

# Blue Key Announces Intention To 'Justify Existence'

Semi-Weekly

## Henn State Collegian

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# INVESTIGATION OF HONOR SOCIETIES INDICATED

## Members Of Society Give Future Plans

### Ask Peel '39 To Name Society Member On Tribunal

Asking that "the organization be judged not by the size of membership, but by what we do next year," newly-elected members of Blue Key, junior class honorary society, in a letter to the Collegian Sunday night indicated their intentions of "justifying our existence" by soon formulating "definite plans of what we are going to do next year."

Among other things, the society appealed to Joseph A. Peel, '39 class president, to name one representative from Blue Key to Student Tribunal in order to carry out "our sincere pledge to aid in the enforcement of freshman customs," and promised to be available for service as ushers at College athletic events "whenever called upon."

The society also pledged itself to slash at least in half its "outstanding financial obligation contracted in previous years and which we naturally inherit."

#### Officers Listed

Officers of the honorary, elected Sunday night, are Howard G. Anderson, president; Frank C. Anderson, vice-president; Mark H. Vanzant, secretary; and William H. Simms, treasurer.

The full text of the letter, obviously an answer to the Collegian's drive to clean up the honoraries, follows:

To the Editor:  
We, the newly-elected members of the Blue Key society, junior class honorary, wish to state our attitude and our activities for the coming year, realizing fully the seriousness of justifying our existence.

We ask that the organization be judged not by the size of membership, but by what we do next year—and we intend to formulate definite plans of what we are going to do next year in the near future.

## Robert Wistrand '38 Named Poetry Winner

Robert B. Wistrand '38 has been adjudged winner of the Merritt M. Harris Poetry Award with his poem "The Wind of Land." Wistrand, who was also the winner last year, will receive \$10 in cash.

Honorable mentions went to Maxine L. West '40 for her "Wine Like the Word"; G. David Hess '38, for the second sonnet in his "Ode to Memory"; and to Frank B. Henderson '38, for "Dance; Kinetic Sorrow." These entrants will receive prizes of books made available through the department of English composition and the local book store.

The Poetry Award is given annually by the members of the department in honor of Prof. Merritt M. Harris who retired last spring after 20 years of teaching. Professor Harris taught courses in the writing of poetry for the last decade.

To further stimulate interest in the writing of verse, the department will organize, early next fall, a local chapter of the College Poetry Society of America.

## Library Sets Book Return Deadline

Dr. Willard P. Lewis, head librarian, has announced that all students must return library books before leaving for the summer. Students failing to do so by June 2 will have a charge lodged against their account at the Bursar's office.

## Class Periods May Increase To 9 Hours Next Semester

### Players Pick Fry As '39 President

Doty, Eames, Yanofsky, Francis Elected To Other Offices; Members Initiated

Kathryn L. Fry '39 was chosen president of the Penn State Players at their annual dinner-dance at the University Club Friday night.

Other officers named were Vivian S. A. Doty '39, vice-president; Jane C. Eames '40, secretary; Herbert S. Yanofsky '40, treasurer; and Thomas S. Francis '39, board member.

Active members who were initiated before the supper are Jean L. Brant '39, Karl B. Bretthey '40, Eleanor H. Hoffer '40, Robert M. Ludwig '40, and A. Norrene Mitchell '39.

New associate members are Joseph D. Bertolino '41, Jane D. Bolter '41, Ralph E. Bollinger '41, Edward H. Catlin '41, Joseph W. Dobbs '40, Roy M. Hanna '39, Charles D. Hough '41, Betty Jandorf '41, Florence Marquardt '40, Jean E. Porter '40, G. Naomi Pugh '39, Robert Robinson '41, William A. Rucap, Jr. '40, Verna Sevast '39, C. Allen Tappan '39, Ruth L. Taylor '39, and Ruth E. Wagner '40.

## 3,000 Will Gather On Farmers' Day

Ag. Staff Plans Entertainment Here June 9; Will Explain Recent Progress

Members of the staff of the School of Agriculture and Experiment Station will entertain approximately 3,000 farmers at the annual Farmers' Field Day here Thursday, June 9.

New developments in agricultural engineering, agronomy, animal husbandry, botany, dairy husbandry, forestry, horticulture, poultry husbandry, and home economics will be exhibited and explained to visitors by members of the departments.

There will be a picnic dinner at noon in the woods near Patterson Hall, followed by entertainment and recreations in charge of Herman S. Brunner, instructor in agricultural education, and Willis Kersn, associate professor of rural sociology extension. Sight-seeing buses will tour the College farms every 20 minutes, and at 3:30 in the afternoon, groups from agricultural organizations will take part in the fourth annual state-wide rural chorus contest in Schwab Auditorium.

