by one dormant dorm damsel at the regular bull session.

'The idea was fully developed by the other contributors, who were only too glad to enlarge upon some topic other than the threadbare subject of sex.

'The inmates of both institutions are there for a definite length of time. They follow the same fads in clothing, and like the co-eds, follow regulations, and are chastised severely, in both cases, if broken. They crash stones and we crash everything else—Collegian, classes, dates, and houses.

'Time, naturally, is inversely proportional in the institutions, in one the more indiseration, the quicker the exit, and the other it is just the opposite.'

In the Dog House:

'Dogs seem to be the center of attraction these days. They're all over the football field, they use the bull pen to settle their spats, and they detract attention from many lectures in which we would otherwise fall asleep. But this canine freedom is not half so annoying as having to watch a dog tied to a house during this cold weather. One of our faculty has this as a blackmark against him in the minds of the Grange and Delta Gamma co-eds. The nearby blasting is unnerveing enough without having the terrified howls of a dog to contend with. Not that we hold it against the poor dog—we are merely hinting that the owner take the poor thing inside.'

Remember now, these were all contributed by sophomore Collegian women. —THE MANIAC

UNDER THE COLLEGIATE SPOTLIGHT

Syracuse Said Colgate's Football Team Couldn't Beat An Egg, But The Final Score Read: Colgate 7, Syracuse 0—Here's One Reason

By ROY NICHOLS

Early last week the Syracuse Daily Orange carried the following pre-Colgate game article. '... but this year it's different. We have to face not only a worn, battered moral-broken team, but also a lackadaisical indifferent student body. In other years the Colgate cheering section has been something to write home about; they veritably overwhelmed us with the volume of their 'do-or-die' spirit. But according to all reports, this year's Colgate cheering section hasn't enough spunk to cheer a spelling bee. The team and the cheering run hand-in-hand.

'The long vaunted Colgate spirit is a hollow replica of by-gone years, the Maroon eleven couldn't beat an egg, and the 'Hoodoo' has faded to a tripping nymph. They can't cheer, they can't play football, and they can't bluff us any longer. THIS YEAR IT'S DIFFERENT.'

Well, the Colgate Maroon, picked up the story and plastered it on the front page with the headline: A Syracuse Paper Carried This—What To Do About It? And you know the answer

4 School Deans Agree To Proposed Cut Plan

(Continued from page one)

ways cut themselves out of school.'

Dean Harry P. Hammond, School of Engineering: 'To have a tradition about the work of a school is more important than to have rulings regarding it. The tradition of the School of Engineering is that cutting is not 'healthy.' I should oppose any system of unnecessary rules and regulations. We have no problem with cutting and do not want to create one. Our principle is to mark the student on his performance only, but no student can afford to cut classes, and he knows it.'

Charlotte E. Ray, Dean of Women: 'It is hardly fair for one outside the classroom to tell an instructor when and why he should excuse students from his class, but I may suggest that the most obvious effect of unlimited cutting will be the fact of putting each student on his own responsibility. The student with an alert mind and the habit of genuine study will not only get all the classrooms offers but will probably seize learning for his own benefit.'

Arthur R. Warnock, Dean of Men: 'Uniform cutting rules are desirable but to formulate them to fit all the schools would be impossible.'

Dean Warnock refused to comment on the question of voluntary attendance of classes.

Dean Marion R. Traube, School of Education: 'As far as uniformity goes, let the student decide for himself whether or not he can afford to cut. I would also place freshmen on their own responsibility.'

Dean Carl P. Schott, School of Physical Education and Athletics: 'We have to start with the question, why does a fellow go to college? If he cuts he is merely short-changing himself. Cuts represent the attitude a student has toward his work and should be taken into account as far as the final grade is concerned. The question of uniformity of cuts is one for each school to decide for itself.'

Dean Ralph L. Watts of the School of Agriculture deferred opinion pending a meeting of the Course of Study Committee of the School of Agriculture in December, at which time the problem will be discussed.

Tickets For Artists Course to Go on Sale

(Continued from page one)

\$2 per series of five numbers. This is an increase of no more than 15 cents a ticket over last year, despite the fact that artists are asking up to 35 per cent more for appearances this year. The Artists Course has become recognized as the outstanding production of artistic talent in Central Pennsylvania, and there is a large demand for seats by out-of-towners. Students who are approached by out-siders desiring tickets are asked by Dr. Marquardt to reject such offers.

Series Opens December 2 The American Repertory Theatre will open the 1937-38 season of the Artists Course on Thursday night, December 2, when they present Robert E. Sherwood's celebrated satirical comedy, 'The Queen's Husband,' in Schwab auditorium. In this play the Pulitzer prize-winning playwright depicts the turmoil of various forms of government which are endeavoring to force themselves on the peoples of the world as the only type under which to live.

Publisher Gives Talk

John Person, publisher of the Williamsport Gazette, addressed students in the journalism forum in the Little Theater of Old Main yesterday.

Attends Convention



Merlin W. Troy, (above), president of the local chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, professional journalism honorary, attended the national convention last week at Topeka, Kan.

