

THE COLLEGIAN

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1944

Abolish ASTP?

Campus reaction to the recent report that the House Military Affairs Committee may soon recommend abolition of a large part of the AST Program, was very queer indeed.

Most of the comments from servicemen directly concerned with the proposal were along the line of, "It's a darn good idea—about time we quit going classes and get down to cases with the war."

However, and oddly enough, much less commendable remarks on the report came from, of all people, the coeds! Many voiced the belief that it was essential to "train the men with brains" so that there would be somebody left to run things after the war, and that it would be "a crying shame" to take such men out of college. A few were less subtle and, dropping pretense, wailed, "But what will we do for dates?"

Even if such statements were only surface remarks, even if they made merely as wise-cracks, they constitute a rather sad commentary on the attitudes of those coeds towards a plan which is designed primarily to save an estimated 200,000 pre-war fathers from military induction.

The report on the committee's plan cannot be construed as a positive assurance that ASTP will be abandoned, although Associated Press stories stated that "a survey of the committee indicated overwhelming sentiment against continuing the student-training program on the present basis and a feeling that the entire undertaking, with the possible exception of dental and medical training, should be stopped."

At any rate it is to be hoped that when and if the proposal is adopted by Congress, coeds will be able to reconcile themselves to the prospect of a de-uniformed campus . . . especially in view of the fact that the men in uniform seem to be more concerned over the idea of getting into action than they are at the thought of having to forego the pleasure of dating coeds.

ISC Lines Up First

Independent Student Council beat the rest of the College to the draw last week when they set up their war stamp booth in Old Main just about a week before any definite plans were embarked upon by the rest of the College. In short order what the ISC people did was to coincide their drive with the national one, and their punctual opening appeared in time to rescue the College from an otherwise tardy beginning.

Tentative plans were lifted from the blueprint stage at Monday's Cabinet meeting, however, and the College will put its full force behind the Fourth War Loan Drive via a stamp lottery and raffling to come off at Winter Ball. When the lottery idea was still in the discussion stage and running the risk of possible disbandment, an Air Corps representative enthusiastically built up the plan to a hesitating audience. The student, in his first representative visit to the College Cabinet, gave a short pep talk on the possibilities of such a plan and the returns one might expect from a lottery if it were skillfully guided. The appeal made quite an impression on the jury and the idea of a lottery was then definitely established.

When campus groups get behind Cabinet this coming week, students and servicemen will find themselves faced with a drive too strong to ignore. However, coming at the same time as the March of Dimes, and because it is the fourth of its kind, even the united backing of concerned persons will have a tough time bucking a strong wall of "broke this week" and "I gave last time." It can be done, however, and if the drive is wholeheartedly pushed by important campus groups the results will probably reap the profits of the persons themselves, their friends, and a friend's friend.

SFR

Campuseer

By BOB KIMMEL

Times have changed and Penn State is in step with the times. However, when we happen to bump into someone who has been away for a while, they always remark "Gee, I didn't know you were still here" and then we go into that song and dance. But of course, it's only natural, for returning alumni these days, even those of only a semester or so ago, are amazed at the absence of familiar faces. In fact, several have remarked that they meet more of the old bunch in New York or Philadelphia than here these days. We hope we are as fortunate when we leave in June.

Cross Country . . .

Last weekend we had the opportunity to visit the Eastman Kodak plants in Rochester along with five other prospective industrial engineers. Going up we were on a train that was carrying the "Ice Follies." For an hour or so we were trying to find out which finishing school was taking a trip, for the atmosphere in their cars was very collegiate, and the skaters were very young, and good-looking, too. But nothing came of that. We zipped along so fast we didn't have much time to do any sight-seeing, but we did bring back one rather clear impression. Getting cut and getting on the job means an end to this business of cutting eight o'clocks, a break every hour or so, and frequent free afternoons. Kodak's people were really on their jobs.

Just Wondering . . .

about that trial balloon sent up about bringing the school council representatives back to Cabinet. Probably the only thing that would accomplish would be to make the group a little cozier, for not one of those august bodies has shown a spark of life for months and months. With one exception, they never did function as they were set up, and probably will remain extinct except in name only for the duration. However, there are a couple of jobs the boys could do if they are interested. We are in the process of preparing a program of action for our own body to see what happens. By "we" is meant the executive staff of the Penn State Engineer. . . . Incidentally, Gene Von Arx, the editor of that publication, recently addressed a meeting of the AIEE (Electrical Engineers) in Pittsburgh on the task of getting out a student technical publication. The head of the Carnegie Tech school requested a copy for reproduction. . . . we aren't getting it on the early predictions on the success of the local Winter Ball, but bet's will be accepted after five in the back room. . . . this is the first Winter Ball since we made our debut in . . . well, we won't say, when . . . but if anyone gets stuck with no corsage for the girl friend, we have a real nice bunch of straw flowers we're willing to rent out cheap. . . .

