

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN
Successor to The Free Lance, established 1887

Friday, February 18, 1938

BLUE KEY'S RETORT

IN ANSWERING THE LETTER submitted by Blue Key's president, Stanley Brown, appearing in today's Letterbox, it must be understood that the Collegian is not alone in its criticism of the society and its presiding officer. The most violent objections have risen from members of the society, both senior and junior.

Contrary to Brown's statement, the Collegian did consult members of student tribunal concerning Blue Key's aid in trying custom violators. Tribunal stated that Blue Key did send four members to one meeting of Tribunal, and that one or two attended several of the succeeding meetings. Tribunal reported that Blue Key men faded out of the picture and that under no circumstances did one of their many members attend all the meetings. Tribunal said that Blue Key was not the only hat society to aid. Blue Key's aid, the tribunal stated, consisted of rounding up one violator and impeding one trial with horse play.

Blue Key was not the first society to drop a beer-party initiation. Skull and Bones has priority in that respect.

Brown's admission that the society has six extra members proves in itself that he permitted those members present to agree to a violation of the constitution drawn up and approved in November, 1934. Active members have testified that fraternity politics among the members made it desirable to push their friends in minor sports, an action clearly outlawed in the constitution. It was there that Brown countenanced political log-rolling and implicated himself in the political catastrophe that he hints at in his letter. Any political setback experienced by Brown as the result of his action is clearly no one's worry and responsibility other than Brown's.

Brown is right when he intimates that it was unfortunate that a debt incurred in the past must be faced by a succeeding chapter. When the 1934-35 chapter left office there was no deficit. When last year's chapter took office, a deficit of approximately \$180 existed. Last year's chapter operating under the constitutional limitation of members reduced that deficit to a verified approximate sum of \$67. It is in the interests of the active members and the future that the Collegian remarks that there is no reason why that deficit cannot be made up in full this year.

Someone may not be telling the truth concerning the invitations to the dance extended to sophomores, but the Collegian is. The Collegian knows that they were invited, and that they conferred and decided that it was for their best interests not to attend.

While sophomores were invited, many seniors were not. There were not more than five seniors attending the dance Saturday night. Active members have testified that they were not certain when the dance was being held. The Collegian would like to know who the chaperons were. Many who attended likewise are curious to know.

The Collegian is anxious that Blue Key and the other hat societies avoid future mishaps on their records. Future trouble may be avoided by living up to the constitutions of the societies posted with Student Board and by the presentation of a live program of activity outlined by the officers to promote attendance and participation in efforts to aid and benefit the College.

We have had enough of this secret method of operating honoraries. We contend, too, that it is for the welfare of the societies to make sure that all the members are acquainted with each other.

PROPOSAL TO PANHELLENIC

Rushing season is over, but the fur is still flying. In spite of the wholesale backbiting among the women's fraternities there is one mutual feeling that unifies them. The seven-week rushing period is inexcusably long and drawn out.

The Panhellenic handbook states that rushing should not be made a burden with respect to time to the freshman and fraternity women. Now, after two weeks of the second semester have passed the freshman and fraternity women have time enough to devote to studies which have been suffering from lack of attention, the seven weeks' rushing period has trespassed on time. The extended rushing period has created barriers of ill feeling between the fraternities. This can be prevented in the future if Panhellenic Council adopts a shorter, earlier season for next year.

In planning a new schedule, the last two weeks in September and the first week in October could be reserved for the three open house parties. One party a week during the three weeks' orientation would help the freshmen become adjusted to their new surroundings. It would widen their circle of friends and help cure the homesickness that many of them feel.

Actual rushing could begin October 6, and end on October 30. It would be a free association period restricted only by the \$20 allowance and a few well defined regulations that are necessary. Rushing would be over in three and a half weeks, and the rushers and the fraternity women could settle down to a normal life. It would be far less detrimental to the women's grades than the present system, as there would be no interference with the pre-Christmas blue books and final exams. The freshmen would have much more time to study during this short period and would therefore have a much better opportunity to make the grades required for initiation. The rivalry which occurs in any rushing season would be over and forgotten by Thanksgiving. Panhellenic should consider the advantages of the proposed season when it discusses the rushing system next week.—S. R. H.

CAMPUSEER

BY STANLEY

Ain't Love Grand:

Bob Goerder, Sigma Phi Sigma pash, sent Ruth Reynolds, Kappa pledge, a very touching valentine, reading, "Do you know who loves you?" Inserted below was the picture of Casanova Goerder.

