

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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Tuesday, March 29, 1938

STUDENT OPINION POLL.

THE RETURNS in the student opinion poll being conducted by the Collegian are interesting and point to a definite conclusion on one subject—compulsory military training. The other opinions varied widely. It is because student opinion regarding R. O. T. C. expressed at the voting machines last spring corresponds so closely to what the Collegian learned concerning the matter that we believe our cross-section poll is accurate. Last spring 77 per cent of the student body was against compulsory training and freshmen were 69 per cent against it. These figures are significant.

It is not unreasonable to suppose that this year's seniors would have voted four years ago somewhat as this year's freshmen did. It is not unreasonable to suppose that this year's freshmen will vote similarly to this year's seniors four years hence. It would seem that as the student progresses in college his dislike of R. O. T. C. increases. This is a repudiation of our existing military course.

The figures bear out a statement that the more students learn about compulsory military training here and elsewhere, the less they want to be associated with it. Expressed opinion indicates that students do not want compulsory military training, that they consider time spent at it wasted, and that the military aim here falls far short of its goal.

Students have demanded time and time again that they be relieved of this useless burden. It is about time that their say be considered.

Various pressure groups, such as the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the service clubs, more than likely are exerting all the influence they can to keep compulsory training here. In doing that they are hindering their goal—adequate and trained military defense. If they would sit down and think about student opinion and psychological reaction they would more clearly see why they are defeating their purpose. In forcing all students to take R. O. T. C. they are lowering the morale of the training; they are crippling and rendering virtually worthless a mechanism that could take care of students who are interested in their own volition in military training.

With voluntary R. O. T. C. the student body and the Collegian has no argument. With compulsory training we most vehemently do.

It has been proved at Wisconsin, North Dakota and Minnesota, among others, that compulsory training is not necessary under the Land-Grant Act. It has been proven that students here do not want compulsory military training. Common sense thinking can prove to military-minded persons that they would benefit from voluntary training.

Why in Heaven's name must we have it?

THE CAMPAIGN

THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN that officially gets under way tomorrow evening has been going on for some time if reports from both cliques can be believed. This would indicate that tomorrow's opening whistle is somewhat of a joke. After reading some of the platform planks proposed, we are inclined to believe that the whole business is a joke.

A campaign that both sides in all classes and a third lone star in the junior class have dedicated to clean and more efficient politics has gotten off to the dirtiest start in history.

The garbage to be spread more thickly the next two weeks will bear out the prediction we made last fall that this fraternity versus non-fraternity spirit is a bad political dividing line and promises to open up an era of wild promising and hypocritical allegiance that will discredit the whole political system here.

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY?

THE ACADEMIC CALM of a little college town in the heart of the Pennsylvania mountains is agitated by argument whether State College should change its name to State University. Those uninformed in educational matters may ask "What's in a name?" but there is a difference. A university is an association of colleges, a definition which entitles Pennsylvania State College to call itself a university. It is large enough to be a university, with about 6000 students enrolled and a comprehensive curriculum.

Conservatives view with alarm the confusion which would result if Governor Earle gets his way and converts a college into a university. But the student body, it seems, is liberal-minded and has voted by substantial majority in favor of the change. The faculty has said nothing, but local shops, laundries and other business institutions using "State College" in their business titles are strongly in favor of the status quo.

Whatever happens, one thing is likely to remain the same. Whether it continues a college or becomes a university, the school in Centre County will still be called Penn State by the public, the students and its loyal alumni.—Phila. Evening Public Ledger

OLD MANIA

Fish Story:

Potty Bollinger pranced into the Kappa house after a date with Bill Fish, flaunting a sparkler on her fourth finger. Kappa's congratulated, the news spread, and then—Dotty confessed it was a hoax. Seems funny that the sisterhood couldn't spot a five and ten ring after all the first hand experience of observing the real McCoy.

A La Bach de Moore:

Before the Chi O's humble shack The end of a well-known, beaten track, The two would stand. Surrounded by the peace of night Mottled with specks of golden light, Tom held her hand. They'd talk in fitful style, I ween, With many a meaning glance between, So soft and low. They'd whisper some dear soft conceit, Some idle gossip they'd repeat, He'd move to go. "See you in class," he'd say, "Good-bye." "Good-night," she'd say with half a sigh. They'd kiss and then— And then he would not go but stand, Tighter and tighter he'd hold her hand, And begin all over again.

Froth-Phooey!

The business manager of the Engineer (Henry Poltz to you) has a gal who works in the Bellefonte library. He sent her copies of the Engineer and Froth for th library. She thanked him for the Engineer, but she said that she felt it her moral duty to throw the Froth in the ash-can as it might contaminate the minds of young children.

Fine Fun:

When faced with a \$12.50 fine for traffic violations, Joe Wentling non-chalantly wrote a check to the Burgess. In the lower left-hand corner he wrote "To W. F. Leitzell for graft and corruption."

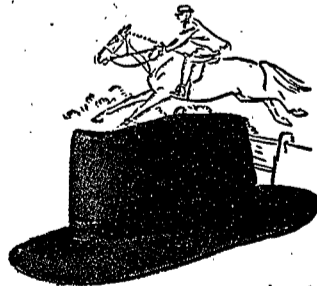
Public Improvements Project:

Now that cliques are promising to have wider walks in front of Old Main, and more drinking fountains on the campus, and Stan Brown is promising each political chairmanship to four or five men, we're expecting Col. Venable to call out the ROTC corps to protect Old Main before it is given away.

