# **Political Progress**

A step forward in campus politics has just been made by the Key party. Under their reorganization plan, four sub-clique chairmen were elected to represent the freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior semesters. This may be only a political expedient for the Key clique, but it also means a much needed reform in the method of nominating class officers.

Under this new set-up, only members of a particular semester will be able to vote for the men and women to represent that semester.

Previous to this reorganization, every one in the clique, regardless of semester standing, voted for an entire slate of candidates. In other words, if a large number of sixth semester students attended the nominations' meeting, they had more say as to who would be the second semester's nominees than the second semester students themsel-

This new method also does away with another evil in politics; i. e., one large group of students who turn out en toto to press the nomination of a particular man who may not be the one most desirous to students in his semester. Now, there cannot be such "packaging of votes" since only a small percentage of a large group will have the right to select a semester candidate.

Not only does the Key clique's system do away with flagrant faults now present in the selection of candidates, but it is more democratic in procedure. With the voting broken down into smaller groups, it will not be possible for any one group to dominate the semester, and thereby, the popular choice of the students of any one semester will be effected.

This is a step forward, but why limit it to just one party? Collegian feels that other political cliques should investigate this plan and incorporate the reforms made.

## Mural Fund

Time is short. The students of Penn State do not have 20 or even ten years to wait for the completion of the mural in Old Main, thus setting forth the idea of the Land Grant college above the staircase in the center of the campus. However, the fresco will last ten times that many years, and its idealogy many hundreds of times that figure.

Henry Varnum Poor, its creator, is now in his sixties. Although the quality of his work improves with his age, painting a fresco on as huge a space as Old Main walls calls for hard labor as well as for the greatest artistic skill and preparation. Therefore, it is imperative to finish the fresco as soon as funds are available.

A letter written by Mr. Poor, in which he expressed his great desire to come to the College to finish the fresco painting, was read recently at a Cabinet meeting. Formerly, a committee was apvointed by Cabinet to investigate the possibility of finishing the mural, but as yet no action has developed. The sum of money required for its completion would be small in comparison with the great value of the fresco.

A total of nineteen hundred and fifty couples anced at the first post-war big dance, helping to realize a profit of about \$3500. Why not launch the post-war project of finishing the mural with this profit as a substantial starter?

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### Old Mania By BARBARA INGRAHAM

#### **Valentine Dance**

PiKA and Spoudekastor are having a semi-formal valentine dance tomorrow night. Among the Spoudekastor's and their escorts are Jean Anne Thompson and PiKA James Stewart . . . Evelyn Shuster and NROTC Dean Hopper . . . Marian Rewbridge and Ensign Tex Island . . . Carolyn Lerch and PiKA Warren Steubing . . . Gloria Mc-Curdy and Walter Braun.

PiKA's and their dates include Tom Lannen and Jane Shirey . . . Fred Cole and Molly Giese. Jack Richardson and Toni Hummel . . . Bob Abernathy and Jeanie Jordan . . . Bob Heckel and Gladdy Lou Miller.

As any fourth-rate crystal gazer could have seen, the aftermath of Winter Fantasy weekend is pinnings and more pinnings. . . Syl Alterman is wearing Al Amsterdam's Phi Sigma Delt jewelry . . . Pi Lamb Bob Goldstein pinned Sunny

Beta Sig Harry Fields and Luce Aaronson are pinned . . . SPE Tom Anderson gave his pin to Mickey Keuhner . . . ChiO Jan Adam is wearing Phi Kappa Sig Johnny Sadden's pin . . . AEPhi Mary Davidson and Phi Ep Dave Raphael are pinned . . . ditto AEPhi Sophie Mogul and Phi Ep Roger Levin . . . SPE Bud Smith gave his pin to Phi Mu Kitty Fix . . . Margaret Roman, of Nanticoke, has Jack Reeves' Sigma Pi jewelry.

### Love Marches On

If there had been space for anything but Winter Fantasy dates in this column last week, Maniac would have printed that Peggy Case and SPE Bernie Klein were pinned. But since another week has gone by, all there is to say is that another romance has gone pffft . . . also, Kappa Charlie Martin and Teke Bob Gridley are depinned.

It can't be said that the Tekes' Pfleegor and Mitchell aren't using up-to-date material when they put on a skit. Saturday night they serenaded newly-pinned TKE president Frank Schneider and DG Lavonna Dewald with a parody on "Don't Fence Me In." And the name of the song was "Don't Take My Pin."

Ruth Lau is wearing the Lambda Chi Alpha jewelry of Oz Armstrong . . . Teke Bob Mechling pinned Betty Yeagle in Pittsburgh Friday night. . . on the same night, his fraternity brother, Ed Felaski and Dottie Urban, Alpha Xi Delt, announced their engagement . . . ChiO Becky Walker is pinned to Phi Delt George Jones . . . ditto PiKA Bob Boron and Helen Markly . . . also Kay Ryder and Chi Phi Bert Trysinger.

