

# The Daily Collegian

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## New Hat Society Nearing Formation

Although it had a slow beginning, the proposed senior women's hat society will be organized and ready to select members by the end of the spring semester.

However, before details in the constitution can be worked out, there is one bone of contention that must be resolved. And that is the clause concerning the question of just who will be eligible for membership in the new hat group.

The original constitutional requirement stated that outstanding senior activities women with an All-College average of 1.5 and who had not been recognized by either Cwens or Chimes would be eligible. Among the reasons offered for the exclusion of former hatwomen were: (1) several women do not participate in major activities until their junior year—including transfer students; (2) several women deserving recognition reach their senior year without being honored by any hat society—probably because of unavoidable loopholes in the groups tapping system; (3) there would be enough senior women who deserved to be recognized who were never hatwomen before; (4) once a girl has been tapped by a hat society, she has been sufficiently recognized for her activities work; and (5) the selections committee may be swayed to tap a former hatwoman since her gray hat is the symbol of work in activities and the new society is to recognize just that.

Those members of Hat Society Council (the council is almost evenly split) who oppose the original clause feel that restricting the membership of the new hat group is to put two strikes on it before it starts. They contend that eliminating former hatwomen from the list of eligibles for tapping would (1) mean that the seniors chosen would not necessarily be the top leaders on campus; (2) cut incentive for women who have already been tapped by Cwens or Chimes and can't possibly attain the average for Mortar Board; (3) put the new group in direct competition with Mortar Board and (4) probably be considered a "cast-off" honorary society since the members had not been tapped until their senior year. (Of course, this would be erroneous, but the opposition wants to eliminate any change of popular error.)

Therefore an alternate clause has been proposed that states: no more than half the membership of the new hat society will have been members of either Cwens or Chimes. This compromise would assure that top leaders would be chosen, at least half of whom had never been recognized by any honorary society.

Hat Society Council has decided to let the final outcome depend upon the opinion of the women students themselves. The problem will be presented to dormitory units, and the women will vote on this issue concerning membership. What happens during this birth stage can determine the success or failure of the new hat society. Thus, it's up to the women to learn the pros and cons of the controversial issues so that the "growing pain" period is over quickly—and the new women's hat group is on its feet by spring.

—Baylee Friedman

## More Care Needed In Use of Clauses

A recent editorial in the Daily Collegian advocated the investigation of clauses which signify "understandings" for membership, as set down in the constitutions of some College Greek groups and honorary societies.

The editorial was prompted by a Time magazine article which discussed the problems relating to high school sororities in Alabama. A more current episode, the suspension of a national fraternity (according to a national constitution: to be composed of "men of white and full Aryan blood") at Williams College because it pledged a Jewish boy, deserves serious attention.

The fraternity, which has a chapter on the Penn State campus, cannot be criticized in general for this action. It seems that, upon investigation, men at national headquarters of the fraternity involved should take the place of some of the men in college chapters and get a practical education.

The facts involved in the case are that the fraternity pledged the Jewish student last September. It is reported that a stir was caused at the national headquarters after which three graduates and three undergraduates were appointed to poll the alumni and get their stand on the matter.

The result: the alumni approved the pledging of the Jewish man. About a week ago, the 57 members of the Williams chapter of the fraternity again approved their decision to admit the Jewish student.

And this is where the national office came in. It suspended the Williams chapter "as an interim disciplinary action." The problem will not be taken up again until the fraternity's next national convention in August, 1954. At that time, the Williams chapter can be permanently suspended if three-fourths of the group uphold the national office's action.

If the Williams chapter members thought the Jewish student was worthy of membership and, what's more, approved membership for him, why does a national council have to step in and (1) make a national issue out of an ever-recurrent problem, (2) jeopardize the position of the particular fraternity as well as the fraternity system in general, and (3) illustrate lack of judgment and moral standards in a world constantly trying to overcome these prejudices that have been built up through our times?

It seems to us that those fraternal organizations which do have discriminating clauses should begin to be a little more discriminating in their use of them. An incident like the one at Williams College, to many interested persons, lacks any conceivable amount of logic.

—Mimi Ungar

## Little Man On Campus By Bibler



"Do this paper over—How do you expect me to give a 3 on a paper that isn't neat?"



## The Way We See It

By DAVE PELLNITZ

When we picked up the current issue of Esquire magazine to read Louis Bromfield's "The Shame of Our Colleges," we expected to be quite disgusted when we finished it. Here, we thought, was another instance of someone getting himself worked up over nothing. But we had to admit, when we put down the article, that perhaps Mr. Bromfield was all too right.

According to Mr. Bromfield, the amount of education and culture the average college student gets today is "appallingly weak and small." Many college graduates, he says, cannot think at all. This condition, he says, is due to "our failure to discipline our children, our tolerance of downright subversion in the schools, and our emphasis on the college degree rather than the college education."

