Established 1940. Successor to the Penn State Collegian established 1904, and the Free Lance, established 1887. Published daily except Sunday and Monday during the regular College year by the students of The Pennsylvania State College. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934 et the Post-office at State College, Pa., under the act of March 8, 1879

March 8, 1879.				
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### Meinber

Associated Collegiate Press Distributor of **Collegiate Digest** 

Thursday March 19, 1942

### **A** Crying Need

What Penn State needs is a Student Union building.

A Student Union building serves as a meeting place for the entire collegiate population, it is a mecca for all campus activities, and it promotes student-faculty relationships. Still further, it promotes recreation and physical fitness which are vital in today's line of defense.

Old Main was purported to be a combination administrative and Student Union building. Neclessity has turned its use toward administrative channels. While it is conceivable that it could eventually be turned into the students' building. its architectural makeup is not completely adaptable.

Assume that Cornell is a typical college. On its campus is Willard Straight Hall, the Student Union building donated by the widow of Willard Straight. Every Cornell student is a hall member; faculty and administrators are invited to membership.

Students elect from their number a board of managers and governors which has faculty supervision. Facilities include a cafeteria, three dining rooms for banquets and special parties, a theatre used by the dramatics department and visiting companies, and a music and art room for frequent exhibitions and concerts.

There are activities meeting rooms, a library of more than 1,000 volumes, two women's lounges, a Memorial Room used as a men's lounge, a billiard and game room, and a barber shop. The upper floor has sleeping rooms for parents, alum

## One Man's Meat

### 

The balmy, gaseous days of political campaigning are upon us once more. The fountainheads of balderdash are open again. The fair-haired lads and glib-speaking lassies are belaboring the electorate. And to what ends, this writer timidly asks.

Behind personalities in other political campaigns we are wont to find a statement of principle, accompanied by a suggestion of means to attain the principles. These statements and suggestions are bound up in what is commonly termed a "Platform." Local politicos, over-fond of dwelling over-long on "our great, democratic student government," have followed this practice, but sadly enough, in name only. To be sure, we are lambasted with verbious "platforms" to which Old Main Rats refer vaguely when asked "What are you boys going to do when you get in office?" These "platforms" run something like this:

"We, the Old Main Rat Party, adopt the following planks for a better Penn State: 1. We advocate beautiful Spring weather for Junior Prom and commencement.

2. We advocate special holidays for every championship our great athletic teams win.

3. We advocate that the NCAA basketball title be awarded to Penn State.

4. We advocate that the glorious Class of 'XZ be provided with a lasting memorial worthy of our greatness.

5. We advocate the availability of the Glennland Pool for pre-Navy training.

If you think that the planks enumerated above are ridiculous, just take a look at the actual thing. It seems to be a favorite pastime of campus ward leaders to go seeking the most inocuous issues possible and then write them in the platform. For instance, I do not know of a single class in the past two decades that has not left a "lasting memorial" on the campus; yet one of the current contending parties insists that this is a controversial issue and stoutly demands that it is the better party because it recognizes the need for such a memorial.

Nothing approximating a real campus issue can be found in any of the platforms. All of the planks are about items which will be accomplished without the help or even in spite of the politicians. Few of the planks are even faintly within the jurisdiction of student government. And none of the issues which have been fought over in Cabinet are mentioned. Items which might be controversial are brushed over and no concrete solution to any pressing campus problems is presented.

The real issue of this campaign is: "Who's going to grab the gravy-Campus or Independent ward-heelers?"

-LOKI



# **BMOC's Roast** At SDX Fry

An Irish humorist stole the show last night from the tenth annual 7 p.m. Sigma Delta Chi BMOC Blitzkrieg, with shades of Tom Dolan and pa- Old Main, Philotes Room, 7 p. m. triotic plugs for the Selective Service Commission.

Con McCole, known as one of Irish wit after it had been set off foil. by St. Patrick Zukauskas and other honorary members.

First part of the program panned in ways subtle and straightforward every campus bigwig from Mattern to Donovan. This was followed by more refined after dinner entertainment of McCole.

The banquet, held every year to honor and expose "big shots," was St. Patrick's own work of art interspersed here and there with Main, 7 p.m. Raymond Scott's recordings, the banter thrown about by the SDX's, Old Main at 7:30 p.m. and hot apple pie and cheese.

Some symbolic gifts awarded to bigwigs were a chisel to Bursar Clark, a large powder puff to Dave Sharp and Bill Lundelius, a knife to Bill Mazzocco, a shamrock for Charlie Mattern, and a brown derby to Tom Henson.

### **Steidle Will Speak**

Dean Edward Steidle, School of Mineral Industries, will speak on 'Recent Observations in the Latin Americas" in 121 Sparks today, Dean Steidle was recently a representative at the First Pan-American Conference of Mining Engineering and Geology at Chile, Santiago.

### **CAMPUS CALENDAR**

TODAY

Grange meeting, 405 Old Main,

Philotes executive meeting, 302

Skull and Bones, 312 Old Main, 7:15 p. m.

WSGA House of Representathe three best humorists in the tives meeting, 318 Old Main, 5 East, stopped the show with his p. m. Members please bring tin-

> Clique chairmen meet with Elections Committee in 318 Old Main at 4 p. m.

Sewing and knitting in Red Cross workroom, 117 Home Economics, from 6:45 to 8:45 p.m.

Swimming Club business meeting for old and new members White Hall pool 7 p. m.

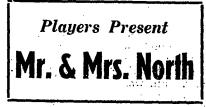
'43 Independents meet, 318 Old

'45 Independent meeting in 417

Tau Beta Pi smoker at Lambda Chi Alpha at 7:15 p.m. Dr. C. F. Anderson will show slidles and talk on Hawaii.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Sign up by Wednesday for All-College Bowling with June Steinfurth or at WRA office, in White Hall.





ni, and other guests.

Penn State needs such a building. With the rapid growth in students over a relatively short period, activities have expanded beyond the facilities available for them. Centralized organization, a place where all groups could meet, have exhibits, and the like is a necessity. The answer is a Student Union building.

The answer is not enough. The principal trouble is finding a means to fulfill the need.

Alumni help is the only solution. If all alummi, through a concentrated drive, would aid in such a project, funds could be raised in a short time. It's been a good many years since there has been an alumni drive for a student project. And a Student Union building would be the most worthwhile contribution that alumni could make at this time.

-R. H. G.

## **Missing Links**

Where, oh where were the College students?

They missed the send-off for the basketball keam and they stayed home from the All-College mass meeting. Still they expect the team to tight for State's glory and they holler when student leaders are not to their liking.

Is it too much to ask that students support reams that help build a good reputation for the Collego? Is it wishful thinking when they are expected to know students who will lead them in their student affairs next year?

Sales of all typewriters are now restricted by government order 

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