Thomas I. Mairs, professor in charge of correspondence courses in agriculture, is in charge of the program.

## Women's Honoraries Elect New Officers

Paula B. Wohlfeld was elected president of Mortar Board, senior women's honorary, in elections held Saturday afternoon in the Hugh Beaver Room, Old Main. L. Jean Stillwell was named vice-president; Elizabeth B. Long, secretary; June C. Price, treasurer; and Margaret P. Herman, editor.

Ruth K. Kistler was elected president of Omens, sophomore women's activities honorary, at elections held Sunday night. Jane B. Hoskins became vice-president; Jean C. Craighead, secretary; Harriet L. Dayton, treasurer; and Georgia W. Owen, alumna advisor.

## Dairy Course Offered

A course in testing dairy products will be offered here August 1-6, the department of dairy manufacturing has announced. The course is designed to give special training in dairy testing and to qualify the students for a state board examination.

## Room Shortage Makes Change Necessary, Watkins Says

An increase in the number of class periods each day beginning next semester became apparent with the appointment yesterday of a committee by the Council of Administration at a meeting in Old Main to study the situation.

The committee, composed of Adrian O. Morse, Samuel K. Hostetter, assistants to the President, and Registrar William S. Hoffman, is expected to approve the proposal early in August if "deemed necessary," Ray V. Watkins, scheduling officer announced.

The plan, designed to eliminate the present lack of classroom facilities, calls for morning classes to begin at 7:30 and end at 12:20. Afternoon classes will run from 1:30 to 5:20. The ten-minute period between classes will be retained, Watkins said. Class periods will be increased from the present seven to nine per day if the proposal goes through.

New Buildings Will Help  
The scheduling officer pointed out that classrooms will be lost in North Liberal Arts with more offices being added and the water tower will be

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## Group Discusses Social Problems

International Relations Confab To Bring Many Prominent Educators Here

World economic and social problems will be surveyed and discussed at an institution of international relations to be held here June 21 to July 1.

The institute has been arranged by the American Friends Service Committee and the Council for Social Action of the Congregationalist Church. Courses to be offered include "Ethics and Religion Applied to World Affairs," "Economic Foundations of World Life," "Community Programs of International Relations" and "The Present World Situation."

There will also be seminar discussions, led by prominent educators.

Chih Meng, author of "China Speaks" and director of the China Institute in America, will be one of the members of the faculty of the institute. Yakihiro Suppa, counsellor of the Japanese embassy in Washington; Clark Eichelberger, director of the League of Nations Association; Kirby Page, author, lecturer, and world traveler, and other prominent educators and economists are also included.

## Average Student Is Mixture Of Conservatism, Liberalism

At the annual Pennsylvania Debaters Convention held here recently it was discovered that the average American college student is a queer mixture of the conservative and the liberal.

The student refuses to have the present powers of the Supreme Court enlarged or cut, yet he is liberal in his attitude toward labor. For three years he has been a strict isolationist, refusing to sanction any entangling alliances with foreign powers, and he believes that the United States should not become involved in any war concerning land action outside the United States.

Among some of their opinions, as compiled by Prof. Joseph F. O'Brien of the division of speech, are these: "Married women should not be replaced in industry except on the basis of efficiency. The college graduate should feel free to marry before the age of 25 on an income of \$1,500 annually."

In the field of education the average student advocates more careful diagnosis and guidance of incoming students; two years of general cultural preparation before specialization;

## Mertz '37 Wins Rome Fellowship

Landscape Architecture Award Permits Graduate Study For Two Years

Stuart M. Mertz '37 has been awarded the American Academy in Rome fellowship in Landscape Architecture, Prof. John R. Bracken, division of landscape architecture, announced today.

The fellowship which, according to Professor Bracken, is the highest award that can be given in America for proficiency in this field, is valued at \$4,000 and will pay Mertz's expenses and tuition for two years of study in Europe.

McCloud '37 in Finals  
Mertz, who is now doing graduate work at Cornell, was one of six students selected as finalists from a field of forty entries from all over the country in a preliminary competition. Paul M. McCloud '37, another Penn State graduate, was also a finalist. In the finals, Mertz submitted the best design of a botanical garden.

Penn State has had five men reach the finals in previous competitions for this fellowship, but Mertz is the first to gain the "principal" award. While here, Mertz was president of Scarab, honorary architecture fraternity, and also a member of Chi Phi, social fraternity.

