

# THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Tuesday Morning, January 7, 1941

## Us, Democracy, The Free Press, —And The New Year

New Year's resolutions are not as popular as they once were but everybody who welcomed 1941 and the new decade can afford a New Year's wish.

The decade promises to be an important one for the world politically and perhaps the best and most selfish wish every American can make for himself and for the nation is that he can see the next decade ushered in with America as well situated as it is now and more safely so.

Our principal disease today is not caused by the lack of anything, only by the threat of many lacks. We can hope that the 1940's will see them pass at the least possible cost to us.

One of the things which many fear is that we may lose our democracy and our self-determination. The press of the next 10 years will in some degree decide whether this may happen and in an almost perfect correlation will show us whether this has happened.

Democracy needs a sentinel and a champion. In free speech and the free press it has both. If it retains them we will know that democracy has been retained.

The free press is a jealous and a selfish champion of democracy. It and democracy have existences so close as to be almost inseparable. When the one falls so must the other.

In the years to come there will be strong voices crying that the free press must be throttled. We have heard one of them already from a source no less respected than the president's cabinet. That one was soon lost in the uproar, but there will be more and they will be stronger.

In the past 18 months we have seen our minds changed about many things. Our thinking is becoming hysterical but it is not yet too late. President Roosevelt said rightly that it will never be earlier than now.

One of the things we must decide now if we are to see our wish for 1951 come true is that we will adhere constantly to free speech and the free press and will not see them torn from us.

If in 1951 Americans can still write or say what they think, required to seek no counsel but one they want, knowing that what they say need pass no censor, they will know their efforts of the 1940's were not useless.

## No Word From The IMA

Christmas is past, but there is no word from the Independent Men's Association about what it is going to do.

That busy organization with a potential membership of 3,500 men and an almost unfathomable field of possible action has maintained a bleak official silence about Collegian's pre-Christmas suggestion that it find something to do or disband.

Unless, and Collegian hopes this is not the case, it considers as an answer its action of December 18, there is only silence.

That night 10 members meeting in regular session took the most constructive of constructive actions in deciding they were against boozing at Rec Hall events!

Collegian renews its request and in more specific terms: Either the IMA should show—by action, not words—an alert membership and a specific program for independent men or it should lose its representation in the All-College Cabinet and be replaced in all forms of student activity and control by a more suitable and aggressive organization of non-fraternity men.

## War Opinion Of College Students Has Changed According To Poll

By Student Opinion Surveys

AUSTIN, Texas, Jan. 6.—Although still more optimistic about the United States staying out of war than the general public is, American college students have lost some confidence during the last twelve months that we can avoid the conflict.

This is the tenor of national campus opinion today expressed through the cross-sectional samplings of Student Opinion Surveys of America. The Daily Collegian is one of the 150 college newspapers cooperating in conducting these scientific polls.

The defense expansion program that this country is now witnessing will be a factor in helping to keep us out of the European conflagration, two out of every three collegians believe. Asked by Surveys' interviewers whether they "felt the enlargement of our army and navy will help to keep us out of war or draw us closer to war," these were the answers given, in percentages:

Will help to keep us out . . . . . 67%  
Will draw us closer . . . . . 33

Exactly one year ago, in December 1939, Student Opinion Surveys sampled the college world with this question: "Do you believe that the United States can stay out of the present war?" That was shortly after the German invasion of Poland and the beginning of general hostilities. The question has been repeated, and this is the comparison:

Believed we can stay out, December 1939 . . 68%  
Believed we can stay out, December 1940 . . 63

Cross-tabulations show that opinion among college men and among co-eds is identical.

## 39 Percent of Students Read Editorials

By Student Opinion Surveys

AUSTIN, Texas, Jan. 6.—Do college students read the editorials in their campus newspapers? The college editor often feels what may be the apparent futility of composing and publishing editorial comment, but statistics on college reading habits just produced by Student Opinion Surveys of America bring a new note of encouragement and furnish one measurement of the power of the undergraduate press.