In the "back home for keeps" department, there is news that Rube and Pete Faloon are together again. Rube arrived in State College Monday night after being discharged from the army. Most people on campus now have probably forgotten how Rube was crowned the "most eligible bachelor on campus" with a skillet after his marriage. But that's one way to start collecting pots and pans for housékeeping.

### **Beauty** and the Bassoon

Winter Fantasy Queen Eleanor Roberts, according to the latest scoop, comes from a musically inclined family. She began playing the bassoon in high school, and has carried on her interest with the College orchestra. In high school she asked her musical director if he needed anyone, and he said he could use a wife and a bassoon player. Elly now plays the bassoon.

Cpl. David Pramer, formerly from Texas A&M, was up to see the girl who wears his wings, Gladys Singer . . . Elliot Shapiro was up from Camp Lee, Va. . . John Hopkins trekked up to see Gamma Phi Beta Skeeter Nelson . . . Ed Sulliyan visited his fiance, Gamma Phi Jackie Irvin. . . Sigma Nu Earl Riker was on campus to escort KD Rosie Ghantous to the dance . . . AOPi Fay Young came up from Easton to dance to Spivak's music with AZ Ed Williams.

Mung Roberts visited Theta Ginger Sykes . . . Lynn Taylor, Phi Delt, was up to see Theta Jo Sauerwein . . . ditto Jim Kocher to see Gamma Phi Beta Nancy Sherriff. Rae Schaefer, Alpha Sig at Drexel, visited NROTC Jack Reid . . . DG alum Claire Hamilton and Sigma Nu Bob Hall were back for the ball.

Among the fellows who trekked up to campus last weekend and the girls they visited are Arnold Petroff and Vivian Sorkin . . . Sylvia Brenner and Sid Grabman . . . Fred Reingold and Reida Freedman . . . Maurice Lipton and Harriet Kerschner . . . Seaman George Keller and Amber Wolf.

# Back In Mufti

Big guns had been sounding for several days, each day closer and closer. When the American Seventh Army came through and liberated the prisoner-of-war camps at Mooseburg, Germany, Lieut. Gayle Gerheart was among the prisoners who couldn't be too glad to see American troops.

But the story isn't as simple as that. When the army came through. Pfc. James Donahoe, another

former Penn State student and had been in several weeks, but it high school-mate of Gayle's, ran through the camp yelling the pilot's name. He had heard from State College, the home town of both soldiers, that Gayle was missing in action. All through the miles that took him deeper and deeper in Germany he had hoped he would find Lieutenant Ger-heart among the prisoners. And after more than two years, the two friends were united in a camp in the heart of the Deutch-

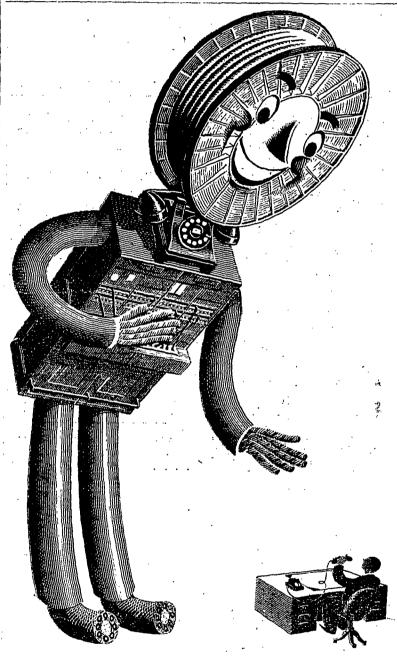
Lieutenant Gerhart remembers well the day of his capture by the Germans. He was in his position as pilot leading the flight against gun positions on a bridge at Vipateno near the Brenner Pass. It was February 25, 1945, just two years to the day after he entered the Army Air Corps, his 54th mission over Germany from a base on the island of Corsica.

The flak was scanter than it

was lucky too. When it ripped through the plane and knocked out an engine, the crew of the heavy bomber beat it to Switzerland and the safety of neutral territory. But about a mile from the Swiss border they were forced to crash land and were im-mediately, picked up by the Germans. From then on it was a succession of interrogation and transient centers, Frankfurt, Wetzler, Nurenberg, and finally Moose-burg, a Prisoner-of-War camp.

The forced march from Nurenberg to Mooseburg was a case of survival-of-the-fittest. Food was scant and the only way to obtain enough food to live on was to beg from the Germans. They were sympathetic Germans in that part of the country. They hadn't been bombed often and they were not as embittered against Amer-

ican soldiers as the Germans in (Continued on page four)



# You rang for me?

"I have been working for you for years.

"That telephone in your hand, I made. The long thin wires, the stout cables that carry your voice at the speed of light . . . I provided them, too.

"I've been busy...since 1882...manufacturing telephones, switchboards, cable and other Bell System apparatus and equipment. I purchase supplies of all kinds for the Bell Telephone companies . . . distribute all this material and equipment to them throughout the nation. I install central office switchboards.

"Our nation's telephone service is the finest and most economical in all the world. I help make it possible.

"Remember my name . . . It's Western Llectric."

