

Student Takes Life Cabinet Group Warns With Sleeping Pills Against Unofficial Ring

By BOB FRASER

Thomas M. Hepler, a 19-year-old sophomore in English composition, was found dead early yesterday after he took his own life by taking an overdose of sleeping pills.

Hepler, who often told his friends he would never live to be 20, was discovered by his roommate, Howard Slothower, a freshman, when he returned to the room from his eight o'clock class.

Centre County Coroner John Weber attributed the death to the sleeping pills and said Hepler died "early in the morning."

A suicide note was found in a book entitled "Winesburg, Ohio" by Sherwood Anderson, which was on Hepler's typewriter. In the note he asked that people not blame his family, his friends or his roommate. He referred to a picture on the wall as a possible reason. The picture was "Death at the Racetrack" by Albert Ryder.

Roommate Calls for Aid
Slothower said the picture was Hepler's favorite.

Slothower said he called to Hepler when he returned to the room but became worried when he did not respond. He then called the College Health Service for aid. A doctor pronounced Hepler dead at 9 a.m.

Hepler, at the College on a State scholarship, was termed an "excellent student" by Ben Euwema, dean of the School of Liberal Arts. He received a 2.38 average for the fall semester of 1950 and the following semester he received a 2.6 average.

A. L. Gucci, assistant professor of English composition, said Hepler had "great talent, a genuine talent."

Three Poems in Pivot
Hepler at the time of his death apparently did not realize he had won first prize of \$10 for his poem in Pivot called "Arms of the Sea," a poem on suicide. His roommate said as far as he knew, Hepler had not bought a copy of Pivot which went on sale Monday. Gucci said Hepler did not attend his Wednesday Composition 13 class at which he would have been presented the prize. He also said Hepler turned down the chance to be Pivot editor next year and gave no reasons for his decision.

Three of his poems appeared in the latest Pivot. They were "Arms of the Sea," "Prose Poem No. 12," and "Prose Poem No. 8." He also wrote poetry for Inking.

Well Liked in Jordan
Slothower said Hepler wore a pair of black pajamas to bed for the first time the night of his death. Hepler and a friend had

Groups May Get Christmas Trees

The civic responsibility committee of the Interfraternity Council has made arrangements whereby fraternities, sororities, and other campus groups may purchase Christmas trees through the College Forestry Department.

The trees, ranging up to ten feet in height, will be mostly red pine and Norwegian spruce. They will cost \$2.

Trees may be ordered through Joseph Lemyre, State College 6786. Orders must be placed by 10 a.m. Saturday and the trees will be ready by next Wednesday or Thursday. They are to be picked up at the Sigma Chi parking lot on the corner of Burrowes road and Pollock road.

TODAY'S WEATHER

WINDY AND COLDER



Takes Life



Thomas Hepler

Thespians List Rogers-Hart Hit for April

"A Connecticut Yankee," Broadway musical hit in the late twenties, will be presented by Thespians for the spring musical comedy show, Thespian President Carrol Chapman announced yesterday.

Tryouts for the musical, which will be staged IFC weekend in April, are to be held shortly after the Christmas vacation.

Words and music to "Connecticut Yankee" were written by Rodgers and Hart and were based on Mark Twain's book, "Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court."

Hollywood recently produced a musical "Connecticut Yankee" with Bing Crosby singing the Rodgers and Hart melodies.

"My Heart Stood Still" and "Thou Swell" are two of the hit songs in the show.

Thespians usually put on an original show in the fall—a professional musical in the spring.

Gridders Elect Scheetz, Gratson 1952 Captains

Tackle Stew Scheetz and line-backer Joe Gratson were elected co-captains for the 1952 football season by the varsity lettermen yesterday. They succeed end Art Betts and linebacker Len Shephard as Lion co-captains.

Both Scheetz and Gratson played in every game for the Nittany Lions this season and both were named to the All-District defensive team. Scheetz is from Lansdale and Gratson is from Leisening.

Awards Made
Ben Thompson was named head manager for next season succeeding Jack Brown. Dick Grafton, Ron Engerman and Herb Wolf were named first assistant managers.

Seniors receiving letter awards

1700 to Sign Deferment Contracts

About 1700 Penn State students enrolled in the Army Reserve Officer's Training program will have to sign new draft deferment agreements to avoid being drafted because of a technical change from the Selective Service Act of 1948 as amended, Col. Lucien E. Bolduc, Army ROTC head, said yesterday.

The technical change, involving the term of membership in a reserve unit, came about recently with the passage of the National Defense Act of 1951.

The new agreement if signed, requires students to complete the basic course, to enroll in the advanced program at the proper time if accepted, and to accept a commission if tendered, Army ROTC officials said.

Upon receipt of the commission, the student would be subject to not less than two years of active duty under call by the Secretary of the Army and would remain a member of a regular or reserve unit of the Army for eight years after receipt of the commission.

Previous Deferments Canceled
The previous regulation had required students to serve five years in the reserve unit.

Bolduc said all Army ROTC students would have to sign this new deferment or lose their deferments completely. The new agreement wipes out all previous ROTC deferments, he said.

This information was released to Army students during common hour yesterday. The new deferments must be returned by noon Monday or old deferments will be canceled, Col. Bolduc said.

Agreement Not Binding
Signing the deferment agreement is not automatically considered application for advanced ROTC, he said. The advanced program of selective processing will be in effect as before.

Students who sign the agreement and who later decide they do not want to take advanced ROTC may elect not to accept advanced training if tendered, Col. Bolduc said.

