

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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A QUESTION OF STANDARDS

ON LAST TUESDAY PENNSYLVANIA Lambda chapter of Phi Beta Kappa was installed on this campus after a fight of 16 years to bring it here.

For a long, long time the Liberal Arts school has been the butt of jokes and held in disdain by members of its own faculty as well as others on the campus. And, despite recognition by a body which is held in esteem by most people, there still remains unanswered many questions concerning the standards and equipment of this school.

Are the standards of the school high, as Dean Stoddard says they are, when in the last three years 227 students have transferred to this "haven" of "retired" chemists, ex-engineers, and agriculturalists unable to make the crops grow, when on the other hand a mere 79 have left the shelter of this indulgent school?

Of this number, 71 were transferred from the Chemistry and Physics school, and 18 from the Engineering school. A total of 57 came from Dean Warnock's transition school, which included transfers from all the schools.

If the standards of the school are so high, as Dean Stoddard claims, then the students there must be taught how to study, if nothing else. But if we look at the figures again, where do the Liberal Artists go when they transfer? In the same period, of the 79 that left it, only 9 went over to the Chemistry and Physics school, 15 to the Agriculture school, and 18 to the Engineering school.

Surely, if the supposed "standards" are that high, as the Dean states, then the unfavorable balance of transfers would not exist. But they do! The Dean also claims that Liberal Arts subjects are not exact in nature, but they are exact enough to have some kind of a boundary, a boundary in which not all students can be correct!

In considering the number of students dropped each year from the various schools, again we find the Liberal Arts school the easiest in that matter. The Chemistry and Physics school, which has a tradition to maintain, a faith to keep with its former students who have come to take the new graduates on the mere fact that they graduated from Penn State, each year drops from 3 per cent to 8 per cent of its students. They candidly tell their students that only one out of three entering will ever be graduated in that school.

The Engineering school fails up to 3 per cent of the total enrollment each year, the Mineral Industries school up to 5 per cent, while our good friend, the Liberal Arts school, who has not a harsh word for any student, reluctantly drops 2-2/3 per cent of its enrollment.

According to a recent issue of the Collegian, a committee, headed by Dr. Charles C. Wagner, proposes a plan to eliminate students in the Liberal Arts school who fail 50 per cent of their subjects. At long last! A custom which has prevailed in the other schools finally is taken up by the Liberal Arts school.

To show just how low the standards are, this committee has shown that students who were supposed to have at least 72 grade points by the end of their sophomore year, and did not, were allowed to continue in college, the administrative heads, hoping, that these poorer students could make up the deficiencies.

And so, until these and other questions are answered, the Liberal Arts school will have to travel some in order to make Phi Beta Kappa on this campus mean anything.

To prove in its own professors and students that it is a "first-class" school as the Dean says, the following questions need be answered:

1. Why did the administrative heads of the school allow Professor Waller, acknowledged by his colleagues to be the best professor in the school and one of the best in the East, to seek a new position after he asked for a small raise in pay which was refused? The ironic part about this question is that the man who takes Prof. Waller's place asked for and received more than Prof. Waller had asked!

2. If the standards are so high, as Dean Stoddard claims, why did that school have to appoint a committee to investigate these standards with the aim to raise them?

3. Why was Prof. Dickson put under pressure to make his art 74 course easier? In order that more of the Liberal Arts students could pass it?

4. Why was Mr. Druckman called on the carpet and made to compromise his standards so that there would be less flunks in his philosophy courses?

5. Why do instructors and professors in that school have to go "over the heads" in order to secure long deserved raises in salary?

When the administrative heads either answer these questions or begin to alleviate these conditions, there will be more sympathy and esteem for what could be the best school on the campus.—T. A. B.

ADMISSION—\$14.75

WHEN BURGESS LEITZELL gave three students a choice between paying fines and serving jail sentences for playing football on Nittany avenue Tuesday, local authorities struck a new low in intelligent adjustment of student cases.

Perhaps police did warn the offenders several times before making the arrest on Tuesday. But certainly passing a football back and forth among three people, a violation of an ordinance passed in 1897, is not an offense that should place students in the criminal class, forcing them to choose between jail and fattening local coffers.

