

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Monday, September 22, 1941

A Restatement Of Editorial Policy

With another freshman class entering Penn State, the senior board of The Daily Collegian believes that its editorial policy should again be presented to introduce its attitude on campus and national problems to those who are not acquainted with its editorial stand.

Never since the eve of American participation in the World War I has the campus been hit by uncertainty and a doubtful future for college students. Never have so many students been living on borrowed time as in this war-time era.

The presence of this world crisis has reached into the life of every Penn State student and may threaten to change the aspect of student thought and action. What was wrong yesterday is right today, and what is right today may be wrong tomorrow.

With this situation in mind, we repeat the words which made our editorial debut:

"What shall be the editorial policy of The Daily Collegian? Shall we take a stand upon the national and international situation which concerns each one of us? Shall we determine who is right and who is wrong? Shall we blaspheme and conduct campaigns against the inner factions of national and economic groups for their guiding the world of today?"

"Our answer must be no. We cannot mop up the international wranglings or compete with experts who differ on many major political points in attempting to solve the economic or political problems which puzzle us.

"Temporary campaigns and issues, which are set up as a standard bearer, soon fade and disappear under the forever changing conditions of the present day. We cannot pledge to support something which has lost its savor or will be outmoded tomorrow. Rather, we must choose a more consistent scope. Our editorial policy must be flexible and unlimited enough to permit us to make decisions as situations change and issues about face. It cannot be confined.

"Thus, deserting the traditional platform of the past, we simply assert, 'The Daily Collegian will represent the voice of the student. Realizing our limitations, but upholding our right of critical opinion, we will fearlessly and frankly discuss those issues which bear upon students as students.'

"Out of our backyard of campus relationships and contacts, we intend to interpret, express, and lead student thought along avenues which hub on student interest, activity, and future. If we believe we are right, we will hit hard. If we are wrong, we will admit our error. Our mistakes may be plenty, our policies varied, but we will be consistent in one thing: we will present a student outlook with no attempt to outguess the experts. They do enough guessing themselves.

"Prompted by the present uncertainty and bound by a dark future, we will consider it our duty to analyze a little more judiciously, dare to do with a bit more imagination, and look to the future with a little more youthful enthusiasm.

"What shall we praise tomorrow? What shall we attack? What side shall we take? We don't know! But one thing is certain. Dispelling the adage that a new broom sweeps clean, we will cling to a simple action-provoking keynote adopted last year. It asserts, 'For A Better Penn State.'"



Aye, and isn't it great when the kids get back in the fall—there'll be new romances, old standbys, Indian summer affairs, and droves of men on the lookout for new talent. Freshman beauties by the dozen. Maniac has it from the best sources that Mac Hall's fourth floor is positively infested with cuties—Marie Bower, Pat Tompkins, Mary Lou Hanson, etc., to give you a lead. If they're busy, they no doubt have a friend. Watch for a more complete survey next week.

Casualty List

Uncle Sam has been oh so drastic, say the coeds since half the eligible seniors have beat him to the draw with wings instead of the twenty and one per month he'd been planning for them—Du's Howie Parris, George Harrison and Tommie Allison, and Sigma Nu Jack Santmyers (we have to mention him) are but a few. They're here for now, but not for long. Cheer up, kiddies, your old pappy is about, and Kappa Sig Löver Bayard Bloom is back for another semester. A considerable dent to our fond hopes is the sudden change from "Where the Vale" to "Here Comes the—" as witnessed by the absences of Jane Keith, Nancy Mowery, Peggy Seeds, Margaret Cole—this goes on and on.

Peter's Pipers

Lead pipes have been much in absentia this season as houses are turning pledges away night and day—Deltachi prexy Rusty Earl confronted with two adamant freshmen who bounced in and announced they wanted to be roommates and who in h— did they see about joining that house, replied in his most austere manner, "This is a fraternity—not a boarding house." They were undaunted. Maybe they know!

Perennials

Only a few of the die-hards ventured back for a last look including Eddie Harris (our unsuccessful candidate for last year's Hot Dog King), Big John Barr, Mary Jane Sample, Bud Smyser, and May Queen Jo Condrin—mayhap they've come early for Alumni weekend.

And with the kind permission of one of the Maniacs from away back we reprint this ditty—for the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors—it's news; for the seniors—practically the fifth verse of the Alma Mater.

The worst thing about vacations
Is returning to Penn State Sod
Where the Kappas speak only to Thetas
And the Thetas only to God!

