

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

Successor to the Penn State Collegian, established 1904, and the Free Lance, established 1887

Published daily except Sunday and Monday during the regular college year by the students of The Pennsylvania State College. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934, at the post-office at State College, Pa., under the act of March 3, 1879.

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Wednesday Morning, November 20, 1940

Penn State Students Face Their Alumni

The All-College Cabinet by its action last Saturday morning effectively showed that students are interested in the Alumni Association and would like to see it succeed.

Although its action approved the plan of voluntary memberships solicited among undergraduates, there is one thing the Cabinet did not do—and this is important:

It did not endorse the Alumni Association program as it is now conducted and it did not mean to endorse it.

This program has been open to criticism in the past for its failure to exploit the full potentialities of the Association as an organization which should be of great service to the College.

Rightly last year's student leaders and the Board of Trustees rejected a plan for compulsory student membership in the Alumni Association. The students felt that the Association might grow fat and lazy on an assured income. This has been avoided.

Still a comparatively feeble body, representing somewhat less than 2,000 alumni, the Association now has a chance to go before the undergraduates to increase its membership. With a good program it could conceivably recruit as many as 1,000 new members every year, all for five-year memberships.

It is, of course, true that the Alumni Association is not as feeble as some would have it appear to be. It has a great many active local groups, it has wielded considerable lobby pressure for the College when such was deemed necessary, and it has in other ways (which should be, and no doubt will be, called to student attention from here on) satisfied many of the duties expected of an Alumni Association.

If the Alumni Council accepts this new membership plan at its meeting in January (and Collegian believes it should) the Association faces a mighty new task that will benefit both it and Penn State.

This rapid influx of new students brings with it the possibility that soon an overwhelming majority of the paid-up Alumni Association members will be less than five years out of College.

The Alumni Association is going to have to appeal to them as it has failed to appeal to the graduates of recent years who are for the most part now lost to Penn State.

The undergraduates whose memberships are being solicited are going to have to be sold—and well—on any proposition that asks them for eight bucks, which is all a mighty big weekend costs most students.

Most prominent among the suggestions the Alumni Association has already made in telling what it hopes to do for students are the Student Union Building and a Placement Bureau. If the membership canvass is to be successful, the Association will have to show that these things are tangibilities and not just bait.

In turn (once the students are in the Association they will have the right to demand their money's worth and they will be a powerful enough group to get it. They will have to be reckoned with. What they want they will be able to get.

This program may well bring important changes in the complexion and conduct of the Alumni Association program, as the Association leaders recognize, but it is hard to believe that these changes will work toward anything but the good of Penn State.

To make this finally sure depends on the students who will be solicited and who will become Alumni Association members. Before they are sold they must demand evidence that the program is a worthwhile one. After they are sold it becomes their duty to keep the Association an active, well-functioning organization dedicated to the good of Penn State.

A LEAN AND HUNGRY LOOK

Last week's Jovian thunder made us few friends; proved, if naught else, that there are at least three persons who read this hebdomadal gurry. Even they were a trifle bitter. This one-against-the-whole-damn-world business tends to become rather bruising after a time.

Questions for the bright boys who dream up the seating arrangements for football games on New Beaver Field: what logic requires seniors and juniors to sit on one grandstand, while the sophomores and freshmen sit on the other? What other college uses Penn State's system, i. e. the split cheering section? Just what sort of school spirit can be expected from a split cheering section? Why doesn't Penn State have one large cheering section composed of all four classes grouped together on one grandstand? Since all four classes pay the same athletic fee, why should the Sophs and Frosh be obliged to sit with the sun in their eyes for two football seasons? Who's responsible for the present weird set-up? Or doesn't any one give a damn?

It occurs to us that something could be done about this situation before next year's football season, and we are therefore willing to place a few on the side that nothing will be done.

Recently Fred Waring presented a brand new Penn State song, of his own composition, over the radio on a nation-wide broadcasting system. It was called "The Hills of Old Penn State." There was no charge for his services. It is a wonderful song, worthy of any college's pride. Mr. Waring's song was his gift to his Alma Mater, and to her students. Mr. Waring received six post-cards after his broadcast. Six post-cards which said thank you. And that's all the thanks Mr. Waring got from the students of Penn State who are so busy being smooth that they've no time to bother with such unsophisticated tripe as school spirit, or manners.

Incidentally, Mr. Waring will play "The Hills of Old Penn State" on his program over the National Broadcasting Company's net-works this Friday evening. Not, of course, that any one should let this interfere with their plans for Friday evening. Perhaps this time Mr. Waring will receive seven post-cards for his pains.

If no one objects, we would like to put in our two bits for the British War Relief Society. It's rather a pleasant thought that it is possible for one to do something other than mere ranting about wha an unholy pounding the English are taking. Next time you, gentle reader, are faced with a choice between a double nut hot fudge marshmallow sundae and one of those little contribution boxes marked "BWRS" try going without the sundae. Your thirty cents will buy enough bandage to take care of at least one casualty; enough wool to knit gloves or caps for a couple of kids. No point in letting kids go through Hell for the stupidities of their elders.

—Cassius.

