

# Prof Parlays Pittance Into Many Millions

It required only ten minutes—and ten cents—for Dr. M. R. Cannon, professor of chemical engineering at the College, to prove the original hypothesis of a research discovery that may mean millions in savings to industry.

Many industries, particularly the chemical manufacturing industries, use distillation processes in making their products. The process depends on the reaction of a gas and a liquid, the liquid usually entering the top of the distillation column and the gas entering the base of the column.

To speed the reaction, packing, consisting of any material ranging from metal to marbles, is used in the column, providing a large surface area. One of the problems encountered in distillation is that of keeping the packing material wet.

### Self-wetting Packing

Aware that a packing that was self-wetting would hold advantages over a type that required flooding, Dr. Cannon looked to capillary action as an answer. But a method of utilizing capillary action without the disadvantage of completely encircling the liquid column, as in a capillary tube, had to be found.

Going to the nearest dime store, Dr. Cannon bought a ten-cent compass and with it punched a pattern of small holes into a scrap piece of nickel. He dipped it into a beaker of petroleum and the liquid, defying the laws of gravity, climbed on the metal strip.

Since that time, Dr. Cannon has perfected his "metal blotter" so that he now punches 1024 tiny holes per square inch of metal. The metal is cut into small strips which are wrapped into cylinders so that each piece looks something like a thimble, except that the holes pierce the metal and form burrs on one side. Thousands of these tiny cylinders, now known as Cannon Packing, are poured into the distillation columns.

This new protruded packing, already in use in petroleum and chemical laboratories, holds great promise for industry and unlike much research which is costly in time and money, it started with a ten-cent investment and a ten-minute experiment.

## Eleven Drill---

(Continued from page four) first one then another looking like the man to beat.

"We'll use all three of them Saturday," Engle said yesterday, "and if one doesn't go, we'll try the others until we find out who's hot." Engle did, however, praise the running of Shattuck, who has been improving rapidly in the past two weeks.

**MIDFIELD MUTTERINGS:** Lou Bell, director of public information at the College, tells how George Donovan, manager of the Student Union, gave ex-Lion coach Bob Higgins a play several years ago that was guaranteed to score every time. After George drew the play on a slip of paper for Hig, ol' Bob looked it over and said, "But George, there are 13 men on our team!"

"Look, Hig," George is said to have replied, "I just made up the play. You're the coach, you figure out how to get 13 men on the field!"

## Booters' Card-

(Continued from page four) Temple, Navy, and North Carolina. These three will again be the chief hurdles for the Co-National Collegiate Champions. Additional difficulty may be encountered with the West Chester eleven.

State College fans will have only four opportunities to see the inbooters in action, the bulk of the games being on the road.

The 1950 schedule:  
 Oct. 7 Bucknell at Lewisburg  
 Oct. 14 Western Maryland  
 Oct. 21 Navy at Annapolis  
 Oct. 24 Gettysburg at Gettysburg  
 Oct. 28 Colgate  
 Nov. 4 North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
 Nov. 6 West Chester at West Chester  
 Nov. 11 Syracuse  
 Nov. 18 Maryland  
 Nov. 25 Temple at Philadelphia

## Plane To End Fire Hazard

The hazard of fire, which often follows the crash of an airplane, would be almost eliminated in the type of plane dreamed up by Dr. H. H. Simons, director of the Flourine Laboratories at the College.

Dr. Simons, leading authority on fluoro-carbone, which won't burn and are almost indestructible in other ways, admits we're far from the airplane of his dream but considers it a very real possibility in the distant future.

### Plans Plastic

To eliminate combustible materials, Dr. Simons would use fluoro-carbon plastics, still to be developed; tires to be made of fluorocarbons; and either glass or as yet undeveloped fluoro-carbon fabrics to replace present fabrics.

Fluoro-carbon oils and lubricants, now a very real possibility, would be used and non-combustible paints, also made from fluorocarbons would protect any combustible material remaining in the plane.

Instead of the gasoline engine, Dr. Simons visualizes a turbine. He has a fluoro-carbon that has a molecular weight in the vapor of 25 times that of water, which will make possible the use of a small vapor turbine. For fuel, Dr. Simons would use an oil with a much lower flash point and volatility than gasoline.

But just in case a fire should begin on this fireproof plane, Dr. Simons points out the fluoro-carbon used as the turbine impellent would be an excellent fire extinguisher.

## Trustees Name-

(Continued from page one) took over larger quarters in Old Main, and in 1903 was moved into the \$150,000 Carnegie Library, presented by Andrew Carnegie. The building is now known as Carnegie Hall. In 1940, the library was moved into its present building, which was built by the General State Authority and the Public Works administration. A new unit is scheduled to be built by the General State Authority.

Dr. Pattee, born in 1863, was a graduate of Dartmouth and came to the College in 1894 as a professor of English and rhetoric. In 1918 he received the title of professor of American literature, and was probably the first in the country to hold the title.

