

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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Friday, March 17, 1939

DEAR GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ALLAH be praised The Tombs of Centre Valley may yet be opened. What is more, they might be heated and lighted and might even have some tables, chairs and other movable equipment without which a school building is an American imitation of the crypt of Tut-ankh-amen. However, Tut had something on us—they left fruit and nuts and gold plates in his tomb after they built it. Ours they built, and well, from there on your guess is as good as ours. Anything may happen. Nevertheless, it begins to look as if someone in Harrisburg, while probably not having read the editorial of Friday, March 3, agrees with the Collegian and thinks that Governor James' recommendation of appropriation of \$4,425,000 to the Pennsylvania State College for the 1939-41 biennium may be "a help, but—it's not enough"

TRUE, the Governor, in the midst of a sleazy economy drive, increased our appropriation a net \$150,000 over that of the last two years of the Earle administration and thus indicated that he somewhat understood and sympathized with the tremendous problems this institution is facing in the next two years. However, the Governor's increase, as has been pointed out in a recent series of four articles in the Collegian, will not enable the College to expand its enrollment as planned, completely equip the new buildings, pay for increased maintenance service, and increase the instructional and service staffs.

BUT, Senator Letzler and Representative Gillan, showing a wise understanding of this college's problems, have introduced bills into both houses of the General Assembly to increase the appropriation to a total of \$5,593,445, the rock-bottom, revised and trimmed estimates that the College administration submitted when it learned that the puny shears were being sharpened down Dauphin County way. With this appropriation of \$5,593,445, the administration believes that it can get by and yet accomplish the things that should be in store for a college that has just erected some \$5,000,000 worth of new buildings. Though the old saying "You'd better loot you own hoan as nobody else'll loot it for you" doesn't always hold, sometimes such a procedure is a help. Thus, to the bills introduced by Senator Letzler and Representative Gillan, the Collegian wishes to lend its entire and strongest support.—WRO

CROSSROADS

FOR YEARS women have complained that they are not represented in All-College Government. Now they are wondering about accepting this participation offered to them in the combined student government constitution. WSGA Senate and many women students fear that certain present powers will be usurped under the new plan. They fail to realize that WSGA is too essential an organization to be scrapped under this more advanced government; that regulation of the entire student body would be impossible without a separate body retaining jurisdiction over women. If WSGA's constitution, which is being revised, defines its powers and functions thoroughly, the All-College Cabinet could not overstep its bounds. The combined Constitution was made flexible for that very reason. Budgets, under the proposed plan, would be decided by an Interclass Finance Board on which women would be represented. In addition, there are WSGA functions requiring certain sums which no committee could dare withhold. The greatest portion of its budget includes items traditional to the College. If this system were put into effect, WSGA would retain all its present control. It would be gaining a voice in the government of all students. In fact, there is nothing to be lost and everything to be gained. Women must learn to vote intelligently in combined elections after college. The implication that women would not vote properly in campus elections is admitting that women's suffrage is a futile national measure.—L.B.G.

CAMPUSEER

BY HIMSELF

Among Those Sailing:

After seeing Thespian show last week-end and after taking in the Players' dress rehearsal of "Excursion" last night, we honestly can't see why there isn't a line standing three deep from the box office to the Com. Room. "Stuff'n Nonsense" was a top-notch performance of the musical comedy type, and tonight and tomorrow night Players will provide the campus with Broadway stuff in a more serious but still light vein.

You won't recognize Stewball Dobbs of the Thespians in his "Hell's Kitchen" role. And you will enjoy what we deem fine performances by Herb Dora-how as the Captain, Len Parkinson as the comedy lead, and Ruth Shtasel as the babe who couldn't make a necktie. But don't be surprised if "Soek" Kennedy, Jr., and little Helen Neusbaum steal the show from the groupings. It looked great in rehearsal so take a trip from me—See "Excursion!"

Recipe For Spring:

- 1 A generous portion of Ceclie Metz (whom we meant to predict to May Queen) served piping hot in a salong. 2 One dash of Ailie Shaw to Junior Prom. 3 A pinch or two of Teacher's Highland Cream. Mix well and what have you? a damn good imagination.

