

Readers Bring Their Causes To The Editor In This Full Page Forum

Inquiry Trip Head Takes Cassius To Task

To the Editor:

I wish to say that the person writing the editorial comment about "becoming increasingly irritated about those little items which appear—in the Collegian—announcing Social Inquiry Trips to observe conditions among the poor," has allowed himself to become unnecessarily excited. A request on his part for a statement of the purpose and the program of the Social Inquiry Trips would have been gladly granted and prevented his "irritation."

"Conditions of the poor" represent only one social problem with which the group concerns itself, whereas the fight for civil liberties, housing, the activity of social welfare and reform organizations, and the various conflicts within the social structures are some of the phases which are studied. Pre-arranged interviews are scheduled with the best informed persons in these cities on the subjects under consideration.

The only way to get first hand information and observation is to go where it is. We too would be "irritated" if money and time was being wasted on mere "slumming" expeditions.

A desire to discover and report truth still remains the obligation of the press, and also for an editorial writer for a college newspaper.

Very sincerely yours,
Walt Lewis '42,
Chairman of the New York
Social Inquiry Trip.

Cassius Draws More Bitter Comment

To the Editor:

We feel that your editorial "Lean and Hungry Look" was a misnamed column. As a college super-sophisticate to whom eleven o'clock on November 11th means a chance to spend an hour in the Corner Room over a coke, the author might better write a column called a "Fat and Sassy Look." While he was in the Corner Room counting out his criticisms, 1,200 others were in the Auditorium giving thanks for the opportunity of living in peace when the world is at war. At no other time in our history has an Armistice Day service been more signifi-

cant, and he spends it over a coke. We who went on the New York Social Inquiry Trip last week went with no attitude of pitying curiosity or smug satisfaction as the author of "Lean and Hungry Look" so vividly imagines. Neither did we go to analyze a sociological specimen. We went that we might develop a growing realization of social injustice. The social injustice which makes it possible for ten per cent of the youth of the nation to attend college where they may develop the super-sophistication of our friend, while at least another ten per cent of the nation's youth (?) the sordid conditions of the nation's slums. We went to make friends—and we did make them—in Chinatown, in Harlem, in the Bowery, in the Stock Exchange, and elsewhere. We found these young people, whom we are proud to call friends, at least more intelligently critical than the author of the column.

We did meet some youth with a "Lean and Hungry Look," but his attitude was worlds from that of the author of the column of the same name. Therefore, we suggest you change it.

Jean Hershberger '43
Elizabeth Howe '42

Editor's Note: — The opinion Cassius expressed is, obviously, only one among many. He will continue to write as "A Lean and Hungry Look."

Druids' President Accepts Challenge

To the Editor:

The athlete is proverbially stupid. It takes a long time to disprove a proverb, but it has been done.

For instance, how many of you believe that "Early to bed, and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise?" I don't. Hence, to the ancient proverb concerning the stupidity of the athlete my answer is "bosh."

Whether the freshman author of the open letter is thinking of brains or brawn in his challenge I do not know, but on behalf of the sophomores, "We, the Hatmen" accept the challenge. If the challenge is on the physical side, name your place and weapons; if it is on the mental side, we shall endeavor to show you what sort of head that hat covers.

Charles Ridenour '43
President of Druids

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Paul A. Mitten

Alterations At Cost Men's Apparel Terms of Sale: Cash
146 S. Allen St., State College

The Readers Speak

In the past week the editor of Collegian has been receiving his heaviest mail of the year. Much of what is brought to his attention is of general interest, some of it critical of Collegian, some of it favorable. For or con, all show a healthy interest in the things that concern Penn State, and it is for this reason that a special page is being devoted to them today.

Sophomore Prexy Accepts Frosh Challenge

To the Editor:

In the name of the Class of '43, I accept the challenge which the Frosh have made. I am sure that I can interest two tons of Sophomores in a tug of war contest against two tons of Freshmen. Judging from the comments of my classmates as to the statures of the present Freshmen, that would mean 24 or 25 Sophomores against 39 or 40 Frosh. I suggest that Student Tribunal handle the arrangements and set up a prize; such as the removal of some custom, if the Frosh win, or the continuation of the custom for a longer time, if the Sophomores triumph. How about it, Tribunal?

