

## Terms Misleading, Weatherman Says

When the family plans a picnic because the weather forecast says "fair," and the day turns out badly, it may not be the forecaster's fault. The terms "fair" and "cloudy" may mean one thing to the expert and another to the public, says Dr. Helmut Landsburg, assistant professor of geophysics at the College. In some forecasts "fair" may even include a rainy condition.

The disagreement is partly due to the use of undefined general terms, partly to the large territory covered in a forecast, and partly to faulty judgement of the weather by the average observer, Dr. Landsburg claims.

"All of central Pennsylvania will hardly ever have uniform weather within a 12-hour or a 24-hour period," he said. "Altoona will differ from Williamsport, and DuBois will differ from Bedford. Forecasts, in mountainous areas especially, should be local to be accurate."

Dr. Landsburg proposes a set of uniform definitions for various aspects of sky, wind, temperature and precipitation. By such definitions "clear" would mean no clouds, "fair" would be up to two-tenths of the sky cloudy, "partly cloudy" two-tenths to five-tenths, and "cloudy" more than five-tenths. "Warmer" would mean at least five degrees warmer, and "colder" at least five degrees colder. Rain and snow would be defined according to quantity and duration as "light," "moderate" or "continuous."

All of these terms should be modified by "possible," indicating an even chance; "probable," indicating a two to one chance; and "likely," indicating a four to one chance, he believes.

In an effort to find out how nearly accurate the untrained person's judgment of the weather might be, Dr. Landsburg, who is in charge of the College's meteorological observatory, tested a group of freshman at Penn State. The majority of the students properly recognized actual conditions in everything except the wind. A light wind was often marked "calm" or "moderate." Also, one day which should have been called "fair" was marked by the majority as "clear."

In most cases the judgment of temperature was correct. However, on one day which was actually more than five degrees colder than the preceding day, 96 per cent of the answers marked it warmer. The mistake was influenced by the fact that the weather at the time was clear with bright sunshine, while the preceding day had been overcast with no sunshine.

## Gardens Enlarged

Species of every plant of popular interest have been included in the experimental flower gardens of the College this summer to determine their suitability to Pennsylvania conditions. Another advantage of the wide variety, said Dr. E. I. Wilde, professor of ornamental horticulture, is that visitors may make comparisons and decide which flowers will best suit their own tastes.

## Town And College Growth Are Equal

Census statistics which show that State College population has jumped from 4,390 to 6,400 in the past 10 years show also a nearly parallel growth between the College and the borough.

The figures on student, resident and total enrollment follow:

Year	Student	Resident	Total
1870	59	50	109
1880	157	150	307
1890	209	200	409
1900	433	425	858
1910	1,662	1,650	3,312
1920	3,232	3,200	6,432
1930	4,000	4,390	8,390
1940	6,160	6,400	12,560

Note that in the years to and including 1920 student population was always slightly ahead of resident population. Since then the reverse has been true.

## Author Will Speak At Freshman Meeting

Neil Swanson, famous author of "The Judas Tree" and other works of historical fiction relating to Pennsylvania and neighboring states, will talk at a special literary evening for freshmen on Monday, September 16, at 8 p.m. This meeting will be part of the Freshmen Week program.

Mr. Swanson will speak of his books and refer especially to his forthcoming volume—"The Silent Drum," a sequel to "The Judas Tree." Mr. Swanson is editor of the Baltimore Evening Sun.

Another feature of this evening will be a talk by Prof. Robert Galbraith of the English composition faculty, on "Opportunities for Self-Expression in Literary Channels on the Campus."

Movies will also be shown illustrating the use of the library and books.

Every freshman is invited to attend.

## Map-Making Course Will Be Emphasized

Sudden changes in the world's border-lines, caused by German military successes, have resulted in plans for increased emphasis on map-making instruction this fall.

Dr. Raymond E. Murphy, associate professor of geography, announced recently that the field of cartography will now be stressed in greater degree in geography courses. A graduate course dealing with geographic field mapping has been revised to include more training in cartography and it is planned to make this vital subject available to undergraduates as well. In addition, a new cartography room equipped with glass-top tracing table and other map-drawing facilities has been opened in the Mineral Industries building for the use of geography faculty members and advanced students.

As another indirect outgrowth of the European war, increased instruction will be given this fall in the geography of Latin America, which promises to be increasingly important to the United States. This is in line with a policy of concentrating especially upon the Western Hemisphere. Dr. Henry J. Bruman, a graduate of the University of California who has specialized on Latin America, has joined the geography faculty. He has had a considerable amount of geographic field experience south of the Rio Grande, including a year spent in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and Salvador under a Social Science Research Council fellowship.

## Beach Attends V.P.I.

Dr. W. S. Beach, associate professor of plant pathology research, attended meetings on tobacco research recently at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. He was accompanied by B. F. Coon, a member of the summer staff at the College's tobacco experiment station in Lancaster.

## Extensive Improvements Are Made In Borough During Summer Months

### New Water Source Will Supply Town

The Borough of State College was given an extensive face lifting this summer with improvements including additional parking meters, street paving, sidewalk improvements, painting of street curbs, addition of new storm sewers, and improvement in the borough water supply.

Seventy-one automatic parking meters have been added by the borough to augment the 97 manual meters installed in the last two years.

The parking meters now cover the following areas: College avenue from Pugh to Frazier street on both sides, Pugh street from College avenue to Calder alley, the north side of Beaver avenue from Humes alley to Frazier street, the south side of Beaver avenue from Humes avenue to the Weiss store, and the west side of Frazier street from College avenue to Calder alley.

The meters were installed at the request of downtown businessmen who want to keep traffic moving in front of their establishments. Parking on the north side of College avenue is two hours for five cents. One the south side the price is five cents an hour.

The borough has also ordered 19 new standards for ornamental lights from the West Penn Power Company. The new standards, with 58 already on hand, complete a square around the business district. It runs from McAllister street, south to Beaver avenue, east to McAllister street, and north to College avenue. South Allen street from College to Beaver avenues is also equipped with the ornamental standards.

Improvement in the borough water supply which is principally hard water has been assured by

### State College Burgess



Burgess Wilbur F. Leitzell is head of the government of the Borough of State College. During the summer this government made extensive improvements in the town. (See column three.)

the drilling of a new well in Shingletown.

The borough has also proceeded with paving and curbing on unfinished parts of Prospect avenue, East Foster avenue, East Beaver avenue, Kelly alley and Calder alley. Several blocks of new storm sewers have been placed in Calder alley.

Borough workmen have also changed the painting on street curbs from red to yellow in order to make it more visible. New sidewalks have been placed in the vicinity of Co-op Corner.

A new pumper ordered Tuesday night by the Borough Council will give the local fire company three

## Freshman Coeds Face Round of Parties

Besides the activities listed in Freshman Week schedules by the College, there are teas and parties given in honor of freshman women.

The meetings listed in the pamphlet as A2, A3, and MB will be cancelled and all freshman women will be required to report to the WSGA room in White Hall at some time during Freshman Week to fill out a personnel card.

Social events not mentioned in the printed schedules include the Cwen tea for all freshman women in Atherton Hall from 3 to 5 p. m. Sunday, September 15, and an Omicron Nu tea for home economics freshmen at 4 p. m. Tuesday, September 17.

A sports rally will be presented by WRA in White Hall from 1 to 4 p. m. Monday, September 16, to illustrate and explain the various activities here.

Other social affairs will be in conjunction with freeman men as noted in the booklet.

pumpers and a hook and ladder truck. New fire hoses are also being purchased.

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