Question Box:

Who's dat blonde I seen you wid in da corner (unusual?) last Tuesday p.m., J. Lapecky? Why will Aggie Ross, cute blond kappa, venture to Gotham for the week-end? She will be accompanied by lovely Ruth Reynolds, a sister kkg. Persistent rumors have it that the pair will stop at the Barbizon-Plaza, swanky shed for femmes. Why doesn't somebody anshoo Eleanor Skinner who has been sitting around like a straw in the wind for the past five semesters. Ditto Doty Walton who has been in the same boat since Judge King's exit.

Famous Comebacks:

The "hello" spirit. Reason: The cliques are clicking and political worms are beginning to squirm.

Malicious Gossip:

Marjorie Stode, exciting theta pledge, seen holding hands in Old Main lobby with beta Bill Hubler. (This has been going on since October). Concerning it: Curtis Jones, alpheia queen, and Franklin "Peck's Bad Boy" Binford. (More ancient history). On the Mall: Bob Hayes, dapper phi kappa, and May Bueilly, thetahaifa, ambling amotously, palms clasped.

Campus Flotsam and Jetsam:

And from my secret agent who keeps his ear so close to the ground that it is continually being stepped on, I have been tipped that— 1. Don Cresswell, phidelt, will run for All-College president provided the new student gov't plan goes through. 2. A soft-drink night club for campus jitterbugs will open on Allen street soon.

Anecdote:

It was chilly that afternoon in front of Old Main. The first diffident drops of rain were just beginning to fall. One o'clock classes were just out and anxious students were hurrying to their two o'clocks. Among them was one Reita Sheen, kappa dainty. Reita and I were busy clucking over grains of gossip when a burly creature in blue brushed past us. "Hello, Reita," she said with fingernails in her voice. "Who was that?" I asked dryly. "I don't know," Reita answered, "but she must have been a kappa 'cause she had my hat on."

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New Income Levy Plan Would Affect Faculty

Ferguson Sees Individuals Paying Heavy Tax With Small Gross Revenue

By DR. JOHN H. FERGUSON

College professors should turn to the book of Job and re-read of his trials and tribulations. As if the wave of economy and curtailed budgets were not enough, the National Government now proposes to impose taxes upon our incomes. If income tax legislation now before Congress passes, there can be no doubt but that it will apply to public school teachers and all other employees of State agencies.

The words of the bill (H.R. 3790) are that taxes shall be levied upon "compensation for personal service, including personal service as an officer or employee of a state, or any political subdivision thereof, or any agency or instrumentality of any one or more of the foregoing." From the testimony given at the Senate hearing we read:

Senator Connally: "Mr. O'Brien, what is the practice now respecting school teachers? Are state school teachers subject to Federal income taxes now?" Mr. O'Brien: "I understand the Treasury has not tried to collect taxes from state school teachers."

Senator Connally: "Under this act they would be taxed?" Mr. O'Brien: "Senator, this section I does say that state school teachers are subject to Federal income taxes for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1938. That is this year and future years." Senator Connally: "That is what I say. Under this act they would be taxed?" Mr. O'Brien: "That is right."

Revenue Not Large. The amount of revenue will be derived from income taxes upon employees of state and local governments will not be large. There are about 2,600,000 state and municipal employees in the United States representing a total payroll of \$4,600,000,000 in 1937. Forty percent received \$1,000 or less and 90 per cent received \$2,500 or less. Thus, 90 percent, if married, would not be subject to the Federal income tax. It is estimated that not more than \$16,000,000 annually would be collected from all state and local government employees.

If the statistics for salaries recently compiled by the local A. A. U. P. were taken, Penn State professors would pay something like the following in taxes:

Table with 2 columns: Average Salary and Tax if Single. Rows include Professors (\$3,000), Associate Professors (2,900), Assistant Professors (2,500), and Instructors (1,900).

Table with 2 columns: Average Salary and Tax if Married. Rows include Professors (\$29), Associate Professors (4), Assistant Professors (None), and Instructors (None).

No tax would be paid by professors, associate professors, assistant professors or instructors if they were married and had two children.

Why the Legislation? If so little revenue, why the legislation? The principal argument is that it is unfair for public employees to remain untaxed. It is pointed out that 12 percent of the population now lives on government salaries and wages and this represents 13 percent of the total wages and salaries received in the country, and nine percent of the national income. Why, therefore, should public employees not make the same contribution to government as others?