The deferment agreements are being sent to Penn State centers now, he added.

and gold footballs were Jim Barr, Len Bartek, Art Betts, Dick Cripps, Bill Hockersmith, Ed Hoover, Chan Johnson, Pat McPoland, Earl Mundell, Tom Pevarnik, Jim Pollard, Len Shephard, Joe Shumock, Andy Silock, Pete Twaddle, Charlie Wilson, George Harvan, Guido Schiazza, John Podrasky, and Jack Brown.

Sophomores Honored
Juniors receiving letter awards were Paul Anders, Don Barney, Jim Dooley, Joe Gratson, Bill Leonard, Carl Pfirman, Bob Pollard, Stew Scheetz, Ted Shattuck, Dave Simon, Bob Smith and Joe Yukica.

Sophomores receiving letters were Don Eyer, Don Malinak, Tony Rados, Pete Schoderbek, Pete Shopa, Bob Szajna, Keith Vesling, and Matt Yanosich.

Freshmen receiving letters were Jesse Arnelle, Roosevelt Griet, Buddy Rowell, and Don Shank.

All-College Vice President Harry Cover, chairman of the permanent All-College Cabinet ring committee, yesterday warned students that the Penn State class ring being sold by Bankes Brothers, Bloomsburg, was not an official ring.

Although Bankes Brothers is not claiming that its ring is an official Penn State class ring, Cover said, it was the opinion of the committee that it was necessary to point out to students that there is an official ring since Bankes Brothers advertising denies by inference the existence of such a ring.

"There is an official Penn State class ring," Cover said. "It is the ring for which the die was approved by All-College Cabinet in 1950."

"At the present time," Cover said, three firms have had their rings approved by the committee. They are Balfour, Herf-Jones, and Dieges and Clust. They are the only rings which are official Penn State class rings."

Cover said that the committee cannot prevent the sale of a Penn State ring, but that it was the job of the committee to inform students which rings are official. He said that the committee invites any firm interested in selling the official ring to submit its die to the committee for consideration.

The establishment of an official Penn State ring, with regulations governing its sale and purchase, was approved by cabinet in February, 1951. Under the system, a ring must meet specifications and be approved by the cabinet committee in order to be official.

The sale of the official ring is restricted to sixth, seventh, and eighth semester students, two year agriculture students, and holders of graduate and undergraduate degrees of the College. The Bankes Brothers ring is advertised as being "available for seniors, juniors, sophomores, freshmen, any alumni or special student . . ."

Early Holidays Are Forbidden

No students will be excused from classes to take vacation jobs which begin before the official College holidays, the Dean of Men's office announced yesterday.

If the dean's office excuses for any cases other than those of necessity or emergency, then they would be assuming some power of the College calendar committee, said Daniel A. DeMarino, assistant dean of men.

Students who must leave the campus early to take holiday jobs should inform their instructors in sufficient time so that additional work may be assigned to replace the class time missed, he said. DeMarino also explained that any excuses issued by the Dean of Men's office are not binding and may be accepted only at the discretion of the instructors.

Forms Out for Blood Drive; 140 Needed

Blood drive officials yesterday said several pledge forms have been taken out by students who wish to donate blood when the Red Cross unit returns to State College Wednesday and Thursday.

Pledge forms may be secured at the TUB, West Dorm main lounge, or Student Union desk in Old Main. They must be returned to the Student Union by 4 p.m. Monday, officials said. The drive needs 140 pledges.

Fire Loss Deadline

Tomorrow at noon is the deadline for students who suffered losses in the Gentzel Building fire to report their losses to Daniel DeMarino, in the Dean of Men's office.

Civil Liberty Union Plans Conference

The American Civil Liberties Union rallied in Philadelphia yesterday to plan a Dec. 11 Harrisburg conference of groups opposing the Pechan loyalty bill before the state legislature, the Associated Press reported.

Meanwhile, an objection to provisions of the loyalty oath bill was voiced by the legislative committee of the Centre County branch of the Pennsylvania State Education Association.

Speakers scheduled at the Philadelphia rally, held in the Downtown Friends meeting house, were Earl G. Harrison, former dean of the University of Pennsylvania Law school, and Patrick Murphy Manlin, director of the Civil Liberties Union.

Profs Oppose Bill
According to the AP, James M. Brittain, president of the Philadelphia unit of the union, said 10,000 notices of the Harrisburg conference are being sent to local branches of the organizations sponsoring the conference. The groups include labor, student, and teacher organizations.

In Easton, the AP said, the Lafayette College chapter of the American Association of University Professors expressed opposition to the bill, which has been passed by the Senate and approved by the House state government committee after drastic revision.

Objection Stated
Dr. Morrison Handsaker, chapter president, the AP added, said members believe the bill would not remove subverters from responsible positions, and that they object to what they term dismissal on the basis of "reasonable doubt" of a government employee's loyalty.

Dorothy Harpster, chairman of the Centre County PSEA branch, said "The educators object not to the loyalty provision, but to the provisions of the bill which dismiss a teacher upon doubt rather than proof and which fail to allow the teacher the right to appeal to a court."

Eisenhower Elected To Education Board
NEW YORK, Dec. 6—(AP)—Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, President of Pennsylvania State College, has been elected to the board of trustees of the Institute of International Education.

The institute administers programs in the field of international education for the state department and for other government and private agencies.

Eisenhower is widely recognized as an expert in education and in government policy and administration.

Train Time Changed

The Pennsylvania Railroad has announced a change in the schedule of Train No. 75 The Duquesne. Since Monday, The Duquesne leaves New York at 8:20 a.m. instead of 8:35 a.m. and arrives in Lewistown at 12:54 p.m. instead of 12:59 p.m.

Hulme Memorial Plaque

Friends of the late College athletic trainer Jack Hulme have raised funds for the erection of a memorial plaque and a door name plate in his memory.