

**THE DAILY COLLEGIAN**

"For A Better Penn State"

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Graduate Counselor—Louis H. Bell  
Wednesday Morning, March 5, 1941

**Student Good Government**

Penn State student leaders, with a noticeable swagger, boast that they have one of the strongest student self-governments in the nation. President Hetzel admits to making the same boast at meetings of college presidents.

Even discounting pardonable patriotism, the boast holds water. Most frequently it is made by those who represent Penn State at college meetings where student government is a main topic. They go to these meetings unconvinced, come back convinced.

The Penn State form of government, marked as it is by strongly partisan politics, is both realistic and idealistic. During campaigns it may stoop to the former but afterwards it reaches for the stars. To its credit, it grabs off a few every year.

On problems affecting strictly themselves—customs, fraternity actions, social affairs, and the like—students have almost unlimited freedom and their leaders are promised College support in all actions.

In matters involving outside considerations, the administration has shown itself unusually willing to listen to student opinion. Such requests have brought an increase in the dean of men's office, changes in the College calendar, student representation in the College Senate, the free hospitalization plan. Still under consideration are housing improvement and the student placement bureau, both likely to be realized later if not sooner.

This attitude, carefully cultivated, has served to instill in students a desire to handle their own government because they know that their ideas will carry weight. It's fun trying when you know you have a chance.

Other colleges, apparently, are too prone to gather all the reins in the hands of the administrators and keep them there. Admittedly it takes courage for a veteran to sit back while some uncertain new hand brags the reins.

President Hetzel is one of the few administrators strong enough (some might have said foolhardy enough when he started) to take a chance on the student ability to bungle through, to refrain from grabbing the reins every time the going got a little tough, to give students a chance to work out their own salvation.

His foolhardiness has brought some kind of good fruit. It has given the student leaders an unusual educational opportunity. It has relieved the administration of considerable detail work. It has created a healthy college atmosphere. If it teaches good lessons of government it will have helped Penn State to better serve Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania needs good government.

As a parting note, Collegian suggests that, although strong, Penn State's student government is not nearly as strong as it could be. If it could be seen and not heard Collegian now would leer at the student councils.

Of all the arms of student government, the student councils are the least efficient, the least active, the least worthwhile. Their members and their leaders apparently don't have the imagination necessary to see how potent they are.

**A LEAN AND HUNGRY LOOK**

For delightful light reading during the coming spring afternoons we recommend the political platforms of the two cliques. If Mr. Hervey Allen had not already copped the idea we would suggest as their title "Lost Horizon."

A Mr. Grey, who is the publisher of the British magazine Aeroplane, is reported quite authentically to have stated recently that he was, personally, getting most irritated over the shoddy planes the U. S. was giving to England. Presently, Mr. Grey went on to say, the Americans will be wanting to come over here and win our war for us. Then, he added, England will be subjected to another twenty years of America's insufferable bragging. Together with Air Marshal Hugh Dowding, Mr. Grey has done much to restore our faith in the fact that no matter how noble "this England" is painted by her propagandists, fighting for her is still a matter of choosing the lesser of two rather slimy evils. For which we expect the wrath of almost everybody and a couple of years spent as a social outcast.

Interesting sidelight on the melancholy state of America's mental age is a little parenthetical note in a bulletin concerning fireside chats issued by the C.A. Listing the subjects that might be spoken upon by one of the faculty, the C.A. probably ran across one which it thought might not be quite understood by the great mass of students. The title of the lecture was "Do We Already Have the Basis for a Corporate State (Fascism) in America?" —Cassius

**Students Want The Low-Down**

AUSTIN, Tex.—If democracy is to be safeguarded, it is important and necessary that American colleges and universities teach the youth of the nation the facts about foreign "isms" that threaten the world today. That is the opinion of a two-thirds majority of collegians the country over, reflected in a scientific manner through Student Opinion Surveys of America.

