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With Our Help

Now that the Liberal Arts Student Council is taking recommendations from students in order to investigate various professors, the Council expects and should receive our utmost cooperation and assistance.

How many times have we complained of an instructor practicing discrimination in the classroom and exhibiting prejudice toward a student? How many times have we heard biting remarks being flung at one of our classmates? And what have we been able to do about this situation up to now? Nothing!

The LA Student Council has taken over a tremendous and somewhat dangerous responsibility. It is trying to discover which profs lack adequate teaching qualifications as well as those who entertain prejudices. But the only way the Council can achieve any success with this job is through our cooperation.

Penn State has long been considered a liberal and progressive college. However, recent occurrences have created some doubt of this in many students' minds. We cannot hope for or expect any progressive action when faculty representatives show antagonism. After all, who cares what a person believes or what religion he was born into? That shouldn't be of any importance to the professors, yet it is to many of them.

The students come here to receive an education and learn the truth and perhaps change their beliefs, if what they have learned warrants it. How then, can a professor whose duty it is to instill in these students a desire to want to learn the truth hamper them by showing racial or religious discrimination?

If an instructor wishes to retain prejudices, poison his mind, and become less a man because of this, it's his own business. But when this prejudice takes the form of discrimination and stepping on the rights of others, something has to be done.

Several names have already been handed to the LA Council and the investigations and ratings have started. Notify the council of any complaints you may have and let them know exactly what you think about the prof in question. This is the only way in which accurate information can be obtained. No student's name will be mentioned.

If, however, one of the Council representatives approaches you and asks questions concerning a certain instructor, don't hesitate to commit yourself. You will only be harming yourself and your fellow students if you refuse to give your true opinion. If you do have well-founded and authentic complaints about any professor, here is your chance to air them.

The present plan of the Liberal Arts Student Council needs our help. Let's give it to them and help ourselves at the same time.

—Myrna Tex.

Science Foundation

Student scientists manifestly should interest themselves in the future of science in America. As appreciation that the term "scientist" is gradually encompassing all conscientious seekers-after-knowledge increases, so should widespread interest in a National Science Foundation.

Announcement that Dr. Dael Wolfe, executive secretary of the American Psychological Society, and a member of the inter-society committee for a National Science Foundation, will discuss legislation leading toward the establishment of an agency to channel all federal funds for basic research should arouse the interest of virtually every technical student on the campus. Certainly Sigma Xi, science honorary, is to be commended for bringing so distinguished a person to the College to speak on so timely a topic.

President Truman's proposal that acceptable legislation setting up the National Science Foundation be passed as speedily as possible indicates that highest-ranking political thinkers are seriously concerned for our nation's research front. His veto last summer of a similar program was based on an administrative objection that seems already to have been ironed out by the lawmakers. Scientists have long called for such an organization, especially through the inter-society committee which Dr. Wolfe represents.

The impact of the A-bomb served a very loud notice on the world that the real implications of scientific research are not usually clear to those who control the federal purse strings. It is unquestionably true that unless the funds are forthcoming, such work is apt to stagnate. An 11-year lag between the discovery of and the beginning of real work on penicillin is a particularly dramatic example.

As a committee of distinguished Washington scientists put it, "the Foundation should be free to investigate problems in any scientific area by any appropriate method, for it is impossible to determine in advance which problems will lead to fruitful results and which method will be successful."

While details of administration might well be left to experts like Dr. Wolfe, future scientists will do well to notice that lack of grass-roots pressure by individuals had much to do with the form of the recent vetoed measure.

One congressman has remarked that if it were a labor issue he would have heard from every labor leader in his district. Instead, he was forced to conclude that scientists are not very much interested one way or the other.

National Science policy will be decided with or without the participation of scientists. But the wisdom of the decisions will in large measure depend upon the forcefulness with which they express their preferences.

Dr. Wolfe's address should be required listening to any student scientist with horizons beyond his personal test-tube.

—Malcolm White.

'It's Those Israelites Again, O Mighty Pharaoh!'



On Cramming

Voices drone
Buzzing phone
Radios blasting
Time's passing
Sleepless nights
Burning lights
Student crams
For exams.

Closed door
Hour—four
Papers wild
Basket piled
Troubled looks
Dull books
Student crams
For exams

Day here
All fear
Seats taken
Hope forsaken
Closed books
Worried looks
Can't cram
For exam.

Marks come
Better run
Heart sunk
Can't funk
Luck lasts
Just passed
Don't cram
For exams.

—Ruthe B. Phillips

Last of the 4-Year Men

If the Class of '49 could write the saga of the "Last of the 4-Year Men," it probably would be a most unusual and even significant document. The post-war period which academically began in late October, 1945, has been one of rapid and colorful moods.

