

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

Successor to The Free Lance, established 1887

Published semi-weekly during the College year, except on holidays...

THE MANAGING BOARD JOHN A. TROANOVITCH '39 FRANCIS A. C. VOSTERS, JR. '39

Associate Editors A. William Engel, Jr. '40 Paul S. Haldeman, Jr. '40

Associated Collegiate Press Distributor of Collegiate Digest

Friday, May 6, 1938

LET'S CLEAN UP

THIS TIME of the year is "tapping time." It is the time of the year when honorary societies meet to select and honor the outstanding student leaders eligible for membership in their particular organizations.

Time was when honor societies were something to look up to and admire. During the past few years, however, they have disintegrated to such an extent it is no longer an honor to be an honor man.

Unconsciously or otherwise, the honorary societies were transformed into political springboards to be manipulated by interests seeking to perpetuate their own control.

Last year, for instance, four of the leading senior student activities men—Sam Donato, Sol Miehoff, Joseph Proksa, and Emmett "Dusty" Rhoades—were completely ignored by Lion's Paw, the leading honorary on the campus.

Nevertheless, it must be admitted that whatever honor or there is left in the honorary system has been salvaged by Lion's Paw. For, because of its tradition-steeped history and its generally unbounded prestige, politicians have found it tough to control for a great length of time. Yet it has been controlled.

On the average, the trend among honoraries seems to be toward the better. But the upturn has not been sharp enough.

Deserving students still are overlooked. Others less deserving are gladly initiated, provided they have the required dough. A good old-fashioned drug still seems to be the primary prerequisite.

Thus, in this time of transition, it is only proper to take stock of our system and face the facts without flinching.

Whether or not we care to admit it, most students have lost complete respect for the honorary societies. They no longer have any confidence in the existing system.

What, then, is to be done? For years, the honoraries have had a free hand in the control of their own affairs. Being student organizations, functioning in the interests of students themselves, it is desirable to keep them free from outer control.

But what are the facts concerning this system of self-control? The facts show that self-seeking interests have crept into it to usurp the power and attempt to perpetuate themselves in control at the expense of more deserving students. Like weeds, they have rooted themselves into the system. Like weeds, it is difficult to uproot them.

For years, well-meaning groups within the organizations themselves have attempted to crack this control, but with very little success.

In the light of these facts, there seems to be but one way in which to crack this control. That is the way leading to disinterested outside control, preferably by some faculty advisory board along the lines proposed by Joseph A. Peel, '39 class president.

Briefly, under this system, each honorary society would be required to file a list of eligible candidates with a coordinating faculty advisory board, composed of members from the different schools, which, in turn, would have the absolute power to choose from those lists the students who were to receive the bids for membership.

Not only is it conceivable to believe that such a coordinating body would tend to lessen the cut-throat competition now prevalent, but it would lead to a better distribution of honor awards so that fewer of the deserving students would be completely overlooked.

Something is wrong with the existing setup. That cannot be denied.

In the face of all this, wouldn't it be a good idea to start housecleaning NOW?

CAMPUSEER

Add—Lions Paw:

A home exploded amidst the Campus highest honor society Wednesday when the two biggest men in the Junior class rejected bids to Lions Paw.

Houray For Busch:

Curly Pomery and Jim Harrier, the fleas in Brother Connie Busch's romance (see the Maniac's scribbles Tuesday) were bitten Wednesday night.

Ads vs. Econ:

Sharp witted Samby Wyand, eco prof., and a furniture company are battling it out with ads. It started with a purchase by our shrewd Sammy. It didn't live up to Wyand's conception as formed by the company's advertising.

Thru The Smoke:

"Wenten are improving"—Banner. Lou Bell, journ. prof. and former editor of this paper, signed with the fresh biz candidates at the Collegian smoker Tuesday.

A West Variation:

Hilda Brown, our own Mae West, sat admiring Gettysburg's catcher, "Mick" O'Neil. In fact the more she sat, the more she admired. In desperation, she sent Sid Cowlin over to the Bulletin bench with this script:

Spring on a Budget:

Calippus lovers like being on an economy basis in their wedding in the Women's building. And an anonymous writer pins this note on the bulletin board:

Duller Moments:

Natalie Schurman tried in vain to contact her moment the other p. m. "What is he doing out after ten," she shouted. And when informed that he was working for the Bell, she remarked,

Building Program Rumbblings

Nattily dressed men and sweating laborers walk through its doors every minute. Telephones are being installed and orders are transmitted to every building site on the campus.

A lot of shoe leather will be saved as soon as the program is completed. New short-cut sidewalks, although unplanned are continually springing up.

Digging Holes Only "All we're interested in now is digging holes"—Ebert, grounds and buildings head.

The kid was gazing at the laborer who was riveting on the girder of Atherton Hall. He must have heard the truck coming, for, with mouth still open and eyes still glued on the worker, he started backing away slowly.

Things to muse about—all the fun in transferring everything in the library to the new building; the "old" library and education buildings when their new-born successors fill the ranks.

Women in Sports

Winners of the awards presented by Rachel M. Bechdel '38, president of W. A. A., at their annual banquet Wednesday night in the Nittany Lion Inn were: Frieda Knepper '38 and Olive Orendorf '38, blazers; Olwen W. Evans '39, point cup.

School To Hold First Mothers' Day Social

An all-College Mother's Day social will be held in the Armory from 7 until 8 o'clock tomorrow night, as a new feature to the annual May Day program. All students and their guests are invited to attend and no admission will be charged.

69 Candidates Attend Annual Smoker, Dance

Sixty-nine editorial and business candidates attended the annual Collegian smoker and dance at the Phi Kappa Sigma house Tuesday night.

AlphaDeltaSigma Will Hold Contest

Prof. Case To Head Committee Judging 150 High School Art Entries Here

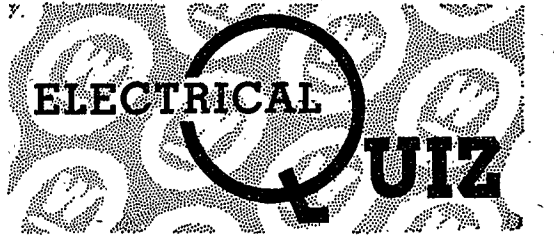
The Pennsylvania Poster Art Contest sponsored annually by Alpha Delta Sigma, professional national advertising fraternity, will be judged in room 405 Old Main, tomorrow afternoon.

NITTANY

Evenings at 6:30 and 8:30 Last complete show as late as 9:05 Matinee Saturday Only 1:30

COLLEGE SWING

EVERY BAD GIRL WAS A GOOD GIRL ONCE!



How many of these Questions can you Answer?

- 1. What is the shortest time element an engineer has to deal with? 2. How quickly can an 8000 H.P. slow-speed steel mill motor be changed from full speed ahead to full speed reverse?

ANSWERS WILL BE FOUND ON PAGE FOUR



...and how it grew and grew!

In 1891 this writing desk type telephone was installed in a Long Island general store. It was a good telephone, but it could be connected with only a part of the Bell System's 250,000 telephones in the country at that time.

Year by year this strange looking telephone, with a more modern transmitter and receiver substituted from time to time, grew in usefulness as the Bell System grew longer in reach—shorter in time needed for making connections—higher in quality of service—lower in cost.

In 1937 "old faithful" was retired to become a museum exhibit, but 15 million modern Bell telephones "carry on."

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

AG FROLIC Tonight! Swing and Sway Gambol and Play with Bill Bottorf Ag Club Booths at Rec Hall \$ .75 Per Couple (Fed Tax Exempt) 8-12

Mothers Enjoy The Corner unusual Dads do too