The Penn State chapter was rated fifth in placing its graduates in the journalistic world. The University of Washington was awarded the Higate plaque for placing the highest number of journalism graduates.

S. U. Plans Afternoon Dances During Winter

If you have been wondering about the afternoon dances that we've held last year in the Sandwich Shop, here is the latest news.

According to George L. Donovan, Student Union is planning to continue these dances this year just as soon as the winter social season gets under way. This will probably be a week or two before the Christmas holidays.

In order to take care of the increasing number of students attending these popular dances, Student Union hopes to be able to secure the Armory. To date, no band has been selected.

The Record Crop

'The soft and subtle music of Mr. and Mrs. Swing' is the way the radio announcers have been introducing Red Norvo and his blues-singing wife, Mildred Bailey.

It is this soft quality in swing music that Kenneth Norvo has made regular since the formation of his band in October 1935. Much influenced by Dix Beiderbecke, he decided swing didn't have to be loud and shrieking, but should be soft and quiet. Around his xylophone he built a band that has conclusively proved his theory. The band plays hot music, but the arrangements do not call for screaming brasses or tempos impossible for dancing. Red's boys just zuse out music that's languid, yet lively.

Personifying the band is Red's glittering xylophone. With it, in 1925, he led a band but sold out to Isham Jones, hoping to finance an education at Detroit University. Soon homesick for music he left the Ph. D.'s and scheduled Paul Whiteman for an extended tour as xylophone soloist. At the same time he made prominent recordings with such men as Benny Goodman, Teddy Wilson, Bunny Berigan, Gene Krupa, and others. These appeared on Columbia as 'Red Norvo's Quartet,' 'Septet,' and last 'Octet.' Their success led him to form a unit 'in the flesh' at the Famous Door, New York, borrowing students from Syracuse, Colgate, N. Y. U., and A. F. of M.

When Red Norvo married Mildred Bailey it was truly the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Swing. She was, and is, tops in white blues-singing with 'Rockin' Chair' her theme, 'Georgia,' 'Someday, Sweetheart,' and others. Her singing and pleasant personality have won her a host of friends, not the least of which are Benny Goodman, Teddy Wilson, and Gene Krupa; whom she persuaded to get together as the Goodman Trio. Undoubtedly Penn State, like Cornell, Dartmouth, and Syracuse, will enjoy Red's 'soft subtle swing.'

—BREW

Mac Hall To Hold Holiday Festival

Mac Hall will again hold its traditional Christmas dinner with Lord and Lady McAllister presiding over all their subjects. The probable date of the dinner will be the Thursday night before Christmas vacation although no definite date has been set by W. S. G. A.

Marjorie F. Davies '39 is chairman of the dinner.

Committee chairmen are: Mary O'Connor '40, decorations; Margaret Collins '40, clean up; Marcia Morphine '39, costumes; Jane Gruber '39, arrangements; Jean Spurling '39, purchases; Katherine Griner '39, incantations; Ruth Edgar '38, entertainment.

Assistants to the chairmen are: Eleanor Acker '39, Mary Rita Engleman '39, Miriam Skladel '40, Camilla Binder '40, Mary Ann Fritz '39, Ruth Marcus '39, Mary Jane Sample '39, Evalyn Boger '39, Phyllis Herzog '39, Jean Stillwell '39, Polly Wirtz '40, Margaret Barnett '39, Dorothy Moss '39, and June Price '39.

Others on the committees are: Beryl Hindman '40, Henrietta Marrow '39, Dorothy Siffes '39, Charlotte Knabb '40, and Margaret Shaffer '40. Lord McAllister will be the president of W. S. G. A. and Lady McAllister will be the senior senator. The attendants will be the junior, sophomore, and freshman members.

Hurry Back — and — Down to

The Balfour Office

at Sauer's Store 109 Allen St.

to order Balfour Fraternity Jewelry — for — Christmas

Advertisement for Arrow Shirts and Ties featuring an illustration of a man in a suit and hat, with text: 'It's part of your college education! The sooner you get acquainted with Arrow Shirts the better. They're authentically styled by experts and topped with the finest fitting collars that ever graced a neck. The body is Mitoga curve-cut and Sanforized—never to shrink. \$2 to \$5. ARROW SHIRTS and TIES'

Advertisement for Stark Bros. & Harper featuring an illustration of a man in a hat and a horse-drawn carriage, with text: 'THE PENN STATER THERE'S A CASUAL DISTINCTION ABOUT THIS HAT THAT COLLEGE MEN LIKE. NO ACCIDENT OF COURSE. WE HAVE CAREFULLY FOLLOWED THE DESIRES OF PENN-STATE MEN IN DESIGNING THE NICE BALANCE BETWEEN BRIM AND CROWN. STARK BROS. & HARPER HATTERS—HABERDASHERS—TAILORS'

Advertisement for Saturday, Dec. 4 Harvest Ball featuring illustrations of people in rural costumes, with text: 'SATURDAY, DEC. 4 Harvest Ball Bill Bottorf and His Band Armory 9-12 RURAL COSTUMES Admission - - - 75c Couple SEE THE "HARVEST QUEEN"'