

PENN STATE COLLEGIAN

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THE MIRACLE OF NITTANY VALLEY

A PERENNIAL HEADACHE since its inception there has been the all-embracing educational hybrid called the School of Liberal Arts. For years students have yelled long and loud about the alleged incompetency and intolerance of members of the faculty, of the alleged misadministration of its educational principles and policies, and purposes, of the low wages that breed these conditions, of the apathy which seems to greet any and all constructive suggestions.

As a result, the School of Liberal Arts has constantly flourished in a stormy sea of strife—strife between students and faculty, strife between faculty and administration, strife between faculty members themselves and strife between administration members themselves.

That the School has held together as one unit so long is the miracle of Nittany Valley.

NOW IT IS undoubtedly true that low wages breed a lackadaisical and incompetent faculty and foster discontent and strife. But it is undoubtedly true also that low wages are not the sole cause of the evils which today are sapping the very lifeblood of the School.

For certainly Penn State is not the lowest paid school in the nation. And figures prove that many institutions with as great an enrollment and as low a wage scale are not as inefficient in the administration of its problems as Penn State's School of Liberal Arts is.

Thus we come to ask ourselves: Is the administration the clue to the school's inefficiency? What the answer is the Collegian does not know. But surely the administration is at least partially to blame. Instead of improving, the conditions seem to be growing worse as the weeks go by.

AND WHY IS the administration to blame? Because it has drawn itself away from its faculty, from its students. Because it has failed to recognize research as one of the primary criteria on which to base the ability of its faculty. Because it has refused to recognize the validity of faculty opinion, of student opinion. Because it has failed, above all, to turn the calendar at least once a year and realize that this is 1939 A. D.

On the College Senate and on the Board of Trustees, whose problems directly affecting the faculty are discussed and acted upon, the faculty has no representation—a condition which should be remedied to fit the changing times.

To be sure, there are department heads on the College Senate. But many of these people do not represent the opinion of their staffs. They are for the most part of conservative lineage, living in some bygone age, claiming—perhaps even sincerely—that their age and their "experience" qualify them to speak authoritatively on present-day problems facing the College, and all the while forgetting—or else too stubborn to admit—that there may be another side to the question and that that side surely should have a hearing.

Why today in America a common unskilled laborer in a dingy coal mine holds more rights than a Penn State faculty member? In fact, what Penn State needs, it seems, is not a hospitalization plan so much as the CIO.

AS FAR AS this is concerned, the Collegian is powerless to do anything but present the facts. The situation is entirely up to the administration. If the administration of the School wants better relations with its faculty members then it must grant them a greater voice in the shaping of its policies.

For the sake of liberal education at Penn State, the Collegian hopes that the administration will grant them this right.

On the other hand, there is one thing which the Collegian can do. And that is to bring home to the Liberal Arts administration the aggregate sentiments of the students registered in that school.

For some time, the Collegian hears, Dean Stoddard has been anxious to learn what students think of the school. In line with this, the Collegian has been championing the creation of stronger school councils, representative enough to speak authoritatively for the students within their school. This is now being done.

TO CARRY through the second part of its program, the Collegian will launch on May 1 a sweeping survey of student opinion in that school, a survey aimed primarily at evaluating teaching effectiveness of the Liberal Arts faculty.

The survey will not be a fishing trip bent upon hooking certain faculty men. It will, on the contrary, be a sincere attempt to gain a clear-cut picture of student views, results of which should be helpful not only in aiding the administration to shape its policies accordingly but also in aiding the faculty men to shape their teaching program to the needs and wishes of the students.

Yes, the Collegian agrees that what this College needs are the resources to solve its problems. But what it needs first of all is the courage to face them.

OLD MANIA

Editorially Speaking:

We would like to draw the seniors' attention to a gift which would do more for this College than any gift given heretofore—murals in Old Man by Henry Vanman Post.

With such a great American artist painting murals here, the eyes of the art world would focus on State College. Notices would appear weekly in the New York Times. LIFE would run pages on it. People would read about these murals in all corners of the world. They would attract many visitors who probably never heard of State College before Penn State, a name recognized in every farm and garden patch, would become meaningful to those interested in a richer cultural life rather than a rich industrial one.