The winner of the competition for the Rose Prize in architecture, in which Joseph Balis '36 is a finalist, has not yet been announced. Balis was runner-up in last year's competition.

## Musical Groups Hold Banquet Last Night

The Penn State Glee Club and the Louise Homer Club held their annual banquet at the Nittany Lion Inn, at seven o'clock last night.

A program of entertainment was presented by the two clubs. The girls' Varsity Quartette, and the men's Varsity Quartette sang after which there was dancing.

The following men received Glee Club keys for having sung with the club for three years: Frederick H. Serff '38; Robert J. Baxter '38; Richard W. Tyrrel '39; Wilson C. Dickson '39; William M. Andrew II '39; Robert W. Trichen '39; and Robert T. Bogensief '38.

## Oil, Gas Experts Meet

Nine petroleum and natural gas technologists will lead a joint conference here Thursday and Friday to discuss the economic and technological phases of the twin industries.

## I.F.C. Releases Revised '38-'39 Rushing Code

### Beyer '39 Named Head Of Committee By Ray Coskery

A radically revised Interfraternity Rushing Code which will govern the 1938-'39 season was released yesterday by Raymond S. Coskery '39, Interfraternity Council president. The code was approved by the council Thursday night, at which time William F. Beyer II '39 was named chairman of the rushing committee for next year.

Other members of the committee are Leonard Cooper, W. Jerome Howarth, Hugh F. McKnight, Jr., and William R. Walker, all sophomores.

Several minor changes have been made in the code, which was approved by the council last month with the provision that it could be revised at any regular meeting of the group.

Cabin Parties Permitted  
Under the code as it was first passed, rushing outside the limits of State College was forbidden. This has been changed to make permissible properly chaperoned cabin parties.

The code forbids the use of women in any way for rushing, harrising the presence of women in a fraternity house while freshmen are there. It also bans rushing in beer establishments.

"A ten-day" rushing season, beginning September 10, is established by the code. The season is divided into silent, informal, and open house periods, in addition to the dating periods which existed under the old code.

A silent period will exist from the end of summer rushing on September 7 until 1 p. m. Saturday, September 10. It was originally planned that Sunday would be an open house period, meaning that freshmen could come to the house but fraternally men could not contact them outside. Instead, fraternally men will be permitted to accompany freshmen to the house in the evening.

On Monday and Tuesday there will be informal rushing. During this period, fraternally men may have contact with freshmen anywhere except in the house and in eating establishments.

The freshmen will purchase rushing cards on Monday, and will make dates on Tuesday. For the rest of the week there will be breakfast, luncheon, and dinner dates.

On Sunday, September 18, there will be another open house, followed by a silent period which will end when pledging begins at 6 o'clock Monday afternoon. After 8 o'clock Monday night fraternally men may contact freshmen outside the house. Under the old code, open rushing for the rest of the year did not begin until a month after the end of rushing season.

Enforcement Group Established  
The code establishes an enforcement committee which consists of three faculty members who belong to fraternities who do not have chapters here. Each member will be paid a sum not to exceed \$15.00 by the Council.

Upon finding a fraternity guilty of a code violation, the committee is obliged to impose as a mandatory penalty the postponement of pledging for one day, with the silent period ending Tuesday instead of Monday.

## Story of Beethoven Is 2nd Foreign Film

"The Life and Loves of Beethoven," a French production released last winter, will be shown at the Nittany theatre tonight and tomorrow. It will be the second outstanding foreign film brought to State College through the efforts of the Friends of Foreign Films movement.

English subtitles make this first unfamiliar film clear for those unfamiliar with French. The role of Beethoven is played by the outstanding foreign character actor of the day, Harry Baur. He has been seen here previously in "Poil de Carrotte" and "Crime et Chatiment."

## \$53.64 Loss Reported On Junior Prom

A deficit of \$53.64 for Junior Prom was estimated in a tentative report released yesterday by James A. Glunt, dance committee chairman. Last year a profit of \$411.26 was realized.

Kay Kyser played for a crowd of 732 this year as compared with the 945 who heard Glen Gray at the same dance in 1937. This year 670 paid admissions brought the total receipts to \$3,027.94. Complimentary tickets were issued to 62. Last year 834 bought tickets while 111 were given comps.

Kyser's music cost \$1,500 and \$400 was paid for decorations. Checking, compensations, advertising, taxes, programs and miscellaneous costs brought the total expenditures to \$3,087.58.

