

Penn State Opened In 1850 As Farmers' High School In Agriculture

College, Now On Verge Of University Rating, Shows Phenomenal Rise

Tremendous Increase In Physical Facilities Made Under President Hetzel; Enrollment Boosted

One of the pioneers of agricultural education in the United States, the Farmers' High School, threw open its doors in Central Pennsylvania in 1850.

With the acceptance of the Morrill Land Grant Act by Governor Andrew Gregg Curtin, April 1, 1863, he pledged the "faith of the State to carry the same into effect."

Today, the humble Farmers' High School is on the verge of recognition as Pennsylvania State University, claiming a phenomenal rise in the world of education.

6 Heads in 23 Years

Marked by drifting and experimentation, the first quarter of a century saw a struggle to hold the land grant, as six presidents in 23 years steered an embryonic institution through in uncharted course.

Dr. Evan Pugh, a scholar trained by six years of study in the universities of Germany, France,

and England, died at the early age of 36 just as he was laying the foundations of Penn State. Dr. William H. Allen, his successor, formerly and later president of Grant College, served two years.

A lone course, agriculture, was offered up to 1866, but the settlement of the entire land grant upon the College by the act of 1867 led President John Frazer and the Board of Trustees to a reorganization in which engineering was to be taught, while agriculture and the arts were to be expanded.

Too expensive to carry out, the plan was abandoned and the trustees called Dr. Thomas H. Burrows to salvage the College and restore it to its "original purpose." His great personal influence halted the wave of discouragement but death overtook him after only three years in office.

Dr. James Calder, a classically trained, classically minded executive, succeeded.

Enrollment Expands

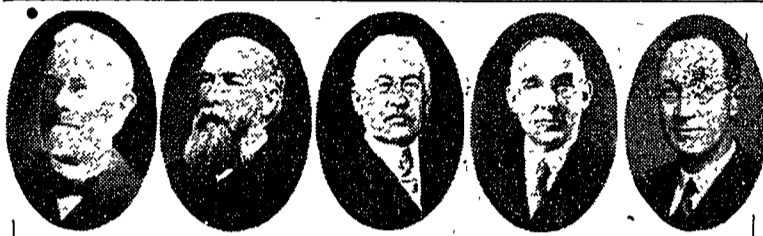
The College enrollment expanded under the influx of a large number of preparatory students and with the inauguration of music and art courses. Three courses, agriculture, classical, and scientific, were offered, and women students were admitted on equal terms in 1871.

Destined to serve nearly a quarter of a century, Dr. George W. Atherton ascended the presidency during the "dark ages" of Penn State in 1880-1881 when criticism, personal recrimination and open rebellion arose under President Shortlidge. He received an institution of one building, Old Main, completed in December, 1883, a massive, forbidding structure with a prison-like interior, a student body so depleted in numbers that it scarcely exceeded the faculty, and with an unjust reputation of an educational failure throughout

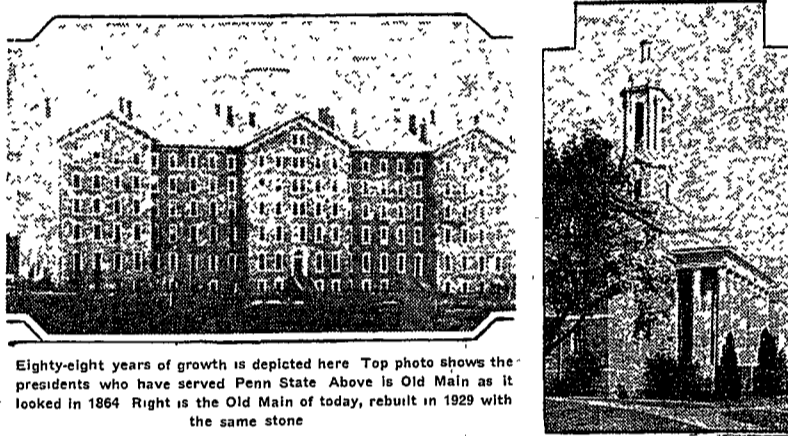
Evolution: High School To University



EVAN PUGH 1859-64 W. H. ALLEN 1864-65 JOHN FRASER 1866-68 T. H. BURROWS 1868-70 JAMES CALDER 1871-80



JOB SHORTLIDGE 1880-81 G. W. ATHERTON 1882-1906 EDWIN E. SPARKS 1908-1920 JOHN M. THOMAS 1921-26 RALPH D. HETZEL 1927-



Eighty-eight years of growth is depicted here. Top photo shows the presidents who have served Penn State. Above is Old Main as it looked in 1884. Right is the Old Main of today, rebuilt in 1929 with the same stone.

the State. Dr. Atherton went to work.