The students were willing to go to jail until they saw where they would have to stay. There were two cots available for three persons. The cell was filthy and unsanitary. Since most students are cleanly there was no choice. They had to pay the fines or submit selves to disease.

If fining students \$14.75 for a few football passes is indicative of intelligent student adjustment, it is discouraging to think what conditions will be like here when the same authorities attempt to adjust problems rising from the building program.

CAMPUSEER

A Big Boy Now:

Kathleen Barron, the red-head that chesty Tor Toretta has been seeing a lot of lately, was out at the Sigma Tau Phi house. Bernie Sandson fought his way through a throng of admirers and mindful of his rival sputtered, "I'm getting a 16-inch 'S' this winter. Will you talk to me?"

Rat Trap:

The tale goes around that the boys who ran afoul of the Burgess Tuesday night for tossing a football around went out to Leitzell's home. During the talking a big, black rat scampered across the room.

The boys, we learn, plan to send Leitzell a nice, shiny new rat trap with a piece of cheese.

Tsk, tsk, tsk:

And speaking of law and order, the tale is out that none other than Dean Warnock has fallen under the police ax three times since this fall.

This Man Van Sant:

Tales about Prof. Van Sant are numerous. A late one has him announcing Wednesday that there would be a blue book today unless he was sick. He had missed Tuesday's class because of a cold, he continued. He had no sooner finished, when there was a rush and some hardy individual threw open a window. Recently Van Sant was describing in glowing tones the joys derived from the back-to-earth movement. He had just finished a touching picture of hoeing and raking, when Joe Ida, kappa sig flash, piped up with "Did you ever raise cucumbers?"

Collegiana:

Izzy Richter is expecting a letter from Greta Garbo any day now, offering to sponsor him... The girls of 138 S. Frazier are quite disturbed by two heavier house boys' back-to-nature movement of running around in their shorts... perhaps the girls object to the shorts... and speaking of nudity, Chuck Miller, sigma nu, was tossed into the snow by irate sophomores, sans clothes much to the embarrassment of two passing co-eds... Ex-editor Henderson has been married to Beq Conford since back in June, we hear... A cheerleader by the name of Murray is now leading cheers for Dixie Smith... Bill Hoot fixed up the chi omega rushing hopes in the crm the other night when he lit into a boothful of the damsels about their ways, etc... who should be in their midst but rushee Helen Kelly... From the way Lullaby Murphy combats the cold, his nickname might aptly be changed to fopsie-wopsie... Who said praying on your hands and knees doesn't help... i. e. the Beqas didn't have any broken windows... in the snow ball festival... they begged the boys not to shatter their leaded windows... To the Maniac's All-American crm waitress team, we nominate Matty Mateer as water boy... According to Nate Handler, he will be next heavyweight intercollegiate champ.

Early arrival for Soph Hop week-end is Marshall Goldberg, Pitt's great halfback. Along with him were Frank Sauchak, Johnny Micheloson, and ass't coach Joe Bowser on their way to a banquet in Berwick before returning here.

—CAMPY

TIP on a TRIP to New Orleans and the Gulf Coast

Leave Saturday night, December 25th. Arrive home Sunday, January 2nd.

All-expense, including train fare, all meals, all hotel expenses, tips, baggage transfers, conductor's service from Pittsburgh and return. \$114.75

Visit for one day in Chicago. Two days in Memphis attending the annual "Charity Ball." Four days in New Orleans and a trip to Biloxi.

Personally conducted by Miss Anne Egan of Pittsburgh

For further information call HOTEL STATE COLLEGE TRAVEL BUREAU Louetta Neusbaum Dial 733

Carnegie Music Now Available

Records At Public's Disposal In 417 Old Main; Regulations Set By Fishburn

Approximately 900 records, scores, and books, a gift of the Carnegie Music corporation, are now at the disposal of students, faculty, and townspeople, according to Hummel Fishburn, professor of music.

Unlike last year, those wishing to hear the recordings will not have to stop at the Student Union desk, but may go directly to room 417, Old Main, where the records are played. NYA students will be in charge.

