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## THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Wednesday, February 4, 1942

## Looking At Figures

The registration figures which were released vesterday spoke of the uncertainty of the student as to whether he can return for the third semester or not. Of the 5 332 undergraduates who registered, 1,588 indicated that they were undecided, and 282 said that they could not return.

It is true that the majority of students anmounced that it would be possible for them to come back to college for the third semester, but the College is depending upon that uncertain class to swing back to College when the third semester begins. The success of the College year depends upon these uncertain students.

So far, the reaction of students toward the war and its grasp upon the College is good. The students understand and know that the College program will be disrupted and that they will be compelled to undergo many "war-time" hardships.

However, it takes more than a sympathetic atfitude. Students must adopt the best method of assisting themselves, their country at war, and their college. We maintain that the worst way to aid the nation at war is to volunteer for the more "glorious" and "honorable" branches of pervice without first attempting to consider our wlace in the war set-up.

We feel that it is best to stay in College as long us we can. This is no cowardly attitude. The army needs college-trained men in its combat or technical corps. When Uncle Sam wants us, he will summon us soon enough. Until then, we anust go about our collegiate duties, learn our specific professions, and be ready to answer when whe nation calls.

We've got a job to do! Until Uncle Sam lets us know what it is, we can prepare for it.

### **About School Councils**

Several mild "justify your existence" campaigns have been conducted against the school councils. Last year's All-College Cabinet, doubt-

# Mathematics In Warfare

Dr. HASKELL B. CURRY Associate Professor of Mathematics

Modern warfare is largely mathematical, but this does not mean that the mathematics involved is necessarily advanced. Advanced work is indeed necessary, and experts are needed to do it; but besides these experts the country requires men with mathematical training at all stages of advancement.

Men and women who have adequate training in elementary algebra and trigonometry will be needed by the hundreds of thousands for national defense. The training of these persons will naturally be the concern of the secondary and elementary college teachers of mathematics.

The mathematical training of an engineering graduate is necessary for engineers in industry, for the officers in the Corps of Engineers and the Signal Corps, for most of the officers in the Coast Artillery and Navy, and for some in the Ordinance Department, and the ground force of the Air Corps.

Special trigonometry is essential wherever navigation is involved as for the officers in the Navy and the pilots in the Air Corps and, also, on account of the surveying necessary, for officers in the Coast Artillery. Solid geometry is useful for space institutions which are important in anti-aircraft fire and flying.

Finally "substantial secondary mathematics through the computational stage of plane trigonometry" is recommended for large numbers of skilled workers in industry, for officers in the Infantry, Field Artillery and some other branches, and for numbers of enlisted men.

That these recommendations are not excessive may be seen by comparing them with the more substantial requirements at West Point and Annapolis, and with those for the Flying Cadets of the Army's Air Colps and for ROTC courses in our colleges. As for industry, only a week ago an engineering friend reminded me that mathematicians do not generally realize the extent to which trigonometry is used in the shop computations connected with drill holes, tapers, screw threads, etc.

**Campus** Calendar

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TODAY

All candidates for honorary badminton club meet in White ing, 318 Old Main, 3:15 p.m. Hall at 6:45.

'International' Relations Club meets in 3 Sparks at 7 o'clock. Meeting of the Pre-Med Society

at 405 Old: Main, 7:30 p. m. -The Liberal Arts Council meets

in 305 Old Main at 8 p.m. Boxing seconds report to ring

at 4 o'clock.

Building, 7:15 p.m. PSCA Community Service Com-

mittee, 119 Sparks, 4 p. m.

**PSCA** Public Meetings Committee, 304 Old Main, 4 p. m.

PSCA Washington Trip Committee, Hugh Beaver Room, 4 p. m. estry Building, to nominate offi-Watch Service, Wesley Foundation, 7:15 a. m.

Interviews for summer jobs will be conducted in 304 Old Main all day. A "representative from the American Friends Service Committee will be present.

Campus '45 "Lobbying" meeting, 405 Old Main, 7:30 p. m.

Important Collegian Sophomore Board meeting, news room, 4:45 p. m.

Meeting of Riding Club; new members for preliminary instruction, and also of the executive committee; Stock Judging Pavil- industrial psychology majors will ion, 7:30 p. m. Yesterday's an- be conducted in the Burrovias nouncement was an error. Council meeting, 244 Atherton

Hall, 6:30 p. m. PSCA Cabinet Meeting, Hugh

Beaver Room, 8:15 p. m. Important compulsory meeting the psychology department facul-

o'elock.

318 Old Main, 7 p. m.

TOMORROW '43 Independent "All Out" meet-

Maurice Samuel's book, "The Great Hatred," will be discussed at the Hillel Coffee Round Table, 4:15 p. m., at the Hiller Foundation.

The members of the Hillel Scroll Staff will meet at the Hillel Foundation at 3 p. m.

All candidates for the business Meeting of all Industrial Psy- or editorial staffs of the Freshchology majors, 109 Burrowes man Handbook, meet in Hugh Beaver Room, 7 o'clock.

Camera Club lecture on the five fundamental types of light in 309 Old Main at 7:30 p.m.

The Penn State Forestry Society will meet in Room 105, Forcers. All members are urged to attend

#### MISCELLANEOUS

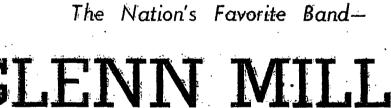
Intramural wrestling and basketball entries sign up at Intramural Office, 213 Rec Hall, before Saturday noon. Basketball entrance fees are \$1 per team; wrestling fee is 25 cents per entry.

**Meetings Planned** For Psych Majors

First of a series of meetings for building at 7:15 p. m. today, Pi Lambda Theta, Executive according to Frank R. Flynn '43, vice-president of the Education School Council,

Flynn said the purpose of the sessions is to have members of of Junior and Sophomore Editor- ty answer questions pertaining to ial Boards in the News Room at 4 job possibilities, recommended courses and general information Liberal Arts Council meeting, not usually divulged in straight courses.

The Class Presents



ing whether councils were performing their inkended function, required that each one deliver a detailed report on its activities.

Some reports were completely satisfactory because some of the councils, notably the one in the Ag School, are doing a good job. Nevertheless, other councils do virtually nothing. There can be no doubt about this.

Councils have previously been attacked from the viewpoint that they were failing to fill a definite, unquestionable need. But has anyone ever taken time to determine if this need exists? Are school councils necessary?

Consider the Liberal Arts Council as an example. It has been able to do so little that most Liberal Arts students and faculty members do not know it exists.

It does not seem, after careful analysis, howover, that this is the fault of the council itself. After all, what can it do? It can, and has, sponsored smokers for students in different curricula but these can't be termed contributions to student government. Otherwise, the LA Council has been -cead weight. 🔷

This situation is not true for all of the seven councils. But, granting that it is true for some, shart school councils continue as parts of All-2 College government? Couldn't the worthwhile counctis operate independently? Couldn't the there be dropped?

-- J. A. B.



Shall they?

Features Who TEX BENEKE RAY EBERLY THE MODERNAIRS For SENIOR BALL FEB. 27 REC HALL