

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Editor **Gordon Coy '43** Bus. and Adv. Mgr. **Leonard E. Bach '43**

Editorial and Business Office: Carnegie Hall Phone 711 Downtown Office: 119-121 South Frazier St. Phone 4372

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Wednesday, June 17, 1942

NYA Faces Crisis

By threatening to discontinue NYA aid for needy students before July 1, the national government is following a policy that has been the basis of great concern among many Penn State students.

During past Summers, many of these students have had the opportunity to engage in outside employment, where they could earn enough money to defray a substantial part of their college education. By choosing to remain in college this Summer, however, these students have not only replied to a national request to complete their education early, but they have also left themselves wide open to financial problems.

We do not believe that the government will cancel all forms of student aid, but some plan will have to be worked out before the fiscal year closes at the end of this month.

In the past, NYA aid has been available to all needy students regardless of the course in which they were enrolled. If NYA is continued, there is reason to believe that the aid will be distributed in much the same manner as it has been in the past. But too, there is a strong possibility that government aid during the next fiscal year may be limited to students who are pursuing courses that are an essential cog in America's wartime machine.

When President Roosevelt asked Congress for an appropriation of more than 13 billion dollars to cover Federal loans to needy students, he was referring to students enrolled in the fields of medicine, dentistry, chemistry, physics, engineering, and pharmacy.

This was one of the first indications that government help would be offered to a limited field. If this plan for student loans is accepted by Congress, it will mean that the present NYA setup will be killed.

The proposed new appropriation, according to reports from Washington, would be made to the U. S. Office of Education, which would then make the student loans. Persons receiving loans would have to agree that upon completion of their training they would take employment or service assigned by federal agencies.

Congressional debate on this question has reached a high pitch, and there are still hopes that the old form of NYA aid may be continued, and not substituted by the new loan plan. By discontinuing the present form of NYA, the government will force definite hardship on non-technical students, but in times of national emergency, the government, through necessity, must appropriate its funds in the direction that will realize the greatest direct benefit.

More Money Problems

While we are delving into the Federal government's money problems, it may be of interest to note just how the national ledger will shape up at the close of the fiscal year on June 30.

War spending in May reached a new all-time high of \$3,750,000,000 and the figures for June are expected to skyrocket to the four billion mark, bringing the total defense spending for the past year to 26 billion dollars. Add an additional seven billion to this figure and the total of 33 billions will give you a small idea of the cost of operating a war-time government.

Incidentally, the national public debt has now soared to the staggering height of 77 billion dollars, in contrast to the public debt of 26 billions at the close of the first World War.

A Worm's Eye View . . .



The air raid wardens in this town are right on the beam. They station themselves all over the town, so that if a bomb drops into someone's garage and they happen to be passing by at the time, they go and tell some messenger about it. Then the messenger telephones the tidings to the fire department from a designated house. (If the designated house happens to be the one that was bombed, he's in an awful fix.)

So the fire department gets the news and puts a little button on a map showing the spot that was struck. If it is felt that medical treatment is needed, another button is put on the map. (There are also buttons for fires, policemen, pall bearers, and minor cuts and bruises.)

The entire staff then goes into a huddle to talk the thing over, and by the time the house has burned down, somebody has been assigned to assign somebody to go to the little spot to see what he can see. It's all very efficient and well-planned.

Since this looks like a mean crack at someone, maybe we'd better add that we think it's mighty fine for the persons involved in this blackout business to volunteer their services. It takes a lot of spare time and energy that they can hardly afford in these accelerated days.

But even while we're being nice about it, we can't help thinking that as long as they're going to spend some spare time on it, they may as well do something that will give them a feeling of accomplishment. Maybe they already feel accomplished, but that's even worse.

And Now For Some Dribble—

One of the ensigns told us yesterday that Penn State was hospitable enough for someone to mention the fact. So we're mentioning the fact. We might add that colleges, especially in this day and age, can't afford to be otherwise. We might also say that this ensign thinks the coeds here are perhaps a little too hospitable for the good of the ensigns' dignity. We don't know what he meant, either. You figure it out.

Having heard that our campus is the second most beautiful one in the country, we've been having a hell of a time finding out which one comes first. Maybe if someone would give our waste paper baskets a coat of paint, we'd be first.

After the All-College Sing last Friday, a group of students gathered on the porch of Old Main and sang together until it started to rain. This pleased us. Not the rain, the singing. It's always raining at Penn State, but it isn't often that people sing. We'd like to hear more of it.

This reminds us of the fact that the guys who read this column say we're always talking about the weather. In keeping with our reputation, we'd like to say that we've been here a good many Summers and that it rains at least once a day, regularly, at about 5:30 p. m. during the week and twice on Sundays. This is for the benefit of those impractical people who want to get suntanned.

Keep your eyes buckled for Scabbard and Blade with its little pop-gun holsters.

—FERDY

Faculty Promotions

(Continued from Page One)

School of Mineral Industries: effective July 1, C. C. Wright, from associate professor to professor of fuel technology.

Resignations were accepted from the following: H. C. Rountree, assistant supervisor in central extension, to accept a position at University of Illinois.

Max Dercum, instructor in forestry, to accept a position with the U. S. Forest Service.

G. W. O'Brien, instructor in English composition, to enter the armed forces.

E. L. Cleveland, instructor in physics, to accept a position at Wright Field.

P. F. Spremulli, instructor in physics, to accept a position with Fairchild Engine and Airplane Corporation.

Clifford M. Lewis, associate publications editor in the department of public information, to enter Jesuit novitiate at Wernersville in preparation for the priesthood, effective September 1.

New appointments listed were: Charles M. Graff, to be assistant supervisor of informal instruction, Central Extension.

Robert J. McCall, assistant professor of agricultural engineering extension.

John E. Walters, instructor in physics; Robert W. Schiessler, instructor in chemistry; Theodore Karhan, instructor in music; and John R. Low, Jr., instructor in metallurgy.

CAMPUS CALENDAR Ag Conference

TODAY

Penn State Engineering Staff meeting, 314 Old Main, 9 p. m. All candidates for staff positions are invited to attend.

WRA Bridge Club meeting, White Hall playroom, 6:30 p. m. WRA Bowling Club meets, White Hall bowling alleys, 6:30 p. m.

WRA Badminton Club meeting, first floor lounge, White Hall, 7 p. m. Freshmen and teachers invited.

WRA Swimming Club meeting, White Hall swimming pool, 7:30 p. m.

WRA Dance Club meeting, White Hall Rhythm Room, 4 p. m. Mortar Board meeting, Miss Bentley's apartment, 5 p. m.

Frosh men's basketball candidates, Rec Hall, 6:30 p. m. WRA Outing Club, 3 White House of Representatives meets

(Continued on Page Two)

ace Hamilton, head of the department of rural sociology at North Carolina State College, discuss "What's Ahead for Rural America?"

The conference of state farm leaders will continue tomorrow with a similar program.

in 318 Old Main, 5 p. m.

ROTC Band meeting, 117 Carnegie Hall, 7:45 p. m.

Tryouts for Players' show, "The Little Foxes," 312 Old Main, 7:30 p. m. Students should sign for reading at Student Union.

TOMORROW

'46 Independent Organization meeting, 315 Old Main, 7 p. m.

WRA Golf Club meeting, Holmes Field, 6:30 p. m.

WRA Outing Club, 3 White House of Representatives meets Hall, 6:30 p. m.

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