

Prof Turns Sailor; Now Teaches V-12

With the outbreak of the war in 1942 the Navy was caught off base when it came to the number of officers ready to man the fleet. As an emergency measure schools were set up for the training of midshipmen officer candidates. To man these schools, instructors were chosen from civilian life.

One man so chosen was Lt. Maurice P. O'Connell, one-time professor of civil engineering at Manhattan College, and now an instructor at the College V-12 unit. The lieutenant, a graduate of the college where he taught, was associated with Manhattan College from 1928 to 1936 when he moved to the west coast. There he reorganized the pre-engineering department of St. Mary's College.

After an absence of two years, the lieutenant returned to his New York College. There he was teaching in June, 1942, when he was called by the Navy to active duty as an instructor at the Columbia midshipman school.

Lt. O'Connell received a short indoctrination course on the Prairie State, a training ship. Then he began his active teaching of his subject, navigation. At Columbia he headed the navigation department of Johnson Hall, one of four units.

January of 1943 found Lt. O'Connell transferred to the NROTC unit at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, Mass. There he was in charge of all instruction in navigation and officer in charge of audio-visual coordination.

For two years the lieutenant remained at Holy Cross. His change of duty orders came through in June of this year, and directed him to report at the College after certain specialized training. This training was in damage control and fire-fighting at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.



PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JIMMY WILSON is shown at the Army's Thomas M. England Hospital in Atlantic City with some of the thousands of letters sent him by well-wishers. The 20-year-old Starke, Fla., boy is recovering from amputation of all four limbs. Penn State students were among the thousands of generous Americans who contributed to the fund in Jimmy's behalf.

'Time' Honors Former Dean With Feature

Dr. Gerald L. Wendt, former dean of the School of Chemistry and Physics whose name has been associated with a variety of activities from the New York World's Fair to atomic energy, this week achieved added prominence in a full-page story in Time magazine, for which he is science advisor.

According to Frank C. Whitmore, present dean, Dr. Wendt laid the foundation for the present School of Chemistry and Physics at the College. He was dean from 1924 to 1928, and for another year was assistant to the president in charge of research.

In this week's Time, the weekly feature, "A Letter From the Publisher," honored Dr. Wendt with a story of his life and his association with the magazine. Describing him as a "stocky, slightly balding man with a Mepphistophelean mustache and imperial," the story added that he offered to shave off the whiskers when he came to Time "if we thought them less in keeping with his new career as a journalist than they had been in his former calling as Dean of the School of Chemistry and Physics at the Pennsylvania State College."

Among Dr. Wendt's other achievements were his experiments 20 years ago with atomic power. At that time the Literary Digest carried a story on how he released atomic energy by bombarding tungsten in a vacuum tube at a temperature six times as hot as the sun and transmitting some of the tungsten into helium. One of his most prized possessions is a Krazy Kat cartoon with the caption, "Why is somebody always trying to smash the poor l'il adam?"

Born in Davenport, Iowa, the former dean worked as a reporter for the Davenport Democrat in order to get his Ph.D. in science at Harvard University. He was awarded this degree in 1916, after also receiving his B.A. and M.A. degrees at Harvard.

During his varied career Dr. Wendt has been a captain in the Chemical Warfare Service in World War I; chemist in the U. S. Bureau of Mines (where he helped develop a new way to extract radium); research director of both Standard Oil of Indiana and the General Printing Ink Corporation; professor at the University of Chicago; and Director of Science and Education at the New York World's Fair.

The ex-dean, whose home is in West Cornwall, Conn., wrote and edited "Matter and Energy," "Science for the World of Tomorrow," and a six-volume series of textbooks on sciences.

Which Comes First, Chicken or Egg?

Margolf Says Chicken

The answer to the puzzle, "Which comes first, the chicken or the egg?" has finally been settled—at least for ration-weary housewives.

The chicken comes first, according to Paul H. Margolf, poultry expert.

To be more specific, the assistant professor of poultry husbandry says, housewives should have adequate supplies of chicken by fall, but must wait until next January for eggs.

The 1945 supply of poultry, he pointed out, promises to equal and perhaps exceed that produced in the record year of 1943, and almost certainly will exceed last year's supply.

This increase, he added, plus cutbacks in Army demands—which already have been reduced 30 per cent—should put the chicken back in the butcher's showcase and take the housewife out of the waiting line by fall, and perhaps as early as late August.

Eggs, on the other hand, are about to enter the bottom part of their annual production cycle. It holds little hope for their return to the nation's breakfast tables in large numbers before January, explaining that many farmers are sacrificing laying hens to help out in the present meat shortage.

Photostatic Articles Bring City Libraries To Faculty Members

"Most resources of big city libraries are available to College faculty members," says Mrs. Margaret Spangler, circulation librarian.

Citing the case of the professor who needed some specialized material within 48 hours, Mrs. Spangler went on to say, "We phoned the New York Public Library immediately and requested that they send a photostatic copy of an article by Perry in the Transactions of the Optical Society in London."