—THE MANIAC

Letters to the Editor

Smyser Counsels New Edit Staff

To The Editor:

With each new year and each new editor, Collegian turns some new political color—little matter whether it be red, white and blue or a shade of pink. (Incidentally, who's to say there is anything wrong with pink these days?)

In most years, what the color was didn't matter nearly so much as whether there was any color at all. Or, to put it differently, what students thought was not so important as the elemental fact that they should be thinking. Thinking is what makes democracy thrive.

But, today, when it is hard to avoid thinking about politics, what is though—becomes more and more important.

It is important now that our thinking should be clear and based upon a knowledge of our national situation.

That situation demands unity on the international front.

We wouldn't admit it a year ago. Perhaps we will all agree today that the United States is at war. We have cast the die, and we are past the point where we can any longer delay the defense effort by debating whether our course is wise or wrong.

The President has placed us ir-retrievably in opposition to Nazidom and the only peace we can gain now short of victory is defeat.

The kind of thinking that will sabotage the defense effort—no matter how sincere it may be—has come too late if it comes now.

We are no longer faced with the alternatives of going to war or not going to war. Then was the time to debate. Now we are at war. And the alternatives are: victory and defeat.

For good Americans, there can be only one choice there.

We are seeing how disunity in Europe is helping to weaken and may defeat Nazi Germany. Why should we encourage any similar disunity to defeat ourselves?

That is why what we think and what we say on the international situation are so important today, particularly what we say in the classroom, and what we say in print.

It is entirely possible that if we now avail ourselves as unstintingly as we have in the past of our constitutional right to criticize, we shall find that in a few years, more or less, we shall have no constitutional rights at all.

Sincerely yours,
Adam A. Smyser '41,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

A chemist at the University of California has developed a method of studying hot atoms of a million degrees centigrade or more.

READ THE COLLEGIAN CLASSIFIEDS

Campus Calendar

TODAY

WSGA Mass Meeting, 105 White Hall, 8 p. m.
WRA Sports Rally, White Hall gym, 1 p. m.
Student Union Dance, Armory, 4 p. m.
Cwen Skit Night, women's dormitories, 9 p. m.
PSCA Freshman Forum, 304 Old Main, 3 to 5 p. m.

TOMORROW

Omicron Nu Tea, Home Economics building, 4 p. m.
Student Union Dance, Armory, 4 p. m.
Senior Sponsor Meeting, 405 Old Main, 8 p. m.
Transfer Coffee Hour, Atherton Hall, 6:30 p. m.

2 Geography Courses Added This Semester

Two geography courses not listed in the College catalog will be offered this semester, Raymond E. Murphy, associate professor of geography, announced yesterday.

Geog. 405, cultural geography, will be given for eight weeks only, with six meetings each week. The course will deal with the geographic backgrounds of human life in various environments and the major geographic factors that have influenced the cultures of the past.

Offered for the first time this semester will be Geog. 410, a three credit course dealing with Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies. Geog. 411, dealing with South America, will be offered as a sequel during the second semester.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

FOR SALE—1935 six cylinder Pontiac coupe. Excellent condition. Call Clark, State College 2731. 6tch22-30 JM

FOR RENT—311 South Burrows, rent double rooms as single room. 2 double rooms and single room. Will rent double rooms as single rooms if desired. Stoker heat and plenty of hot water. Phone 2887. 2tpd—Mon-Tues: JM

FRESHMAN name cards printed 10c. Call Ed Procter, 2011. 1tpd PJ

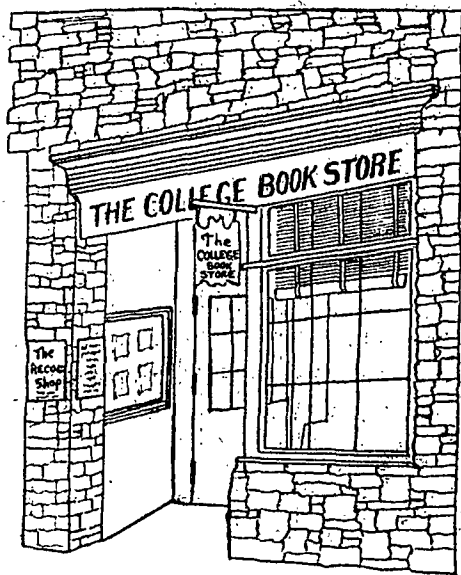
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GRAHAM & SON

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