Buzzing The Field

with Roger

There is some confusion in the minds of many as to the meaning of "Roger," the pseudonym under which we write. For their information it is a bit of Air Force jargon meaning "Yes, I understand you," or "I agree with you," or other words to that effect. Roger's counterpart in Naval Aviation, we understand, is "Wilco." Those are two boys you ought to know if you have any friends, close or otherwise, in the flying game.

The mountains quaked, the forefathers rolled over in their graves, but a near-capacity crowd of movie-going Servicemen and their dates enjoyed a full-length showing of "The Immortal Sergeant" last Sunday afternoon. Our hat is off to PSCA, sponsor of the entertainment. We should like to suggest, however, that Schwab Auditorium, if it is available, would be a more suitable location. On the playbill for this Sunday will be "A Yank in the RAF," with matinees at 1:45 and 3:45.

The current attention-competing contests for "Snow Queen," "Quill Girl," and Air Corps "Squadron Sweetheart" make us wonder: Is this the result of male flattery or of female vanity? We recall Huey Long's famous political catch-all: "Every man a King." If the men around here should suddenly start asserting themselves along that line, we would expect to see contests for the title of "Glammer Pants," "The Sororities' Choice," "King of the Maypole Dance," et al.

We are anxious to please all comers, meaning we want to write what you like to read. Realizing that the Collegian's audience is largely female these days, we polled several coeds we happen to know and found that troubleshooting and such under the table stuff really goes on this campus. We were all ready to take off with some hot political columns, but have now decided to change our tune. However, we are not Joe College, we don't have time to hang around the Skellar and the Corner Room that long. Within limits we can make this piece a modified version of Froth, plus some Air Corps news you may not have already heard via rumor, which is what we were hired to write in the first place.

The squadrons are currently in the midst of an inter-barracks basketball tournament. The winner will take on the best that the Engineers and V-12 have to offer for the all-campus Service title.

Hit Parade . . . Everywhere we go we hear the mournful strains of a dirge-of-the-moment called "They're either too young or too old." It seems to be the stein song of the frustrated woman this war. We suggest that a small, inexpensive, classified ad inserted in this paper complete with telephone number will unearth a suitable amount of middle-aged men equipped with toupee and false teeth.

Aw, propwash!

Collegiate Review

By BERNIE CUTLER

Randall "Sheriff" Johnson is a freshman in the police science course at Washington State College, but he's already hard at work on his first big case.

The situation that is challenging his talents is that of a burglary of 704 Linden in which two men broke into a room and took two cartons of cigarettes, a sport coat, a suitcase, a train ticket to Seattle and \$10 in cash.

Randy vows that he'll solve the case if it's humanly possible. In fact, he's quite stirred up about the case. You see, it was his room. Lay that pistol down, Randy.

taught in a manner "befitting their political and educational importance."

In a latrine, no doubt.

German authorities in Norway have complained to the Quisling regime that efforts to educate Norwegians in the use of the German language have completely failed. The Germans complained that this Norwegian obstinacy has caused the cancelling of many German language courses because of the lack of pupils.

Aw, stop, Adolph. Yer breakin' my heart.

A post-Yule note: There is nothing presumptuous about the coeds at the University of Kansas, but five sprigs of mistletoe adorned the ceiling of one of the women's dormitories during the holidays. It is sent each year, in similar quantities, by an alumnae who still has the better interests of the hall at heart.

Oh, yeah?

No Women Wanted! A recent poll at St. Mary's College revealed that the men do not want coeds attending the school. The poll came as an answer to the proposed change to make St. Mary's a co-educational college.

Queer little beggars, aren't they?

Instructor Robert O. Fink of the Beloit College faculty stepped into his classroom recently to meet a new class of Army students. A tall lad approached him and said that he was the group leader. "Well, I'm Fink," said the instructor. "I'm Funk," said the student.

"I'm sunk," said the editor.

Washington has learned that Dr. Bernhard Rust, Nazi minister of education, has issued a decree ordering propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels: "Thirty Martial Commandments for the German People" to be taught in German schools.

The Commandments are to be

EVANSTON, Ill. (ACP)—If you are looking for peace in 1944, you will find it—in the heavens, according to Professor Oliver J. Lee, director of Northwestern University's Dearborn observatory.

While the earth is torn with the upheavals of global warfare, the universe will proceed on its well-ordered way with only a minimum of astronomical disturbances taking place during the year, Prof. Lee predicts. Celestial activity, he says, will consist of two eclipses of the sun, only one of which will be visible in the United States.

"No bright comets are expected this year, but there is always the chance that a big comet will stray," Professor Lee said.

If any stray this way, let us know, prof.

The best fishing in the world is found in the little creek on the Doochiey State Teachers College campus. It seems that someone spilled a bottle of hair tonic in the creek and that all the fish grew long black beards. Now when a student wants to catch a fish, he merely sticks a barber's pole in the bank of the stream and yells, "Next!"

I. Snatche, captain of the basketball team at the same college, is a former professional grave robber. Now he makes ghoulish

ALWAYS . . .

The Corner
unusual