

The Daily Collegian

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Senior Coed Group Should Alter Policy

As reported in the Daily Collegian of March 5, the basis of the qualifications for membership in Mortar Board include not only an outstanding activities record and a high scholastic average, but also character, leadership, and service to the College. Certainly the women who can fulfill these qualifications deserve the honor of being tapped for the top honor society for women.

However, another paragraph from the same article continued, "To be eligible, a woman must be able to serve one year of active Mortar Board membership." This qualification eliminates present seventh semester women and junior women who are accelerating and will graduate before June, 1954."

By this restriction, not only those women who began college in their spring semester, but also many of those who deserve most of all to belong to Mortar Board are denied membership.

The woman who is able to complete eight semesters of work in seven semesters, and still maintain an average above 2.0, take part in many extra-curricular activities, and be an outstanding campus leader deserves more to be tapped than one who has carried a lighter schedule of classes through her college career and has the same other qualifications.

It may be argued that the person who is anxious to graduate early should be willing to sacrifice some of the added features of college life. In many cases, however, it is not that the woman wanted to graduate early; it is merely that she believed in taking the allowed number of credits each semester. In the School of Liberal Arts, for example, a woman is required to have 126 credits for graduation. Under the present system, she is allowed, often expected to carry, 18 credits each semester. Simple arithmetic tells the story. If she carries the normal load each semester, at the end of seven semesters she will have her 126 credits and be graduated.

Is it fair that these women who have carried only a normal number of credits each semester and have been outstanding in all other phases of campus life should be denied membership in the highest women's honorary in favor of those who have been less industrious?

Under Mortar Board's national constitution, membership is open to senior women only. But, what constitutes senior standing is a technicality. Senior standing can be regarded as seventh semester or above, or, it can be considered as two semesters prior to graduation. If the latter is followed by the Penn State chapter, as the national society permits, and if eligible women were tapped at the end of the fall semester, instead of only the spring, two groups who are denied it would have the opportunity for membership. Those who started in the spring rather than fall semester and those who will be able to graduate in seven semesters would be eligible for the highest collegiate honor a woman can gain.

—Ann Leh

Safety Valve— Dating Problem

After six months on campus, a great number of second semester freshman women are pinned, going steady, or have, at least, found one man in particular. A great majority of these men belong to fraternities. Only once every month or two, when the boy's house is having an organized party with approved chaperones, can the girl legally go to the house for an evening.

Shall she break WSGA rules so that she can associate with her date and his friends, or shall she adhere strictly to the rules and risk losing a companionship she values?

Under the present system, most of the girls take the former choice. This can have one or two results, both bad. If the girls are caught in an unauthorized fraternity, they will have a permanent blackmark on their WSGA record which means no chance of holding an office or pledging an honorary. If the girls are not caught or are caught and not turned in, WSGA regulations will become more and more inefficient until they are regarded, as many coeds now regard them, as a joke.

In the time that second semester women have been on campus, they have learned much about the way of life at Penn State. Less harm can come by letting them go to any house on weekends than by forcing them to refuse dates or, more probably, break WSGA rules.

A dance, an evening at the TUB, or a sports event are all right occasionally, but there comes a time when everyone wants to just sit and relax with friends. Second semester women are mature enough to take care of themselves. Why can't WSGA give them the official ruling to enjoy their dates and friends in fraternity houses?

—Names withheld

Sock Hop Upheld

In answer to Thursday's editorial concerning the freshman dance, we would like to give the other side of the story. We feel that the informal atmosphere created by a sock and sweater hop would benefit, not hamper, a pleasant evening. The majority of college dances are already stereotyped in that they are either formal or semi-formal. The sock hop would be a welcome relief from these stiff affairs.

The fact that the advocated dress is sweaters and socks doesn't necessarily mean that one must wear a sweater to be admitted to the dance; it is merely to establish the informal, relaxed atmosphere of the dance. Although there may be some who don't like the idea of checking their shoes, we feel that the majority of students would wholeheartedly enjoy the novelty and originality of this type of dance.

Because of the poor attendance at the last freshman class meeting, it was not possible to get the view of the entire class on this subject. It is hoped that all interested freshmen will attend the next class meeting in order that the problem can be decided.

