

# THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Saturday Morning, February 20, 1943.

## Newspapers Have Gremlins

For the millions who are slightly pixy-minded, the discovery of the gremlins, those devilish little sprites who mess things up for the fliers of the royal air force, has provided one of the major excitements of the war. Come to think of it, it is as easy to believe in gremlins as in banshees and leprechauns or in any of the creatures that dance across the pages of that fine Irish writer, Mr. James Stephens.

But gremlins were not enough. The alert though sometimes exasperating minds that conduct the radio industry have come forward with their set of cute little people. These are called grohms. One type of grohm, the slobnik, "louses up" the copy of scrip writers; another, the laffnix, flattens the lines of comedians; still another, the foobus, makes noises in microphones. This, also, is an interesting discovery, sure to provide much merriment among the people of radio, to whom laughter comes rather easily.

But why the excitement? Journalism itself has long had its own set of little rascals who for generations have messed up one thing or another. Various phenomena observed in newspaper offices leads to the inescapable conclusion that journalism is haunted by as pernicious a set of strange folk as ever harassed an airplane pilot or made life in a radio studio miserable.

These troublemakers have been tentatively named mergenfellers, and they come in many guises. Most puckish of the lot, perhaps, are the eternally playful twins, etain and shrdlu, who have great fun sliding up and down the keyboard of linotype machines. They can inject a note of nonsense and confusion into the most solemn discourse.

There are the slantites, the tiniest and meanest of them all, who have been known to bite all the members of the newspaper staff, from publisher to copy boy, giving them a depressing low-grade infection known as slantitis. Victims are afraid of straight facts; they hoot at the ideal of objectivity; everything they touch must be given a "slant" or an "angle." In time they begin to walk sideways. The final result is almost always fatal.

Then there are the fixpixies, who are responsible for putting the picture of Mrs. Plantagenet in the spot where a cut of Lizzie the Chimp was supposed to go; the cackling old greeleybums, who cause people to write unintelligible or abusive letters to the editor; the orthogreves, who fight on the shoulders of reporters and rewrite men and make them incapable of spelling names right—particularly in the matter of middle initials. The list is long.

We recommend that the Nieman foundation at Harvard, which is studying the problems of journalism, make a definite report on the mergenfellers.

\* \* \* \*

Editorial sent to the Daily Collegian by William J. Reed '27, former editor of the Penn State Collegian. It originally appeared in the New York Herald Tribune.



## Lion Tales

By M. J. WINTER

Ah, Spring. It's really here, it seems. Of course, the weatherman probably has his schedule made out for a blizzard next weekend, but in the meantime, students are coming out of hibernation. The signs of Spring are really here—coeds and hot-dogs lounging over Old Main steps, surveyors out on the job, and Walt Gerson really giving the coeds, one at least, a thrill on the way to class. It must be true that the season brings that feeling to everyone.

## Rings, Pins, Etc.

Senior class prexy Rube Faloon tied the knot yesterday with his hometown girl, and they're back in town already . . . Back to the Nittany Valley for their honeymoon, too, are Red Caputo, phikappajau alum, and bride . . . Harry Bland, Penn State Club vice-prexy and Ann Carter Scrugg will tie the knot March 1 . . . Bob Ross planted a diamond on a Wellesley glamour girl last weekend . . . Among the pin jobs of late are Betty Thomas, achio, to Bob Booth, achisig . . . Blanche Edeiken to a Penn alum . . . Dick Duffie, betasig . . . and the kdrs are minus one more pin now that Johnny Grimes turned over his jewelry to Bev Moses, achio . . . 674 reports, too, that Connie Halberstadt and Warren Currier, pikappaphi, are unpinned but adds that it probably won't last.

## Here And There

The Curtiss-Wright girls made out last night with a dance at the Lion. The Cub hasn't the latest reports on any excitement, but if Penn State wolves are in their usual form, who knows? . . . Speaking of wolves, the boys in the Army must be worrying. According to a classified ad in the best morning newspaper in the county, they don't trust the boys still hanging around. In case you didn't see it, it said, "WANTED—All State wolves to leave my third floor Irvin girl alone for the duration. Thank you. A. U. S. Army Phi Kappa Sigma." There will, no doubt, be a door to door canvass of said dorm looking for the lonely coed . . . The boys over at the sae housing are expecting a big-time jam session next weekend. Seems Les Brown and the band took them up on an invitation to rest their weary bones there after Soph Hop.

Not wanting to revert to 60 dollar words or stick out an innocent neck as is the custom of fellow-columnists, The Cub gives up at this point, with the hot tip that Players' next show will be an old-fashioned melodrama—"Love Rides The Rails or Will The Mail Train Get Through Tonight?" —The Cub.

## Amaya Leaves Halls 'Smouldering Ruins'

Balletophiles who prefer the flit-and-leap diversions of swans and sylphs in woodland glens may shiver at the contrast which the dancing of Carmen Amaya presents. Nevertheless, she has been hailed as the best in her line since the day of that paragon of paragons, La Argentina.