### Accepts Post

In 1928 he retired, but later accepted a position at Rollins College, Winter Park, Fla. He died at his home there on May 6.

Many of Dr. Pattee's works are now in the library which will bear his name. Dr. Pattee donated his collection to the library, which includes rare volumes, magazines and manuscripts that took him a lifetime to collect.

Beside the first editions included, the collection contains many lesser known books of the better known authors, and many minor volumes that are not readily available in most libraries.

While at the College, Dr. Pattee's interests were many. In 1895 he became a charter member of the Literary club, and in 1897, was one of two men who founded the Penn State Thespians. In 1901 he wrote the lyrics for the Alma Mater.

## AIM Sponsors Dance

The Association of Independent Men will sponsor the second all-College dance of the year in Recreation Hall from 8 p.m. to 12 p.m. this Saturday after the football game with Georgetown. Ray Evert and his Artists in Melody will provide the music and admission will be free.

## Steidle Names Student Union MI Dean's List

Thirty-three students in the School of Mineral Industries were cited by Dean Edward Steidle for scholarship during the Spring semester.

Seniors on the Deans' list were William Bates, 2.85; Robert Brumberg, 2.70; Louis Carswell, 2.50; Stewart Claypoole, 2.88; John Dickson, 2.62; Walter Frisbie, 2.80; Donald Gasper, 2.83; Arthur Kantor, 2.64; Norman Kapko, 2.60; Curtis Keenan, 2.83; Frederick Krug, 3.00; Vance Moyer, 3.00; Paul Nickola, 2.68; David Reehler, 3.00; David Skelly, 2.81; Paul Wallace, 2.52; and Clarence Whitlow, 2.80.

Juniors included Herschel Browne, 2.88; Homer Harris, 2.63; Richard Higgs, 2.72; John Kraft, 2.66; Robert Messinger, 2.50; Robert Thomson, 2.83; Lewis Tomlinson, 2.66; Peter Urka, 2.50; and Isaac Van der Hoven, 3.00.

Sophomores on the honor list were Paul Barton, 2.65; John Harrison, 2.66; Robert Huber, 2.68; Robert Igou, 2.57; Albert Ludil, 2.83; Walter Showak, 2.81; and George Spalding, 2.83.

## Mail Distribution Of Handbook Set

The new Student Government Handbook, recently added to the long list of campus publications, will be distributed through the mail to all new students by the end of next week.

Copies will also be sent to all student organizations, fraternities, sororities, resident advisors, student organization faculty advisors, college dignitaries and officials, and deans of the various schools.

Distribution points for additional copies will be located at the Student Union, the Dean of Women's office, and the Dean of Men's office.

The handbook was compiled by Ralph Lewis, and Richard Curto, co-editors; Richard Evans, cartoonist; and Clarke Young who conducted the research.

Appropriations for the handbook were granted by All-College cabinet. Tentative plans call for yearly publication of the handbook.

## Student Union

(Continued from page one) "gap" measure until a permanent structure could become a reality.

The project gained momentum last year when student leaders proposed and All-College cabinet passed a plan whereby students could purchase life insurance and assign the first \$100 of benefits from the policy to a Student Union fund. The plan continues in operation.

Later last year, student leaders circulated petitions to speed action on the building of a permanent structure. All-College cabinet, acting on the proposal on May 25, passed a plan for a student fee to help finance the building.

The plan provides for an assessment of \$7.50 per semester this year for each student and \$10 per semester beginning next year. This action was approved by the trustees last June.

Architects' sketches and floor plans for the new structure are currently on display in the lobby of Old Main. The plans incorporate the features requested by the students on the Student Union committee. The architects have made provision for future expansion of the building if so desired at a later time.

The building will consist of social areas, including a ballroom and lounges; cultural areas, including space for art exhibits, hobby crafts shops, music room, and browsing library; food area, including a coffee shop, dining rooms, and soda bar; and also meeting rooms.

Offices for student organizations and offices for the administration of the building will be included in the structure. There will also be game areas and the necessary facilities for maintenance and operation of the building and the food services.

## Council To Show Series Of Films On North Rhodesia

Mineral Industries student council is showing a series of films on northern Rhodesia.

The film "Copper Mining in Northern Rhodesia" will be presented at 7:30 tonight in room 10 Sparks. This one-hour film will show the methods of prospecting, shrinkage stoping, sub level bench stoping, diamond drill stoping, caving method of stoping, and drainage and ventilation.

## 4 'Hatmen'--

(Continued from page one) Robert Davis, All-College president, was one of the men who was bombed by the eager frosh.

### Freshmen Opinions

Many freshmen seem to enjoy living under customs. As one said, "When you think of college, you think of customs." They think the name-cards look silly, and they wish they knew when customs will be lifted, but most of them are looking forward to their upperclass years with great anticipation.

Although there are some upperclassmen who are not in favor of customs, some apparently are being convinced by the spirit frosh are showing. One hatman said, "This weekend rebellion is great. It'll be lots of fun next week—if I live that long."

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