

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Friday, July 3, 1942

Very Sorry, But . . .

Penn State's right to consider itself a democratic institution is being endangered.

The danger is coming, not from the complications of the third semester or the accelerated wartime program—we can weather them all right. The blot on our record springs from a decision of the College Examiner's Office.

The Examiner's Office has refused to accept the transfer applications of two American citizens—otherwise entirely acceptable—because of the students' Japanese parentage.

These are the facts:

On May 1, one of the College employees obtained two student transfer application blanks, giving the records—but not the names—of the prospective transfers. The clerk suggested that since the time (until May 18) was so short, that these students send their credentials and then "come on without waiting to hear from this office." She gave assurance that with the students' excellent scholastic record at the University of Washington, there would be no question of their admission.

The two students in question received the application blanks, filled them out, and returned them to the College, together with a recommendation from their pastor.

At this point they made their only mistake—they signed their names.

The College Examiner's office answered the applications on May 12 with a flowery "sorry but." At a time when all College departments were being notified to expect a 35 per cent drop in enrollment, the brother and sister were told that admitting any more out-of-state students would be preventing admission of Pennsylvanians.

Although out-of-state transfer students' applications for admission to the Summer semester were still being accepted this week, the two students were refused on May 12 because "the out-of-state quota has already been filled."

The politely-worded refusal was merely the diplomatic way of backing out, for on May 16 the College Examiner admitted that it was really the Japanese parentage of these American citizens—not any "out-of-state quota"—that prevented their admission. He added that if it were not for the "present situation," there would be no question about their entrance into Penn State.

To use the "present situation" as an excuse for discriminating against certain of our citizens is to lose the battle before we have a chance to win it.

If American citizens are to be barred from the College because their parents belonged to an enemy nation, what about the hundreds of citizen-students whose parents come from Germany or Italy?

If students are to be barred either because of their parents' affiliations or their own race, how can Penn State possibly consider itself a democratic institution?

The matter is of such importance that higher College authority will undoubtedly make a decision and establish a definite policy for situations of this nature.

We hope that the policy—when it comes—will be in the interests of Penn State traditions of fairness, justice, and democracy.

—L. T. C.



Through The Needle's Eye

We've been sitting in front of our typewriter trying to think of a column, and all that surges through our mind is the idea that tomorrow is Independence Day, that flags will wave, and many voices, loud and weak, will say: "Democracy."

We've been trying to ignore this. No. No. Don't talk about "democracy" or some such term as that. Meaningless. Try to write about something on campus, something that you can see. Our typewriter looks at us and says: "Qwertyuiop, write about something you can see."

Yeah.

We're looking at the campus now, but all we can see is a memory of two girls standing in front of a yellow sign in Old Main last year. One said: "Look! Barney Ewell was tapped for Skull and Bones. They can't do that!" We can see Barney Ewell in the New Cumberland induction camp this past week, on his way to run the gauntlet for independence. Maybe that's "democracy."

Well, maybe.

We can see an advertisement in this paper: "Double room for rent. Two Gentile boys, close to campus." It seems to us that we're looking at the campus, but all we can see is that word "democracy." The typewriter winks at us with all forty-six eyes and says: "O.K. Write a column and harangue the folks about democracy. Tell them it's not the word that counts; it's what they are doing."

No.

We don't want to do that. You don't have to tell people things that they can see themselves. We see a guy on the Corner and he tells us a rumor—strictly a rumor, you understand—that the boys on Locust Lane are gathering to put a freshman candidate for clique chairman out of business. Maybe that's what this "democracy" means.

That may be, but our fingers get a little stiff on the keys when we write about it. Of course, we see other things, too—things more pleasing to our mental palate. The executive committee of Victory Weekend tells us that the name band for the big affair is being made possible by the donation of over a thousand dollars by a Penn State student who wants to help make the Army-Navy relief affair a success. Maybe that's "democracy."

Tomorrow is Independence Day. Anybody can see that by looking at the date on the nearest newspaper, right above the war headlines. Tomorrow the loud and weak voices will be saying: "Democracy." They'll say: "We've got a job to do."

