

SUMMER COLLEGIAN

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Friday, July 14, 1939

'RE-CREATING'

"ENJOY LIFE while you study" theme is working to near perfection in the extensive Summer Session recreation program directed by two such capables as Dr. Arthur F. Davis and Miss Marie Haidt. With a program designed to provide activity of a varied nature for both men and women, it is interesting to note that every student, regardless of age, sex, or size, is given an opportunity to engage in one form of recreation or another.

Not only does the program offer personal competition and participation, but it also provides for a "tie in" with health teaching. Many persons taking part in the activities may secure sufficient training to aid in the development of a modern recreational program in their school or community.

Rapidly becoming known for its meaningful courses in health education because of an attempt to include in such courses the findings of recent experimental and clinical studies from the fields of medicine, nutrition, physiological chemistry, psychology, and biology, the School of Physical Education and Athletics is to be praised for this recent achievement in extending the summer facilities.

Under the leadership of Dr. Davis and Miss Haidt, students may compete, get instruction, or just play for the fun either alone or in mixed groups.

Recent statistics released show the exact number that are either participating at the present time or have indicated a desire to get into the swing of things. The figures show that 630 women and 813 men—a grand total of 943—are jumping at the opportunities being offered in the recreational line.

Amazing in its broad scope, it is yet more amazing in that practically the entire program for the summer can be enjoyed free of charge. Nominal fees must, of a necessity, be levied for occasional features.

But, where can one secure a less expensive vacation, and "enjoy life while you study?"—A.W.E. Jr.

WHAT TIME IS IT?

TIME, always a problem to many, has developed into a real bugaboo for the masses with the inconsistent method of "here it's Daylight, there it's Standard," spreading throughout the nation.

While many may favor the so-called "fast time," and others are inclined toward "slow time," there remains the delicate task of bringing about a real standard Standard time.

Indications point to a general swing towards Daylight time during the summer months. If such be the case, why not require by law that every clock in the country be moved ahead one hour at a designated time and then set back again when the season draws to a close?

If there is any doubt as to the people's choice between Daylight and Standard, a vote at a general election should be taken.

Undoubtedly, there would still be those who would grumble regardless of what time it was, but does it not seem more plausible to establish a standard Daylight time or a standard Standard time?—A.W.E. Jr.

SUM STUFF

Can It Be?

Idle rumors circulating through the breezy Nittany air have it that this year's Summer Session is the dearest in years. Merchants say the teachers are too old, they don't want to buy Session "veterans" claim there ain't no life. Bigwigs of refreshment places protest the lack of play boys.

Seems a merry old name if matters get to such a point that only a mere handful gather for the free entertainment. But that will probably never be the case as Dean Grant's Assembly programs each Monday evening are the most peppy occasions this side of Post Matilda. A full house and more than a full hour of fun.

Dorm Doings

"Oh, Walter, please don't mess my hair."

Such was the plea which drifted from a second floor room in Atherton Hall to the alert ears of a puzzled chaperon about midnight one night last week. As the chaperon gently approached the door other similar remarks could be plainly heard.

Not so gently, the chaperon brushed into the room. Immediately she rattled off the names of the occupants while peering about the room. Only one was present. "Both of you are girls in this room?" she queried. "Oh, yes," quickly replied Miss Carolyn Cox, "this is a girl's dormitory you know."

After several hasty glimpses into covered corners, the chaperon left the room still puzzled and a bit upset.

Miss Cox had been reciting her lines in preparation for her leading role in the coming Players production, "Craig's Wife."

Student Union Service

A middle-aged lady was leaning through the Summer Directory at the SU desk recently apparently seeking information on one or more students. Suddenly she looked up and said to towering Russ Eck, su stooge, "I would like to have some advice."

Imagine his surprise when the lady spoke. "If war broke out in Europe and the United States didn't enter, what effect would it have on the New York stock market?"

Eck voiced his personal opinion, compliments of Student Union.

Tidbits

Spot news more than three weeks ago, but still worthy of mention in this column is the totally unexpected marriage of Helene Hunt, campus blond beauty, to Ted Hawkins, econ prof. It happened after only two dates. Among the still-in-school set, the love bug recently bit Bob Baker, phi kappa tau smoothy, who walked the last mile with Eleanor Boyle, Pitt transfer, shortly before spring houseparty. . . . the newlyweds were in town several days ago seeking an apartment for next year.

Vic dancers are the order of the day and the gals in sigma nu are off on the right hoof with one every other nite. . . . locust lane lodge lassies are said to be the smoothest. . . . any arguments gals?

Readers Alley

Autobiography with Letters, William Lyons Phelps Today, in many quarters, there seems to be a tendency to sniff at the writings of Billy Phelps True, he gave critical boots to a number of novels tinged with Twentieth Century Victorianism, and denounced as "tub-bush" the works of "the hard-boiled school" and other authors who chose to write of life as something less than ideal, but Phelps' autobiography should throw considerable illumination on the reason for this sweetness and light.

Before we continue with an epitome, may we say that, having talked with three local Yalermen, all of whom had worked under Billy, we have ascertained that he is beyond doubt the best teacher that Yale ever had. A showman? Not for the sake of personal exhibitionism, but for the sake of literature, and for the sake of imparting knowledge, fact as well as appreciation for not only good writing, but for fine living. These three devotees of the Phelps' legion (which numbers almost 20,000 Yalermen) pointed all manner of Phelpsiana into our eager ears, and we found much of it confirmed in the pages of the autobiography.

