

Nittany Initiative

As time progresses, more and more instances crop up to demonstrate that student opinion counts at Penn State. Through the years, examples can be cited to show that a long chain of concrete things were conceived in the minds of students, or came about through idea-seeds planted by students, or were changed or developed because of student impetus and pressure.

Many Penn State institutions although not directly begun by students, could not have survived without student initiative and enthusiasm.

In line with this, it appears that the College becomes more receptive to student opinion as years pass.

THE FACT THAT the student's voice means something appears in a number of examples. It can be seen in the Used Book Exchange, which has now been incorporated—physically at least—in the BX or Student Co-op.

Perhaps the most striking example of original student effort blossoming into a concrete project is the BX itself, backed vigorously in 1946-'47 by a small group of students headed by Emory Brown, now a graduate student.

The Spring Week extravaganza begun last Spring was totally a student venture, and its success in its first year augurs well for bigger and better ones to come.

THE SPARK AND original drive for the present student news agency and dry cleaning agency did not lie entirely with students in 1947, but it was their enthusiasm which prompted the College to develop the idea. So far this year, the two agencies have been successful in their own right, but have in no way reached their full potentialities on campus. They can live and stand on their own merits only through student support.

The list of student-manuevered and student-backed projects is long. It also includes, for example, the Student Government Room now in the office, the Community Forum series, faculty rating systems, a permanent Student Union Building now in the planning stage; and a few that are perhaps less inspiring but nevertheless of benefit to students, such as the "football half-holiday" and ice skating facilities.

THIS CHAIN OF student-initiated and student-supported projects and improvements could have been longer if many students had not relegated their gripes to bull sessions.

There are means of getting things done at Penn State. Among the best sounding boards of student opinion are All-College Cabinet, Association of Independent Men, Inter-fraternity Council, Women's Student Government Association, Leonides, Pan-Hellenic Council, most of the dorm councils and most of the school councils.

These channels are geared for effectiveness and are the best means for directing ideas and complaints toward the proper persons. Hot air and bombast directed to the wind never gained much at Penn State.

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"Great Little Watchdog — Chases Out All The Help"



The Gripes of Roth

By RED ROTH

Unless a miracle of minor proportions comes to pass on the campus before June, the class of '50 should have a comparatively easy time when, and if, the members become parents.

THE CHIEF REASON is that they'll have a ready answer to the usual query of the little ones, "daddy, can I grow up to be President?" If the cherub means President of the United States, the answer is "yes." If he means President of the College, the answer is "no."

Not that the qualifications for the post of President of Penn State are more stringent than those of the nation's Chief Executive. It's just that as matters stand now, the probability of anyone becoming President of the Commonwealth's Land-Grant institution are problematical.

Nor is there any foreseeable end to the paradox of one of the largest educational institutions in the United States minus a titular head.

RALPH DORN HETZEL, the last (and I hope the Trustees don't take that word too literally) President of the College died on October 3, 1947 of a cerebral blood clot. His untimely death, while startling in its suddenness, did NOT leave a gap that couldn't be filled. Other colleges and universities, too, have had to replace presidents due to deaths, resignations, or retirements, and it is doubtful if any waited longer than this College has done, and is still doing.

Less than three weeks after Hetzel's demise, the executive committee of the Board of Trustees did name an acting president, James Milholland.

Undoubtedly the Pittsburgh lawyer has done an adequate job in the post, but he is hampered by other commitments which leave him little time, outside of weekends, to devote to the administration of his alma mater. In addition to his job as Acting President of the College, Mr. M. is also President of the Board of Trustees and an active member of the law firm of Alter, Wright and Barron, Pittsburgh attorneys.

But surely, you ask, something has been done about seeking a permanent president. Yes, something has been done, but most of that something is shrouded in secrecy.

Almost four months after Hetzel died, the Board of Trustees appointed a special committee, headed by George H. Deike, of Pittsburgh, to recommend a man to the Board. As far as is known, not one concrete proposal for a candidate has yet been forthcoming from the committee.

THERE WERE VAGUE rumors, neither confirmed nor denied by a high member of the administration, that Dr. Edward Condon, noted atomic research scientist, had been suggested as a possible candidate. That was before he was branded a "Red" and subsequently cleared of the charge. It may be merely coincidence, but shortly after he was charged with being a communist, Condon's name ceased to be mentioned as a possible future president. Remember, too, Condon WAS exonerated.