It would cost \$10,500 to put these murals in the perfect setting of Old Man. The Class of 1932 already has contributed \$4,500. If the senior class would give \$3,000, the remaining \$3,000 will be donated by an interested outside foundation. This would mean work on murals could start almost immediately.

The Class of 1932 gave their money towards a swimming pool. It never got past the giving stage. Let's not make the same mistake. Let's give our money to a project upon which work will begin immediately—not one which will take another five senior class gifts so that we may see the mural construction work when we come back for our fifth reunion. Let's read about Penn State on the fine print pages and in the 50-cent magazines—this year.

The Weekend in Brief:

The Freshman class dance doesn't do so well. The Circus exceeds expectations in attendance. Fitzner mauls take State College by storm. Pleasing Bobby Kelly. Queens the Circus.

The Weekend at Length:

While in Harrisburg attending a student government conference, Sad Sam Flanagan was introduced to a Wilson College coed as the editor of Froth. Co-ed promptly and frankly claimed the Froth to be the stinkiest college humor magazine outside of M.I.T. Tech's mag can't be that bad!

Flanagan's only claim to fame lies in the fact that when his hat blew off Saturday, the kind gentleman who retrieved it turned out to be Governor James.

Down mouse Bill Marshall wanted a date, so he took the student directory, and is running through it alphabetically. Calling each coed in turn and slipping her the same line. To date, he has finished with the C's and D's—fruitlessly.

After holding up the Pitt tennis match one hour Saturday when Gus Bigot failed to arrive, Coach Roethke sent two seconds after him. They looked everywhere but in Gus' room, where they finally found him in bed—dead to the world.

Dedicated To You:

We don't know how they ever got Dick Kenard's okay, but the Junior Prom slunkies have been using a great publicity stunt in the Corner Room lately—playing Tommy Dorsey recordings. Bennie Newman announces each number and then applies it to someone within radius. We suggest they play these Dorsey numbers for the following peoples:

- I'm So Weary Of It All—Connie Smith
An Old Curiosity Shop—Doc Tietz's Anatomy Lab
Never Again—Betty Jim Bevan (apres la Paraska)
What Do You Know About Love—Maurine McCann for Wally Dunlap
This Is It—Janet Twitchell and Don Eyer
You Taught Me To Love Again—Dick Ewalt to Peggy Jones
I Didn't Anyone Tell You—George Kirk to Tat Witz
A New Moon But An Old Serenade—politicians
Heaven Can Wait—Ruthie Reynolds and Eddie Landon

Lament

The trouble with being the Mania. Or whatever you want to call him. He's the only guy. In the whole damn school. Who doesn't make the column.

Bleachers To Be Erected For May Day Ceremonies; Will Seat 900 Spectators

3 Men's Societies And Crews Will Act As Ushers

Bleachers seating 900 spectators will be an innovation in the May Day Ceremony to be held May 13 on front campus. The newly tapped Crews will serve as ushers in the reserved seats, while Blue Key, Skull and Bones, and Lion's Paw, men's upperclass honoraries, will also serve as ushers.

Proceeding the ceremony, which begins at 4:30 o'clock, the coeds will supervise the annual Mothers' Day tea to be held in Frances Atherton, Grange and Women's Building from 2:30 to 3:30 o'clock.

The May Queen, Cecile G. Metz, will have in her retinue the new members of Mortar Board, senior women in the hemlock chain, class attendants, honor arch women, heralds, jesters, My Pole dancers, interpretative dancers, and Helen A. Swanson, maid of honor. Flower girls, train bearers, and town children, will complete the procession.

Patricia M. Altwater '40 has been substituted for Margaret R. DeSilver '40 as junior attendant to the May Queen. The attendants from each class will be attired in different colors—seniors wearing green, juniors yellow, sophomores blue, and freshmen rose. Helen A. Swanson, maid of honor, will wear aquamarine.

off the records

The banner record of the week is Charlie Barnett's IN A MIZZ and NIGHT SONG. The first features a potent vocal by Judy Edgington and the second Charlie's hot alto sax. He is a kind. Artie Shaw records I'm in Love With the Honorable Mr. So and So on another Bluebird Helen Forrest sings it and Tony Pastor croaks Prosehal on the reverse.