Of the three causes given by Mr. Bromfield, his third seems the most reasonable. As he states, "There are too many young people in our institutions of higher education who are there not to acquire knowledge but to get a job somewhere, or to make a club, or to escape from their father's business or, most commonly, simply to please their parents. There are too many who don't want to be there at all and make passing marks only because their teachers nag them or their parents scare them."

We feel, however, that Mr. Bromfield is exaggerating as so many critics are prone to do these days, the amount of "subversion" in our American colleges. This subversion does not come from out-and-out Communists, according to the Pulitzer Prize winning author, but from professors who are driven left by such factors as "his economic status, the peculiarities of his psychology, and the special circumstances of his background which set him apart from the average citizen."

Mr. Bromfield writes that America's small regard for the status of its professors, much unlike that of other countries, is one reason why so many of them turn to Marxian socialism. He continues, "In most cases our teachers and professors are vastly underpaid (although some considering their true capacities, are over-

paid). They must deprive themselves not only of all the luxuries enjoyed by the uneducated barbarian next door with three cars in the garage, but even of the comforts taken for granted by the average skilled industrial workman."

We are inclined to agree with the last part of the above statement, but not with Mr. Bromfield's contention that these difficulties influence a great many teachers to become engulfed in the propaganda of the Communists. We have more faith in the intelligence of most of our professors than that.

We were also glad to note that Mr. Bromfield has little use of loyalty oaths. He says, "The answer is not to exact oaths of loyalty, which are meaningless . . . It is not the suppression of 'intellectuals' and 'intelligentsia-liberals' as campus speakers or teachers."

Mr. Bromfield's answer to the problem is that the vigilance of parents, editors, legislators, school principals, and college presidents is necessary over the teachers who place emphasis on propaganda and emotion rather than on fact and logical thought and who refuse to give an honest interpretation of both sides of an ideological question. "The professor who emphasizes propaganda rather than fact . . . is incompetent and a bad influence on education and deserves discipline or dismissal," Mr. Bromfield writes.

The famed author concludes his article with the statement that "education at its present stage in the U.S. seems to be merely messy." Unfortunately, at all too many schools, he may be right. But we don't believe that, in general, the situation is as bad as Mr. Bromfield paints it.

## Gazette . . .

- Tuesday, February 17
- AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICAL SCIENCES, AND SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS; 7:30 p.m., 110 E.E.
  - BELLES LETTRES, 7 p.m., NE Atherton lounge.
  - COLLEGIAN BUSINESS CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 1 Carnegie.
  - COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 2 Carnegie.
  - COLLEGIAN PROMOTION STAFF, 6:45 p.m., 11 Carnegie.
  - FENCING CLUB, 7 p.m., Water Tower.
  - RADIO GUILD WORKSHOP, 7-10 p.m., 304 Sparks.
  - WRA BOWLING CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall.
  - COLLEGE PLACEMENT
- Interviews can be arranged and information secured in 112 Old Main.
- Bell Aircraft Company will interview B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. candidates in Aero E., E.E., M.E., Physics and Mathematics, Feb. 20.
  - Bureau of Ships will interview B.S. candidates in M.E., E.E., and C.E., Feb. 23.
  - Shell Oil Company, production department will interview B.S. and M.S. candidates in Mining Engineering and P.N.G., Chemical E., Civil, Elec., and Mechanical E., Feb. 23 and 24.
  - Swift & Company will interview B.S. candidates in Chemistry, Chemical E., and E.E., Feb. 20.
  - Raytheon Manufacturing Company will interview B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. candidates in Physics, M.E., E.E., Feb. 20.
  - National Security Agency will interview B.S. candidates in E.E. and M.E. and Arts and Letters with Math., Language or General Science majors, Feb. 20.
  - Ernest & Ernest will interview B.S. candidates in Accounting and E & C.; Also Juniors for internships next winter, Feb. 20.
  - Atlantic Refining Company, production department, will interview B.S. candidates in Geology, Phys., Math., Chem. Eng., P.N.G., M.E., E.E., C.E., and Mining Eng., Feb. 23 and 24.
  - Carbide & Carbon Chemical Company will interview B.S., M.S., candidates in Chem Eng., Chem., M.E., Feb. 23 and 24.
  - Standard Oil Company (ESSO) will interview B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. candidates in Chem., Fuel Tech., Chem. Eng., C.E., E.E. and Me Eng., Feb. 23 and 24.
  - National Carbon Company will interview B.S. candidates in Chem Eng., Chem., Phys., E.E., I.E., M.E., Accounting, L.M.R., and Metallurgy, Feb. 24 and 25.
- STUDENT EMPLOYMENT
- Couple without children wanted for summer job near State College.
  - Camp Androscoggin, Maine will interview Feb. 19.
  - Camp Carondawanna, Pittsburgh will interview Feb. 20.
  - Wanted—counter boy, 9 to 12 Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.
  - Wanted: Graduate student—girl—care for invalid for room.

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