The same amount was paid for Casa Loma last year but an added \$50 was spent for decorations at the 1937 Prom. \$463.05 went for taxes last year compared to \$270.84 paid out for this spring's affair.

## 3,500 Will Attend Summer Session

450 Separate Courses Offered To Students by Resident, Visiting Staff

About 3,500 students are expected to attend 450 separate courses which will be offered at the main summer session here beginning June 27 and closing August 5.

The faculty will be made up of 175 resident members and 79 from other colleges and universities.

Courses will be offered undergraduate students who wish to continue their college work during the summer; social workers, librarians, graduate nurses, and other adults qualified to pursue with profit the courses given; teachers holding college degrees who wish to review courses in preparation for advanced work, to pursue regular courses for credit in the Graduate School or to fit themselves better for their teaching; and other graduate students who seek credit toward some particular degree.

This is but one of the three summer sessions annually conducted by the College. The inter-session will begin June 7 and continue until June 24, and the post-session will begin August 8 and end August 26.

## ROTC Cadets Honor Col. Charles Ritchel

Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Ritchel, associate professor of military science and tactics, was presented with a set of silverware by seniors in the infantry advanced ROTC course at a testimonial banquet in his honor at the Allencrest.

The 36 senior cadet officers present, headed by cadet Lt. Col. Eugene Forquer '38, paid tribute to Col. Ritchel as "an officer, gentleman, and teacher."

Yesterday afternoon the senior cadet officers in both the infantry and engineer advanced courses took their oath of office as second lieutenants in the reserve corps of the U. S. Army. They will receive their commissions at the graduation ceremonies in Rec. Hall on June 6.

## Honor Society Council Elects Kay '39 Head

Nicholas Kay '39, president of Tau Beta Pi, was elected president of Honor Society Council at the annual meeting of the organization Friday.

Edwin H. Rohrbeck, associate professor of agricultural extension, was re-elected secretary-treasurer. Honor Society Council is composed of representatives from 21 honor societies on the campus. The Council checks all admissions of members to honoraries and donates the annual Evan Pugh medals, five to juniors and five to seniors.

## Peel Will Ask Aid Of Board For Clean-Up

### Probe Next Semester Planned Only For Improvement

See editorial, "Amen," page 2

A thorough investigation of the entire campus honorary system was indicated yesterday by Joseph A. Peel, '39 class president.

Peel, who also is chairman of Student Board, said he would ask the Board to appoint an investigating committee to make an impartial probe of all campus honor societies with the hope of bringing them "back to the level which they enjoyed a few years ago."

"We don't want to abolish honoraries altogether," Peel explained. "We just want to improve them and bring them back to the level which they enjoyed a few years ago, when students really looked up to the honorary societies."

Peel Advises Wait  
Because of the small amount of time remaining this semester, however, Peel said he would not urge the investigation until sometime next fall.

An immediate probe, he added, would more than likely be just a haphazard, inadequate study of the situation and "might do more harm than good."

Student Board has the power to investigate the campus honorary societies through the authority delegated to it a few years ago by the Senate Committee on Student Welfare, which officially recognizes all student organizations.

At present there are a half-dozen men's societies on the campus, including Lion's Paw, senior; Blue Key, junior; Parni Nous and Skull and Bones, upperclass; and Priors and Druids, sophomore.

## Student Will Tune Pianos To Get 'Seeing Eye'

To earn enough money for a "seeing eye" dog, George Risko, blind freshman student at the College's undergraduate center in Uniontown, will tune 30 pianos this summer.

Citizens of Uniontown are campaigning now to secure the necessary piano tuning jobs for the boy so that he may be able to join the "seeing eye" class at Morristown, N. J., on July 17. Dr. R. Wallace Brewster, administrative head of the Fayette center, said yesterday.

Risko is 18 and has been blind since birth because of defective retina. A graduate from the Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind, he made excellent grades in the College aptitude test given to him before he was accepted as a student at the center.

Lessons are read to him by six students at the center who work on a definite schedule which utilizes all of Risko's vacant periods during the day. He takes notes in class by Braille shorthand. All of his written work is prepared on a typewriter by use of the touch system.

At the close of last semester, Risko placed high in the upper 25 per cent of the freshman class at the center.

## Final Art Exhibition To End On Saturday

The exhibition of water color renderings of distinguished examples of early American design from all sections of the country will be held until Saturday. This is the final exhibition of the 1937-'38 season sponsored by the Division of Fine Arts. The exhibition is open daily from 8:30 a. m. to 8:30 p. m. in the College Gallery, 303 Main Engineering.