The photostat arrived by special delivery the next day, and Howard S. Coleman, instructor in physical science who had made the request, wrote in appreciation: "The article arrived in time for inclusion in a report which was urgently needed by the armed services. If we had not received the article at the time we did, the entire report covering the subject in question would have been delayed for a couple of months."

Mrs. Spangler stated that source material which is not available in the College library can be obtained in a minimum of time by photostatic or microfilm. She explained that the cost of each photostat averages 30 cents per page and that of each microfilm—the same method used in government V mails—is about a cent and a half.

Recent reports indicate that 14 photostats and four microfilms were purchased in July and August. In addition to this 73 books were borrowed on inter-library loan.

The libraries where most of the photostats and microfilms were obtained were the New York Public Library, Bibliofilm Service, and Columbia University, while books were received from Stanford, the University of California, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Swarthmore, Bryn Mawr, Cornell, the University of Idaho, and others.

Wilson Fund Totals \$354

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Woman's Group Suggests Laboratory For Teachers

A proposal to establish a Pennsylvania Conservation Laboratory for Teachers has been presented to President Ralph D. Hetzel by a committee representing the Pennsylvania Federation of Women's Clubs and State conservation interests.

Dr. Henry Klonower of the State Department of Public Instruction, Harrisburg, and Mrs. J. Charles Runk of Pittsburgh, conservation chairman for the women's federation, headed the committee which outlined its plan for a summer workshop where teachers and laymen may study conservation.

President Hetzel said he would name a committee at the College to cooperate with the new group in a study of the proposed laboratory. Dr. Klonower revealed the program had progressed very rapidly since it was first instituted by Pennsylvania clubwomen.

Few School-Age Vets Will Return To Classes

Only a few high school boys and girls who swapped their books for a military uniform or a job in war industry will return to the classroom, in the opinion of a College educator.

Dr. M. R. Trabue, dean of the School of Education, says most of these young people feel they have broken their school ties and now are reluctant "to go back with the kids."

"Moreover," he adds, "except for the few who were drafted, most of these youngsters quit school because they could see little value in it, so why should they want to return now?"

The Penn State dean voiced strong objections to any regulation which would compel them to return to high school, explaining that "no youngster responds to teaching which is forced down his throat."

flicted war veterans. For the warm generosity you have shown, Jimmy Wilson wishes to say thanks.

Collegian wishes to thank all who helped to make the campaign a success. A special vote of thanks is due the Army and Navy officers, the Dean of Women and her staff, and the Student Union office, who cooperated so wholeheartedly.

The following is a list of contributors who have given to the Jimmy Wilson Fund conducted at the College:

ASTP Unit	\$87.42
McAllister Hall	42.30
Phi Sigma Delta	30.00
Beta Sigma Rho	28.50
S. E. Atherton Hall	25.37
Dean Charlotte E. Ray (for Women's Building)	20.00
Phi Epsilon Pi	17.00
N. E. Atherton Hall	13.01
Grange Dormitory	10.40
S. W. Atherton Hall	6.75
Pi Kappa Alpha	6.03
Alpha Epsilon Phi	5.00
Alpha Xi Delta	5.00
N. W. Atherton	2.50
Gamma Phi Beta	2.25
Al Leader, Sports Editor, Rutherford Republican, Rutherford, N. J.	2.00
Total amount received from containers placed in: the Corner Room, Graham's A. C., Cliff's, New College Diner, Dry Dock, Student Union, and Rea and Derick's	50.57

Five Active Members Reorganize Thespians

Thespians, after several semesters of inactivity, is being reorganized by the five active members now on campus, William Reutti, president; Pat Lamade, Mary Faloon, James Casey, and Harold Hein.

Assisting in the revival of the organization is Ros Johnson and faculty advisers, Hummel Fishburn and J. Ewing Kennedy.

Later Thespians plan to recruit musicians, technicians, crews, and talent for a freshman week show next semester.

Bullinger Announces Commencement Plans

D. E. Bullinger, chairman of the Senate committee on public occasions, has announced that the committee has made arrangements for the three commencements at the end of each semester and the commencement for the Summer Session.

Action of the ODT ruling concerning commencements includes the elimination of outside speakers and guests, the non-scheduling of class reunions and athletic meets, the prohibition that seniors may not send out formal invitations, the statement that the College cannot invite guests from outside, and a request of the graduates that they do not send out announcements until just before commencement.

This pattern will hold for all commencements as long as there is a shortage of transportation facilities, Mr. Bullinger said.

Airplane Catches Car In Decade, Says Prof

It will be a good ten years before the airplane can begin to approach the automobile for general usefulness, according to Samuel K. Hoffmann, professor of aeronautical engineering.

Professor Hoffmann, who is engineering consultant for Lycoming Division of Aviation Corporation of America and also holder of a private pilot's license, says before planes can be adopted for everyday use, a type must be developed which can do what a helicopter does—take off and land vertically, remain stationary in flight, and fly slowly.

He views as present-day handicaps the necessity to plan trips according to weather, the inability to fly slowly in bad weather, high landing speeds, and the inaccessibility of most airports.

"Automatic instruments for blind flying are too expensive for general use," he points out, "while landing at 40 miles an hour is far from easy."