Numerous campaigns ranging from anti-slacks to food-gripes were examples of the return of the veteran. The emphasis was on studying and getting out as soon as possible, especially for the Freshman, '42 gang. Pre-war social activities reactivated and big weekends were once again the usual unforgettable affairs.

But while trying to regain the knack of living in a peaceful world, the postwar students were planning and working and dreaming of expanded facilities to meet the expanded student body and campus.

A student union was one of the first items on the theoretical agenda. Interested students and College officials set up committees to study the project. Plans are now being devised and the committees are continually planning ideas and methods of bringing an SU to campus as soon as financial and other pertinent considerations are met.

Out of the GI's need to stretch \$75 a month, the co-op was born. After a year-and-a-half of careful planning and convincing the Board of Trustees that private enterprise was not being endangered, a modified store selling used books and student supplies will open next semester.

The never-ending fight to eliminate discrimination was finally brought to a head in the boycott and picket lines. Student cooperation showed that prejudice can be broken down, but the experience pointed the way to a long, hard and uphill fight to convince the barbers.

A student press is a possibility that may become a probability within a year. The invaluable aid to student publications and other activity groups is immeasurable.

These are the foundations of but a few student projects. It's taken much hard work and more perseverance to achieve anything that's been gained thus far. It'll take more hard work and even more perseverance to follow them through to their final completion.

It's been a wonderful experience helping in an infinitesimal way to further these plans. It will be even more wonderful to come back when they've been completed and watch the class of '5? use the increased facilities, yet still continuing the fight for a "Better Penn State."

—Selma Zasofsky

● The weathermen have been trying so hard to hit the weather correctly that they now predict "cold and colder" every day. With a look at MI building you would think that they were hanging out their wash, instead of the weather flags. They'll have to stop it soon as Spring is just around the corner.

B-X, Manana

Tomorrow the Student Book Exchange will open at the TUB to receive used text books. Once again the opportunity is presented for the students to make a success of this cooperative effort.

At the beginning and end of every semester the same gripes and complaints are heard about the unfair prices paid for used books and the exorbitant prices demanded for new books at the downtown bookstores.

One way to help eliminate this is to sell and buy as many books as possible at the Exchange. Here each student selling a book has the opportunity to name his own price for it instead of just accepting the few cents offered by the out-of-town buyers.

The complaint often registered against the Book Exchange is that it does not have a sufficient number of books of the type the students require. The best remedy for this is with the students themselves because the only books available are those turned in to the Exchange when the students are through with them.

By turning in old text books now, a greater number will be on hand in the B-X at the beginning of next semester when the rush for texts begins.

Most colleges and universities have already a well-established cooperative system for buying and selling books. Penn State has been slow in starting but now that the B-X has finally been set up, its success depends on how much the student body supports it.

Here is the opportunity to do something besides gripe about the low resale price of used books and the high cost of new text books in the bookstores.

—Dottie Werfinich.

The Safety Valve

'Nazi-Inspired'?

TO THE EDITOR: Congratulations to all the Don Quixotes at The Pennsylvania State College who are trying to uproot the greatest farce and destruction this college has experienced in many years. Those vicious Nazi-inspired "Keep off the grass" signs or "Wear out the walk" signs, (it all means the same), have no place on an American campus. It is unfortunate that frustrated students have to take this problem in their own hands. The committee that indiscriminately planted these signs should have cleaned up the mess as soon as their campaign was defeated.

The conservation and planning of grass areas on campus is not the responsibility of any "Fly-by-night" student committee. The problem is serious and it should be approached and studied by serious minded, trained landscape designers.

If the authorities at The Pennsylvania State College continue to pass the buck to student committees our campus will be a blanket of mud. The walks on campus should be designed with the student interests in mind and not to conform with our Greek Temples.

—Harris Sanders.

● Thomas W. Sears, nationally recognized Philadelphia landscape architect, is the College's regular consultant on landscape design.

Far from being the recipients of buck-passing, serious, civic-minded, regularly-appointed student committees have eagerly seized the opportunity to attempt a project to better the appearance of their campus.

Their efforts are unfortunately impeded by the obstructive tactics of an obstreperous minority whose inverse sense of values obviously issues from twisted mentalities.

(More Letters on Page 3)

Collegian Gazette

Sunday, January 23

PENN STATE Bible Fellowship, 410 Old Main, 4 p.m.

College Hospital

Admitted Wednesday: Arch Ritts, George Betts, Larry Salmon, Joann Elnodshofer.

Discharged Wednesday: Keith Bentley.

Admitted Thursday: Donald Watkins.

Discharged Thursday: Margaret Malone.

At the Movies

CATHAUM—Sat. and Mon., The Paleface.

STATE—Sat. and Mon., Whiplash.

NITTANY—Sat., Triggerman; Mon., Furia.

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