

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Tuesday, September 23, 1941

Joint Houseparty, Soph Hop Weekend Draws Favorable Comment

Almost as well-established a tradition as the Nittany Lion, the failure of the Soph Hop to make money was broken only once in the past seven years. This was done by the present senior class who in 1940 brought Ha. Kemp to the campus to break the precedent.

However, in the other six years, the annual sophomore dance became known as the "Soph Flop." The following losses were incurred by these classes: 1935, \$2.80; 1936, \$472; 1937, \$62; 1938, \$708; 1939, \$901; and 1941, \$314. In 1940, the present senior class netted \$1,276, the large profit being attributed partly to the Pitt game weekend.

Suddenly a suggestion from George Donovan, Student Union manager, has apparently solved the Soph Hop red ink problem which had promised to become a permanent blot in student finance ledgers.

Donovan has proposed, since the delay of the College opening has shortened the social calendar, that Soph Hop and fraternity fall house parties be held on the same weekend. He suggested that the ball could be held on Friday night and the house party dances staged the next night, Saturday, at the fraternities.

This suggestion, happily enough, has met with whole-hearted approval from campus leaders and from various fraternity presidents, including Thomas J. Henson '42, president of the Interfraternity Council.

The holding of Soph Hop on house party weekend would insure the present sophomore class of a successful attendance, which in past years was hampered by poor selection of name bands, bad weather, inefficient management by student committees, and limited selection of open dates during the crowded fall program.

Fraternities, who will be hit hard by the rising costs in food and house management, will welcome the elimination of one dance night in their houses. Social chairmen who have been forced to reduce their budgets can loosen their purse strings on purchases for other forms of house entertainment. It is estimated that approximately two-fifths of the expense for house party bands will be saved by introducing Soph Hop as a houseparty weekend feature.

Not only will Donovan's plan save both fraternity and Soph Hop groups money, but it will stimulate more interest in both events. More individuals will attend the dance, while the houseparty weekend will be benefited by an extra attraction.

At the Student Union Board meeting tonight where the fall social calendar will be scheduled, all indications point to the passing of this joint plan. If this is done, no longer will the annual "Soph Flop" become a headache to future class committees, nor will fraternities need worry about the reduction in their social dance budget.



THE FACULTY SAYS . . .

by **LOUIS H. BELL**
Director of Public Information in Extension

If you were moping along the Main street in your home town this summer thinking, "It won't be long until college opens," and suddenly a two-ton truck lumbered past bearing in blue and white the name of the college and something else you couldn't catch, it wasn't a mirage. It was a so-called autolab.

And what is an autolab? Merely, as the word infers, a laboratory that has been placed into an auto. Why? Well, that's the point of this column—to describe briefly how the College has had to keep on its toes to keep its promise to help train thousands of defense workers for Uncle Sam.

Here's the story: In the Spring, Uncle Sam's growing defense program suddenly sent industry spurting. Overnight, industry was in a tough spot, needed thousands of technically-trained men to increase its production pace. Laborers were plentiful, but not skilled workers.

Industry appealed to the government and government to the colleges. Men had to be trained quickly, efficiently. In two programs, Penn State sent its men and its equipment to hundreds of towns in Pennsylvania to train workers in their own home towns.

But the truck is getting away from us. The College's next training task was to give courses in engineering subjects this summer to 3200 high school graduates in nearly 100 towns and cities. To do this quickly and efficiently, Penn State had to obtain the best and most modern equipment in great quantities.

From Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, the College purchased a two-ton truck and leased a second one equipped to bring demonstrations in chemistry from town to town and has since travelled 10,000 miles to 98 class centers.

The purchased truck was returned to the campus where for nearly three weeks a staff of ten mechanics, instrument makers and carpenters worked day and night at breakneck speed to "get the laboratory on the road." Because the cargo consisted of delicate machinery that might not stand the shocks of a motor trip, special containers had to be fashioned of rubber, wood, felt and sponge.

The physics autolab will be used late in the new Fall program and meantime the College is probably looking forward to a day when autolabs and mobile exhibits will become not a special but a regular part of Penn State's vast extension services—education on wheels.

White And Carnegie Blanks Now Available

Application blanks for the John W. White and Louise Carnegie scholarships are available to interested students in 108 Old Main. Information, requested on these blanks, must be submitted to the Committee on Academic Standards by October 3, C. E. Marquardt, acting chairman, revealed.

