



THIS IS HOW the Student Union Building will look from the south. The terrace in the foreground adjoins the cafeteria and snack bar. There are two

terraces on the wing to the right. The top one adjoins the ballroom. The building is expected to be completed and ready for occupancy within the next two years.

Student Union Construction To Begin Early Next Year

Construction of the Student Union Building will begin early next year, the College revealed yesterday. The contract for the work has been verbally let to Irwin and Leighton, Philadelphia contractors, and signatures are now being obtained.

The contract will also include construction of an east wing to the Nittany Lion Inn.

The SU is expected to be completed and ready for occupancy in the fall of 1954.

The Student Union Building is a project begun nearly three years ago when, in response to a recommendation of All-College Cabinet, the Board of Trustees established a \$7.50 student fee, to be raised to \$10 next fall, to pay for the construction. The building, with furnishings and equipment included, will cost \$2,876,000. The cost of the Inn project will be \$1,072,000.

The building site will be Holmes Field, across from Osmond Laboratory.

In design, the building will be modern—sleek, functional, and flat roofed. It will have three floors and a basement. Room will be made for a large ballroom, a lecture hall, music room for rehearsals, library, cafeteria, soda bar, coffee shop, meeting rooms and offices for student organizations, four lounges, and game areas for table tennis and pool.

SU Offices Planned
The main floor of the building will have an air conditioned auditorium with 182 seats and motion picture projection equipment. A ballroom opening on to a terrace along with a lobby and dance lounge will also be included. In addition, the main floor will hold a music room and a browsing library, a Student Union desk and offices, and a lounge for exhibition purposes.

The second floor will contain Student Union management offices and meeting rooms for student organizations.

The cafeteria will be located on the ground floor. Small dining rooms for group meetings and a dining terrace will be on the same floor. Space on the floor has been set aside for the book exchange and the lost and found department. Provisions for future craft rooms were also made. The craft rooms will include metal shop, a

ceramic shop, a wood shop, a general work shop, a drawing room, and a designing room.

NPA Approved Materials
The basement will contain a storage room for wood service and utilities for the building.

Construction on the building was supposed to have begun in 1950, but the National Production Authority restricted materials at the outbreak of the Korean War. The NPA said materials would be available in 1952.

President Milton S. Eisenhower pointed out that the building will improve the social pattern of campus life as well as the educational program and said, "I am sure that no other single facility could contribute so much to a better Penn State."

Inn to Be Finished First
The addition of an east wing to the Nittany Lion Inn will add 75 rooms, nearly doubling the number of guest rooms already provided. The new wing will also provide for a grill under the present main dining room, a large meeting room, and a small meeting room under the lounge of the present structure.

Construction of the Inn will be completed before the Student Union Building.

Alderfer to Speak To Faculty Club

Dr. Russell B. Alderfer, professor of soil technology, will discuss "Research in the Physical Properties of Soils" at the Graduate Faculty Research Club meeting 7:30 tonight in 112 Osmond.

Following the talk, comments on the general subject of soils will be made by Dr. Louis Berger, associate professor of civil engineering; George J. Free, professor of education; Dr. Frederick R. Matson, professor of ceramics; and Dr. E. Willard Miller, professor of geography.

Veterans to Start Club

The Veterans' Club will meet at 7 tonight in 418 Old Main to ratify a constitution and organize a permanent club. Co-chairmen Richard Smith and Charles Mayer have asked ex-servicemen to attend. This is the first attempt to organize a veterans' club on campus since the Korean War.

Speech Contest Established By \$5000 Fund

An agricultural speaking competition to be held each year in March has been established with a \$5000 trust fund provided by Mrs. Paul R. Guldin, Yellow House, as a memorial to her late husband, a Berks County poultry breeder.

The contest, to be known as the Paul R. Guldin Agricultural Speaking Contest, will be limited to undergraduate agriculture students. First prize will be \$50 and a gold medal, and second prize will be \$25 and a silver medal.

The contestant will deliver a five-minute talk in the semi-finals and an eight-minute talk in the finals. The contestant may pick his own subject so long as it pertains to agriculture or rural living. Provisions for the contest were accepted by the executive committee of the Board of Trustees.

Guldin was graduated from Cornell University and was a poultry specialist at the College from 1918 to 1921.

Job Training To Be Offered

The Civil Service Commission has announced that applications for on-the-job training are available to sophomores and juniors in chemistry, physics, mathematics, metallurgy, meteorology, and the various branches of engineering.

A written test will be given. Completion of one's college courses, the report added, is a part of the program, with promotion on the basis of merit following.

Further information regarding the training program and the Form 5000—AB for taking the test may be obtained by writing to the U.S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D.C.

The greatest disaster ever to happen in the American Navy was the wreck of the Insurgent in 1800. It sailed from Hampton Roads and was never heard from; 380 lives were lost.

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Stress Problems Subject Of Engineering Project

A two year, \$10,800 project investigating the pony truss problem is being conducted in the basement of Main Engineering by Edward C. Holt Jr., instructor in civil engineering.

The project, sponsored by the Column Research Council, Pennsylvania Department of Highways, and the Federal Bureau of Roads, has as its purpose the development of a theory which will give accurate figures for the strain on a pony truss and the development of a useable formula for this purpose.

A pony truss is a truss without overhead cross bracing. A bridge with side bracing that does not have the sets of side members connected is a pony truss.

The problem of the pony truss is buckling of the top longitudinal members. In a thorough truss (one with overhead cross bracing) the top beams do not buckle because they are supported by the cross members. In the pony truss, the only support given these top members comes from the uprights. They give a certain amount of support and must bend in order for the top members to buckle. The experiments will determine how much support can be expected from these uprights.

At present, the only pony truss formulae available are approximate. Since engineers using approximate formulae use a much higher factor of safety than when using exact formulae, it is expected that more precise formulae will substantially reduce the cost of bridges by decreasing the amount of metal used in construction. New, more exact formulae for the pony truss may also result in more use of this type of truss, thus eliminating the need for cross bracing. This also will result in a substantial saving of money.

The project is now in its second year. The first was devoted entirely to development of theory. Now these theories are being tested in an experimental pony truss set up in the basement of the Mechanical Engineering Building. Additional work must be done on the theory before the project is completed.

The model pony truss bridge

includes 15,899 pounds of steel. One large beam, weighing 4544 pounds, is used in conjunction with hydraulic jacks to exert a test load up to 70 tons on the bridge.

Holt, who is using this project for his master's degree, has been working on the project for almost two years and estimates that he has spent over 4000 hours on the project. Holt received a B.S. in 1945 and a M.S. in 1947 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The two-year project, due to be finished in February, was delayed by a shortage of steel resulting from the recent steel strike and is not expected to be completed until spring.

Twelve schools bid on the project, including the University of California, Columbia University, Cornell University, University of Detroit, Franklin Institute, Illinois Institute of Technology, Kansas State, University of Kansas, University of Michigan, M.I.T., and University of Missouri.

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