

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Friday, November 21, 1941

You Asked For It

The All-College Cabinet has often been accused of wagging its tail when the College speaks, and sometimes it is said Cabinet wags its tail when the students speak. This is the time that students speak and Collegian wags its tail.

"What the devil does Cabinet mean by drinking legislation?" students query. "What's the news behind the laws?" they say. "Is the administration stepping on Cabinet's tail, or is Cabinet a stooge for administrative policies?" students want to know. "If Cabinet is a representative body of student opinion, why doesn't Cabinet let us in on the deep dark secret of its sudden legislature?" they cry.

Students have a right to know what their representatives are doing. Furthermore, they should be acquainted with the motive and purpose of any law made by Cabinet, especially the drinking situation which Cabinet now is knee-deep in attempting to solve.

The facts? Here they are. The administration wants the student body to regulate itself before it steps in and takes over student conduct. Right now, the mixed drinking situation is critical.

How critical? It is known by every fraternity that drunken parties are held in locked upstairs rooms every houseparty. This isn't limited to houseparties, because every fraternity has its favorite "blue room" in which men can serve liquor to their dates.

Apartment houses in town are not dens of iniquities, but they also have their unofficial bars. In some private homes, liquor flows freely. Non-fraternity men have as much advantage as fraternity men in "bending the elbow."

But students cry, "That's the state's, College's, and student government's fault. We can't go to a legalized cocktail bar; we can't visit a respectable drinking establishment to sip a few beers and enjoy music and dancing. You force us to go to Bellefonte behind the College's back, or sneak liquor in the back way!"

That's true. The state, in its stupid legislation, has forced drinking from near-fashionable and respectable places to a fraternity cellar or an apartment room. There, the chances of coeds and men getting drunk are greater because there is no social hamper, no chaperoned place.

Columbia, Cornell, Wisconsin, and other colleges and universities legalize reasonable and open drinking. Here, the state bans drinking. Consequently, drinking behind the proverbial "barred door" is done.

This type of drinking, student government says, must stop. It must stop because it does more to hurt student morale and College reputation than any other social disgrace.

Is the Cabinet right? We say yes. Such parties as these, which may be hidden from prying eyes in a big city university, will bring repercussion on repercussion upon this isolated campus.

Must students drink? According to them, "Yes." What is the answer then? On one hand, we have unregulated drinking which may, in time, throw student reputation into a bemuddled, sodden condition. On the other hand, student mixed drinking cannot be stopped by iron-handed prohibition. It can be curbed, as Cabinet hopes, but not stopped.

The answer? We say chaperoned parties. If total drinking cannot be stopped (and students smirk when told that it can), if hidden drinking will flourish under the present conditions, chaperoned drinking can be a middle road which can solve what may become a serious problem.

Student, what do you say?



Through The Needle's Eye

Although some may cry "Wolfe!" we want to blow a slightly delicate note today. Each year at Thanksgiving we take stock of ourselves, brood over the world a bit, and unashamedly shout hosannas for the varied blessings about us.

It gets hard at times to maintain a blithe spirit: we were watching some chickens on the Hill last week; it was the same old tale of dominance and submission—one big cock maintaining sole rights to a tub of water, although there was room for all. The Collegian carried a story of two negroes wounded in riots in West Virginia, and the scare-heads in the national papers reminded us that we're 21 and caskets are made for all ages.

We drove two miles out of State College and found ourselves in Woodycrest, the local rural slum—handbox houses huddled together, with Centre County stretching open for miles about; we looked at a schoolhouse, smaller than an Old Main lounge, where 63 kids are schooled every day by one harassed teacher.

We talked to a picket and asked him if he was tired, and he said, "Hell, no! I'm used to it." And we couldn't help but reflect bitterly on his common denominator of dissatisfaction.

We looked at the stink and the artifices of the world about us, leaking slowly through the cracks in the shell State College draws about itself, and were wrenched with a pang of alarm for the innocents and the opportunists who will pour out of this institution this year, to enter a world where men and women are having fear etched in their viscera.

But, then we heard a faint but sweet note, and blew an answering trill; we decided once more to call out our thanks in a determined tone. Because we remembered the story of the fraternity lad who said, "We can't pledge him; he doesn't wear argyles." And a fellow told us of Tribunal members buying a frosh his customs out of their own pockets; we watched the groups of oblivious lovers in the Sandwich Shop.

So we took inventory and found the labels on the stock a little stained by mold, but all the goods in fine shape. Total assets to include all the Penn States in the world where young people are disillusioned as gently as possible. We put down in black ink the sense of humor which the collegiate lad or lass maintains. We bow down in thanks for the couples holding hands at the Corner, for the fact that we can write this column, for the fact that learning stands for passivity and conservatism, but thinking stands for activity and advance, for the fact that the orthodox worship one way, the agnostics another, but we all can get together to say thanks with a common simplicity. —GABRIEL

CANDY Just Right!

We have installed a refrigerated candy counter which keeps sweets at exactly the recommended temperature

The Corner

3,000 Attend Rally; Lions Confident

(Continued from Page One)
mined to win."

As the bonfire began burning more brightly, Dan. A. DeMarino, assistant dean of men, introduced Captain Len Krouse and other members of the Nittany grid squad. Krouse, who was attending his last pep rally at Penn State, said, "I'm not using my slide rule to figure how to beat Pitt. The team's got that worked out already."

The climax of the rally came as the fire began to smoulder. Accompanied by a funeral march strain by the Blue Band, Captain Krouse threw an effigy of the Golden Panther headfirst into the flames.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

TODAY

No Engineering lecture today. Next lecture will be on Friday, December 5.

Penn State Club dormitory exchange dance, Mac Hall lounge, 8:30 p. m.

A Kitchenette shower will be held at Wesley Foundation Parlors, 8 p. m.

FSCA Freshman Council committee meetings, Hugh Beaver Room; publicity, 4 p. m.; program, 7 p. m.

Hillel Foundation-PSCA joint Thanksgiving Service at Hillel Foundation on Beaver avenue, 7:15 p. m.

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To assure coast-to-coast telephone facilities adequate to meet future defense needs, the Bell System is constructing a 1600 mile, \$20,000,000 cable line between Omaha and Sacramento.

Several newly developed "plow trains," working from opposite ends of the line, are burying the cable for maximum protection. They dig deep furrows, lay two cables in them and cover them with earth—all in one continuous operation. Their meeting will mark completion of the first all cable line across the continent. Carrier systems will be operated in the cables — one direction of transmission in each.

This vast project is just one of thousands in which the Bell System is now engaged to provide additional communication facilities so vital to Army, Navy and defense industries.