A revamping of Old Main was begun, overcrowded departments began their exodus to new buildings. The schools were organized in 1896, dormitories were erected—a University Inn, and the first buildings by private donors, the Carnegie Library and Schwab Auditorium. Agriculture began its modern development with a building program and expansion of facilities under the Allied Agricultural Societies in 1900.

Engineering owes its first adequate housing to Governor Pattison who became a warm friend of Penn State during his second administration. And so, rapid development has come during the third quarter century, especially in the last five years.

Under Dr. Sparks, the student body grew almost phenomenally. Popularizing and extension activities were greatly increased, the Summer school established on a new basis in 1910. President Sparks bore a huge burden during the Great War—a burden which sapped his strength, leading to his retirement in 1920.

Building Campaign Held

His successor, President John Martin Thomas, took over an institution with 370 on the faculty and a resident student body of 4,016. Meanwhile, the College campaign to raise \$2,000,000 for welfare buildings, was organized and vigorously carried on.

September 24, 1926, Dr. Ralph Dorn Hetzel was called to the presidency and a new Penn State began rapidly to realize itself. An adequate campus plan and the following new buildings, which were dedicated as part of the 75th Celebration tell something of the external story: Recreation Hall, Engineering Building, Mineral Industries, Old Main, Free and Grant Dormitories, Liberal Arts and Chemistry units, Power Plant, Botany Building, Hospital Service Building, and others.

Now the greatest building program in the history of the College is in full swing. The \$5,000,000 appropriated by the last legislature will, with the addition of 11 new buildings, change the appearance of the entire campus. A new era in Penn State's history has begun.

Class of '42 May Be Last To Enroll At 'College' Here

Proposal By Governor Earle Would Give Penn State Rank Of University; Court Action Pushed

The Class of 1942—prized for its official howdy-do here next week—may be the last to enroll in the Pennsylvania State College.

For, hanging fire since a surprising statement by Governor George H. Earle at the ground-breaking ceremonies for the five-million-dollar building program here last February 26 is a proposal to change the institution's name to include "university" ranking.

Originally proposed by the Governor to be "The University of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania," the name was shunted in a subsequent poll of the student body taken by the Collegian, primarily because it would exclude the traditionally sacred words "Penn State," secondly, because it was too hard on the tongue.

Favor 'Penn State University' Substituted in its stead was "Pennsylvania State University"—a name believed to answer the desire for university status, yet maintain the words "Penn State."

Result of the poll was carried personally to the Governor by College President Ralph D. Hetzel who reported the students were "100 per cent" (the poll said 98 per cent) in favor of a change. The Governor acknowledged the report, ordered Charles J. Maggotti (then Attorney-General) to seek legal means to change the name.

For aught of so later, Maggotti reported back, said because of the peculiar nature of the College's charter, the institution would be required to have a name-change approved by a majority vote of the College Board of Trustees, Court of Common Pleas of Centre County and the State Council of Education.

Authoritative sources indicated, however, that the College hoped to

Over 3,000 Enrolled In Summer Session

Approximately 3,000 students attended the 29th annual Summer session at the College here this year, figures at the Registrar's office show.

Of this number, 2,751 were enrolled as regular session students attending classes on the campus. The enrollment last year was 2,204, including 883 graduate students.

WELCOME, CLASS OF '42

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Ray Watkins Rejects 7:30 O'Clock Classes

Additional 4 O'clock Periods Will Alleviate Lack Of Rooms, Scheduler Announces

Authorized to have classes begin at 7:30 o'clock every morning, Ray V. Watkins, College scheduling officer, revised the proposal of a committee appointed by the Council on Administration, last May and the result is that classes will begin at the usual time this semester, 8 o'clock.

Watkins announced that 4 o'clock classes will increase and that this would greatly alleviate the present lack of classroom space.

Instead of classes beginning at 11 o'clock on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, the hours will be changed to Tuesday and Friday at 11 and Wednesday at 4. Classes scheduled for Monday, Thursday and Saturday at 11 will be revised to Monday and Thursday at 11 o'clock and Friday at 4.

Committee Appointed

The increase in the number of class periods this semester seemed imminent when a committee composed of Adrian O. Moise, Samuel K. Hostetter, assistants to the president, and Registrar William

S. Hoffman was appointed in May by the Council of Administration to study the proposal for eliminating lack of classroom facilities.

The plan called for morning classes to begin at 7:30 o'clock and end at 12:20 o'clock. Afternoon classes were to run from 1:30 to 5:20 p. m. This would have increased class periods from seven to nine per day.

Buildings to be used this semester for classes are Agriculture Building, Amory, Auditorium, Buckhout Laboratory, Chemistry Laboratory, Dan v. Evin Hall, Dy-

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