

With the Editor—

The College Has Trimmed Its Sails For A Storm That Lies Ahead

The College has trimmed its sails, President Hetzel has announced. Until it can take stock of itself in the new military situation facing America it will attempt no expansions of program.

The draft is not immediately to affect college students—but it has immediately affected the College.

In enrollment it has taken a toll of several hundred upperclassmen. The freshman class was increased 150 over last year and the total College enrollment dropped about 150. These men presumably have been lost as volunteers to the army and even more predominantly as recruits to industry, now straining to fill defense orders.

The College has lost these students and the dollars they represent. Yet is unable to cut down on its physical plant or on its staff without hurting the students here. These students did not all drop from one course or one curriculum, thus making it possible to simply close down an unused portion of the institution and let the rest continued unaffected. Instead the blow has been spread and its effect will be spread.

If no more than 150 students are lost, the effect is not likely to be very serious or very noticeable. There is always the chance, however, that more will respond to army calls or to the industry's gilded beckoning.

The freshman class admitted, largely for reasons of the draft, had a quota of 50 extra women. If enrollment continues to drop off, the proportion of women admitted is likely to be boosted even higher and the restrictions on transfer admissions are likely to be eased.

But insofar as these measures fail, and even insofar as they succeed, the College is going to be affected. If more women are admitted the College is going to come to a crisis in the dormitory problem sooner than it would have expected to. If upperclassmen drop off in any large numbers, fraternities and other living groups are going to feel the pinch.

If outlays have to be cut, curricula are going to be curtailed. If next year no new legislative action is taken on the draft, the College may have its students drafted from time to time during the year and its problems complicated accordingly. The current draft deferment extends only to July 1, 1941.

Already the threat of the draft has made its marks. The student placement bureau—thought assured—has gone by the board in line with the policy of no expansions. Proposed expansions of the extension program have been discarded. Efforts to put Henry Varnum Poor on the College staff so that he could continue his mural around the mezzanine in Old Main got the cold shoulder. Other similar extensions probably have met and probably will continue to meet reversal.

The College may also have to change its curriculum to offer courses and to prepare materials which will meet defense needs. This may help the College more than it will hurt. If the College can, it no doubt will take advantage of vast defense outlays to make plant expansions that will serve in peace as well as in war.

A word in closing. We have talked a bit as though the Second World War was on. It is. We are in it to the end.

A LEAN AND HUNGRY LOOK

We have no way of telling if any one ever bothers to wade through the hash we dish out every week. As a matter of fact, we'd just as soon not know. We have our pride. But in the event that any one read last week's column, we must perforce offer some sort of apology for the havoc wrought by some dull-witted copy man. We might use this as an excuse to write a bitter iambic against copy men as a tribe; were we intolerant, we should utter a black mass or two as a gesture of our contempt. But, as in the case of the amoeba, despite their patent inutilty, the copy men continue to exist. At any rate the chap who worked out on us last week did one fine job.

People would be surprised if they knew who was helping promote this year's football pool. If we were to disclose names we would probably get our noble features battered to a pulp, and we were never one to dispute the idea that discretion is the better part of valor. But we did want you to know that you can make just loads and loads of money playing the pool. If you're a sucker.

It is high time some one mentioned the fact that the local presidential mansion has had its face lifted. One questions the wisdom of this act; the old facade blended so well with the Flamboyant Pennsylvanian motif of the engineering units. Now it is a wee bit of old Virginia snuggled up behind the forging shop.

Consistent with contemporary political ethics is the action of Sigma Nu's boy Carney. Last year's chairman of the freshman Campus Clique, Dennis was scheduled for the shelf by reason of the Campus debacle. Smart tactics demanded action, ergo Carney switched to the Independents; gave Campus a neat out. Some thing happened last year during senior elections, when fading Independents scurried over to Campus. Some day some thoughtful chap will realize that the present political set-up is about as weird as Mrs. Murphey's chowder; that the whole business doesn't mean much of anything, despite the glorious patter about student expression of opinion; that both the Campus and the Independent cliques hand out the same line; that there are as many Independents in the Campus clique as there are Fraternity men in the Independent clique. Then there will be Hell to pay.

We are not in the custom of naming names in this column. But for that fact we should long since have named our choice for the fairest freshman lass; should, in very truth, have nominated the maid of our choice for one of the several hundred Queens. But such is not our way. Young ladies who are created royal, by command of the gentlemen scholars, generally become frightfully impressed with their own magnificence. We would avoid this, and thus we simply name ladies-in-waiting.

Exercising our prerogative, we create the Misses Wickersham and Broderick Ladies-in-waiting. Let who would, be Queen.

—Cassius

CAMPUS CALENDAR

TODAY

Women's Rifle Club meeting, Room 3, White Hall, at 6:30 p. m.

Freshman basketball and second assistant manager candidates report to John Lawther in Rec Hall at 4 p. m.

AIME mixer for Mineral Industries students in MI Art Gallery at 7 p. m.

Last day for lion skin tryouts. Apply to Gene Wettstone in Rec Hall at 4 p. m.

Cwen meeting in WSGA room in White Hall, 6:45 p. m.

Open meeting for Ag. and Home Ec students trying out for the Penn State Farmer at Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, 7:30 p. m.

Druid meeting in 305 Old Main, 7:30 p. m.

Bucknell Tickets On Sale

Students desiring tickets for the Bucknell game on Saturday can obtain them at the box window of the Athletic Association office in Old Main from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today, Harold R. Gilbert, assistant to the graduate manager of athletics, announced yesterday.

Liberal Arts faculty meeting in Room 121 LA Building, 4 p. m.

Blue Key honorary tapping in front of Old Main, 12:45 p. m.

THURSDAY

PSCA cabinet meeting in Hugh Beaver Room at 8 p. m.

Candidates for Portfolio business staff report Room 315 Old Main, 7:30 p. m.

Jewish students need not wear customs on Jewish holidays except during class hours.

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THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Editorial and Business Office 313 Old Main Bldg. Dial 711 Downtown Office 119-121 South Frazier St. Dial 4372

Managing Editor This Issue—Ross B. Lehman '42 News Editor This Issue—Ralph C. Routsong '41 Women's Issue Editor—Jeanne C. Stiles '42 Sophomore Assistants—Robert R. Sieger, Robert Schoolley

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