

THE COLLEGIAN

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Friday, March 17, 1944

All editorials represent the opinions of the writer whose initials are signed to it, and not the opinion of the corporate Collegian staff. Unsigned editorials are by the editor.

Ready Or Not

With the results of the accelerated program still at the questionable stage, George F. Castore, graduate assistant in the psycho-educational clinic, suggests that high schools step up their program to admit students to college at 16 and 17. Coming at a time when college graduates are 19 and 20, one or two years younger than they were in pre-war years, this suggestion is open to criticism, pro and con.

Examination of Mr. Castore's opinion shows that he has not drawn his conclusion without first experimenting. He based his suggestion on the results of a battery of tests he administered to a group of 48 "experimental freshmen" who entered the College at the end of three and one-half years in high school and to freshmen who entered after four years of high school. Scholarship, knowledge of current events, attitudes, and optimism were measured.

Students of the experimental group not only did as well academically as their older class mates, according to Castore, but also proved to be more vitally concerned with social outcomes, more optimistic, and more impressed by their instructors' academic achievements.

Considering the timely consideration that students permitted to enter college at 16 and 17 would somewhat answer wartime demands necessitating quick training, a few other aspects of the situation become apparent.

In normal years college graduates receive minor positions in fields where they can utilize the preparations they received at school. But it isn't until several years later that they ordinarily work up to more responsible positions or the top position.

However, at the present time graduating students men and women alike, are stepping into advanced positions. Persons taking such jobs must be reliable, steady, and altogether ready to assume the full responsibility of the job they have taken. Furthermore they will find themselves in charge of other persons and they must have the respect of these people working under them. A respect that will come only haltingly to a leader still in his teens.

According to Castore's theory, sixteen is the age when the average person reaches mental maturity and should leave his home to face the independence and reality of college life. "The transition into college life should be made at a younger age," he explains, "before the student becomes too set in his ideal and ideals." Admittedly the student may be better able to adjust himself at this age, but will he as a graduate of 18 or 19 be capable of assuming the type of work he will be expected to carry out?

Certainly the acceleration of college brings college days a lot closer to the high school graduate. After three years of accelerated program he finds himself at 20 ready to face a career. But 20 for people assuming head positions in a war quickened world seems young enough. The graduate at 18 or 19 would find himself up against more than he could manage.

Campuseer . . .

Three Cheers For . . .

One of our boys has made the grade in Italy . . . we just had a bundle of mail from him and as he tells it . . . "I'm back at the old stand reporting again. I'm still with my old outfit, on special duty as unit correspondent for the Artillery in our division and working directly under the Public Relations head of the Fifth Army. I'm not a newswriter . . . rather it is a sort of Ernie Pyle-ish thing. I roam about, practically at will, and pick up feature and human interest stories on the lowly private. My stuff goes directly to the States where it is remitted through the three wire services or the home town paper of the soldier in mention." This is the erstwhile "Cassius" of Collegian, Milton Dolinger, writing from the front in Italy.

We're glad that Milt has made out and from what he says, we can be watching for a by-line on some of his stuff soon, for they promised if it is good enough. If we know Milt, it'll be good, but plenty. Already we're turning the bookstores inside out to find him the pocket thesaurus he requested.

Loose Lips . . .

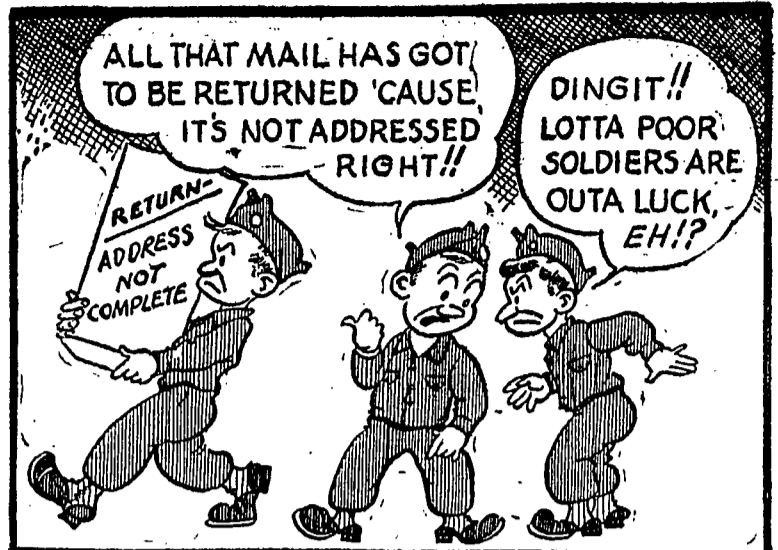
The loose lips in this case are not likely to sink any ships, but they are causing a great deal of friction. In several of the eating establishments in town, some of the men are awaiting induction into the armed forces. Some thoughtless students are forgetting their own position when they make irritating and derogatory remarks to these men about being drafted. Most of them are leaving their jobs and families and deserve nothing but the utmost in consideration from us who are staying behind.