Physical Exams Given To 1,217 Freshmen

That 1,217 freshmen have already received physical examinations was disclosed last night by Dr. Joseph P. Ritenour, director of the health service.

Of these, 363 were coeds and 854 were male students. Although no final analysis has been made on the general health of the incoming freshman class Doctor Ritenour stated that there seem to be fewer defects than ever in the class of '45.

This improvement in the health of the students follows what Ritenour terms a "definite trend" year by year toward better health, which he has noticed in his experience here at the College.

Franklin and Marshall college is offering free swimming instruction to all undergraduates.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

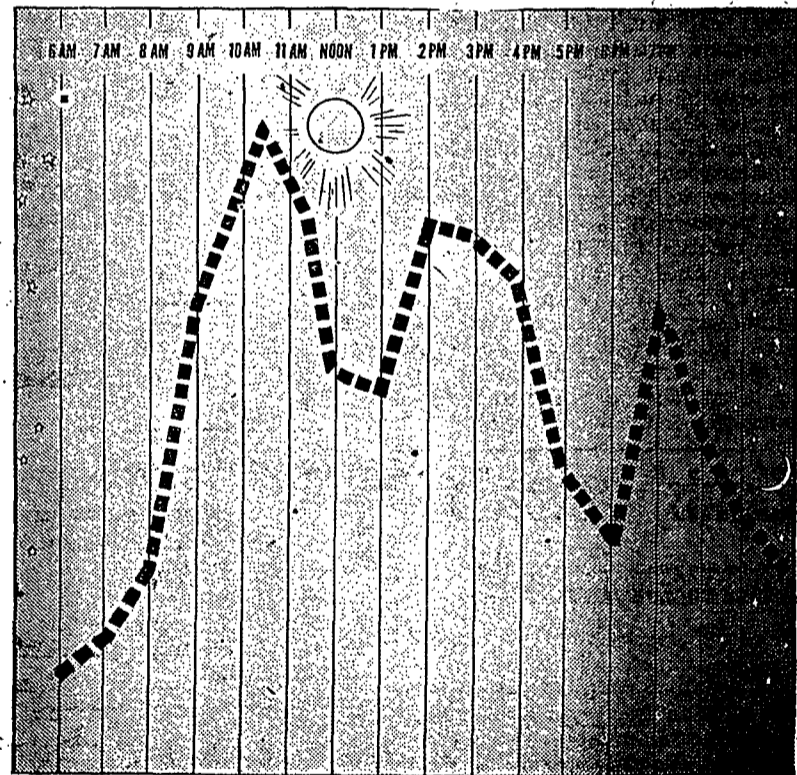
TODAY

- Druid meeting, 318 Old Main, 7 p. m.
- Senior Sponsors meeting, 405 Old Main, 8 p. m.
- Compulsory meeting of all sophomore women editorial candidates for Collegian, 312 Old Main, 4:30 p. m.
- PSCA freshman mass meeting committee meeting, 304 Old Main, 4 p. m.
- First meeting of the Freshman Council of PSCA, 304 Old Main, 7 p. m.
- Student Union Dance, Armory, 4 p. m.
- Student Union Board meeting 305 Old Main, 7:30 p. m.

TOMORROW

- Skull and Bones meeting, 318 Old Main, 7 p. m.
- Campus '44 meeting, 418 Old Main, 7:30 p. m.
- Freshman get-together for all Jewish students at Hillel Foundation, 133 W. Beaver ave., 3:30 to 5:30 p. m.
- Subject of a paper delivered before the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters: "The Effect of the Histamine Antagonist, Thymoxyethyldiethylmaline (029F) on Gastric Secretion."

THE BEST TIMES TO MAKE LONG DISTANCE CALLS



ALTHOUGH it looks something like a sunrise over Pike's Peak, this is really a chart showing the ebb and flow of Long Distance calls during an average day.

Notice the sharp peaks in mid-morning, mid-afternoon and at 7 P. M.? That's when Long Distance lines are most crowded these busy days. Defense activities have put an extra heavy load on telephone facilities.

If you avoid these three peak periods, you'll get faster service on your calls—and you'll be helping to "speed the calls that speed defense."



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