Interviewers over a cross section of representative colleges and universities stopped students on their campuses, and placing before them the editorial page of their own newspapers, asked, "Have you read any of the editorials on this page?" Those who answered yes were further queried, "Completely or only partly?" Here is the national tabulation:

Has read editorials—  
Completely . . . . . 39%  
Only partly . . . . . 35  
Had not read editorials . . . . . 26

## Letters to the Editor--

### Loan Fund Urged For Class Gift

To the Editor:

Keeping the practical value of a class gift in mind, I suggest that the class of '41 turn their balance over to the Dean of Men to be used as a loan fund for students.

I would like to qualify the term "students." There are over a thousand students working their way through college. By working through many hours at any kind of a job, these people are spending less time on their schoolwork as a result of which their college averages suffer. They do not have a 2.5 average and therefore are unable to benefit from the many "scholarships" that are available to high scholastically ranking students. Why not let the class of '41 loan fund be available to all students? Make the average required to get a loan a 1. This average includes almost all of the students who are working their way through college.

This type of loan fund is the most practical, if not the most needed gift that our class can leave to Penn State.

Sincerely yours,  
David I. Finkle '41

### Bells Rang—But In The Wrong Place

To the Editor:

In the write-up of the carol sing it was stated that the rendition of "Silent Night," following the carol sing, was played on the Old Main bells. May I ask when the bells were installed?

"Silent Night" and the other carols that were heard were played on the Memorial Tower Chimes of the First Presbyterian Church of State College. These chimes were dedicated on the 50th anniversary of the church on December 1, 1940. Am I right?  
A Reader

### Discussion Offered On Chapel Fund

To the Editor:

In view of the fact that a committee of our student government is investigating a plan whereby one chapel offering a month would be turned over to British War Relief or Mrs. Hetzel's Emergency fund, we would like to state the merits of the present project in China, carried on by means of the Chapel collections. We think Penn State in China is of so much importance right now that no support of the project should be withdrawn.

Penn State in China is a student enterprise organized in 1911 under the leadership of G. W. "Daddy" Groff '07. Penn State was one of the first American colleges to recognize its obligations abroad and to establish relations with a college in the orient. The students chose to devote each Sunday's offerings to the support of Canton Christian College, now Lingnan University. Lingnan is a regularly chartered, first class university, and it was established in 1884.

This enterprise, which has been highly successful for more than twenty five years, is a real example of the Penn State spirit. After the debris of the war is cleaned away in China, we should be glad

## CAMPUS CALENDAR

TODAY:

Meeting of the freshman ice hockey team in the Armory, 8:30 p.m.

P.S.C.A. Forty Forum meeting, Hugh Beaver Room 304, Old Main, 7 p.m.

Meeting of Camera Club in Room 318, Old Main, 8 p.m.

Portfolio staff meets in 416, Old Main, 7 p.m.

Mr. Rector, sales engineer of Bakelite Corporation, will speak on "Plastics" in Room 110, Home Economics, 7:30 p.m.

P.S.C.A. Freshman Council Cabinet meeting, Penn State in China Room, Old Main, 7 p.m.

TOMORROW:

Mr. D. O. Noel from the Metals Disintegrating Company will speak before the student chapter of the American Society of Metals in Room 121, Mineral Industries, 7:30 p.m. Subject: "Powder Metallurgy."

Ag Council meets in Room 418, Old Main, 7:30 p.m.

Iota Sigma Pi meeting in Room 318, Old Main, 7 p.m.

Max Dercum will speak on skiing at the Home Economics Assembly in Room 110, Home Economics, 7 p.m.

Dr. Donald Super, professor of educational psychology at Clark University, disputes the theory that everyone should have a hobby.

that Penn State supports an institution like Lingnan University which will be an important force in rebuilding China.

Arthur Lentz '43  
Clermont Powell '44

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