The argument is convincing. The bill passed the House on February 9 and has now been reported favorably by the Finance Committee of the Senate. Its enactment is almost certain unless school teachers intensify lobbying. So, Penn State employees, count your worries more work, less pay, and Federal income taxes to boot! The only happy thought is that unlike 31 other states, Pennsylvania does not tax the incomes of its employees. But even that is threatened in the report of the Dent Commission!

And Job said: "Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends."

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Assembly May Boost Budget

(Continued From Page One) General State Authority," \$232,000.

Operation costs, other than personnel for maintenance of instruction, research, and extension programs, \$167,523.

Physical plant operation (heat, light, power, water, janitorial services etc.), \$116,864.

Essential repairs and remodeling of existing buildings, \$165,000. Roads, walks, grading, drainage, planting, etc., by arrangement with WPA, \$45,000, which is the amount the College is required to contribute.

Pan-Hel To Conduct Bridge Tournament

Pan-Hellenic Council will hold a duplicate bridge tournament April 25 at 7 p.m. Each sorority may enter as many teams of four as they wish. A fee of 50 cents will be required from each team.

Murals In Old Main Pictured In Lecture

A picture of the Old Main lobby with a mural superimposed over the staircase climaxed an illustrated lecture on mural painting by Prof. Harold E. Dickson, of the division of fine arts, in Home Ec. auditorium Wednesday night.

The recent revival of mural painting, beginning in Mexico during the 1910's, was traced through its development in America in the lecture, which was the third and last of the Fine Arts series.

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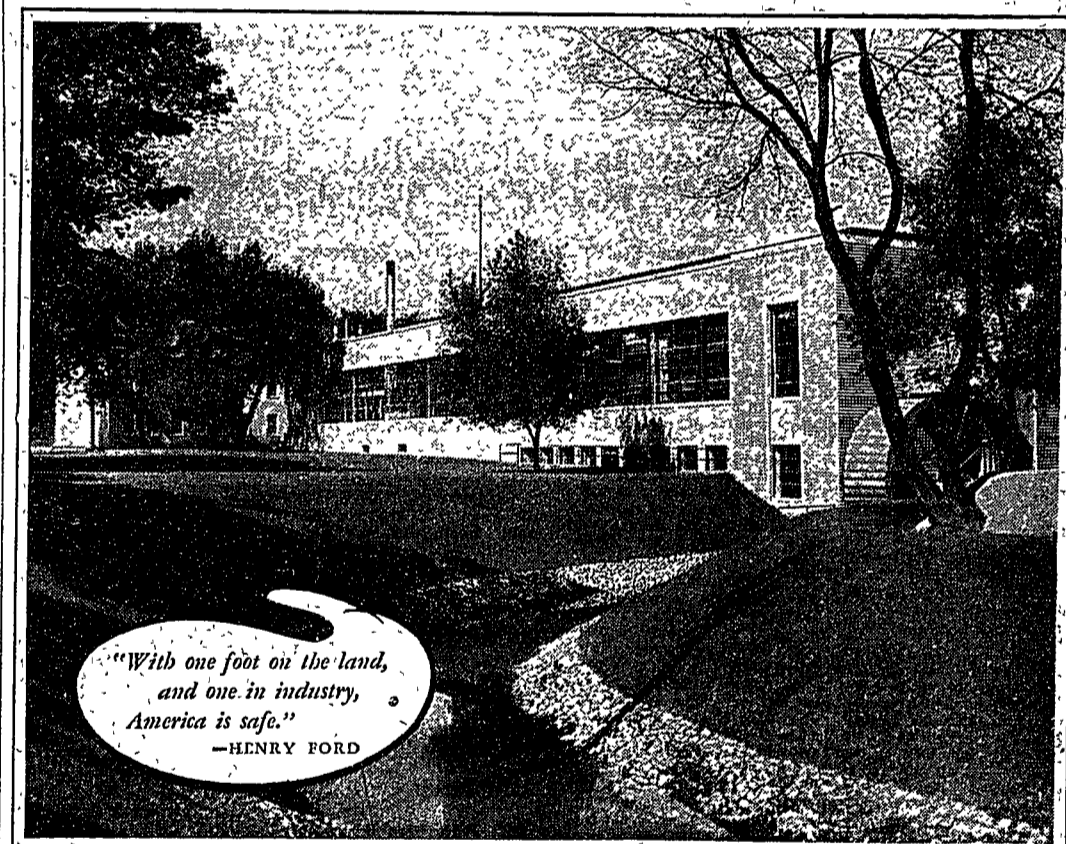
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