

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Friday, January 23, 1942

The March Of Dimes...

Of all the campaigns and drives now being staged on campus, the one receiving the least student support and recognition is President Roosevelt's "March of Dimes" infantile paralysis fund drive.

Away back in 1932, this campaign was inaugurated to enable thousands of children and adults afflicted with the disease to obtain proper medical treatment which they could not afford previously.

Every afternoon on campus and in downtown restaurants, we see students sipping cokes and other drinks flavored with sugared carbon dioxide. This practice is one of Penn State's greater traditions.

Far be it from us, of course, to cast disparaging remarks about certain beverage companies, but we believe that they would hardly miss a few dimes not spent on their products and contributed, instead, to the "March of Dimes" drive.

The amount of money spent on drinks in one hour at the Sandwich Shop any weekday afternoon could buy one pair of braces for an infantile paralysis patient. This assumption is ours, of course, but we think it is fairly accurate—judging from recent observations.

No student organization has volunteered to organize a "March of Dimes" campaign on this campus. The townspeople, however, being a bit more social conscious than our enlightened student body, started a drive last Tuesday night. Little State College may be away from the distractions of the big city, but its populace is sometimes aware of what's happening in the outside world.

That is more than we can say for Penn State students with their wealth of book sense but lack of good common horse-sense.

Should some reawakened student decide to calm his conscience and contribute a thin dime to aid those afflicted with the disease, he may do so at various collection points downtown—Graham's, the New College Diner, or the Corner Room—to mention a few.

We wish only to remind students that no matter how hard their lot, there are many in far worse circumstances who need aid. Reach down into your pockets and purses and "shell out" for a worthy cause. You'll never miss that ten cent piece, and it may save a life.

Saving lives is a rather unpopular phrase at this time in view of the thousands being slain abroad. —D. S.

It's Your Recreation Room

Now that the music department is vacating its space on the fourth floor of Old Main there is room once again for an All-College recreation room. This project, sponsored by Student Union, is for the benefit of all the students, and should not be abused.

The equipment, in a way, is delicate. It is very easy to ruin a pool table by a few careless strokes of a pool cue. A little recklessness will render a ping pong table useless. Remember that other students want to use the equipment when you are finished with it.

Don't monopolize the tables. You are limited to an hour, but Student Union can't come running up to 401 if you run over your time. Turn your pool balls or ping pong paddles in on the hour. Be considerate of the student who is waiting to play. —J. D. O.



Through The Needle's Eye

Here is the story of Benjamin Brew Who spent this life in a dreadful stew. Hailed as a prodigy with a musical taste, He went his way with a wilful waste, Drank his death in whiskey and soda, Heard the bubbles sing a suitable coda. Listen to the tale of this heart grown frail, Burst with pain on its tinctured trail. Take his eyes: see a world that's stinking. See the source of his wonderful drinking. See this land and become impassioned; Drink its toast in a green old-fashioned. See the slums of soot and slime; Add a tear, with a shot of lime. Joke and jeer if you get the jitters; Be cynic and sceptic—"and a dash of bitters."

Forget adventure; buy the oldest stock; Double your Collins and tilt the crock. Forget the myth that men create; There's only time for a liquid fate. Nothing to the rumor that anything's new; Take the example of Benjamin Brew. Distill desire and drink the dregs; Bloat your brain with corpulent kegs. Praise the pointless; make your soul play 'possum. Swallow your mind in an orange blossom.

Don't look for a clarity in these impotent lines. It's more important to choose appropriate wines. When you're bleary and weary and beaten and blue, You'll know the story of Benjamin Brew.

We wrote the lines above because we were wistful and weary. We were on the second floor of Old Main at dusk and paused to look at the Lion which was nestled in shadows, mottled with lovely tints of soft blue and red from the sunset. There was once a time when we would have eagerly mentioned it to the nearest person, but now in the rush of things it seems people are too busy, and it's not quite the thing this year. We didn't want to change the world, understand, and we weren't complaining; it was just that we wanted to tell somebody and no one would listen; so we were a little wistful.

Then we came out into the rush and noticed everyone had energy to get books for the Bar-racks, but not enough zest to get a room for the Book room, and we were a little weary.

—GABRIEL



"I tell you, there's no course called Corner Room 105!"

Letters To The Editor—Coed Wants New Check-In System

To the Editor: This is a personal gripe, but it is caused by a very real situation that menaces every coed living on this campus.