The hours for the use of the recordings are: Monday, 10-12 o'clock; Tuesday, 1-6 o'clock; Wednesday, 4-6 o'clock; Thursday, 10-12 o'clock and 1-6 o'clock; Friday, 3-5 o'clock; Saturday, 8-12 o'clock and 1:30-5:30 o'clock; and Sunday, 1:30-5:30 o'clock.

Professor Fishburn urges that no use of the records will remain more than an hour and that if others are waiting, they will take less time. Smoking will be prohibited and absolute quiet must prevail, Fishburn stated.

This marks the third year that the College has profited by the Carnegie gift, valued at more than \$2,500. The corporation's purpose in making such a gift is to make available to approved institutions the use of the finest phonographic records for the furtherance of music appreciation.

\$3,750 Awarded In Scholarships

(Continued from page one)

ation of the United States to a student in the School of Agriculture, based on exceptional ability in sheep husbandry, need, scholarship, and habits: Thomas N. Blumer '39.

Detwiler Memorial scholarship, annual awards of \$250 each given to students who are graduates of Columbia (Pa.) high school, based on financial need, scholastic standing, and personal character: Ann Hoover '38 and Dorothy M. Johns '40.

George T. Rodgers, Memorial scholarship, annual award of approximately \$50, maintained by Daughters of the American Revolution, Brookville, Pa., presented to a World War veteran, a near relative of one, or any worthy or deserving student now in college or about to enroll: C. Howard Chestnut '39.

Harold B. Shattuck award, income from \$1,000 given annually to junior in civil engineering, based on scholarship, general character, personality, and leadership: Henry S. Hull.

Home Economics scholarships, three awards of approximately \$140 each given annually to women students in home economics by the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women: Sara Blackwell '38 and Henrietta Nichols '38. The third award was not made.

\$500 Prize Announced By Purchasing Agents

The National Association of Purchasing Agents has announced the 1938 Boffey Memorial Award, consisting of prizes totalling \$500, which will be awarded to college students contributing the best papers on some procedure, policy, or management of commercial purchasing.

The competition is an annual contest and award commemorating the writings, editorial leadership and contributions of L. F. Boffey to business education. All students in any recognized college or university having a school of commerce or college of business administration are eligible to compete.

Manuscripts must be in the office of the National Association of Purchasing Agents not later than June 1, 1938. There is no limitation on length or method of presentation. Detailed information about the contest is posted on the bulletin board in South Liberal Arts building.

BOWLING

Men and Women, Young and Old Are You Enjoying This Sport at

Dux Club

This Question Of ROTC

Dollars and Sense

By JOHN A. TROANOVITCH

If you were the operator of a huge factory, producing a certain product at a cost of \$1,000.00 per unit, then discovered you could produce the same product—and perhaps even a better one—at a cost of \$850.75 per unit, you would immediately shift your method of production and adopt the cheaper plan, wouldn't you?

And if you were producing for profit, say 10,399 units per year at that cost you certainly wouldn't even think twice before switching methods. Why, just multiply the saving of \$153.24 per unit by the total output and you realize a total saving of \$1,593,542.76 each year! Just think of it, a million and a half dollars to spend each year on added improvements, expansion, promotion of efficiency, and a hundred-odd other things.

Yet latest available figures released by Major General E. T. Conley at the request of Senator Gerald P. Nye show the converse to be true in 85 American colleges which still maintain compulsory military training.

In those 85 colleges—and Penn State is one of them—a total of 71,189 students are compelled to take two years of military training, eighty-five out of every 100 of those students repudiate the course as soon as they get

the chance to do so, according to the War Department's own figure.

Yet those 85 colleges have done nothing about it. They continue to force the student to take military training at the threat of losing an education, the students consequently continue to take it, the War Department keeps supplying the money, and the American taxpayer foots the bill. It's a nice merry-go-round ride, provided you're not the one being taken for the ride.

On the other hand, 30 colleges have switched to optional ROTC and found that it is not only \$153.24 cheaper per reserve officer produced (War Department's own admission), but that the system has weeded out the unwilling student and made the reserve officer produce a better finished product.