Other Bluebirds include a good Van Alexander recording of How Strange and Y' Had It Comin' to You, and Ozzie Nelson's Little Skipper and Red Skies in the Night. Decca gives us a dandy Bob Crosby this week; Stomp Out and Let's Go and Song of the Whin-derei. Real sizzling jitterwax Ted Weems revives The Ghost of Piccolo Pete on the other side of The Chestnut Tree.

Bing Crosby holds the flag and sings God, Bless America on one side and The Star Spangled Banner on the other. He really sings beautifully, and although the music is stirring, it's a little too flaggy and sentimental. He does a great job with two classic populars, Deep Purple and Star Dust. May Martin sings I'll Be with You and Love as well as she sang My Heart Belongs to Daddy.

The Victors this week are headed by Gray Gordon's smooth recording of the popular You're So Desirable. Cliff Grass sings the vocal and also does the honoree on the reverse, I Can't Get You Out of My Mind. Jack Leonard vocalizes Our Love for T. Dorsey and Mylee Wright warbles Only When You're in My Arms. Sammy Kaye's Tears From My Inkwell features Tommy Ryan's lyrics and a good muted trombone solo. Charlie Wilson sings A Little Hot Dog Stand on the couplet.

Kohman Plays Harp At Annual Concert

Featuring Barbara A. Kohman '40, harpist, the Louise Hoher Club held their annual concert in Atherton Hall at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

The program opened with three selections by the Louise Hoher Quartet, O. Lola Suska '41, Edith A. Buriage '41, Elizabeth A. Halswick '40, and Grace M. Henderson '41. Olive H. Brown '39 and Eleanor L. Robinson played a two-piano duet. Three piano solos were played by Barbara M. Dixon.

After Miss Kohman's two harp solos, the ensemble sang and Ruth Shollenberger played a violin solo. The program closed with Alvin Karpis '41 singing "Ave Maria," accompanied by Grace Henderson, violinist, and Barbara Kohman, harpist.

Mortar Board Picks 4 Senior Women For May Day Honor Arch

Mary Carolyn Deaterly, Mary Elizabeth Block, Mary Ann Pitts and Mary Jane Sample, are the four senior women chosen by Mortar Board to take part in the Honor Arch on May Day, May 13.

Sixteen Mortar Board members constituting the rest of the arch include Eleanor B. Acker, Rachel M. Bostel, Doris Blakemore, Marjorie F. Davies, Italia A. DeAngelis, Vivian S. A. Doty, Lucille F. Gierheim, Lucille B. Greenberg, Margaret T. Herriman, Phyllis Herzog, Elizabeth B. Long, Melissa Minnich, Jane C. Price, L. Jean Stillwell, Jeanne M. Walker, Paula B. Wohlford.

We Women

Panhell's proposed revision of the rushing code fits in well enough with results of their recent questionnaire. There is one weak spot, however, which we feel has been added to the schedule.

First semester open houses should be satisfactory, but it seems foolish to include their expense in with the entire rushing budget. If each house were allowed a certain sum for these open houses, much of the financial trouble usually attendant to the concentrated period, would be avoided.

Rushing expenditure should be kept at a minimum. That we concede. Nevertheless, when too much must be included in a report, the temptation to cheat here and there is sometimes too great to be ignored. We feel that the Council should see this readily and allow additional funds for open houses.

The Panhell tea for all interested women will be more effective during Freshman week. Absence of pins and sootiness talk will make the affair what it should be meant to be, a help to new students.

A silent period over the first weekend during formal rushing should be a relaxing moment for all concerned.

Restricted association over first semester with limitations understood at the year's beginning should eliminate confusing gentlemen's agreements.

Women who criticize Panhell's code next year should remind themselves that the rules evolved from their written preferences. The committee did a good job with material offered. Now, the people must obey their choice.

Ernst, Booth Win Designing Awards

Carl W. Ernst '40, Robert G. Booth '40, and Ward W. Hayes, Jr. '40, students in the department of architecture, received first mention places, highest award in a New York judging of a Beaux-Arts design problem.