Incidentally, Goerder is burned up because Ruth pledged Kappa, along with Agnes Ross, his alternate love. Even Goerder can see double trouble.

Eying the Feminine Future:

Doc Dengler, when expounding on "why women come to college," named the matter of a degree as secondary. By way of explanation, he used Mrs. Dengler's experience: 1919, B. S.; 1920, M. A.; 1921, Mrs.; 1922, Mama!

Between Two Fires:

"Duke" Wolslayer, the latest "column" crasher, is dying for a date with Mattie Purnell, so dame rumor has it. "Campy" suggests that he apply at the Kappa Alpha Theta lodge.

Foxy Proxy:

An obliging fellow journalist answered "Here" when Merlin Troy's name was called in Braton Gardner's Journalism 80 class Wednesday. Then Braton foiled the scheme by calling on Mr. Troy. The former is now taking a course in voice detection. Incidentally, Troy, did you enjoy that movie?

Utilize Your Spare Time:

Speaking of Journalism 80, reminds Campy that a lot can be learned in the art of making a man by watching Jeanne Walker cast ardent glances in Gil Miller's direction.

Maybe He Didn't Tell Her:

Natalie Schurman, Cody Manor frosh, is suffering from a case of measles, evidently contracted the previous week-end from a certain Phi Sigma Delta. What if this modern generation coming to—have you no scientific knowledge?

And It Was All In Good Fun:

Chuck Campbell was a little burned at brother Bob Wilson who defined him on a Collegian quiz as "BMOG, sigma nu, and a lot of wind" as related by the Maniac, we believe.

Cutting Comment:

It seems in Journalism 22, Prof. Banner's column writing course, the class was assigned criticisms of daily columns. A certain young thing in commenting on Warnock's "Daily Half-Colum" ended her report with a subtle suggestion that the author take Journalism 22!

Safety in Numbers:

It was learned through various channels that "Peaches" Willenbecher, of Cody Manor, received an elaborate valentine from her many admirers who collaborated on a heart-shaped box of suckers with an appropriate note inserted "Complications?"

Love's Labor Lost:

The kappas, when in search of BMOG's as waiters at their formal rushing dinner Saturday night were promptly rejected by Russ Gohn and Jack Kennon. But not Johnny Moeller—he had to pay the price of love. So did the three other victims, Joe Ferris, agr. Tom Brown, sac, and Rich Miller, sac. The lucky boys were reimbursed \$.05 for their services rendered.

High Spies Report:

Jean Bride, newly-pledged Theta Phi Alpha, knit a tie with her own itty-bitty hands for Jerry Wheeler. . . . Joe Rambo, the man who walks alone, has taken unto himself a wife. . . . Harriet Hetzel Williams (Mrs. James Williams to you) is visiting her in-laws this week-end. . . . Bill Patterson, phi gam, is back in school again, looking for a gullible co-ed. . . . Jane Ibriz, after a semester of wooing Ed Landon in the darkness of Art 74 class, has switched her affections to Sid Booth, the. . . . Betty Balderson, '37, Delta Gam, is at last the blushing bride of Louis Mgruer '37, phidelt. . . . Tom Geer, sigmann, has pinned Vera Kemp.

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Letter Box

(The Collegian does not assume responsibility for the spelling and grammatical constructions in the following letters. Letter writers usually do not like to have their efforts edited. The Collegian recognizes hereby a letter from F. Graham Luckenbill '38. The letter contains much of the same material as does the message from Brown. Briefly, may it be understood that Mr. Luckenbill's viewpoint is interpreted to be distinctly at variance with the opinion of Blue Key entertained by the Collegian. The Collegian hopes that its readers have been edified by the presentation of both sides of the question.—Ed.)

To the Editor:

The Collegian asks, "How Does Blue Key justify its existence?" Perhaps it should have taken the trouble to ask the Student Tribunal what hat society and only what hat society was represented at every meeting of the Tribunal. And what hat men went out and brought in freshmen who refused to appear at the Tribunal meetings. The answer—Blue Key. Perhaps Miss Nitzky would have told them that the Blue Key society cooperated with her in helping entertain chapel speakers when the occasion arose. But the Collegian didn't ask.

Perhaps Mr. Gilbert would have given Blue Key a boost for assisting at football games this fall. The only society to usher, incidentally.

Maybe they can explain that our society is going backward because we refused to continue the practice of having a beer party for initiation, and substituted in its place a more costly and more impressive dinner at the State College Hotel. The first move of this kind to be made by any of the hat societies, and in my opinion an advancement, instead of a retrogression.

