

It Says Here

LEE H. LEARNER



Most Collegian last columns are pretty bitter. And there's no obvious reason why this one should be any exception to the rule.

There's nothing extraordinary about the fact the columnists are usually bitter. If you hang around a newspaper office often enough and long enough, being bitter (or what passes for bitterness in the collegiate world) becomes your normal state of existence. There are plenty of good reasons for this state, and most of them are the people you meet.

You meet politicians. In your fresh year they awe you; in your sophomore year you become suspicious; by the time you're a senior you've long since known that most of them are just ambitious, if misguided, kids with a personal axe to grind who will stop at very little to sharpen the blade and dig it in deep. In short, you're bitter.

In going out after your stories, you meet a fairly representative cross-section of your fellow-students. When you're a freshman, they're all just pretty good kids to you; when you're a sophomore you've already begun to make distinctions between them, from a journalistic point of view; by the time you're a senior, they fall into two main categories; there are the few who know and care about what's going on around campus and are trying to get things going smoothly; and there's the painfully large majority who don't know and don't care about what's going on in their own collegiate world. You conspire gleefully with the rest of the staff to drop a few bombshells in their midst, via front page banner headlines and seething editorials, and they happily continue to give the gossip columns their complete and undivided attention. And that, my friends, makes you bitter.

But you're supposed to look at both sides of a story, and when you dutifully climb over the fence

and look at the thing from another angle, there are compensations. There is the satisfied feeling of a job well-done (well, fairly well-done, anyhow) that you get when your paper comes off the press. There's the satisfied feeling that you get when you see people reading your paper the next morning, even if they do seem more intrigued by the columns than by the news. There's the satisfied feeling that you get when you receive letters from your readers; and even if they're uncomplimentary letters, you're satisfied because at least you got them riled up.

And most of all, being bitter is a compensation in itself. It's a sort of badge that you wear rather proudly. Because it's not bitterness in the real sense of the word, you know. It's a Penn Stateism that signifies that you've had the opportunity to get around and meet the people who are supposed to be big deals on campus, and that you've had the chance to evaluate said big deals. It means that you've had the opportunity to find out what's happening and, more important, why it's happening, and to get a pretty good bird's-eye-view of your collegiate world.

When you look at the compensations on the credit side of the sheet, they more than balance out the liabilities. The compensations make you feel rather sorry for and a little contemptuous of, those who've spent their time indulging in pointless bull-sessions, playing bridge, and hanging around the Corner, neglecting the opportunities they might have had to get that bird's-eye-view.

Sure you're bitter—that's what it says here. It says it in large, clear print in all your columns and editorials. But you hope that people read the small print at the bottom of the page where you add that it's been a helluva lot of fun—and that more college people ought to make it their business to get "bitter."

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Today

Cwens meeting; old and new members; WSGA room, White Hall; 6:30 p.m.

Regular Hillel services; Foundation; 7 p.m.

Interfaith party; open to all members of student church groups; Armory; 8-30-11:30 p.m.

Tomorrow

PSCA Cabinet meeting and picnic; 304 Old Main; 3:30 p.m.

Reformed Church group hike to C. A. cabin; bring 65 cents and blankets; 2 p.m.

Slide Rule Ball; Rec Hall; 9 p.m.

USO Dance; White Hall; 9 p.m.

Sunday

Regular Chapel Services; Auditorium; 11 a.m.

Movie for enlisted men; 121 Sparks; 1:45 p.m.

Open House for civilians and service men; 304 Old Main; 2-5 p.m.

Junior Service Board Tea; all Hamilton Propeller girls urged to attend; Southwest Atherton Lounge; 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Westminster Foundation Servicemen's Panel; Foundation; 6:15 p.m.

Penn State Bible Fellowship meeting; Dr. Blair, "Korean Students;" 405 Old Main; 2:15 p.m.

Monday

Freshman Men's Council meeting; 304 Old Main; 7:30 p.m.

Junior Service Board meeting; Northwest Atherton Lounge; 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday

Home Economics Luncheon in honor of Dean Sarah Blanding; State College Hotel, 12:00 noon.

All Home Economics classes after 4 p.m. cancelled so that students and faculty may attend Dean Sarah Blanding's talk, "Role of Women in War and Post-War World;" Schwab Auditorium; 4 p.m.

Freshman Women's Forum Picnic; Fairmount Park; 5:30 p.m.

Meeting for first semester candidates for Collegian; Office; 7:30 p.m.

Meeting for second semester candidates for Collegian; Office; 8 p.m.

Interfaith discussion; 304 Old Main; 8 p.m.

Memorial Day services; flag raising ceremony; all students are urged to attend; 12:00 noon.

Tennis Club; Courts; rain, White Hall; 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday

Pre-Med meeting; 110 Home Ec; 7 p.m.

Thursday

Newman Club meeting; all Newmans urged to attend; rectory of church; 7:15 p.m.

Iota Sigma Pi lecture; Dr. Virginia Bartow, speaker; 119 New Physics building; 8 p.m.

Business Club Movies

The Campus Business Women's Club will present two movies in 121 Sparks, 8 p.m. Monday. The movies are "Suggestions and Short Cuts in Office Practices" and Walt Disney's "South of the Border."