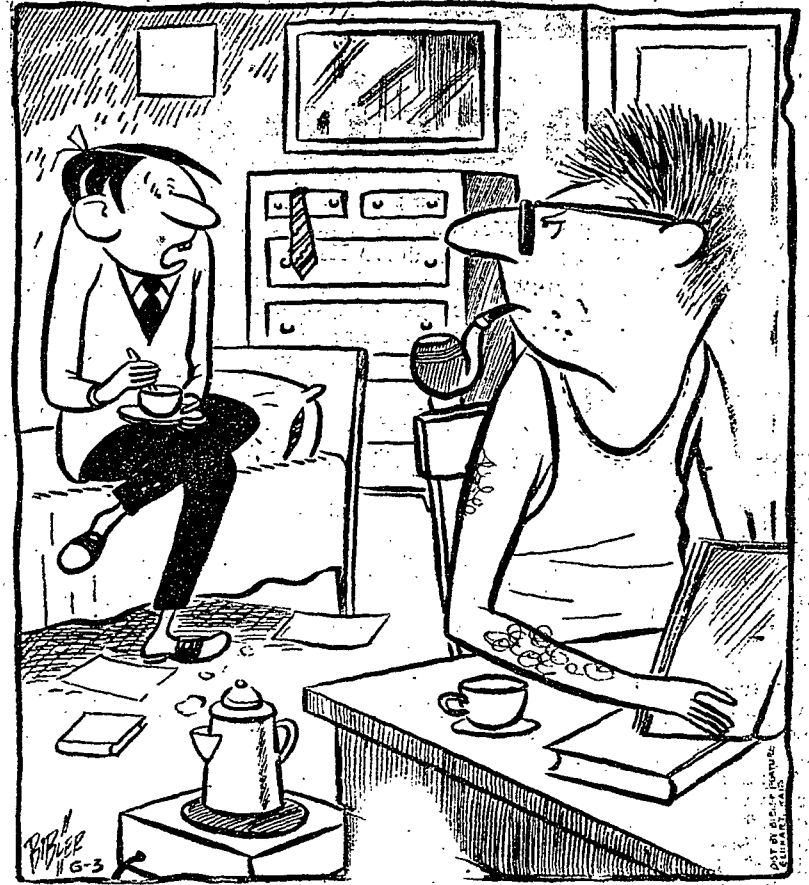
—Ann Lederman
Sanford Lichtenstein

Gazette...

March 10, 1953

- BELLES LETTRES CLUB, 7 p.m., Simmons lounge.
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 1 Carnegie.
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS OFFICE STAFF, 7 p.m., Business Office.
- COLLEGIAN CIRCULATION STAFF, 6:45 p.m., Collegian office.
- COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 2 Carnegie.
- COLLEGIAN JUNIOR AND INTERMEDIATE ADVERTISING BOARDS, 7 p.m., 9 Carnegie.
- FENCING CLUB, 7 p.m., Rec Hall.
- FROTH PROMOTION STAFF, CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., Froth office.
- FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA, 7:15 p.m., Recreation room, Thompson.
- HOME EC. COUNCIL MEETING, 7 p.m., Home Ec. Living Center.
- INKLING ART STAFF, 7:30 p.m., 201 Willard Hall.
- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, 7 p.m., Atherton Lounge.
- MI STUDENT COUNCIL, 208 Willard.
- NEWMAN CLUB MOVIES, "Jane Eyre," "The Holy City," 7 p.m., 119 Osmond.
- PENN STATE BARBELL CLUB, 7 p.m., Sigma Nu.
- RADIO GUILD, 7 p.m., 312 Sparks.
- WRA OUTING CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall Game room.

Little Man On Campus By Bibler



—An' I no sooner parked th' car when she wanted to hold hands, she wouldn't let go of 'em th' whole evening.

WISE AND OTHERWISE

Students Losing Desire to Know

By DAVE JONES

A university exists, like any commodity, only through demand and supply, and in wants which it can satisfy. Where there is a want for knowledge that cannot be supplied, a university exists only in name.

At Penn State and too many other colleges, however, the demand for that knowledge is not present. The true demand for knowledge does not exist today in the quantity it should. Some people have called it materialism.

There are many pseudo-intellectuals among us who repeatedly claim they want knowledge for its own sake, but do not. This is particularly true of the individual who, upon realizing truth in the claim that he is shunning a more difficult course, claims he is seeking true education through the arts and gaining intellectual reward. He proclaims the intellectual over the vocational, the education over the trade. This is a rationalization and a sham proclamation.

Liberal artists and engineers alike are driven by a prime force: graduation. Few college students pursue education for its own sake, whether they realize it or not. A material remuneration of some sort is demanded, whether the remuneration is a better job, prestige, escape from the draft, or a husband.

The external advantages of a college education are most often the reason for enrolling in college. Dignity, wealth, or power from a college education no longer come second to intellect.

Degrees have become mere honors or testimonials to be utilized outside the college rather than coveted as a sign of academic achievement. And

with this new purpose of a degree—a new purpose of education—material reward—has arisen.

The teacher has his intellectual perils as well as the taught. He is too often forced to depend upon government or great men for his support instead of the enthusiasm he himself creates. And in his path the advantages of his position are themselves enemies: pride of intellect, aberrations of reasoning, intoxication of applause.

Detachment is a rare and high Christian virtue. There are, unfortunately, few if any completely detached men. St. Philip Neri has said 12 completely detached men could convert the world. Nevertheless, such release from earthly ties is essential for true scholarship. Only through it may the true scholar exist. And only with it may he sincerely seek academic achievement from which he may receive the reward of true education.

Graduate Exhibits Art

John T. Biggers, a graduate of the College and chairman of the Art department at Southern Texas State University, is now exhibiting his and his students' work in Austin, Tex.

ALTAR BOUND?

Take Your Pick of the Large Variety of Patterns

of SYRACUSE CHINA

and FOSTORIA and CANDLEWICK CRYSTAL

at the TREASURE HOUSE

NEW College Diner

- Quality Food
- Prompt Service
- Reasonable Prices
- All Services

Counter Cafeteria Booths Carry-outs

Between the movies



Knit for Him

Knit a tennis sweater for that man in your life. He'll love to wear it now and later on. You can get all the knitting supplies you'll need

at the

Margaret's Shop