

THE COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

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Friday, July 9, 1943

Deciphering A Code

An elections code was made and presented. It was studied and passed by the student governing body. But this week's progress toward election call for a few supplementary changes and added explanation.

Initiating a new All-College elections code during a time when no cabinet is in existence, the All-College committee on elections had to ask that students desiring their names to be placed on the ballots turn in petitions to Student Union by Tuesday noon of this week.

The response was not deafening. Although a majority of the classes were well represented in the new system of elections by semesters, one class has no candidates entered and several have produced slates with no opposition for one or both of the positions to be filled.

Since this situation was not provided for in the code passed by the retiring Cabinet in the Spring, the elections committee decided this week to hold elections for the fifth semester with the freshman balloting scheduled for a later date. Petitions deadline will be announced later when freshman groups are organized.

To meet the situation of no opposition for some candidates, the committee decided to give students the chance to vote for either the candidate or for a new election in which more names could be added.

With the passing out of the clique, went also the active campaigning, mud-slinging, and unnecessary spending of funds. This was the hope of Cabinet and the committee when they outlawed the campaigns and extensive publicity drives.

But substituting for the cliques has been the unexpected appearance of school and department interest. Instead of looking over candidates for the suitable person for the office, liberal artists, engineers, and agitators, are opposing one another with the same practice that committee-men hoped to avoid with new regulations.

Kidding Ourselves?

(See Story Page 1)

Failure of Penn State's student government to do anything at all about unreasonable student wage conditions imposed by certain of the town's merchants, presents a serious challenge to every Penn Stater. The question now becomes, "Are we really as good as we've been telling ourselves we are, or have we fallen into a stagnant pool of complacency that is sapping any real strength we might have had?"

Further reason to ponder that question arrived this week in a letter from Mary Ogg, editor of the Daily Californian, explaining some of the features of the University of California's virile student governmental system. Miss Ogg's comments are so clean-cut and straightforward that they deserve direct quotation:

"..... An important and highly successful sub-committee of the Welfare Council is the Labor Board. It was organized to insure the maintenance of 'Fair Bear' standard wages and hours in establishments hiring student help. Fair Bear standards have always been enforced by the prestige enjoyed by the Fair Bear wage, and by student boycotts of concerns not paying Fair Bear wages. There is, of course, no way of forcing employers to meet the Fair Bear wage set up by a student committee, but cooperation and common-

sense reasoning have made this unnecessary.

"Fair Bear" cards are furnished employers who have been investigated by Labor Board and found to meet Fair Bear labor standards. These stickers are displayed in the windows of shops and stores possessing them. In addition, the firms and employers who have met these standards are listed in the Daily Californian after they are announced by Labor Board. Fair Bear rating is considered very desirable publicity.

"The present Fair Bear wage is 50 cents an hour, and a Labor Board report recommending a raise in the standard to 60 cents an hour was recently presented to the Executive committee. It is still being considered."

Although the city location admittedly helped justify such high rates, Penn State and the University of California had similar problems. The University of California's student government tackled its problem and whipped it with a sensible and workable plan. Last year Penn State's "strongest" student government dabbled around a while and then failed.

Maybe it's time for us to wake up. L.T.C.

'Information Please'

This is a formal invitation to the Penn State student body to make fuller use of its newspaper.

With the expansion of Collegians' editorial section to two full pages, the paper's senior editorial board has decided to establish two special columns as the private property and responsibility of the readers.

The "Men in the Services" column, compiled by our service editor, will deal with how our ex-classes now in uniform are "making out." Wide coverage, of course, can come only through information volunteered by a large number of students.

The second addition to the regular weekly lineup will be a "Letters to the Editor" column, in which students may register their kicks, comments, and commendations—on whatever subjects they choose to kick about, comment on, or commend. With space limitations the only restriction, all non-libelous and generally interesting material will reach print. Although a signature is required as a sign of good faith, it will be kept confidential if the letter's author requests it.

So if your professor wears the wrong color socks, cuts too many classes, or doesn't assign enough work to keep you busy—and if you'd like to let the rest of the College know of your woes—write. If you have some special formula for eliminating nightwork, reforming student government, or ending the war this week, tell the rest of us about it.

And if your uniformed sister, brother, ex-roomie, or one-n-only once went to Penn State, and has recently been promoted, decorated, or released from the brig, give the rest of us a chance to feel proud too.

It's your paper; use it.

L.T.C.

We, The Women

Friendliness Is A Virtue . . . And We're Remembered For It

We've all been hearing a lot lately about how many changes have been made—on the Campus, in College life, and in coed life. Perhaps it seems a little trite to write even one more column about wartime necessities. But this is partly in commendation of and partly a reminder for Penn State coeds.

Changes in circumstances mean changes in behaviors and in reactions. Because we have so many service men on campus, what we do no longer affects only the townspeople and the usual collection of college students. We have here men from all over the country—many of whom have attended or are familiar with other schools and colleges in other places. They are judging us by our reactions to them, and they're carrying those judgments with them wherever they may go.

Whether they remember Penn State as a school whose woman students are ladylike and friendly or as a place whose coeds are "snobbish" or "hoydenish" depends upon us. They may not remember the school long but their impressions will undoubtedly be passed on to others in their next post, and so a college's reputation is made or broken. It's almost a matter of how much we care about Penn State.

So far there have been mostly compliments for us. Officers and enlisted men who are leaving our campus have spoken of the friendliness they have met here. And they mention how much we have drawn them into College life.

The few coeds who remained here for pre-session and inter-session carried our responsibilities well. Their assistance and cooperation with the Saturday night dances in the Armory has created a friendly feeling between the women working at the Community Service Center, the service men themselves, and the coeds. The return of the majority of Penn State's woman students for Summer semester has been eagerly awaited.

And here is where the reminder comes in. We have a responsibility now—a responsibility that comes with all the changes that have been made in our College life. It's toward our country, the

men in our Armed Forces, our College, and ourselves. As woman students of Penn State, it is up to us to welcome newcomers. We are Penn State's hostesses.

The several thousand men here are mostly strangers to our campus; they don't know many coeds, and they haven't much time to get acquainted. They sometimes get awfully tired of nothing but more men, all in uniform, doing the same things they do. They'd like to talk to coeds, just as they always chatted now and then with girls at home. It's not much to ask—just that we be friendly.

These are our two responsibilities—friendliness and the maintenance of our social standards. Those who haven't known us before can judge us only by the few things we do when they are around. That is what we must remember.

—J. E. P.

Town Coeds to Elect

A mass meeting for nominations and elections for town coed representative to the WSGA House of Representatives and town coed officers will be held Monday, July 19th, according to Elizabeth Furst, town senator.

Lettie Knutsen, present representative to the House, must be replaced, Miss Furst explained.

All coeds are urged to attend. The time and place will be stated in next week's Collegian.



WESTMINSTER FOUNDATION BULLETIN BOARD

Student Reception Tonight
 Westminster Hall and Fireside
 Room—8-10 P.M. Friday
SUNDAY, JULY 11
 9:30 A.M.—Student Department
 Worship Service
 3:00—Open House and Music
 Hour
 6:30 P.M.—Westminster Fellowship
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