

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

Established 1940. Successor to the Penn State Collegian, established 1904, and the Free Lance, established 1837. 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 6, 1934 at the Post-office at State College, Pa., under the act of March 3, 1879.

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Friday, May 8, 1942

What About Graft?

So you think there's plenty of graft on campus? Remember the stories you've heard about the days when the IFC prexy, the Froth editor, and the Collegian business manager made enough money to retire or take a trip to Europe.

But did you ever stop to think that maybe the story has changed? That careful auditing of funds and wise handling of money have just about made the graft hound a thing of the past?

Those few who think that Penn State is still living in the loose, old regime are in for a bit of a surprise, and it is to those few that the next several paragraphs are dedicated.

First of all, a sharp distinction must be made between class funds and student activity funds. Class funds are exactly what they imply and are supervised by the class treasurer and the Interclass Finance Board working in conjunction with Neil M. Fleming at the Athletic Association office.

Class funds come from student fees and from profits of any functions such as the class dances. By working through a budget, there is seldom any money remaining in the treasury when the class graduates. For example, this year's senior class treasurer spent \$1,800 for rental of caps and gowns, and several months ago a large part of the Senior Ball profits were given to the Thespian Mobile Units to use in conjunction with the entertainment of soldiers in neighboring Army camps.

All these class funds are subject to close accounting and auditing throughout the four years that they are in the class treasury. After each class dance, an extensive report is issued showing all expenses and receipts. Not only is this report checked carefully by the Interclass Finance Board, but it is also released for public inspection by The Daily Collegian.

Then, where does the money for the class gift originate? It was explained above that the class funds were budgeted so that the treasury would break "clean" when the class graduates.

Simply enough, the money for each class gift is set aside in the form of a damage fund, which might be spent during the four years when it is necessary to repair something that has been wrecked as a result of excessive enthusiasm on the part of the students.

However, the average Penn State class has pacifist tendencies, and the damage fund usually remains almost completely intact. For this reason, the so-called damage fund is transformed into the class gift at the end of four years.

All in all, the story sounds decidedly simple. Through careful supervision and auditing, graft is practically impossible with regard to both class funds and money spent by student government under the control of the Interclass Finance Board.

The Other Story

With class money out of the way, the other funds to be considered are those controlled by student activities such as IFC, IMA, and publications. It was in this division that the greatest amount of graft scandal occurred a few years ago.

However, through the initiative of several of these student organizations which wished to safeguard their funds, Cabinet passed legislation requiring that all student organizations represented on Cabinet must submit their funds for accounting through Fleming's office.

Under this present method of control, graft seekers have been stunned with a blight that will be difficult to shake off.



Through The Needle's Eye

Off The Beam

We were up at the Judgment Bar the other day, cooling off, and Peter came up and said that there was a little measuring worm outside the gate that wanted to talk to us. We asked the camel about this immeasurably insignificant piece of protoplasm, and he scraped his way through the needle's eye; so we decided to pay a little attention.

This little Ferdinand Worm kid was crawling around spouting about the Summer semester somewhere in a place called State College. We don't know where that is, but it must be somewhere outside the Universe, because they talk about national defense, but they don't take many defense courses. They talk about the need of recreation during these times of stress, but they don't bother about defense stamps when they go to dances.

Well, we listened to Ferdy Worm talk for a while until we heard a pretty silly inconsistency; so we decided that Ferdy Worm was off the beam. First, he says that the ones with the tough schedules are going to get it in the neck anyway, so why bother. Then he said that honoraries should cut down on activities.

That seemed fair enough until we looked at a paper called The Daily Collegian, which seemed to know what was going on in this State College place. Yesterday, on page four, is said that Mortar Board, a collection of sincere women, was going to have a BIG dance and then Ferdy told me that this money was to be used for scholarships for needy students. Ferdy liked this.

It all seemed pretty silly to us. Here is this perfectly good college worried because not enough of its students are taking advantage of this Summer semester through lack of money. The student body doesn't worry about national defense at all but makes a lot of money on a dance. It strikes us that if the members of Mortar Board, who are supposed to be pretty keen apples would do what Ferdy said and cut down on activities, they might be able to do something more valuable than piddling around knocking themselves out to raise \$300 chasing Li'l Abner.

No, Ferdy, we just can't understand a school that doesn't immediately think of using a source of revenue like Junior Prom to help themselves, and is still willing to devote its best womens' brains to a relatively unimportant affair, from the standpoint of results.

We think Ferdy ought to forget his picnics and see the Junior Prom committee about using that money right away.

—GABRIEL

Library Shows Legal Dockets

Parchment legal documents from the collection of Professor Asa E. Martin, head of the history department, are now on exhibition in the Library.

Included in the collection are English indentures of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries; legal documents of Pennsylvania; and papers bearing signatures of signers of the Declaration of Independence.

A clay tablet dated 2350 B. C. is the earliest legal report. On it is inscribed the receipt of three goats and three calves as an offering at the temple of Bel in Nippur.

Material on lotteries sponsored by the United States Government is also included in the display. Such lotteries were conducted to raise funds for the construction of roads, canals, schools, and hospitals.

This practice was so popular that in Pennsylvania alone nearly a hundred churches were built wholly or partially with profits from lotteries before 1833 when laws were enacted to prohibit them.

Blackout

(Continued from Page One) a raid, the Control Center can immediately take over the job of directing the defense of the city.

The protection staff in State College, is not yet fully equipped because of shortages and priorities. However, the orders for the material has been placed, and shipments are coming in from time to time. Until the proper equipment is on hand, the staff has been trained to deal with any emergency with any available material.

One example of this kind of substitution is the care of incendiary bombs. Recommended for use on these bombs is a stirrup pump. Since none are available, with little likelihood of a sufficient supply in the near future, incendiaries are dealt with by means of sand.

Further details concerning the blackout will be published in the local paper after the Defense Council meeting Tuesday and final plans have been approved.

Prof's Son Instructs

Pvt. William S. Casselberry, former student at the College, has been appointed an instructor in the radio fundamentals division at the radio school at Scott Field, Ill.

Son of Professor and Mrs. R. D. Casselberry, Pvt. Casselberry spent this past weekend with his parents, having graduated from the school.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

TODAY

Seniors can obtain their Caps and Gowns at the Athletic Store today and tomorrow from 9 a. m. to 8 p. m. upon presentation of receipt.

Players' Show, "Mr. and Mrs. North," Schwab Auditorium, 8:30 p. m.

MISCELLANEOUS

All seniors must show their matriculation cards when they receive their diplomas.

All seniors who have not called for their graduation invitations and announcements should do so at once at Student Union.

Students having completed Defense courses may obtain their certificates at Student Union.

Show Decrease Infirmaries Cases

The number of patients and the number of bed days for the Infirmary for April is approximately half the total for April last year. Seventy-eight patients were treated there last month, and the bed days totalled 229.

Dispensary totals show an upward trend, the number of calls exceeding by 200 those made for the corresponding period last year. The total for April was 3,977. Total number of excuses for the period is up more than 300, numbering 1,098.

ROTC Signal Corps Unit Plans Still Tentative

"As yet I have no official word from the War Department regarding the proposal for the establishing of a signal corps ROTC unit at Penn State," said Col. E. D. Ardery, head of the military science and tactics, last night.

The War Department first suggested this plan last Saturday and the Council of Administration approved the proposal Monday. It is now up to the war department to give the final word.

"I expect to hear from them concerning the matter within the very near future," Col. Ardery stated.

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