Also, I hope the Collegian does not see sight of the fact that the various first assistants are also working for Blue Key when they perform their duties for their individual sports. Duties which our coaches almost unanimously agree are worthy of more benefits than the boys derive from them.

In regard to the dance, which the Collegian claims was my "private dance with the societies' funds," the organization agreed that the officers should make the necessary arrangements. For which services I am indebted to our secretary and treasurer. Of course, the Collegian claims that only a "fraction of the members" were present at the meeting, but the fact remains that they were all notified of the meeting and a quorum was present.

The dance was run off Saturday night, and if the word of those who were present may be taken as a criterion, it was quite satisfactory. Chaperons were invited and present, and if the reporter failed to see them, it is no fault of ours.

Incidentally, the "rumors" that I invited sophomores to the dance is a vicious lie, and to the best of my knowledge, none were present or invited. And furthermore, if the Collegian would confine itself to facts instead of "rumors," it might gain the respect of a larger percentage of the student body, and raise itself out of the "scandal sheet" stage.

It is reputed that I "threw open the gates of the society to membership at will," and "disregarded the constitution and precedent." But how does it account for the fact that the entire active membership were unanimously in favor of the increase of six more members than was previously the custom. If that makes me a "dictator," then I am guilty. Regardless of that however, the Collegian demands that because of these additional six members, we should pay off a back debt, not incurred by us, to the extent of 100 dollars. Perhaps our plans did call for a reduction of that

Co-Edits

Mortar Board will initiate the Mac Allister Hall faculty dinners this Sunday when two professors and their wives will be guests to the women at two tables. During the semester each table will have the opportunity to invite one couple to dine with them Sunday noon.

Tomorrow night, the tables will be numbered and each table will submit a first, second and third choice of guest with the number of the table and the name of the hostess which will be placed in a box in the lobby. If the women at one of the tables wish to invite an unmarried faculty member they will be entitled to invite another single faculty guest for the same meal.

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Club Elects Officers

The following officers have been elected by the Agricultural Economics club: Carl O. Norberg, president; Richard B. Young, vice-president; Martin V. Rockwell, treasurer; James L. Dunseath, secretary, and Clarence Rhoades, Ag Student Council representative.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Notices of meetings to be published in this column may be left at Student Union Office in Old Main up to 1 p.m. on the day preceding publication.

TODAY

Sophomore Independent party, Old Main, 7 p.m.
Hillel service, auspices of Sigma Tau Phi, 405 Old Main, 7 p.m.
Wesley Foundation "Folk Frolic," Wesley Foundation gymnasium, 7:30 o'clock.

TOMORROW

Hillel record recital, 417 Old Main, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

Hillel service, Sigma Tau Phi house,

7:30 p.m.

MONDAY

Associate editorial board, The Bell, 412 Old Main, 6:45 p.m.

TUESDAY

Varsity lacrosse smoker, Sigma Nu house, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Candidates for business staff, The Bell, 412 Old Main, 4 p.m.

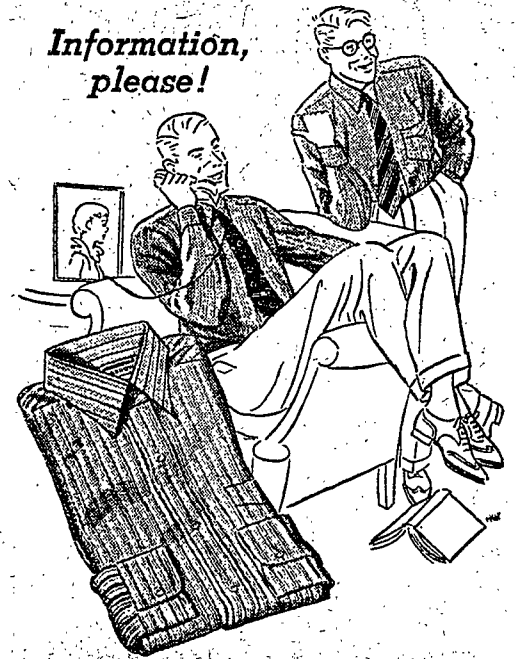
MISCELLANEOUS

Varsity lacrosse practice, every afternoon, 4 p.m.

Women participating in intramurals, must present dispensary permits to team representative. Those interested in swimming must report at Glensland pool, 4 p.m. tomorrow.

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