Letters to the Editor—

Opinion Offered On The Holiday

To the Editor:

Since we had a football holiday last year after beating Pitt—our toughest assignment—and had only one day off for our Thanksgiving vacation, many of us think it is only right that, providing we take over Pitt again this year (and we certainly hope to) we should have the extra days between the game and our Thanksgiving vacation free.

Will we benefit much from our classes anyway in a state divided between exuberance after the game and anticipation for the oncoming vacation?

Those living in the vicinity of Pittsburgh who are attending the game and others with that much publicized Penn State spirit, which is needed in this game especially, think it is ridiculous to return to State College for two-and-a-half days of classes and probably will find it profitable to pay the necessary fines in order to remain at home.

Can't something be done to convince the Powers That Be that we have earned (in our support of the Lions through their thoroughly successful season this year and our scanty Thanksgiving vacation last year) a mere two-and-a-half days more vacation to complete a perfect week in which to celebrate Thanksgiving and our victory over Pitt?

Interested supporters,
Evelyn M. Fritz
Helen Randolph
Betty Marshall
Ruth Grubb
Marion Hursh
Mignonette Frederick
Ginna Van Brunt
Jane Foore

Editor's Note:—This is almost impossible to accomplish without seriously disrupting the College schedule. All-College Cabinet considered this plan and decided on a recommendation that only a Saturday half-holiday be granted with no Monday holiday win, lose, or draw.

Even The Mothers Find Us Interesting

To The Editor:

We have just been reading the Collegian which our boys from Penn State sent to us. It is really a fine paper. It doesn't seem possible that students could produce such a fine paper.

The Collegian acts as a connection between our sons and their parents, since they forget to write quite often, we can refer to the paper to see what has been happening.

Yours truly,
Spike, Charlie, and Joe's Mothers
Ridgeway, Pa.

EDITOR'S NOTE:—The moral of this story, gentle readers, is "Send your Collegian home."

A Note To Collegian From The PSCA

To The Editor:

The Penn State Christian Association is very grateful and appreciative, as I am, for the excellent job done on the PSCA Supplement in the Tuesday, November 12, issue.

Mr. Ross Lehman, for his work on the CA Supplement, deserves considerable credit for his splendid organization, his staff leadership with those who worked with him, his creative imagination, and his ability to prepare an attractive layout.

Please know that the CA is desirous of diligently and effectively serving Penn State students and will always welcome your suggestions wherein its program may be improved.

Sincerely yours,
Harry W. Seamans,
General Secretary.

NIBBLING AT THE NEWS

J. GORDON FAY

Dies Campaign

"Congressional Prober Has List of 300,000 Suspected of Working Against U.S.," the headlines said. To our mind a picture flashed—a picture of an incident which, enacted in one small Pennsylvania city, must have been re-enacted throughout the country in the past few months.

An Italian man who has not been in the United States long enough to lose his accent, but who has been here long enough to have established a successful business, built a substantial home, and sent several children through some of our best Eastern colleges, lies in a hospital bed, very ill with pneumonia.

A visitor comes into the room, and, in the ensuing conversation, the sick man learns that rumor accuses him of being a fifth columnist, his very bedside watched by F.B.I. guards.

He laughs, as he should, at the idea of his working against a country which has given him and his children happiness and security; but he might well be angry with people who could start a rumor which might worry him from a sick-bed into a coffin and change his business from one of success into failure.

If such a rumor could run rampant in one town, similar ones were and are undoubtedly abroad all over this nation, and, if such is the case, we are not far from the state of affairs which existed during the last war, when a person with a German name or German accent was not safe from persecution. With the papers soon to be full of stories dealing with persons arrested by Mr. Dies for un-American activities, we shall probably see those days again.

It is Chairman Dies' business to see that persons working against America be taken care of properly. We say, "More power to him," but we still try to remember that the most scathing denunciation of Hitler which has reached our ears, came from a full-blooded German, born in Bavaria.

CINEMANIA

A "new" Dorothy Lamour appears in "Moon Over Burma" at the Cathaum Theater today. Sans sarong, and with short hair, she swaps cracks with Robert Preston and Preston Foster.

Dorothy's a girl from Brooklyn who poses as Spanish in a cafe in Rangoon, and it doesn't take the two-male leads long in finding it out.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

TODAY:

Freshmen and Sophomore candidates for Froth meet in Froth office. Business staff at 4 p.m. Editorial staff at 7 p.m. Refreshments served.

Coffee round-table hour at 4 p.m. today at Hillel Foundation.

Liberal Arts Council meeting at 7 p.m. in 304 Old Main.

Open forum at the College Book Store Lounge, 129 W. Beaver Avenue at 7 p.m. Dr. Arthur B. Sutherland will speak.

Meeting of '44 Campus party postponed until Monday night at 7:30 in 318 Old Main.

Candidates for Phi Eta Sigma, Freshmen honor society, must register in Room 209 Liberal Arts between 7 and 9 p.m.

Druid meeting at 7:30 p.m. in 405 Old Main.

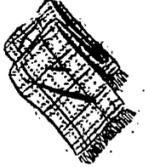
Penn State Club members register for intramural sports in club room. No entries after 11 p.m. tomorrow.

Alpha Phi Omega, national Boy Scout fraternity, will meet in Room 318, Old Main, at 10 p.m. today.

TOMORROW:

German club meeting at Alpha Kappa Pi fraternity house at 7 p.m. Discussion on Franz Schubert.

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