Since her arrival in America early in 1941, Carmen has erupted in every entertainment field with phenomenal success. At the Beachcomber on Broadway she spent seventeen consecutive weeks rooting the spectators with her amazing spins and whirls and sprinkling the surrounding tables with bobby-pins as her raven hair became unleashed.

Next came engagements in theatres in a series of eastern cities, after which she invaded austere Carnegie Hall and according to witnesses "left it a smouldering ruin." Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer claimed her for the dance sequence of the forthcoming super-musical, "Panama Hattie"; after which she flew back to Broadway to headline the Ed Wynn laugh hit, "Laugh, Town, Laugh."

The Amaya tribe, originally from the gypsy caves of Granada, Spain, migrated to South America in 1936, where their success was signaled by having a theatre named after them. The oodles of money they make, as it does with most Gypsies, slips away except for investments in diamonds and furs—for which Carmen has a passion. Lounging about the house in pajamas, she sometimes wears over them a covering of mink or chinchilla.

## Buy War Bonds And Stamps

## We, The Women Are Coeds Bending Or Haven't They Begun?

If coeds are bending down, two, three, four, and if WRA representatives are still offering to direct the exercises each night, a person would never know it.

One of several conditions might be in existence.

Either the approximate 1,000 women on campus are being awfully quiet about their fitness program or two or three are participating and are bashful about saying that they like it.

Either WRA has given it up as an impossible venture or its representatives are getting tired of showing up to instruct an empty corridor.

Whatever the cause, there has been no report of its progress, its failure, even its start.

It was three weeks ago that the announcement was made, and evidently coeds used their first 15 minutes laughing about it and, incidentally, forgetting it.

Those same 1,000 women have been complaining that they need exercise to reduce or athletic action to build them up. Those two or three to which we referred are no doubt the same few who visit White Hall frequently.

WRA is that recreational nucleus that has tried several times to plan a worthwhile program of physical fitness which women have requested. It is the organization which has sponsored leadership training in body mechanics classes to fit instructors for the 15-minute intermissions.

Too many of the projects sponsored by and for women have taken the same flop without reason.

If we're going to bend, let's do it more than once, so that some good may be derived. If we're going to discontinue the scheduled set-up, let's hear about it.

## Campus News Briefs

### Sponsors Cabin Party

Interchurch Council invites all student organizations to be represented at a party at the PSCA cabin today and tomorrow, according to Cleo C. Mellott, council president. Miss Ione V. Sikes will lead discussion groups. Persons interested in attending should meet at Wesley Foundation at 1:30 this afternoon, and should bring blankets and 50 cents, Miss Mellott said.

### Go-op To Hold Party

Nittany Co-op will hold a party in honor of George Washington's birthday at 8 o'clock tonight. Members of the Allen Co-op have been invited to the party.

### Forestry Society Elects

Thomas Blatt was named vice-president of the Forestry Society during a recent meeting, LeRoy Schaller, head of the organization said last night. Blatt fills a vacancy made by the recent induction of one of the club's officers.

### Russians To Meet

All members of Alpha Rho Omega, National Russian Club on campus, are urged to attend an important business meeting in 318 Old Main, 2:30 p. m. tomorrow.

### College Releases Bulletin

The College yesterday released a new edition of The Pennsylvania State College Bulletin titled Pathways to Service. The pamphlet was published as a service to women who are planning to enter college, and will be sent to coeds who apply for admission for the summer semester.

## CAMPUS CALENDAR

### TODAY

Exhibition of Jewish art and ceremonial objects at the Hillel Foundation. Also Sunday.

The Cabin Conference group will leave from Wesley Foundation. Dr. Max Artz, professor at the foundation, 1:30 p. m.

Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, guest speaker at Hillel Foundation at 3 p. m. Sunday.

WRA Intramural Chairman meeting, WRA room, 11 a. m.

Thespian Tryouts for piano players, Schwab, 1 p. m.

MI Society Meeting at Art Gallery, Feb. 25, Thursday.

Students attending Interchurch Council cabin party meet at Wesley Foundation, 1:30 p. m.

### TOMORROW

Russian Club meets, 318 Old Main, 2:30 p. m.

Father Charles Owens Rice, director of St. Joseph House of Hospitality in Pittsburgh, will speak on "The Dynamite of True Christianity" at Chapel.

### MONDAY

Central Pennsylvania Meteorological Seminar will meet in 121 Mineral Industries from 7:00 to 9:00 p. m.


## Students Will Register

(Continued from Page One)

Headquarters in the Armory will be open during the lunch-hour for the benefit of those who have all hours between 8 a. m. and 5 p. m. filled with scheduled classes.

This registration is for College students, graduate and undergraduates, who are not members of a Family unit within the limits of Ration Board No. 26142 of Centre County. Mr. Clark stated that students will find it comparative easy to register, since many of the rationed quantities such as canned goods will not apply to them but will be accounted for by the College.

**THE BAND ALL AMERICA WANTS TO HEAR!**



**MCA PRESENTS**

**IN PERSON**

**LES BROWN**

**AND HIS FAMOUS ORCHESTRA**

AT

**SOPH HOP**

Feb. 26 Adm. \$3.85