Frank R. Flynn,
Sophomore Class President

Reader Would Change Dance Seating

To the Editor:

I should like to register a protest against the lack of seating facilities for the Independent man and his date at our three big dances. The system of renting floor space to units such as fraternities, the men's dorms, and some of the larger boarding houses works out very well for those groups, but for the ordinary independent student who can neither afford to rent space nor secure the necessary furniture, it is wholly inadequate. The space ordinarily available at a dance will accommodate forty-four booths. This, however, is exclusive of the space under the balcony, which could be used and would supply room for about ten more booths.

There is, then, the question of where to get furniture for this space; a probable answer would be to use the couches and easy chairs from the Old Main lounges. Another possibility, (and what a storm of protest this is going to raise), would be to use some of the furniture from the women's dorms.

Then finally, there will be the question of "Is it fair to provide free seating space to one group and to charge another group for the same service?" In answer I should like to say that the choice spots could still be rented as formerly, and that the organizations who have been renting booths would, I believe, continue to feel that the privacy and convenience afforded by having their own booth justifies the small monetary outlay per man involved.

Very truly yours,

Robert A. Wasser '42

Editor's Note: — This letter came too late for the Soph Hop chairman to act on it. Perhaps the chairmen of Senior Ball and Junior Prom will pay heed.

Dean Whitmore Endorses The PSCA

To the Editor:

The Penn State Christian Association carries on and pushes forward many worthy activities which would otherwise find no sponsor in such a large and busy community as that represented by the student body and staff of The Pennsylvania State College.

Frank C. Whitmore
Dean of the School of
Chemistry and Physics

A Rose Among The Thorns!

To the Editor:

While you and your co-workers are still here and in the midst of your duties, I should like to congratulate you on the fine work you are doing on the Daily Collegian. (I believe in giving the flowers while you can still smell them.)

You will be pleased to know that faculty comment in general is favorable. I am particularly pleased to know that you are able with a daily publication to give attention through special editions to all-campus activities as you did so successfully with the PSCA Supplement.

With best wishes for your continued success,

Very sincerely yours,
C. O. Williams, Chairman,
Committee on Records and
Recommendations

Justice Corbin Enters The Fray

To the Editor:

Penn State men and women, alumni and undergraduates, were insulted by Robert Leech's answer to the editor of the Collegian in the issue of Saturday, November 9.

Other publications on our campus are subjected to censorship; yet our embryonic daily issues forth apparently unrestricted. Condemnation should be heaped upon both the editor and women's editor because the publication of latter's article in the Collegian of Wednesday, November 6, concerning imports, was contradictory to the motto of the paper and precipitated Mr. Leech's ungentlemanly reply.

Sincerely yours,
W. Lewis Corbin,
Chairman of Student Tribunal
Editor's Note: — Mr. Corbin is right. Thanks to him and to the many other Collegian readers who registered their criticism when they caught us napping.

in

out of the rain.

Maybe if we gals had our way and could import our men for a weekend you'd really see some smooth imports instead of the usual lame-brained, made-up, artificial, befurried, cooing imports. Then too, our men are serious, sincere, and hard-working. But that's not all. They're chivalrous and gentlemen, too.

Jean Brown '43

EDITOR'S NOTE: — This matter, once humorous, has become violent. Both sides have had their say and, although many more letters have been received, it is best that the matter be forgotten. No Penn State man really believes that the coeds here are not as attractive as the women he knows elsewhere.

Which Way Is America Headed?

To the Editor:

Most of the Armistice Days through which I've lived have been commemorative and full of brass blare; Monday's was a war cry. Our war machine was the keynote of the day. We are going to make our glorious army, our glorious navy, our glorious marines second to none. We have failed to make ourselves the best democracy so we will make ourselves the best dictatorship. I have heard that all those who fail to support the war machine are un-American. I hope there are some who question the finality of a war to end all wars. I hope there are some who question the angelic efforts that a government armed to the teeth with conscripts and munitions will make for peace.

Stanley Ulick

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