Do You Remember When—

(From the files) Johnny Moeller and Jack Kennon ran for Soph class secretary and treasurer respectively? Doris Runnag called at the repair shop for her typewriter and when asked—"L. C. Smith" she replied, "No, Doris Runnag." Nancy Drake said the Betas called her irresistible? Jo Case and Jackie Biddle competed for Dannie Moffie's attention? Beauty and beast were Shirley Stack and Izzy Richter? Sam Gullu saved \$3.30 by walking into the Cornell stadium with the Big Red band? Hermione Hunt wrote to friends at Wilson Colize and said-it's not hard to make a hit at State? Lucille Giles won the bird cage at Westminster College for breaking campus regulations? Hugo Bezdek kept himself in shape by chinning himself on a rod on his back porch every morning? Dean Steidle danced in Thespian shows? Harry (Work) Seannans predicted the Nazi government would be broke by Oct. 1, 1935? Ruth Boyer turned in her first story to the Collegian? "Chief Burgess Leitzell was very indifferent in the statement of his attitude toward College students. He gave us to understand that he is too busy at present to pay much attention to him. He said that as far as he knew they were a well-behaved body. He further stated that he considers Collegian criticism a boost rather than a knock." "Ruth L. Boyer '32. (P. S.—This is all I could get out of him. He refused to become angry—R. B.)"

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'William Shakespeare Write Hamlet? Bunk,' Says Benezet

You Dare Not Be Indifferent—Penn

Man Must Make Religion Living Thing,' Declares Baltimore Speaker At Chapel

"Their either is, or is not a God, but for the sake of the world and your own opinion you dare not be indifferent," emphasized Dr. Don Frank Penn, rector of the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Baltimore, in chapel Sunday.

"The world is sitting on a powder keg waiting for it to go off," declared Dr. Penn. "I firmly believe that such a conflict would end this particular phase of civilization. The financial situation of the world cannot stand the strain of another war."

He pointed out that the level of education has never been as high as it is now, yet the solution of world problems seems to get farther away. Civilization is in its present condition because it has always kept religion out of practical things, he also pointed out.

"Man must make religion a living thing. If God created the universe, He created man and meant him to live in a society. Therefore God must have made a law for human living. Unless this law of God is followed there is no chance for stable society," Dr. Penn concluded.

Cliques Prepare For Class Offices Battle

(Continued From Page One) est thing from his intentions, inasmuch as he believes that it is possible for him to line up the necessary organization to swing the vote his way.

Speaking from a hospital cot, where he has been for the last few days due to a leg injury received in Spring football practice, Patrick said: "I am running in an effort to clean up Penn State politics. The cliques have run, things long enough—and, win or lose, I am a candidate for Senior class president!"

It seems that word reached the ears of a Sophomore politician that this column was going to "take a crack" at the platforms of all the cliques. We had no intention of doing such a thing, but so long as it has been mentioned here goes—

To those who have read the various platforms, surely they have gotten a good belly laugh out of some of the points suggested. A few of the planks showed a gross ignorance of what can be done by students, and it seems that little, if any, logical thinking is behind the formulation of some of the points suggested.

One thing is certain—and this is from a non-partisan point of view—it seems that the Independent party, in all three classes, under one leadership, has a better conception of what a platform should be like, and are better versed in the art of platform-framing. Personally, we wonder whether "politician" or a good platform bring in the votes.

79 Per Cent Against Compulsory R.O.T.C.

(Continued From Page One) 88; all-College, 79.5. In defense of American rights abroad: Seniors, 12; juniors, 17; sophomores, 8; freshmen, 23; all-College, 15.1.

In any war government may declare: Seniors, 12; juniors, 15; sophomores, 5; freshmen, 23; all-College, 13.7. In no war: Seniors, 20; juniors, 15; sophomores, 16; freshmen, 11; all-College, 15.8.

Neutrality—For unqualified neutrality: Seniors, 52; juniors, 32; sophomores, 50; freshmen, 31; all-College, 39. Economic sanctions: Seniors, 28; juniors, 28; sophomores, 8; freshmen, 31; all-College, 29.5. Collective positive action: Seniors, 8; juniors, 13; sophomores, 16; freshmen, 15; all-College, 14.5. Complete isolation: Seniors, 12; juniors, 17; sophomores, 18; freshmen, 27; all-College, 17.8. Entrance to a revised League of Nations: Seniors, 16; juniors, 25; sophomores, 13; freshmen, 11; all-College, 17.1.

West Virginia University has in its student body 70 sets of brothers, 25 sets of sisters and 33 brother and sister duos.

54 Students To Begin Engineer Trip April 7

Fifty-four students in mechanical engineering will begin their annual inspection tour April 7, Prof. Harold E. Everett, head of the department, announced yesterday.

Points to be visited will be Philadelphia, Baltimore, Old Point Comfort, Va., and York. The trip, compulsory for all graduating students in the department, will end April 13. The group will be accompanied by Professors Jesse S. Doolittle and Norman R. Sparks.

James Will Lecture

Evan L. James, secretary of Lower Merion township, has been chosen to lecture before government majors on zoning and planning for small communities. Dr. Harold F. Alderfer, executive secretary of the Institute of Local Government, announced.

To Make Inquiry

Twenty-seven students will leave Thursday on a four-day social inquiry trip to New York City sponsored by the Penn State Christian association. The purpose is to give the students a chance to investigate and observe housing, labor, racial, entertainment, and recreation problems along with other social conditions that exist in a densely-populated, cosmopolitan city.

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