The European debacle has forced attention on a long-evaded problem: how to inform Americans of totalitarian ideology and at the same time not endanger our democratic institutions. "Stop teaching these 'isms' in our colleges" has been the demand most often heard. But men of greater discernment have questioned the wisdom of prohibiting instruction in these forms of government. What do students themselves think about this, they who are actually taking the courses? Should the colleges continue to present "the facts about communism, socialism, nazism, and fascism?" With that question Surveys interviewers approached a cross section of collegians. Here are the answers: YES, teach the facts .....66% NO, do not teach them .....34%

**Letters to the Editor—Trustee Urges Keen Interest In Government**

To the Editor: I have read with much interest the occasional editorials and letters in The Daily Collegian having to do with acquainting college undergraduates with social and political problems involved in the defense of our representative democracy. As evidence of my interest I should like to make two brief remarks on this topic.

Our freedom in America rests on three inter-related supports—a tripod if you will, one leg of which is constitutional representative democracy; the second, free private enterprise; the third, civil and religious liberty. These three supports stand or fall together. Destroy constitutional representative democracy and pure democracy will soon degenerate into despotism and tyranny. Destroy religious liberty by bigotry or class or racial feeling and the very well-springs of republican self-government dry up. Destroy free private enterprise by state socialism and the eventual destruction of civil and religious liberty is bound to follow.

Education that does not mold the entire man—mentally and morally—is lethal poison for the individual and social dynamite for the body politic. Most of us in our ignorance do not realize that our American system of representative democracy rests on a body of principles just as precise, definite and concrete as those that underlie socialism, communism, nazism or fascism. Our schools and colleges and churches must cure that situation and cure it quickly if the American republic is to survive. For in the long run men will fight only for principles which they understand and in which they believe. So as the nation arms itself physically, our citizenry should be ever on guard and alert lest we find ourselves, when the present crisis is over, with only the empty shell of the republic we are now preparing to defend.

Certainly, one agency by which college undergraduates can inform themselves for this task, is the student newspaper and I congratulate you on your efforts in that direction.

H. W. Prentis, Jr.  
Lancaster, Pa.

Editor's Note:—Mr. Prentis, a trustee of the College, is also president of the Armstrong Cork Company and last year served as president of the National Manufacturers Association.

**RIDES Wanted and Offered**

P.W.—Philadelphia. L—Fri. 4 p.m. Call 711, 220 Jordan Hall.  
R.W. Bethlehem or vicinity. L—Fri. 12. Call Lois, 7 Ath Hall.  
R.W. Philadelphia. L—Fri. C—160 Ath Hall, 5051.

**CAMPUS CALENDAR**

- TODAY**  
PSCA Community Service Committee, Hugh Beaver Room, 7 p.m.  
Cwen meeting in WSGA Room, White Hall at 6:45 p. m.  
Meeting of House of Representatives, Room 318 Old Main, at 5 p.m.  
Meeting of Omicron Nu, 117 Home Economics, 7:30 p.m.  
PSCA Pocono Conference Delegation Meeting, Hugh Beaver Room, 4 p.m. New delegates may come to this meeting.  
PSCA Cabinet Meeting, Hugh Beaver Room, 8 p.m.  
Student Union Dance in the Armory at 4 p.m.  
Coffee Round Table Hour, Hillel Foundation at 4 p.m.  
Iota Lambda Sigma smoker for industrial education students, Sandwich Shop, 8 p.m.  
Open meeting of Delta Sigma Pi, Room 121 Sparks Building, 7 p.m.  
R. E. Phillips will talk on "Public Works Administration in Pennsylvania Cities," 124 Sparks Building, 4 p.m.  
Bank note-exhibition will continue in the library until March 13.  
'42 Independents, 318 Old Main, 7 p.m.  
Priestley lecture, 119 New Physics, 7 p.m.

**TOMORROW**

- Meeting of candidates for the editorial staff of the Student Handbook, Room 412 Old Main, 7:30 p.m. First assignments will be given out.

**Bell Will Talk**

Louis H. Bell, assistant professor of journalism, will speak before the Ellen H. Richards club in Room 117 Home Economics at 7 p.m. today on "Opportunities For Home Economists In Journalism." On March 21, he will address the Western Pennsylvania Scholastic Press Association meeting in Vandergrift on "Why High School Journalism?"

The late Dr. Francis H. Herick, professor emeritus of biology at Western Reserve University, was widely known for his study of American eagles.

**DID YOU KNOW**

that the Penn State wrestling team won the Eastern Intercollegiate wrestling title the first four years after their entrance to the association, 1918 to 1921 inclusive?

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