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Student Enterprise

Culminating years of planning and anticipation, and months of hard work, two student enterprises have actually begun operation—the B-X, or student cooperative store and book exchange, and a news agency, which delivers Sunday newspapers to student residences.

Many reasons have been stated concerning the need for a student cooperative store, especially in these days of rising cost of learning.

Nor was the educational value of such a store overlooked by the Board of Trustees, when it granted permission for a one-year trial operation.

Experience in business methods, and a sense of worthwhile accomplishment and service, will be the major rewards for those who have and will give so much of time, energy and imagination to assure the venture's success.

Established by and for students, under direct supervision and control of All-College Cabinet (which advanced the initial capital after a favorable poll of the student body), the B-X will not become a gold mine for a few.

Instead, the profits will be distributed widely, and the most benefit will be obtained by those who are the biggest customers.

School supplies, priced at the lowest prevailing cost for comparable goods in the locality, will be available in surprising variety. At the end of each semester, all profits will be returned to students in proportion to the amount of their purchases.

For this reason, receipts for all purchases should be saved. Students should reasonably expect publication of B-X financial operations.

Established on a different basis, and for a different purpose, the student news agency offers to perform a service never before given at Penn State—delivery of Sunday newspapers to students' residences, at regular newsstand prices.

An additional advantage of the agency is the opportunity for agents to earn a little extra, and much-needed money, while performing this missing service for fellow students.

Here, too, the experience of actually operating a business will be of considerable educational value. Profits will be divided among the agents, actually as wages. Nothing will be made at the expense of students, since regular prices will be charged.

These have been two exceptional instances of a few energetic students working hard to better the general student welfare by concrete means. It remains to be seen whether their efforts will fail because of the apathy of the student body as a whole.

They illustrate what an effective student government can accomplish if it tries. Achievements of this nature are the best possible answers to those who wonder what student government ever does for them.

Yet neither Cabinet nor the student body can relax now, content that the ventures have been started, and lured into an opiate dream that they will flourish automatically, and without further effort.

To the student body belongs the selfish duty to patronize their own enterprises, to actively participate in these and other projects of student government and to suggest improvements in their operation.

The obligation of Cabinet, the B-X Board of Control and the student agency committee is a serious one. They must maintain the B-X and the agencies for the benefit of all the students, and not just themselves and their friends.

Collegian Gazette

Brief notices of meetings and other events must be submitted to The Daily Collegian office in Carnegie Hall by 2 p.m. of the day before the issue in which it is desired to appear.

Tuesday, February 8
COLLEGIAN Advertising Staff, Collegian office, 7 p.m.

At the Movies
CATHAUM—Fri. through Mon., Adventures of Don Juan.
NITTANY—Fri., Good Sam; Sat., Borrow Trouble; Mon., Antoine and Antoinette.
STATE—Fri., My Dear Secretary; Sat. through Mon., Mexican Hayride.

The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1887

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'Relax—You Have Nothing To Fear'



Welcome Newcomers!

The student coming to this vast and growing campus for the first time might feel somewhat like a sheltered young resident of rural Centre county on his first view of New York City.

More size need not be disconcerting, however, after one adjusts himself to it. This adjustment doubtless will be carried out in accordance with each student's desires, aims, and sense of values.

Some may be swept away in a turbulent stream of extra-curricular activities; others may follow a narrow academic routine. Many, it is hoped, will be able to strike a wholesome balance between studies and social-cultural activities.

The scholastic side of Penn State life, while handicapped to some extent by oversized classes and a seeming preoccupation with exams, grade points, and roll-taking, nonetheless can become a sharply stimulating influence on the willing student.

As for activities, they are marked by variety and by availability to all, regardless of fraternal affiliation or any other artificial measure of a student's worth.

We believe that new students will find this a very-much-alive campus—one that offers many challenges and opportunities to those who care to accept them.

—John Bonnell.

Next to Godliness

Certain downtown restaurants never have struck us as having a very high regard for the virtue of cleanliness. All too frequently we have been tendered a fork bearing evidence of a previous diner's meal, or a glass with an alluring but unsanitary streak of lipstick across its top.

It gives us renewed faith in the Borough government, therefore, to note that six restaurants out of 24 have received only temporary licenses and a warning to correct their conditions within 30 days.

This action followed a December inspection by the Board of Health, which described the six restaurants as in "rather bad condition." Among faults listed by the board were very poor toilet facilities, including no hot water, no soap, and no signs asking workers to wash hands.

We don't know exactly which restaurants were cited for shortcomings, but we can find several grievances with eating places both in State College and elsewhere.