The volume is a chronological miscellany of memos, diurnal entries, conversations, letters, reflections, essays, clippings, quotations, and cogitations, running to almost a thousand pages. (The index lists over 1500 items, most of which are names of contemporaries with whom Billy has been intimately or distantly acquainted.) It is a parade of not only teaching experiences, but of travel, of lecturing, of preaching, of writing and reading, starting with a youth spent in New Haven, at Yale, at Harvard, and from there, across both oceans and back, closing with the acceptance of "emeritus" rank, and a forecast of the future.

Undergraduates will enjoy his portraits of college-life of the 90's, and seekers after Ph. D.'s will sympathize as they read of Phelps' struggles with his dissertation. English Composition teachers will share the fatigue of reading 800 themes a week. Those who are dramatic in the classroom will warm to the man who was "chilled" by those colleagues who envied his success, who were jealous of the devotion of his students, who used their superior positions to prevent his advancement in rank. And the reason for Phelps' pedagogical skill will shine from the pages—the man loved life, he loved people rich or poor, young or old, smug or liberal, he loved dogs, cats, tennis, golf, billiards, bridge, baseball, football, he admired those who "gave the old college try." But Phelps hated war. He detested any restriction of freedom in speech or writing.

The man had an infinite capacity for friendship. Shoemakers, diplomats, clergymen, boxers, authors, professors, students, and servants reciprocated his warm and generous camaraderie. Through these people Phelps widened the scope of his academic activities. Particularly fine portraits of outstanding personal ties of the last fifty years are scattered throughout the book. The letters from hundreds of writers reveal their affection for the kindly teacher and critic. Among those who appear in sketch and note are several who have visited and lectured at Penn State: Zona Gale, Joseph Hergeshimer, Padraic Colum, Vachel Lindsay, Harvey Allen, William Beebe, Robert Frost, Percy MacKaye, Robert Morris Lovett, and Carl Sandburg.

And so we feel that the army of friends of Phelps greatly outnumber the battalions of blasters of Billy—not that numbers alone have to do with it, but there is, we must admit, a fine quality on the side of the votaries, whereas there is something of youth and greenness in the fibres of those who say "Phelps is an old sofie." They just don't know him, and the sad part of it is, they won't even try to meet him through this book.

'Big Job In Good Time,' McCloskey Head Reports

"We have completed an extensive job in good time." Thus John H. Moffet, superintendent of McCloskey and Company, stated yesterday with the completion of his company's part of the work in the PWA-General State Authority building program at the College.

Outlining some highlights of the 11-unit construction job, Moffet explained. "The extent of the improvement to the College plant may be visualized when it is considered that during the past 40 years, 35 buildings have been constructed, while in slightly over a year, 11 new buildings of comparable size and value have been built."

Cites Labor Trouble. While minor labor troubles and bad weather have delayed our progress to a slight extent, I believe that we have completed an extensive job in good time." Moffet thanked Assistant to the President S. K. Hostetter, the Grounds and Buildings Departments for "all their moral as well as their direct support."

"Without question, our job has been made much easier through the cooperation of individuals and organizations not directly connected with McCloskey and Company."

Many Farm Ladies Trying Home Ec

The very idea of a farm mother's leaving home for even a few days' vacation at a rural women's camp seems at first out of the question. But why shouldn't she have a rest and a change, a little fun, a little sociability?

Hundreds of Pennsylvania farm women during the last few years have tried the vacation camp plan, under the direction of county Home Economics Extension representatives.

Seven women's camps in different sections of the state are planned for this year, according to Miss Margaret Brown, in charge of Home Economics Extension at the College.

Six of these seven camps have been operated successfully during the last few summers. The seventh camp is a new undertaking and will include women from four counties.

In a number of these vacation camps, the women bring some of their own food to keep down costs. Most of the camps have swimming facilities and equipment for other activities. Each camp has a handicraft project, such as leather work and basketry. All camps have group singing, nature walks, and campfire programs.

The University of Chicago spends \$2,500,000 annually for research.

Building Work Not Involved In PWA Shuffle

Assurances Given That Local Job Is Wholly Unaffected

Special to the Collegian

WASHINGTON July 13—While Matthew H. McCloskey, Jr., Philadelphia contractor, was under fire of the Public Works Administration today, authorities here reiterated assurances that the construction work at Pennsylvania State College, one of the General State Authority projects contracted by McCloskey, was in no way involved.

Work on the Norristown, Pa. State Hospital was ordered suspended Saturday, July 1, by Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes as his last act as administrator of PWA, which has been merged in the Federal Works Administration under a recent presidential reorganization shuffle.

Ickes charges McCloskey was tipped off on specifications before he placed his bid.

Shelley Urges Probe. Last September, Dauphin County District Attorney Carl B. Shelley told a special house committee investigating graft and corruption charges against the Earle administration he would like to probe the State College job because, he said, he had information.

That McCloskey himself appointed the inspectors on the project, and that he had reason to believe the mortar was not up to specifications.

These charges, he admitted, were based on an anonymous letter. The accusations later were denied by McCloskey, who invited the College to check the work at his expense. Former State Senator Edward Jackson Thompson and the PWA itself backed up McCloskey's work.

Ebert Admitted Irregularities. George W. Ebert, head of grounds and buildings at the College, subsequently refuted most of Shelley's claims before the House committee, although he said there were minor irregularities which were later corrected.

The recent grand jury hearing evidence of irregularities failed to act on the State College job, most likely ending the controversy.

Alumni Council Meets

For the first time in the history of the College, a two-day meeting of the alumni council will be held next Friday and Saturday. Therefore the council, which has a total membership of 272, has met only twice yearly for short sessions in October and June.

utes, a sophomore men's honorary organization at Butler University, is now branching out into a national organization and is seeking chapters on other campuses.

A laboratory in which undergraduates may learn the organization and administration of parent-teacher associations has been organized at the University of New Hampshire.

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