

Significant Step

TRADITION IS about to be set. At tonight's open meeting at 7 in Sparks, a proposed Penn State Class Ring will be up for adoption by All-College Cabinet. If adopted, it will be the first official ring at the College, even though thousands of Penn State alumni already own a ring of another design.

The "old" ring, which already boasts the attribute of years of use and thousands of owners, lacked official adoption at the College, although it acquired a genuine officiality through decades of use.

Adopting an official ring—whether it be the "old" or a new design—was the aim of a committee created early this year by Cabinet. Action tonight will bring to fruition months of work by that student committee and a succeeding one.

BECAUSE THE College has technically never had an official school ring, students in the past have bought rings made with at least three variations—though slight—in design. Tonight will be a watershed, for Cabinet action will divide a diverse past with a definite, official one-pathed future in design for the Penn State Class Ring. Design specifications will be set, and only that design will be the official one.

IN BOARDING a bandwagon that has seen more U.S. college rings changed or adopted in the past five years than ever before, we think Cabinet has made a move for the better.

The design chosen by Cabinet holds a closer tie to the College than that of the "old" ring, which showed no Nittany Lion Shrine nor Old Main, two symbols of the College. The "old" ring was content to twice include the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A smaller Seal is retained on one side of the proposed "new" ring.

Because the "old" ring is connected inextricably with the College by alumni who bought it, this "new" ring will certainly not replace it in the alums' eyes. And rightly so.

But the "new" ring is—by its very appearance—more closely bound up with the College, and it will boast an authoritative, official stamp. That is why adoption of the "new" ring will constitute a significant, forward step by the mid-century Cabinet.

Little Man On Campus by Bibler



Activity File

TIME OF MAN is as short as wash-day dinner-graces, and shorter is his memory. In a university such as Penn State (we feel this institution resembles more a university than a college) allowance is made for this shortness of man's memory by a thorough, comprehensive filing system. There are many people employed at Penn State for the purpose of amassing and keeping in order this vast system covering many offices.

Yet, a facet of the personal student record—an immensely important part of the filing system—has been neglected. With the exception of seniors when they are about to graduate, we know of no way of checking and listing the extra-curricular activities of students. Seniors are taken care of in this respect by forms they fill out for the Placement Office, and by material they submit to LaVie, the yearbook, and—in some instances—by departmental forms.

But in the length and breadth of the remainder of the Nittany campus, no such record exists on a year-round, cumulative basis. We feel it is the responsibility of somebody to institute such a filing system, one that will cover juniors and sophomores and freshmen, as well as seniors.

OFTEN, ON VIRTUALLY no notice, various student and administrative groups or offices have need of a complete extra-curricular history of a student. At present they must take the laborious route of contacting the student personally. When many students' records are sought, this hurry-up project can become as time-consuming and complex as a mathematician's schedule of the Zodiac.

THIS OFTEN IMPOSES a handicap on administrative officials and students alike. The student suffers sometimes because he is deprived of recognition in various national intercollegiate societies, and he may sometime lose a job opportunity when a prospective employer calls at the College asking for his entire background. The employer may call before a student has reached his eighth semester, but—in the main—complete, up-to-date activities records are not on file for the employer to see until the student is ready to leave the Vale.

Our suggestion to rectify this is simple. Each semester's registration should include a detailed form asking all students for personal background. Some group should be delegated to keep this record up to date—if not a College office then perhaps some responsible student group such as the National Student Association committee.

Every time a student joins a society, a fraternity, an organization of any sort, or any time a student is honored in any way—immediate notation should be made. Perhaps such a project would be worthy of operations in the student government room slated to open soon in Old Main.

Establishing such a system would immeasurably simplify the process of student activities and identifications. It would be a boon to the guy who is trying to find out if Joe College headed the Poultry Club in '46, and whether Jane College ever belonged to the WSGA Senate.

A Chat With ARW

Ed. Note: This is the sixth in a series of articles by Arthur R. Warnock, dean emeritus of men, who was in contact with thousands of Penn State undergraduates in his 30-year tenure as dean of men. Speaking of Penn State presidents, as many of us are these days, here is a story of a great Penn State faculty member who could have become the ninth president of the College—and lived.

DR. GEORGE GILBERT POND, for whom Pond chemistry laboratory is named, came to the campus as a young chemistry instructor in the Atherton era, and stayed here until his death in 1920, becoming a departmental head and later a dean.

"Swampy" he was universally called, and he was what present-day students would term a "character." He had a delightful, colorful personality, but was also a tough, exacting teacher. His stentorian "Outside!" sent many a student out of his classroom because of a poor recitation. His "What have you got in your test tube?" startled many a student in the laboratory so much that speechless confusion of mind resulted.

When his students became alumni, however, they found that he had taught them chemistry that stayed with them, and that he followed their careers with a personal interest. Hence, they were devoted to him.

IN 1919 PRESIDENT Edwin Erle Sparks retired because of illness. Many Trustees wanted Dr. Pond to accept the presidency as Dr. Sparks' successor; but Swampy replied that a better man than he should be found for the presidency. So the Trustees told him to go out and find that better man.

Judge H. Walton Mitchell, the president of the Board of Trustees, was made acting president of the College, with Dean Pond as his campus executive officer.

