

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Friday, October 31, 1941

Consult Your Draft Committee; Did You Know There Was One?

In nearly every issue of the weekly Faculty Bulletin several students are listed as having dropped out of the College because they "were called to the armed forces." These little announcements present no serious immediate threat to enrollment but they do presage a day when students will be drafted at a rate which may bring male enrollment, especially in the two upper classes, to the lowest level it has been since World War I.

Conscription of large numbers of students is a grave problem but more for the future than for the present—though, in this case, the future may not be many months off. Right now, from a comparative viewpoint, the situation affects individual students more than it does the College. To the undergraduate John Doe, the important question is: "How can I get a deferment which will allow me to finish this academic year?"

There is no answer to that question because there is no certain way. There are some things a student can do which may help, but they do not ensure success.

When the student gets his questionnaire, he should take it to his school draft committee. These committees are familiar with draft questionnaires and will aid students in the important job of filling them out correctly. Chairmen of the committees in each school are as follows:

Agriculture, Dr. J. Ben Hill; Chemistry and Physics, Dean Frank C. Whitmore; Education, Dr. Clifford L. Adams; Engineering, Prof. Charles L. Kinsloe; Liberal Arts, Dean Charles W. Stoddart; Mineral Industries, John W. Buch; and Physical Education and Athletics, Dr. Lloyd M. Jones.

What these men and their associates are doing may best be illustrated by taking as examples the groups in Liberal Arts and Engineering. The Engineering committee will fill out Form 42 (request for occupational deferment) for seniors, juniors in good standing, and, under special circumstances such as "unusual maturity," for sophomores. Feeling that liberal artists are not "necessary men" in the eyes of the government, the Liberal Arts committee does not use Form 42 but, instead, submits to local draft boards, complete information about a student's year, standing, and his relative chance for employment after graduation.

Other school committees follow similar procedures. The Engineering committee at one end of the scale, and the Liberal Arts committee at the other end may be taken as fair samples. All the groups consider cases individually; the procedure they follow varies according to their opinion of each student's qualifications for deferment. They are wholeheartedly concerned with helping students stay in college in order to complete their education, and student draft registrants should take advantage of the assistance they are prepared to give.

A WORM'S EYE VIEW

I found a measuring worm as I was walking down the campus mall the other day. He was hanging upsidedown from the branches of the Old Willow tree and looking very much distressed about something, so I stopped for an upsidedown conversation with him.

"Hello, fellow," I said. "Something wrong?"

"My name isn't 'Fellow,'" he said, with an impatient wiggle. "It's Ferdy. I come from a whole line of Ferdies, and I resent your disrespectful inferences."

"Sorry, old man," I said. "No offense. What's your trouble?"

"Well, it's like this," he said, inching toward me. "I have a great heritage. My ancestors go back even further than the yardstick. Before the yardstick, all measuring was done by the measuring worms, but now there's nothing for them to measure but tree trunks."

"Well, what's the matter with that?"

"It just isn't practical," he said, and he began to swing back and forth. "You see, I like to measure clothes for people just as a hobby. But these darned college hot dogs are the rudest people. Every time I try to measure them for a coat or a pair of pants, they flick me off into the grass. It isn't the flicking I mind so much, but the supercilious way they quirk their fingers when they do it. Just because their clothes are tailor-made and have padding in the shoulders they needn't think they're the high mucka mucks of the campus. If they could see how ridiculous they look from my angle, maybe they wouldn't strut around so much."

"You seem to have made a few lengthy observations about Penn State students," I said. "What else do you know?"

Ferdy was so pleased at this question that he swung toward me with such vigor that I had to dodge him to keep him from hitting my nose.

"Well," he said, "because of my illustrious background, having evolved from the lowly tape worm to the highest state of wormkind, I've had the opportunity to observe much about the human personality. I find that the Penn State campus provides a diversity of material for study. One thing that puzzles me is the way some of these students go around with cardboard hanging from their shoulders and wearing ridiculous clothes."

"Tribunal does that," I told him. "It's punishment for freshmen who break rules."

"That's stupid," said Ferdy. "Any one who can't think of a better punishment than that ought to be wearing the things himself."

"You don't think much of this place, do you?"

"There are some good things about it. Come around sometime when I'm in a better mood, and I'll tell you about them."

And Ferdy cocked an eye at the tree, swung upward, and disappeared among the branches.

Student Committee Will Conduct Survey On Opinion Of Library

To facilitate the work of the Student Library Committee a survey of student opinion will be held in November and December, at which time students can bare any grievances they have against the Library.

Members of the committee were appointed by Robert D. Baird '42, All-College president, and are under the sponsorship of Miss Katharine M. Stokes, assistant librarian.

The committee includes: Ruth G. Hoffer '42, psychology, and Charles B. Elder '43, Education, both of whom served on last year's committee; Olga M. McCarthy '42, Liberal Arts; Ruth Stover '44, home economics; J. H. Henderson '42, petroleum and natural gas engineering; Bruce C. Atkinson '43, chemical engineering; and Donald Carlton '44, agriculture education.

The committee was founded two years ago with the purpose of bettering and furthering the relationship between the library staff and the students.

Ninety-four high school are represented by freshmen attending Potsdam (N. Y.) State Normal school.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

TODAY

Senior Engineering lecture, 121 Sparks Building, 4:10 p. m. Dr. E. J. Stocking, assistant chief, Examining Division, U. S. Civil Service Commission, will speak on the "Opportunities for Engineers" in Federal Employment."

Mortar Board meeting, 305 Old Main, 4 p. m.

Halloween party, Wesley Foundation parlors, 8 p. m.

TOMORROW

Varsity soccer, Navy, New Beaver field, 2 p. m.

Taylor, Ceramics Head, Edits Rheology Bulletin

Dr. Nelson W. Taylor, head of the department of ceramics, was appointed editor of the Bulletin of the Society of Rheology at the society's annual meeting in New York last week.

The bulletin publishes abstracts of scientific papers that are of interest to the society and pertaining to the subject of Rheology, such as the problems of viscosity and flow of liquid, elasticity of rubber and glass, and the creep of metals.

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