Of Many Things . . .

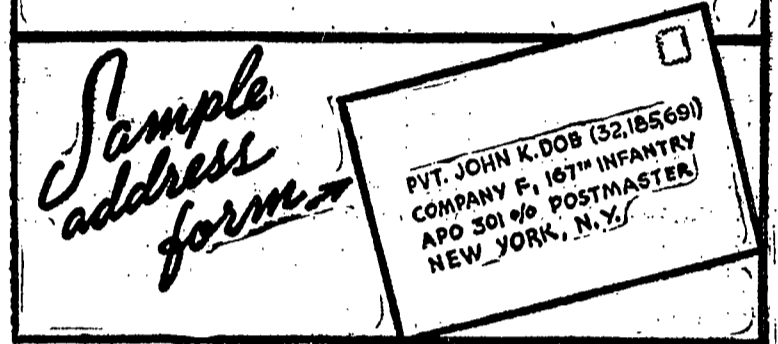
The other evening Dean Ray was walking through the lounge conversing with a coed. The coed was busy with a lemon cup-cake of the variety that has squishy filling. Just as the cutie went to take a bite, the lemon squirted. 'Tis said the Dean laughed and laughed at the startled expression on the coed's face . . . people who haven't spoken to you in five or six semesters grew warm and friendly as the elections campaign reached its climax this week . . . now that it's over, they'll likely go back to the old silent treatment again . . . one night, too, we saw Bill Brown, theta chi, now of the U. S. Marines, back to see the wife who is still struggling with her education.

The Days Of Old . . .

We note with pleasure that at least one fraternity has taken possession of its former quarters, the Alpha Chi Sigs. There will be, no doubt, a general rejoicing on some date in the near future, and we hope the boys haven't lost their list of the society reporters' union, to which we used to belong. We'd hate to miss the chance to chronicle the doings.



WHEN WRITING TO YOUR SOLDIER BOY— BE SURE THE ADDRESS IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE!



Front and Center

Almost without exception it can be said that the Marines have the situation well in hand, but when it comes to Penn State alums it looks like the Army Air Corps has flown rings around them—for this week anyhow. The majority of mail received recently from public relations officers contains news of Penn State alums receiving commissions in the Air Force or entering training as aviation cadets. "Here's a toast to the host of men we boast . . ."

Flyink High . . .

Three former Penn Staters were recently awarded commissions as second lieutenants in the Army Air Forces after completing bombardier training at the Carlsbad (New Mexico) Army Air Field. Lts. John L. Pfirman, Reid I. McCloskey Jr., and Orville E. Flora are all sporting shiny new wings and bars. They are known as "triple-threat men"—airmen who have completed instruction in dead-reckoning navigation and aerial gunnery in addition to the regular bombardiering course. Aviation Cadet Irvin R. Fisher has just reported for duty at the bombardier school at Carlsbad

where he will take an 18 weeks advanced training course.