The question of a successor to Hetzel is now as high and vague as an Army meteorological balloon. Other schools get their Stassens and Eisenhowers. Penn State doesn't even get promises. The administration merely maintains a sphinx-like attitude. Last year's All-College President William Lawless submitted a letter to the Board asking for clarification of the issue. No reply was ever received.

Fortunately some few of us on the campus still remember when there was a president here. If nothing else, we can keep the tradition alive.

Safety Valve...

A Man's World

TO THE EDITOR: In answer to the letter by the "Girls of McAllister" titled "Mouldy Men", we would like to straighten them out on a few pertinent facts. Everyone knows that this is a man's world and that women are just bare essentials to life. It is man who has been running the world since the beginning of time. There have been a few women who have been outstanding such as Joan of Arc but these are mere freaks of nature. We are sure that, when the coeds become mature and sensible, they shall become aware of the truth of these facts.

—The Men Who Know

• Names Withheld.

More Phones Needed

TO THE EDITOR: The past few evenings I found it necessary to wait between twenty and twenty-five minutes to use the phone here in the dormitory. This was due to the fact that there is only one phone in each dorm, and to the time consuming inconsideration of some telephone users. This long wait to make a call can cause great inconvenience, especially since, as I have heard, phone calls cannot be made to the women's dormitories after 10 p.m.

I believe that more phones should be supplied to the dormitories in this area to help ease the problem of the long waits. This doesn't seem to be an unreasonable request since in the women's dormitories there is a phone in each room, or at most two girls for each phone. The Nittany-Pollock area there are about fifty men for each phone.

—Bernard Fraye

• **ED. NOTE**—A few facts are in order. Women's Building has six phones for about 80 girls or about one for each 13 girls. Grange Dormitory, with two phones on each floor, has an average of one phone for about 10 or 12 girls. In McAllister, with roughly two phones on each floor, its a total of seven for 138, or one phone for 20.

Atherton, Simmons and McElwain—which are more modern—do have a phone in every room; on these the girls may make only campus calls and collect-calls to home. This phone-in-each-room setup sounds better than it actually is, since the total number of lines entering the building is limited.

A potent factor is that the number of calls over 5051 (men's and women's dorms) is limited to a total of 120 at any one time.

Securing additional phones in the men's dorms is a prickly problem which we suggest should be taken up in a council designed for airing student ideas and wants. Such a group is the Association of Independent Men.

Gazette

COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Admitted Wednesday: Roger Colborn, Edward Hoover, Ray Hedderick, John Storer, Harry Parker.

Admitted Thursday: Arthur Betts, Jean Heidemann.

Discharged Thursday: Anthony Orsini, Roger Colburn, Harry Parker, Josephine Williams, Barbara Puro, Juido Ciarle.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

The American Cyanamid Co., Nov. 2 and 3. Students receiving Ph. D. degrees in CE or Chem any time in 1950.

Youngstown Sheet and Tube, General Fireproofing, Timken Roller Bearing, Ortho Pharmaceutical Corp., Nov. 1 and 2. January grads in C&F, Arts and Letters, Accounting, Pre-med, Chem, ME, MineE, CE. Applicants should be in the upperhalf of their class. Positions available are primarily sales.

Radio Corp. of Amer. (RCA), Victor Division, Nov. 7 and 8. January grads in Me, EE, C&F, Accounting for specialized training program. Applicants must rank in upper-half of their class.

Social Security Administration representative will conduct a meeting in 405 Old Main, 7 p.m. November 3. All seniors are eligible who have twenty-four semester hours in one or not more than two of the following: sociology, economics, pol. science, psychology, education, history, public administration, social welfare, geography, international relations, statistics, anthropology. All students who are interested must submit application for examination by Nov. 8 and are urged to be present at this meeting.

AT THE MOVIES

NITTANY—Mr. Smith Goes to Washington.
CATHAUM—Tokyo Joe.
STATE—I Was a Male War Bride.

DUFFY'S TAVERN
BOALSBURG
for
SPAGHETTI
and
Your Favorite Beverage
in
THE GRILLE ROOM

KAYE'S
ORNER
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or
A COMPLETE MEAL
The U.S. Post Office is
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SPORTSMAN'S SHACK
Around the corner
from the Skellar

The Presbyterian Church
Frazier St. & Beaver Ave.
Morning Worship—10:45
Sermon: The Fearfulness of
Jesus Christ
Evening Service—7:30
Film: The Years of Appren-
ticeship
Rev. Andrew E. Newcomer Jr.
Rev. Donald W. Carruthers