

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Wednesday, April 7, 1943.

A Matter Of The Past

Climax of the student move for abolition of final exams this semester, ending with the decision that final exam week will be held as scheduled, brings to light the age-old teacher-student differences.

In younger days of many students, the teacher was the person who stood in front of the room and made pupils do exercises which they often dreaded. Many were the times, perhaps, when the classroom disagreed with what the teacher was trying to get across and regarded it more as medicine which had to be taken rather than something which would prove of valuable use later in life.

Shifting the time years later when the same pupils are in college, and the place to a college not as democratic as Penn State, one would find, possibly some traces of the same attitude. But now that the student is in college he knows of means to protest.

At some colleges, where students aren't as level-headed as Penn Staters, students stage demonstrations.

Now change the scene to Penn State. Many students felt that this wartime semester could well go without finals, and with mass support from other students, decided to take steps to change the plan.

But Penn State wet about it in a better way.

Penn State's students decided to draw up a letter to department heads and deans telling how they felt; they originated a petition in the Liberal Arts School Council, had it sanctioned by the other school councils, and presented it to the President. Arguments for the student plan appeared in this column.

The proposal failed. In fact, many persons would agree that such a late change would be detrimental, while it might have succeeded if proposed earlier in the semester or better, last semester.

Although the College thought finals best, and defeated the proposal, administrative heads were impressed by the orderly manner in which the campaign for abolition of finals was conducted. The movement didn't rub anyone the wrong way. It was purely a project which students sincerely believed in, and tried to foster. If nothing else, they learned the best way to go about voicing their opinions. Their methods helped smooth the way for something later which the College might be more apt to sanction.

They tried the democratic way. They were heard by the President of the College. They had the matter adjudicated. And even though the plan couldn't be, they felt they had tried.

This editorial will have to end now. The matter is settled. Besides, the writer, has to study for final exams.

Dig Still Deeper

The Red Cross is going to make one last try. The State College area, including the campus, is still several hundred dollars short of the quota set for this area. The town drive was a success, and the campus drive, although it didn't hit the

A Lean and Hungry Look

By Milton Dolinger

Sancho Panza, lackey and companion to Don Quixote, and somewhat of an oracle according to the Duchess, speaketh: "I never in my life drank for any bad purpose; for thirst, perhaps, I have, as I am no hypocrite." The good Sancho's wit will be specially applicable to this blissful haven come weekend, albeit there will still be a cloak of hypocrisy covering Penn State drinking. If, like Quixote's equerry, everyone admitted he had "thirst," mayhap the odium of secretive Bacchanalia with mixed drinking would be diffused. We believe no one drinks for any bad purpose—except when the pall of ignorance is present, as is the case here. Knowledge of events always forestalls unpredictable occurrences, and should all concerned come into the open, then orgiastic "big weekend" revels could be cut in twain.

The earth-bound airmen have turned out to be quite agreeable, in spite of the fact that they eye coeds in the way the wolves and Shere Kahn eyed Mowgli at the Pack Meeting by the Council Rock. 'Tis at best a vicarious pleasure, and we're sure the females will voice no complaints. . . Apropos of the Air Corps is their entertainment, and speaking of entertainment, 'twas with distinct displeasure we read the Thespians' report that this weekend's opus will be the last for the duration. That's hardly helping "the war effort," especially when we know the Players plan to continue as long as possible with their retinue of shows—which is, after all, their distinctive contribution to that self-same effort.

Along similar digressions is the overwhelming selfish and pessimistic attitude of the students and their self-styled leaders with regard to the social functions of this semester being the last for the omnipresent and overworked duration. Their little world begins and ends with their own pet pleasures. Know you then that the College plans to continue indefinitely without any major deviations from normalcy, and there will still be a great many students hibernating here as before. Prithoe, preface your blurbs, O hedonistic moths, with the statement that your excesses will be the last for you only.

Selection of a committee of nine '45-ers to pick the 20 outstanding Seniors appears to have had the result of making the unfortunate Senior Independents plan for a mass hejira to the wailing wall. For the nine good selectors and true are all staunch Campus luminaries. Their list, doubtless without a doubt, will prove to be most interesting. Wot?

Sh-h! Walk softly. The dreaded spectre of final exams has finally assumed human form through the ectoplasm of President Hetzel's irrevocable statement . . . there will be gambling on the green for joy at this—professors only, please.

Potpourri: Ted Roethke, now at Bennington, achieved a poem in this week's "New Yorker" by name "Germinal." Would make a swell remembrance . . . Apparently it took a war to get males into White Hall. We see by yesterday's paper that the air corps is welcome there this weekend. It also said "as well as those enrolled in the College are invited. . ." Does that mean US, too? . . . The military honoraries feel that this paper doesn't pay them the attention they deserve, as witness a recent letter. We should be hearing any day now from the Clover Club or the Deutscher Verein. But, never fear, the advertising staff will welcome you gleefully. Ah, yes, the customers always write. . . A bit of whimsy, things look black for Senior Ball. . . We must be gone and live or stay and die.

\$5,000 mark set for it, went over fairly well. However, there are persons who have not contributed yet.

And even if a contribution has been made, the campaign chairmen are asking for just a little more. "Give A Nickel" will be the slogan of the anti-climax of the campaign.

Tired of hearing about the Red Cross drive? Well, give a nickel to help reach the area quota and no more will be said.

Buy War Bonds And Stamps

We, The Women Quota System Is On Greeks' Fire; Coeds Must Seriously Consider It

Panhellenic Council met last night for an informative talk on the quota system. They heard the advantages and disadvantages of the restrictive means used on so many university campuses throughout the nation. They heard about how a quota system would insure a start for the smaller, struggling sororities. They heard how it would equalize Greek groups. They heard how it would stop some of the cut-throat competition that is so prevalent in rushing seasons.

They heard how it would possibly put limits on a now democratic system. They heard how it may keep some coeds away from the groups since the limit might not include them. They heard how it might tend to cramp the style of the larger and already established organizations.

They heard some of the testimonies of those who have seen it in action elsewhere.

Then they asked questions. And that's what Greeks all over the campus should be doing with the quota system until the next Panhellenic meeting.

Sisters will hear their prexies discuss it at their next chapter meetings. Instead of arguing aimlessly about a subject of which they have just heard and not known, Greeks should ask questions, find out what it's all about, and then discuss it intelligently.

A few rambling comments have been that it would be a valuable move on a campus of this size where activities are so numerous and where women have so much to do. Someone has said that it would make rushing more of a pleasure than a strain.

Another commentator mentioned that no system was needed since the problem was a personal one and should be dealt with by indi-

vidual groups themselves. Still others suggest that it would help in housing coeds in their senior years when it is most desirable to live in the sorority house or suite.

The semester which is up 'n' coming is one in which women will play a large part. They will take over the duties of men who have left for the armed services. They will come to exert their influence over the College student body and no longer over a small coed group.

Therefore their moves within these next few weeks and months must be wise ones. They must think slowly and steadily about the slightest things that come up. Thinking now will prevent mistakes later.

Air Corps cadets who requested issues of The Daily Collegian published on the morning after their arrival can get those papers at Student Union.

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"AND COCA-COLA. FIRST COKES IN 3 MONTHS."

"LOOK FELLOWS. SAME KIND OF BOTTLE WE USED TO GET BACK HOME."

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