We've got a job to do—"democracy." Hmmm. Yeah. Yeah, that's it. —GABRIEL

Reserve Officers Programs Clarified

(Continued from Page One)
their draft boards before applying for enlistment in one of the Officers' Reserve Branches will be out of luck in the future.

An instance of this kind occurred the other day when a Penn State student was turned down by the V-7 examining board on campus because he had been notified by his draft board that he was to be inducted into the Army next Saturday. The V-7 representatives explained that the Navy Reserve will not interfere with the work and functioning of the local draft boards once the individual has been notified of his impending induction. Consequently, the aforementioned student will enter the Army as a private next week.

Probably the only remaining alternative for this student would be to apply for enlistment in the Army Air Force Reserve, which because of the enormous demand still existing for aviation cadets, will accept anyone who can pass the required examinations.

According to one of the latest bulletins from the War Department, students who formerly applied for enlistment in the Air

CAMPUS CALENDAR

TODAY

Games and fun on the Midway.

TOMORROW

Soapbox derby between Burrows and Allen on W. College, 10:30 a. m.

Pet show on the Midway at 2 p. m.

Unveiling of the State College Honor Roll of men in the services, S. Allen street, at 2:30 p. m.

Parade at 6 p. m.

Awarding of the \$1,000 war bond on the Midway at 11 p. m.

Force Reserve and were rejected because of defective vision, will be eligible for re-examination for glider pilot training. The Army Air Force Reserve will accept students with 21-100 vision, providing it can be corrected to 20-20.

Lieut. H. S. Engart of the Third Corps Area Aviation Examining Board will return to Penn State next Monday and Tuesday to examine new candidates for the Army Air Force. Interviews will be held in 407 Old Main from 9:30 a. m. to 5:30 p. m. daily during the two-day period.

"Winning Your Wings" and other air force and military films will be shown for students in 121

Ag Hill At War

COEDS BECOME 'HAIRPIN ENGINEERS'

One of the last strongholds of manhood in Penn State has been brushed away.

Agricultural engineering, long unmarred by the enrollment of coeds, went feminine last semester as part of the School of Agriculture's program of cooperation in the war effort.

Introduced into the Ag School was a course known as agricultural engineering 15, designed to give coeds practical experience in the care and repair of household mechanical equipment.

The course was instituted to help "future housewives" make the around-the-home repairs that the men used to putter away at before Pearl Harbor and the draft.

Its importance was emphasized by the shortage of materials that has stopped sale of new equipment. "Rejuvenating the broken-down sweeper is far more important now that there are no new ones at the nearest department store," David C. Sprague, associate professor of agricultural engineering, who directed the course, explained.

Chief value of Ag Eng 15, ac-

ording to Sprague, is that it goes a step farther than the average "defense course for women."

"It's more than just a lecture and demonstration course," he added. "The girls really let their hair down, put on their slacks, and wield the monkey wrench."

The 35 coeds taking the hairpin engineering course last semester got a chance to try everything from fixing a farm pump to splicing a light cord.

Soldering, sawing, driving nails, changing tires—things that men did when men were available—were all taught in the course.

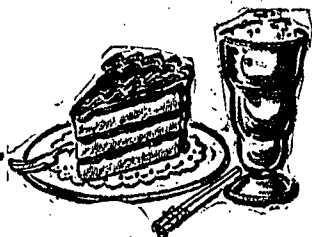
Included also were many of the things that most males would hesitate to start—changing oil filters, cutting glass for window panes, and soldering.

Not included in the Summer semester schedule, Agricultural Engineering 15 will be offered again during the Fall term, when necessary equipment can again be assembled.

Ag School engineering grads, returning for Alumni Day this Fall, will once more be haunted by the sign:

"Ag Engineering 15 Inside—No Men Wanted For the Duration."

The Best In Town



The

CORNER

Unusual

Summer Session

Students

for

HEALTH and RELAXATION

Join The

RIDING CLUB



Privately-Owned Horses Can Be Boarded At Reasonable Rates

PENN STATE RIDING CLUB

(Only Riding Club On Campus)