Disney's film is a South American travelogue into which he has inserted cartoons. There is no admission charge. The meeting is open to everyone.

Old Mania

By RITA M. BELFONTI

There comes a time in the life of every Collegian columnist when he is obliged to write a "swan song." Most of our predecessors have talked about classes, finals and have gone on to deliver tender dissertations on what they will miss most. We always suspected that their biggest regret was leaving the "softest" life they ever knew; we knew them better than their readers did, by far.

We're not going to say that it seems only yesterday that we wore green bows and name tags, because it doesn't. Too many changes have taken place since our freshman year for us to even remotely associate college now with our freshmen days. So we'll let it go by saying that we will probably miss State College more than we realize now—and that goes for all seniors who are counting off the days.

Romance, Inc.

Alpha Chi Sig Ray Shibley pinned Eleanor Kline which makes another one for "the-girl-he-left-behind-list" when he leaves for active duty with the Merchant Marine . . . Nancy Zartman, Gamma Phi alum, will marry Penn State alum Lt. John Struck June 12 . . . Theta Bubbles Davey has been the recipient of Alpha Chi Sig John Maternas' hardware . . .

ChiO alum Carol Kane and her fiancé Ensign Ted Greene, Phi Kap, were visiting the College last weekend . . . AEPH Laurette Schwartz had a visitor when Bob Cetlin trekked to State College last weekend . . . Theta Winnie Singer and Lambda Chi alum Bruce Worrell will be married June 2 when Bruce receives his commission as an ensign.

Louis Glanzberg recently received the silver wings of a flying officer and his commission as a second lieutenant . . . ChiO Mary Glenn is now engaged to Phi Sigma Kappa Joe Golembeske.

Well, Why Not?

Former Gamma Sig Bernie Hankin was up for a visit with SDT Betty Berman last weekend . . . Cadet John Moffit, Alpha Chi Sig alum who is now studying medicine at John Hopkins was up to see Delta Gamma Phyllis Lang recently . . . Thetas Jane McChesney, Betty Griffiths and Mary Anne Higgins took in events at Annapolis last weekend.

Former students Walter Bartschat and Bill Peck recently received their commission as Ensigns in the Naval Air Corps . . . Mervin Quartner will be visiting AEPH G. G. Rosen soon . . . ditto for Bill Kalin and Shirley Pincus . . . Mildred Kitchen and Don Smith surprised no one when they announced their engagement . . . Millie Horst and Dick Weaver are engaged, too.

Theta Phi Alpha Lorraine Stanton and Technical Sergeant Bob

Earle will middle-aisle it in July . . . Elaine Merrill Mitchell, Kappa, will return to school this summer while husband Tom Mitchell, Phi Kappa Sig alum, is overseas . . . ChiO alum Gloria Duerst is engaged to Ensign Fred Ellrick who is stationed at Norfolk.

Ensign Larry Chervinak visited State College Monday and left that evening for Philadelphia where he is now stationed . . . Pvt. Wally Gerson, former student, was seen hotdogging it down at the Corner Room this week . . . Pvt. George Abraham was visiting TPA Pearl Trapani this weekend . . . SDT Carol Finkelstein will be the guest of Midshipman Gene Kralla for June Week at Annapolis.

Finale

Well, that's it for the week—as much as we could get. And this week marks an end to our mash notes and belligerent phone calls, we hope. The weekend promised to be lively with the Engineers' picnic and Slide Rule Ball and Phi Sigma Kappa houseparty in the office.

Ag Conference Discusses Farmers' Peace Problems

Problems of industry and labor as related to those of the farmer will be the subject of the third annual conference on agriculture to be held on campus June 5 and 6.

The opening session Monday afternoon will be devoted to the objectives of the post-war period, the evening session to the role of the government in attaining these goals, and the Tuesday session to the importance of agriculture in world relations.

The conference is open to the public and an opportunity will be given for visitors to take part in panel discussions.



WESTMINSTER FOUNDATION BULLETIN BOARD

There are but four remaining Sundays before commencement!

Why Not Use Them Wisely and With Spiritual Profit?

Student Department Sunday 9:30 a. m.

Westminster Fellowship 6:20 p. m.

Speaker: Lt. Col. Guy L. Mills U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

Eleventh Thursday Morning Fireside Matin Group 7 a. m.

In Flanders Fields

(After John McRae, 1918—By Edgar Guest)
(Illustrated by Charles La Salle)

In Flanders Fields, the Germans go,
Between the crosses, row on row,
Which mark the graves of Freedom's dead,
Great bombers battle overhead
And flame against the guns below.

We are your dead! Short years ago
We gave our lives that you might know
Freedom and peace, and now we stir
In Flanders Fields.

Hear us once more. To battle go!
Hold high the torch! Destroy the foe!
Keep faith with us—land, sky and sea!
Set every captive nation free.

Then we shall sleep, where poppies grow,
In Flanders Fields.



Buy A Buddy Poppy

Permission has been granted by the author and The George Matthews Adams Service, New York City, to make this version of "In Flanders Fields" the official poem for the annual Buddy Poppy Campaign of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

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