

## Dirty Politics

Dirty politics have long been a factor in elections, and the approaching All-College Elections are no exception. Usually the underhandedness in politicking is so cleverly handled that the Election Committee is powerless in docking votes.

Before the present political campaign got into full swing, dirty politics had played a part in the nominations. At Key's final nominations meetings near the end of last semester, a suspiciously large crowd of "Key clique members" was on hand to cast votes. Actually, everyone who cast votes for nominations at that meeting was not a member of the Key clique . . . a few of them were not even students in the College, and a number of others were members of the opposing political party. The object, of course, was to push into nomination the candidates who had the lowest chances of winning the elections.

Technically, the fault lies with the set-up of the Key party. According to the clique's rules, anyone who pays 25 cents dues is eligible to vote at the nomination meeting. However, the very fact that people who are not matriculated or have no connection with the Key party voted for candidates is evidence of a clever, but unethical, form of politicking.

One of the oldest and most childish forms of dirty politics is the tearing down or blacking out of party posters. Already this semester some of the political posters were taken from windows downtown and posted in Old Main, where the Elections Committee forbids any campaigning.

Obviously, this type of action is dirty politics and must be abolished if political cliques wish to gain the respect of the student body.

## Editorial Briefs

The most-talked of article in the last Collegian was the politics story, not the contents of the story itself, but the fact that Collegian placed Independent-Nittany candidates before the Key candidates. Alphabetically speaking, Collegian was correct. But to keep the score even, in the politics story this issue, Key precedes Independent Nittany.

According to their platforms, both political parties are interested in seeing the College return to the full peacetime social status, with the return of May Day, the annual Circus, class functions, etc. Both parties also shunned the Student Union building altogether.

If campus leaders are to be elected on the basis of popularity as athletes, Corner Room loungers, and perform as servants of the student body no more than the majority have to date, we suggest that the titles of class president be abolished and more suitable ones substituted, such as "Most popular football player," or "Man with the most keys and hats."

Whenever we have occasion to think about undergraduate political activities we are reminded of an old Italian saying which says in effect: "Between the saying and the doing lies the depth of the sea."

Penn State politicians say much but say nothing and after elections slip below the waves of obscurity. They occasionally pop up again at a future election time as "A good guy" to run for office . . . didn't he win last semester?"

## THE COLLEGIAN

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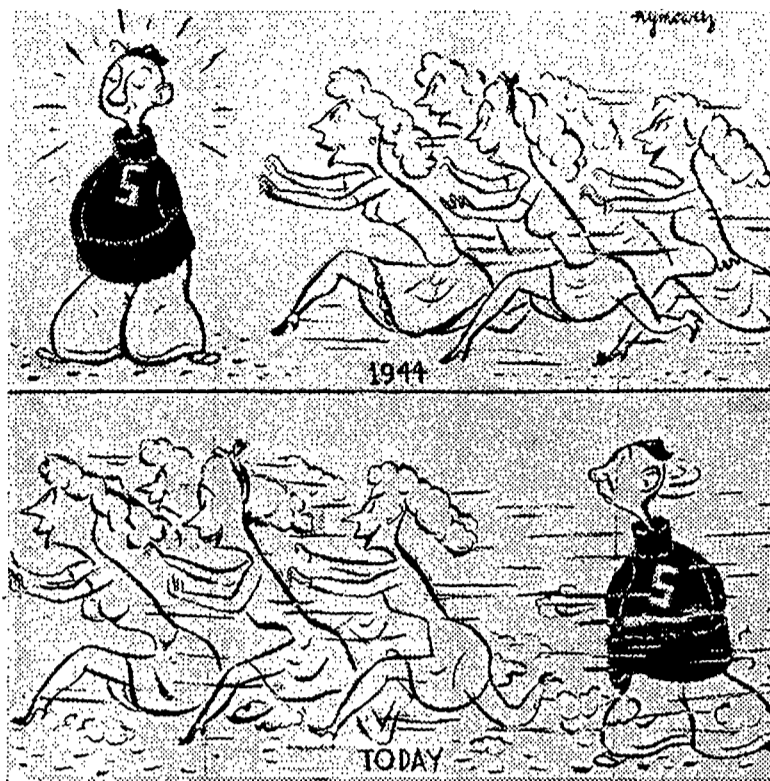
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## BMOCY

by Hymowitz



Two Years Ago and Today

## A Dark and Bitter Look

Every once in a while, even in Liberal Arts, people have to attend a class. It never really does them much good, but it humors the faculty. And it is a change from the Corner.

Take for instance the first day of classes, the day I dropped around to see what servants of the state I'd drawn for four more months of concentrated baloney.

My class that day was Sociology 761, a six credit survey course in the finer points of wooing, wrestling, and winning women. You're supposed to attend the one-hour lecture and put in seventeen hours over the weekend on after-hours practicum. Several gentlemen I know put in twice that amount of time; but, of course, they chew their toenails, too, and wear black hats.

Personally, I think the whole course is a foul scheme pushed upon the Soc. department by several designing pseudo-recreational and governmental women's organizations. Purely as a matter of detached research I took the course and have regretted it ever since.

The text, an oversize volume of "Lady Chatterley's Lover," is embellished with a wedding ring rampant, symbol of triumph, on the front cover. It's new title:—"Love, Courtship, and Wow!" is admirably suited to catch the eye of the usual Nittany Valley casual, hungry for knowledge.

Because of a general and widespread interest in reading matter of this nature, old Plifford Cladmans, noted authority on the subject, assumes (and definitely, correctly so) that the text will be read without being assigned. Therefore, he lectures from his own experiences; and, I suspect, borrows heavily in the process from such childhood classics as "Forever Amber" and "Kitty."