Waitresses who continually finger their hair, "bar rags" which often leave a worse mess on the table than that which they were intended to remove, and uniforms that should be white but actually present a greasy gray appearance, to the detriment of our appetite—these are high on our list of gripes.

No one expects a public dining establishment to have all the qualities of home. Furthermore, State College restaurants generally consider themselves superior to those of many other communities in cleanliness. Some annoyances voiced here may seem trivial to others who eat downtown regularly. Fastidiousness varies widely among individuals.

We believe, however, that the time to avoid outbreaks of food poisoning and other results of unsanitary restaurant conditions, is before they occur. By its licensing action, the Board of Health has shown that it is somewhere near to being on the ball.

Cleaner restaurants can create some much-needed good will toward the town among the student body.

—John Bonnell.

This semester's registration seems to be coming off rather smoothly. The only remaining complaint is that the excavations on West Campus make the distance to Rec Hall twice as great from most points.

Do You Know . . . ?

Do you know how the Board of Trustees is chosen, and how it operates? Do you know what the College Senate is, and its duties?

How about finances, fees, appropriations? Or who makes athletic schedules, determines eligibility and sets athletic policy?

Beginning next Friday, the Collegian editor will attempt to answer these and other questions on the fundamental facts of the College's organization, purpose and mechanics of operation, in a series of weekly editorial features.

Suggestions for regions of mystery to be explored, as well as other criticisms, will be welcomed. We realize the enormity of the task, but will humbly try our best to provide some of the information which every student should know about his College.

Why All Gripes?

Reviewing the letters to the Safety Valve for the first semester reveals the not-too-surprising fact that the majority of them are complaints of one kind or another.

While criticisms and complaints are to be expected, and are not necessarily to be decried, they can become rather monotonous, and may be indicative of some unhealthy condition.

One of the possible disadvantages of this preponderance of gripe letters is that many persons refrain from writing letters of general interest, because of the mistaken belief that they would be unwelcome.

Because it is staffed by students who are necessarily busy with academic tasks on top of their reporting, Collegian cannot possibly unearth many of the interesting and worth-while, and woefully unknown events that happen daily on campus.

Students have many interests which are not limited by the classroom or the campus. Some of these interests may well be shared through the medium of this column, and may stimulate the thoughts of others.

Let's increase the interest in this feature by making it more than an outlet for gripes. Continue the constructive criticism, because there is a place for that, too, just expand the field of discussion.

The Safety Valve

For Success of BX

TO THE EDITOR AND THE STUDENT BODY: Yesterday the Penn State Book Exchange began its student service. This grand opening of the "BX" is more than merely the opening of a stationery and used book store under student operation in which you share the profits; it is another accomplishment in the area of student cooperation with College officers to improve student welfare. Further, it is the realization of a long cherished and patiently worked for objective of many students now on campus and many who have passed on to the ranks of alumni.

The authority under which the "BX" will function has been granted by the Board of Trustees of the College for one year from the date of its opening. Its continuance is contingent upon the success and efficiency of its function during this year. That success depends very heavily upon you, the student for whom the service is created.

The "BX" located in the TUB, will not always be the most convenient source of supply. Your share of the effort will be your willingness to match that put forth by many students who have worked for its organization.

All-College Cabinet and the BX Board of Control ask only that you justify the confidence which the College administration has placed in them in bringing this tangible, practical student service to you.

—William Lawless,
President, All-College Cabinet.
—Lee Burns,
Chairman, BX Board of Control.

Says Architects Know

TO THE EDITOR: Another potentially beautiful building has gone the way of its predecessors. I'm speaking of the one in construction next to the Armory.

A few weeks ago, the beautiful naked shell of the building was exposed for everyone to see but today it is being covered with a monstrosity of a facade.

I am one of a sincere group of architectural students who bemoan the fact that Penn State can not have the contemporary design the Miami University and Harvard are getting. Those in the higher circles should realize that the persons who know what good architecture is are architects!

If Penn State is to be a leader, we must be forward-thinking. A Twentieth century age demands a Twentieth-century architecture!

—Joe Severina.

Unreasonable?

TO THE EDITOR: In the brief editorial in the Daily Collegian of January 18 someone expressed his desire for word of the arrival of the first robin. Let me inform you that on January 13 at approximately 10 a.m., I saw and heard in one of the trees along the Mall a fully grown red-breast.

Should there be any doubt concerning my veracity, perhaps I can oblige you by climbing aforesaid tree and obtaining the claw-scratched (or otherwise marked) twig upon which this wanderer perched.

—"Doc" Hinkshaw.