Student architects from leading schools in the country submitted designs in this competition, only four receiving first mention places. The problem, worked on for six weeks, was a design for a bus station.

Ernst's award carried with it a prize of \$25 for being the second best design submitted. Booth's ranked third.

Sweet Places First In Speaking Contest

Charles G. Sweet '39 was awarded first prize of \$50 for his speech on "Practicalities" in the annual All-College Extension Speaking contest held over the weekend.

Second prize of \$25 was divided between Fred S. Carlson, Jr. '39 and Edith Couch, Jr. '41. Carlson's topic was "A Wish for the College Student," Couch's, "Potentialities of Man."

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WHAT DO YOU KNOW? WHAT DO YOU SAY?

By BERNIE NEWMAN

Would you go to war in case the United States were implicated in any way?

Ralph Sapp '41, mechanical "If I could get out of it, definitely no." Maynard Bloom '41, industrial engineer "Not if it were on foreign soil."

George Konstantinidis '39, civil engineer "Yes if the United States became involved in a war. I guess we would all have to go."

H. Jack Allen '40, commerce and finance "I wouldn't care to fight unless the U. S. were invaded, or if England or France, our allies, were in danger of being conquered by some other European power. The conquering nation would become all the stronger and in a position to invade this country."

Homer Struble '42, agronomy "Only in defense of this country. I do not believe in protecting commercial interests abroad."

Sheldon Frey '42, chemistry "Yes if the lives of United States citizens were directly or indirectly endangered."

Boyd Bell '42, agronomy "If it were a war brought about similarly to many in the past, I would probably be forced to go, but unwillingly. In the case of a defensive war, I would be willing to fight."

Don Cresswell '40, advertising "I would think twice before enlisting, unless the United States were being invaded."

Letter Box

To the Editor: In response to the editorial, "Let 'Em Eat Cake" (April 18), I would like to state the views held by myself and many of my associates.

We feel that the Artists' Course is doing a noble job of presenting its selections to the student body. Their programs have been good. And since the purpose of this organization is "educational as well as entertaining" and the members of the committee hope to install in the hearts of their audience a taste for the "cultural and classical," why trim it up with swing?

It would seem that a popular orchestra would be much more greatly appreciated on the dance floor of Recreation Hall, for to listen to one in the confines of Schwab Auditorium would be greater torture for having to sit still. The suggested raise in price of the ticket for such a feature on the program would not be worth the pain of maintaining one's composure.

When you consider that the Players and Thespians install humor and drama with their productions, and our dance weekends bring in well-known orchestras, isn't the lighter end of entertainment pretty well taken care of?

I'll grant that operas sung in French, Spanish, or Italian are only pleasing to the eye to the average student, but surely Trudi Schoop was human enough for us all to understand and appreciate—and the opera can not hurt us.

So my suggestion is to keep Artists' Course as it is, and bring the swing in where it fits.

MARGARET GILLETTE

3 Bills Passed By Delegates

Student Legislators Active In College Government Confab Saturday

Three major bills introduced by the Penn State delegation, affecting labor, agriculture and finance, were passed by the annual Interscholastic Conference on Government, meeting as a model unicameral legislature at Harrisburg over the weekend.

The bills were sponsored jointly by John A. Tronovitch '39, delegation chairman, Herbert B. Cahan '39, member of the labor committee, John M. Byrly '41, agriculture, and Charles Ledebler '39, finance.

Other members of the delegation were, Charles W. Flanagan '39, local government, J. Russell Smyth '40, education, Leon H. Claster '40, public works, D. Kahle Mong '39, who served as regional director and chairman of the Committee on Public Welfare, and Lewis W. Shollenberger '39, a member of the state government and rules committees and sergeant-at-arms.

To Interview For Air Corps Lt. B. T. Talbot, U. S. N., commanding the Naval Reserve Aviation Base, Philadelphia, will visit the campus at 3 p. m. tomorrow to interview seniors who are interested in enrolling in Naval Flying Cadets at the Naval Aviation Training School at Pensacola, Fla. Seniors interested should leave their names and addresses with Col. A. R. Emery at the Armory.

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