During the following year, Swampy, in addition to his heavy campus duties, made many trips in search of presidential possibilities. On one of those trips into New England he contracted pneumonia and died in April. Were it not for his self-sacrificing loyalty, he could have become Penn State's ninth president—and lived.

Arthur R. Warnock

All-College Cabinet Sets Student Policy

All-College Cabinet, highest student government body at Penn State, is a vague and meaningless term to many of the very students whose affairs are administered by it. The headline actions of the recent past and probable future make it important that every student understand and appreciate the process whereby his student life is affected.

FIRST OF ALL, it is necessary to realize that the Cabinet is not made up of a group of mechanical "wheels" but very human and real people who have become empowered as representatives of large campus groups through showing exceptional interest and ability. They are fallible, but usually arrive at conclusions which are right for the mass of the student body.

The present Cabinet is composed of All-College officers Ted Allen, president; Harry McMahon, vice-president; and James MacCallum, secretary-treasurer and chairman of interclass finance committee; class presidents James Balog, senior; Harry Kondourajian, junior; Joseph Arnold, sophomore; and Marion Whitely, freshman; student council presidents Carroll Howes, agriculture; George Herold, chemistry and physics; Robert Gabriel, education; George Oehmler, engineering; Joseph Laine, home economics; Earl Schaffer, liberal arts; Robert Anderson, mineral industries; and Richard Weritz, physical education.

Presidents of Interfraternity Council, Peter Giesey; Association of Independent Men, Robert Davis; PanHellenic Council, Dolores Jelacic; Leonides, Mary Hollis; Women's Student Government Association, Shirley Gauger; Men's Athletic Association, James Gehrdes; Women's Recreational Association, Virginia Miller; and finally, Chairman of the Board of Publications, Thomas Morgan, Chairman of the Board of Dramatics and Forensics, Allen Baker; and Parliamentarian, Richard Schweiker.

THESE TWENTY-FIVE students represent every undergraduate on campus at least five times through their organizations of schools, living groups, classes, athletic associations, and all-College officers, elected by all annually. In addition, ex-officio—non-voting—members of Cabinet are present from the offices of the Dean of Men and Women, the Penn State Christian Association, Tribunal and Judicial, and the Alumni Association.

Cabinet works usually through committees, often headed by Cabinet members but made up of other students who have a particular interest in the issue for which the committee was formed. Certain committees are of a permanent nature, and are standing committees, changing personnel yearly, e.g., elections, student union, book exchange, spring week, national student association committees.

When special problems arise, Cabinet through its president appoints special committees composed of people especially interested and qualified in the issue, giving them full power to investigate and recommend a change in the situation. Upon presentation of reports from the findings of the committees, Cabinet either supports, rejects or amends the report. Cabinet's approval, and subsequent recommendation to the administration usually accomplishes the action requested.

Student government as it now exists at the College generally accepted as one of the finest student systems in the nation, was changed in 1939 when a new constitution was adopted by vote of the student body. The new constitution established at central government, into which were federated all student power groups. (This constitution appears on page 6).

IT IS CABINET'S function to treat student problems on the basis of the welfare and betterment of all students, without favoring any of its component groups; to interpret and promote College spirit and loyalty; to sponsor orientation programs, mass-meetings, pep-rallies; and to perpetuate the customs and traditions of Penn State.

—JACK SENIOR

Free Ride To Bellefonte

The first train rolled into State College on Saturday, April 2, 1892, bringing quite a number of people from Bellefonte. To celebrate the occasion, the railroad company ran an excursion of invited guests, who were given a free ride to Bellefonte and return later in the day.

Gazette

- Tuesday, February 21
- COLLEGIAN SOPHOMORE and Junior Board Ad Salesmen, 9 C.H., 7 p.m.
- COLLEGIAN Business Sophomore Board, 9 C.H., 7:30 p.m.
- PSCA Commissions, 304 Old Main, 7:30 p.m.
- PRE-MED HONOR Society, 418 Old Main, 7 p.m.
- BELLES LETTRES Club, North-East lounge Atherton, 7 p.m.
- DELTA SIGMA PI, Phi Kappa fraternity house, 7:30 p.m.
- CAMERA CLUB, 105 M.E.
- SOCIOLOGY CLUB, Atherton Hall lounge, 7:15 p.m.
- PRE-VETERINARIAN Club, 206 Ag., 7 p.m.
- VOLUNTEER NAVAL Electronics Warfare Unit, Eng. E., 7 p.m.
- COLLEGIAN CANDIDATES of last semester, Room 8 C.H. 8 p.m.
- COLLEGIAN NEW SOPHOMORE BOARD, Room 8 C.H. 7 p.m.
- COLLEGIAN EDIT Junior Board, 111 C.H., 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Further information concerning interviews and job placements can be obtained in 112 Old Main.

The Ingersoll-Rand Co., Feb. 27, 28. June grads in ME, IE, MngE. Applicants must have 1.8 or better average.

Shell Oil Co., Mar. 6, 7. June MS and BS candidates in MngE and Petroleum and Natural Gas Refining, MS candidates in EE and ME, and PhD candidates in Phys.

AT THE MOVIES
CATHAUM—Jolsen Sings Again.
STATE—Twelve O'Clock High.
NITTANY—Barber Of Seville.

The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday mornings inclusive during the College year by the staff of The Daily Collegian of The Pennsylvania State College. Entered as second-class matter July 6, 1934, at the State College, Pa., Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

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