Let me state my case (it is typical): I live in Woman's Building. According to the rules I (or one of my friends) must put a check mark after my name on a chart in the hall each weekday night before 9 o'clock and on weekends before 10 or 11. On Friday and Saturday night my name must also be signed (or forged) on the date book. Once this is done I am legally present and accounted for, though in reality I may be in Timbuctoo (or Bellefonte); no effort is ever made to determine whether I am actually in the building or not.

Hence if I do "sign in" but do not come in, all is legally well and good. If, on the other hand, I do come in, but omit to sign in, I receive a black mark, and eventually, a campus.

This is unjust—the more so because in every dorm I have observed personal friends of the student "checker" somehow magically avoid the dreaded black marks.

The justice of the case is not the issue, however. The issue is simple: safety. Certainly, no one in Penn State wants a repetition of last year's terrible tragedies, yet the whole system all but invites it.

This is not an idle complaint. I can suggest a remedy for the situation:

- 1. The check-in system should be recognized as valueless (as it works now, one girl checks a whole floor or a whole dorm, present or not) and discarded. 2. Some reliable individual of authority should personally make a room to room check to see that each girl is really in the building at the proper time. 3. Blackmarks and campuses should be given only for actual offenses, not for minor infractions of useless rules.

Now I shall close and mail this. Monday your copy editor will discard it. Probably I shall innocently accumulate enough black marks to be campused some big weekend, but no one will sympathize, and no one will trace my minor misfortune to the same situation that is sure some day to cause another Rachel Taylor scandal at Penn State: everyone will sigh and say, "Sad, but unavoidable."

Disgusted Coed

Indignant Student Answers Editorial

To the Editor: To those persons who interest themselves in trying to edit a small-time edition of the New York Mirror:

Messrs: Your apparent interest in the affairs of fraternities who are interested in listening to really enjoyable music may be accredited to a variety of sources. Perhaps first of all, ye editors are a bit disgruntled that your respective Greek Clubs are unable to provide dancing accommodations, or maybe the old snooping nose of the so-called Collegian reporters has been a bit dulled by the grind-

CAMPUS CALENDAR

TODAY

Diets in disease exhibit, 209 Home Economics, 8 a. m. to noon. Laurelton State Village committee meeting, White Hall, 4 p. m.

Regular Friday Evening Services at the Hillel Foundation, 7:15 p. m.

Theta Sigma Phi will meet at Kappa Alpha Theta house, 4 p. m.

All persons planning to participate in the open cabin party at the PSCA cabin this weekend should sign up at the PSCA office, 304 Old Main. Cars will leave at 2, 5, and 7 p. m. tomorrow and return Sunday.

TOMORROW

Penn State riding club meets in the riding club paddock, 2 p. m.

MISCELLANEOUS

Students who are interested in taking Russian 1, 2, and 4, meet in 105 Sparks, 4 p. m., Wednesday to schedule their classes.

Pre-Medical Society meeting, Wednesday, January 28, 7:30 p. m., 405 Old Main. Movies followed by social.

Unusual Hobbies

(Continued from Page One)

winter, he enjoys chess. Phyllis K. Sprague, associate professor of home economics, keeps in touch with her graduates in her leisure hours.

One faculty member would like to form a "gourmet" club; another one admits that he enjoys playing poker. An engineering professor listed his two grandchildren under his hobbies.

With the faculty survey completed, the hobby sub-committee headed by Max S. Peters '42, will soon attempt a student survey and then start small hobby groups for those that are interested.

In an effort to find the hobby interests of the students, the student-faculty relations committee urges: all students to fill out the following form and turn it in to Student Union before next Wednesday.

Name Address Hobby Would you be interested in meeting with others with the same interests?

Red Cross Blanks Available At PSCA

Red Cross correspondence blanks for personal messages to persons in foreign countries are available at the PSCA office, 304 Old Main. Designed primarily for foreign students, the Red Cross system is the only means of getting messages into Europe.

The form consists of three blanks on which not more than 25 words, family news of strictly personal character, are to be written. It is then sent to the American Red Cross headquarters in Washington, D. C., and taken care of there. The answer is written on the reverse side of the form.

stone of National Defense.

Lastly fellows, I hear that five little beavers at Whipples Dam are going to do a little beaver digging. Better investigate.

Ungratefully yours, Sour Grapes.

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