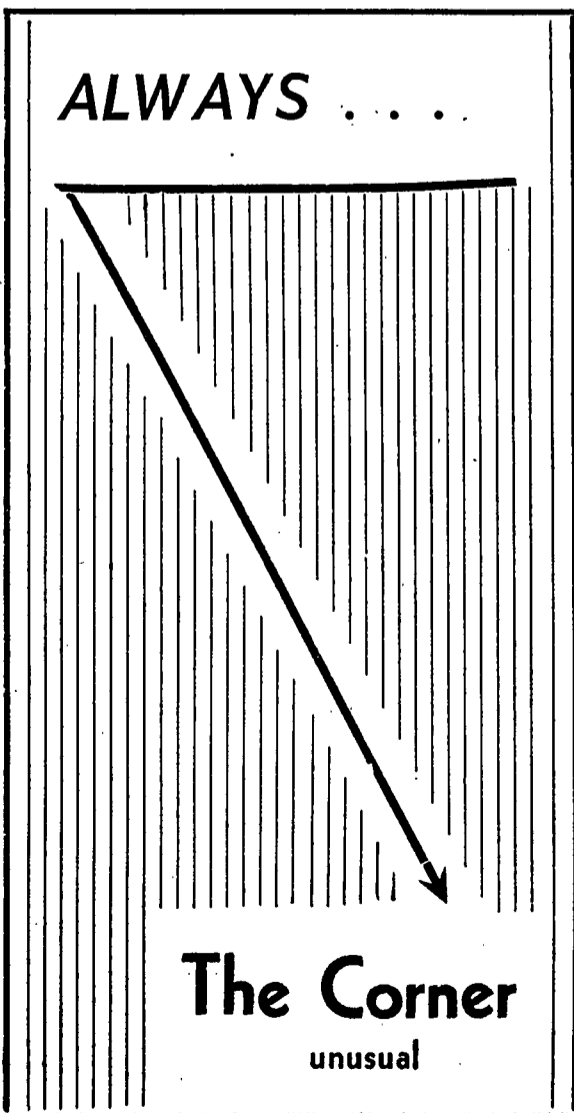
A/C Stan Wolfson is stationed at Grider Field, Arkansas, where he is training to be a pursuit pilot.

Wray E. Paul Jr., former Phi Delta Theta, has received the silver wings of a flying officer and commission as a second lieutenant in the Army Air Forces. Also commissioned as pilots from the Columbus Army Air Field were William A. Calvert Jr., Kappa Delta Rho, and Dean F. Gamble.

Here and There . . .

Seen back on campus these days are several "veterans" who have received honorable discharges from the Army. Herb Hasson, Bernie Cutler, and Kenny Sivitz, who graduated last month, wear their service pins proudly . . . Two Sigma Phi Alpha's are back at State this semester in uniforms of Navy blue—Charles Hood and J. Walter Schrader of the V-12 unit.

From Tennessee comes the news that Pfc. Mort Peck isn't "Praying for Corporal" any longer. He now has the two stripes of a full-fledged corporal . . . Cpl. Mel (Continued on page eight)



Collegiate Review

Temple University, Philadelphia, is the site for the 26th Session of the International Labor Conference. The Conference will convene April 20 and last until May 13.

Third choice: Ambition, companionable, dependability.

However, the article forgot to mention where a male or female with these ideals could be found.

Students at Franklin College, Indiana, conducted a poll to discover the ideal man or woman for husband or wife. The man's ideal woman was:

- Tallest, 5 ft. 9 in.
- Shortest, 5 ft. 2 in.
- Average wgt., 124 lbs.
- First choice: Intelligent, kind, companionable.
- Second choice: Physically attractive, faithful, trustworthy.
- Third choice: Sweet, good disposition, considerate.

"I am the greatest planter in the country."

The draft board replied: "Nothing you plant ever comes up. Deferment refused."

The woman's choice for the ideal man was:

- Tallest, 6 ft. 3 in.
- Shortest, 5 ft. 7 in.
- Average wgt. 170 lbs.
- First choice: Considerate, intelligent, sincere.
- Second choice: Considerate, intelligent, appearance.

Louisiana, which annually produces about half the muskrats trapped in the U. S., has discovered another use for the fur-bearing rodent.

Louisiana State University chemist J. L. E. Erickson and Philip G. Stevens of Yale have perfected a process for production of musk from muskrat to provide oil for perfumers. Perfumers formerly were dependent on musk from the musk-deer of Tibet and ambergris from the sperm whale.