As Major Wood remarked some time after the University of Wisconsin—a LAND GRANT college—scrapped compulsory military training: "Voluntary drill has eliminated those students who have an intense hatred of drill. Our corps is better because of it." And Major Wood at first bitterly opposed abolition of compulsory drill. He changed his mind when he saw the results of voluntary drill.

Furthermore, as Major F. J. DeRohan, University of Washington, says: "I would like to give every student who does not like drill an excuse and tell him to get out. It is a university ruling, not ours. We do not want compulsory drill."

The War Department does not require it. The federal government does not require it. The state does not require it. Recent polls have shown students do not want it. The faculty does not want it. Who does? And why?

Co-Edits

Do you remember when you believed in Santa Claus? Do you recall your first train or doll or gun, the candy, nuts, and toys, the Christmas tree with its gilded balls and angels? Do you remember mailing a letter to Santa Claus, believing he would not fail to bring you what you wanted? Perhaps it was a letter something like this:

Dear Santa Claus: Please bring me a tricycle, train, cork gun, big rubber ball, bag of marbles, and a telephone. I am a good boy part of the time. Wishing you a Merry Christmas.

Or this: Dear Santa Claus: How are you, I want to tell you what I want for Christmas. Will you get me a pair of mittens and some candy and a story book to read at home and oranges, too, please, and get me a dress to wear to Sunday school and church. I don't need a doll. A little girl gave me a doll. Goodby Santa Claus.

Your friend. These letters are some of those received each season by the Millville County Children's Aid Society, and, if you've always had a warm spot for good old St. Nicholas, here's your chance to pay back some of the things he's done for you by helping him a little. Your contribution, no matter how large or small, to the Christmas fund conducted by the House of Repel will help answer these letters and representatives and, the Freshman Council keep a small child's faith in Santa Claus.

How could anyone who had even been young and eager and had a Christmas resist this, written by a nine-year-old boy:

Dear Santa: I am a poor-boy and daddy hasn't any work and I wish you would bring me a sheep-skin coat, a cap, stockings and some playthings, a truck with lights on it.

And Santa, please bring my little sister a rubber dolly and some playthings. I guess that's all Santa we wish for. P.S.—and please bring us some candy. Thank you!

Are Profs Men Or Beasts?—See Froth Today.

Do you have trouble telling the beasts from your professors? Do you have trouble telling the professors from your beasts?

But you needn't feel ashamed of it, because the December issue of the Froth has taken care of everything, including the profs.

Realizing, a long-felt need, the Froth presents a sensational expose, an intimate rogues gallery of beasts and profs, a wide open showdown of our academic zoo, in canny words and candid pictures.

On sale beginning Thursday, the Froth features Soph Hop on a cover drawn by Richard Ellenberger, presents the cream of the funny stuff, especially prepared by a staff of mad geniuses.

Resides Taxi Reminds You — of — Soph Hop DIAL 3412

Yuletide Musical Set For Sunday

Annual Christmas Choral Event Takes Place At 4 O'clock; Mrs. Grant To Play

The annual Christmas musical service will be conducted in the college auditorium at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Featured in the Vesper Service will be several organ selections by Mrs. Irene Osborne Grant.

The Penn State choir of 110 voices under the supervision of Prof. Richard W. Grant, director of the College music, will stage their initial appearance of the season in their robes of blue and white. Acting chaplain for the occasion will be Prof. Robert E. Dangler.

Planned for the service is the following program:

- Prelude—"Christmas" Dethier Doxology Invocation—Lord's Prayer Choir—"The Shepherds' Story" Dickinson Responsive Reading—Selection 60 Choir—"The Song of Mary" Arranged by Kranz Hymn 138 Choir—"Carol of the Bells" Leontovich Scripture Choir—"Whence Come Ye?" Italian Folk Song Prayer—Humming response Offertory—"White Shepherds Watched" Mauro-Cotton Choir—"And the Glory of the Lord" from Messiah Handel Hymn 144 Benediction Postlude—"Scherzo in E" Wider

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