Theoretically, his cases are drawn from actual amatory occurrences in the annals of Penn State. But this could not be true, for the women here are models of propriety and good behavior. For instance, I have yet to see a woman lasso her prey in broad daylight and drag him helpless off to the AOP house, or any other house.

Yet still there lurks far down in the undercurrents of this course little gems of wisdom for the hopeful huntress, little games she can play on dull evenings. Things like, "if you want him to propose, sit on the couch . . . bring out the family album, put it on his lap, then follow it there in easy stages."

It's all very complicated. It confuses my retarded mind. It leaves open the way to doubts and questions as to just how effective Plifford's little maxims are.

For in the famous case of the cornered coed, the poor dear had only read to page 29 by Saturday. She went out on her research project with a fraternity man—now she doesn't go out with anyone. But I can't see why. Would she have been better off if she'd read further? Or would that have served only to plant more clever ideas in her receptive mind?

I don't pretend to know, but I bet Plifford could tell me. He's probably working on the case file in the American Magazine, right now. And next month it will be You just watch.

## Penn Statements

By JANE WOLBARST

Most of us kissed our vacations "good-bye" and returned to school just in time to get in on registration, but one ambitious brother out at Delta Tau Delta house left the fun behind and came back early Thursday. After hiking out to Boalsburg (or almost) he found the Delt house locked, windows and everything. Our boy was not to be discouraged and applying a little ingenuity he reached the inside via the coal chute. Patting himself on the back, he emerged from the chute, walked upstairs and found the cook's husband waiting for him—with a butcher knife.

### Line Forms on Right:

Standing in line is as much a part of college life as it is of the Army. Thus we have registration lines, food lines, nylon lines. With the new semester, however, a new line has been added and the reward for patient waiting on this one isn't a pair of nylons. The line forms outside of Sparks every day, the reward is attendance at class, and, judging by appearances, Penn State students are extremely eager in their intellectual pursuits.

The Corner Room has introduced the caste system and it

works like this. There are three orders of workers: the setting-the-table class, the taking-the-order class, and the clearing-away class. We don't know how promotions are determined, but logically the highest qualification for membership in the most cherished class, taking-orders, would be the ability to write. And speaking of the Corner Room, Stan Ziff tells of the time he ordered pie a la mode. Peering at the check later he found that he had eaten "pie a la mode with ice cream."

### SNAFU

Classes this semester have added a new characteristic—they're wearing physically as well as mentally. Most of them are packed to over-capacity and students

(Continued on page seven)

## Punch Lines

By GEORGE SAMPLE

On March 26 and 27 some few students interested in the welfare and betterment of Penn State will devote two minutes of their time and cast ballots for the candidates aspiring to a position on the governing body of our College.

If figures taken from past elections are an indication, then it is quite possible that less than half of the student voters will elect the officers to represent all the student body. In the fall election of 1945, 1500 students elected the officers which represented 4800 enrolled persons. In plain facts, this means class officers are not truly representing the majority but the minority. How can they represent the majority when only 44 per cent of the student body turn out for an election?

### Back Slappers

In analyzing this deplorable condition it was found that those persons who do the voting are the back-slapping politicians and their friends. By allowing this practice to continue, the men and women of Penn State allow the cliques and their members to control the student governing body.

In past elections the winning nominee has frequently been the one with the most engaging smile, firmest handclasp and with the most free time to spend in the Corner Room.

### Voting Method

In the hustle of pre-election campaigning, the real worth of a particular candidate is often overlooked. The average voter is apt to hurry into Old Main, take a hurried look at the pictures of the candidates and cast his vote. In this manner the cliques often muster enough votes to usher into office a candidate whose qualifications would be more fitting if he were running for dog-catcher.

Now is the time for men and women of Penn State to effect a change. This change can be brought about in only one way. The Penn State student body must be concerned enough to contribute two minutes of their time toward bringing about a better Penn State through an election of better officers.

## From the Files

OCTOBER, 1931

Dick Powell, billed as the "Pride of Pittsburgh," was appearing in a stage show with Bernie Armstrong's orchestra at the Cathaum. Powell at that time was singing with Armstrong's orchestra at KDKA and Pittsburgh theatres and night clubs.

Penn State was host to the University of Pittsburgh football team for the first time in 29 years. Score: Pitt 41, State 6.

The College radio station, WPSC, announced that it would now be on the air 16 hours a week.

A Bellefonte concern advertised "Squabs for Sale."

The Nittany Theatre was featuring Warner Baxter in "The Cisco Kid."

A visiting English actor playing at Schwab Auditorium told a Collegian reporter that "talkies would soon die out. People will lose interest in them because they use such horrible language."

Metzgers advertised "Penn State Pennants for Hiking."

Thespians stated in their advertisement for the fall presentation, "Panics of 1931," that "The Depression is Over. Enjoy yourself."

The Dux Club opened eight bowling alleys in their present location.

The library announced that it would be open from 2-5 p.m. Sundays.

Local restaurants were advertising "full-course dinners" 35c-50c.

One local merchant advertised "Gabardine top-coats at \$4.95."

Penn State's first student, Dr. James S. Read, a retired physician, was located living on a small farm near Fayetteville, Arkansas. Dr. Read matriculated in 1857 at what was then known as the Farmers' High School.

President Hetzel was named chairman of the Greater Pennsylvania Commission by Governor Pinchot.

The following notice appeared in the Calendar:

Those going on the geological field excursion tomorrow may bring their own lunch. Arrangements will be made for the others.

Sock Kennedy and Grace Baer were giving tap dancing lessons in the Odd Fellows Hall.

The Graduate School reported its peak enrollment of 303.

The Artist Course Series was dropped because of financial deficit.

Plans were made for remodeling Carnegie Library (now Carnegie Hall).