

The Commonwealth

With the State legislature now convening to find out just how much cash the Commonwealth has on hand, it was quite interesting to receive, in yesterday's mails, the weekly propaganda sheet of the Pennsylvania State Government.

"The Department of Highways contemplates the expenditure of approximately \$9,975,000 during 1947 for reconstruction, widening and resurfacing of existing roads."

And just what chance do you think the Pennsylvania State College has of hitting the legislature for \$9,000,000 (why quibble about the extra \$975,000?) for the "reconstruction, widening and resurfacing" of this institution of higher learning?

"That sum is expected to cover the improvement of 417 miles of highways," says the propaganda clip sheet.

Just think how far that sum would go in throwing light and improvement on a less tangible highway—the highway to learning at this institution.

"That sum provides for the modernization of roads to meet present day traffic demands," it says.

And just why shouldn't a similar sum be granted for the modernization of this College to meet present day enrollment demands? That fact is obvious to everyone—except our legislators.

"Resurfacing of a highway results in a smoother driving surface."

In the meantime, we're allowed to limp along the education road with all sorts of inadequacies—low wages, a shortage of dorms from before the war, and a need for more classrooms and facilities.

"It also improves sight distance which is a safety factor," says the sheet.

So what if our College grads receive less than the best of educations; the half-blind mentally are not so great a danger as a speeding car.

"By patching broken or damaged sections of concrete pavement the Department is able to prevent further deterioration to concrete highways, thereby prolonging their life."

This attitude, no doubt, also accounts for those "temporary" structures along College avenue which were put up after World War I. Constant patching plus baling wire has held the buildings together.

Editorials and features in The Collegian reflect the opinions of the writer. They make no claim to represent student or University opinion. All unsigned editorials are by the editor.

Collegian Gazette

All calendar items must be in at the Daily Collegian office by 4:30 p.m. on the day preceding publication.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

SIGMA EPSILON SIGMA initiation, Mineral Industries Art gallery, 7 o'clock.
WRA MODERN DANCE club meeting, White Hall modern dance room, 7 o'clock.

At The Movies

CATHAUM—"Chapayev"—"The Red Commander," a Russian-made film with English titles.
STATE—"Mr. Ace," George Raft.
NITTANY—"There Goes Kelly," Wanda McKay.

College Placement Service

JAN. 8 and 9—The American Viscose Corp. will interview senior men and women from chem eng, chem, EE, and ME curricula. Arrangements for interviews should be made at 204 Old Main at once.

JAN. 16—Representatives of the Pennsylvania Power & Light Co. will interview graduating civil eng, EE, and ME men.

College Health Service

Admitted to infirmary Monday: Clifton Woodward.
Admitted yesterday: Harold Ewoldsen.
Discharged yesterday: William Aull.

Second in Series

Chicago Report

By FRED KECKER

The Chicago Student Conference had a unique problem before it started, a problem which the Penn State delegation found prevalent at the caucus which All-College President Bob Foote called for the central Atlantic colleges before the conference proper.

The problem boiled down to this: with an organization to be formed representing all students, should representatives of national student groups as well as bona fide college delegates be all owned as members? In other words, should students representing YMCA, YWCA, American Youth for Democracy, Hillel Foundation, National Catholic Youth Council, U. S. Student Assembly, American Society of Medical Internes, Student Federalists, and so on, belong?

All agreed that each of these organizations had an axe to grind whether economic (the internes), political (the AYD), or religious (Hillel). Yet all had to agree that all these groups were going concerns moving in the same direction as a national student organization (which we'll call NSO). No new NSO could afford to shun them or not try to correlate their activities. So these individual groups were allowed representation.

Having solved the basic membership problem, there remained one of internal organization. It was decided to set up thirty regions (ours being Pennsylvania) embracing the whole country. From each of these regions one man would come (Duncan of St. Josephs from Pennsylvania). These thirty plus three from the national student groups mentioned would make up a "National Continuations Committee" which would set the exact date for a national student convention late next summer, make preparations for it, raise funds, secure publicity, and through a four-man staff committee selected from the Chicagoland area (for administrative convenience) draft a final constitution subject to the approval of the convention. Running this purposeful group would be four officers selected in conference plenary sessions. Those actually elected were students from Texas, Chicago, Harvard, and Fordham.

But the NCC is a temporary thing at best. The convention next year will probably decide on a different executive group with 90% school representatives and 10% organization delegates. A region having a higher percentage of representation from the schools in its area would have more people running the NSO. The conventions themselves, annual affairs, would be the legislative body. A small group of equally balanced students and faculty men would be the judicial group reviewing acts for constitutionality. Besides, there might be a 21-man faculty to serve as stabilizers and advisors. But these are only recommendations.

There is great opposition to faculty people, who are generally not considered free of obligations to the schools which employ them. There is also fear that unless some provision is made for graduates being eligible for, say, two years after graduation, the turnover will be so great that little will be done. Note our own delegation which leaves only observer Dick Sarge as a potential Penn State representative next year.

Then again, should night schools be represented? And should different branches of the same plant have separate representatives? And lastly, should the NSO send delegations abroad?

It was decided to send Bill Ellis, a brilliant Harvard Negro, to Prague as a representative of the embryo NSO but official delegation awaits decision on international participation. More on this tomorrow.

Letters

The Professor's Dilemma

It will be great if old Penn State
Augments my meagre earning.
But I'm not disturbed, for no one's curbed
My wife's increase in yearning.

—A. Nonimus

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Successor to the Free Lance, est. 1877.

Published Tuesday through Friday mornings during the College year by the staff of the Daily Collegian of the Pennsylvania State College. Entered as second class matter July 5, 1934, at the State College, Pa., Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879. \$2.50 a semester \$4.00 the school year.

Represented for national advertising by National Advertising Service, Madison Ave., New York, N.Y., Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco.

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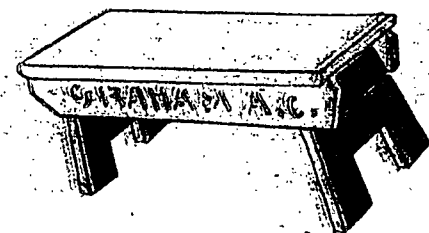
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