

Today's Weather—
Cloudy and
Warmer

The Daily Collegian



FOR A BETTER PENN. STATE

Apathy
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STATE COLLEGE, PA., WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 8, 1954

FIVE CENTS



—Photo by Bava

TWO STATE COLLEGE youngsters overlook the scene of destruction left in the wake of Saturday night's \$600,000 fire at O. W. Houts & Son, Inc., local department store. The fire, the costliest in State College history, leveled the store, but Houts, aided by fellow merchants, has been able to reopen for business.

Display Window Blamed For \$500,000 Fire

The \$500,000 blaze that struck O. W. Houts & Son, Inc. Saturday night is believed to have started in the display window next to the front entrance investigators said yesterday. The window had displayed Christmas decorations.

Investigators of the fire, which was the worst in State College history, disclosed that it was in the display window

that Harvey Baisor, the night watchman, first discovered the flames. Baisor was first to telephone the alarm to fire-fighters.

At the State College Borough Council meeting Monday night, town officials heartily commended the Alpha Fire Company and the crews from Bellefonte for their work in preventing the fire from spreading to other buildings.

Parts of the Houts structure which were not damaged by the flames were open for business yesterday. New merchandise is being sent in from other cities.

Most of the Houts employees were back on the job yesterday. The State College Area Chamber of Commerce has been rapidly endeavoring to find jobs for the few out of employment. Many businesses in the borough have already offered to help the unemployed.

\$5000 Saved

Out of yesterday's findings came a safe protecting nearly \$5000 in checks and currency. Traffic on W. College Ave. was back to normal after the many sight-seers had a look at the fire's debris.

The \$500,000 destruction estimate was made by Houts and his top officials. The exact cost of the blaze is not known and won't be until after a closer check of the findings.

Outing Club to Give Skating Exhibitions

The Penn State Outing Club, in cooperation with the College of Physical Education and Athletics, is making plans for several figure skating exhibitions on the new skating rink in January.

The exhibitions, which will be open to the public, will be given by members of amateur figure skating clubs in Hershey, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh.

Caps and Gowns

Seniors and graduate students expecting to be graduated in January who have failed to sign up for caps and gowns, invitations, and announcements may do so today at the Athletic Store. Today is the deadline.

Wildcat Bagged By County Youth

Although no one has yet shot any of the "black panthers" which have frequently been reported seen in Centre County, one hunter recently did bag a distant relative, a large wildcat.

The wildcat, weighing approximately 40 pounds and measuring 50 inches, was shot by David Chambers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cordes Chambers, of Snow Shoe, Monday morning on the Ridge road between Snow Shoe and Renovo.

The animal, whose color was described as grey with white spots, was shot at "Ten Acres," an area in the Alleghenies about 12 miles from Snow Shoe.

Pollock Men Get Food Changes

Ronald Humphrey, chairman of Pollock Council's food committee, told council last night that the Food Service has agreed to post menus and to repair the loud speaker system in the Nittany-Pollock dining hall.

Other changes agreed upon by Food Service, Humphrey reported, include allowing Pollock residents to work in the dining halls. Food service also agreed to decorate the dining halls for special meals.

Previously, only students who reside in the borough were allowed to work in the dormitory dining halls.

In other actions, Council decided to request that dormitory counselors be in the dining hall during all meals in order to keep order.

In other action, council approved a report from its physical plant committee. The report pointed out certain parking areas and walks that were badly in need of repair, and recommended that appropriate action should be taken. This report was forwarded to the Dean of Men's office.

Council then took up the question of finances for dormitory functions. Council allotted \$10 to each hall for the purpose of helping these living units to finance their social functions.

The group allocated money for a \$25 first prize, a \$15 second prize, and a \$10 third prize, in the Christmas decorations contest between living halls in the area.

Conflict Deadline

Friday is the last day students who have two final examinations scheduled for the same time or three on one day may file a conflict card in the scheduling office, 2 Willard.

U.S. Requests Vote Favoring Airmen Release

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 7 (AP)—The United States and its Korean War Allies pushed hard today for the largest possible UN vote favoring their resolution seeking release of 11 American airmen held as spies by Red China and condemning their detention.

The resolution denounces the trial and imprisonment of the airmen as well as the detention of all other captured UN personnel, as a violation of the Korean armistice. It calls on Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold to work for their release and report back by Dec. 31.

Lodge Delivers Resolution

Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., chief American delegate, today handed Hammarskjold the resolution, which was agreed upon yesterday by the United States and the 15 other UN members who fought the Reds in Korea. At the same time the machinery of these delegations was set in motion to obtain a large vote as a demonstration to the Communist Chinese of world disapproval.

The Assembly will convene at 3 p.m. tomorrow in an unusual meeting to take up the resolution, sponsored by the United States, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, South Africa and Britain. A final vote is expected later in the week.

Omits Two Prisoners

The resolution does not mention two other men whose sentences were announced by the Chinese at the same time as those of the 11. Those two were not under the UN command.

The resolution avoided a direct condemnation of China for the sentences of the 11 men but it lumped the case of the 11 and an undetermined number of other prisoners in a general condemnation as a violation of the armistice.

To Seek Release

It requests Hammarskjold to seek the release, in accordance with the Korean armistice agreement, of these 11 United Nations Command personnel and all other captured personnel of the United Nations command still detained.

Hammarskjold, asked at a news conference if he would go to Peiping, if necessary, to intercede for the fliers and other personnel, would not give a direct answer and he would not discuss the role set for him in the resolution, saying he had not had time to study it.

Soviet Delegate Jacob A. Malik fought the item every step of the way yesterday in the meeting of the Steering Committee.

Players Ad Crew to Meet

Players advertising crew will meet at 6:45 tonight in the Schwab Auditorium loft.

Debaters Place 4th In Contest

The Penn State Men's Varsity Debate Team placed fourth out of 15 colleges in the Allegheny Debate Tournament Saturday.

Benjamin Sinclair, seventh semester arts and letters major, and Sidney Goldblatt, seventh semester pre-medical major, debating the affirmative of the national debate topic "Resolved: That the U.S. should extend diplomatic recognition to Communist China" won three victories and lost none.

Taking the negative side David Meckler, seventh semester pre-medical major, and Edward Klevans, third semester electrical engineering major, scored one win and two losses.

The tournament was won by Westminster College.

One hundred and forty-four teams were represented at the Temple Novice Tournament. University debaters Ernest Famous, seventh semester arts and letters major, and Jerry Donovan, seventh semester labor-management relations major, debating the affirmative side, scored three wins and one loss.

John Yeatman, seventh semester arts and letters major, and Nathan Supnick, seventh semester arts and letters major, debating the negative won two victories and suffered two defeats.

Phys Ed Group Conclave Set

The Physical Education Student Council has set Jan. 12 as its convocation for all students in the College of Physical Education. Movies of the Swedish gymnastic team will be shown and Gene Weststone, gymnastic coach, will speak.

The student council approved the newly organized student faculty relationship committee, which consists of three faculty members who will serve to further relations between faculty and students and aid the council.

Patricia Farrell was appointed chairman of the open house committee. The open house will be held in April.

Rink on Schedule, Wiegand Reports

Walter H. Wiegand, director of the physical plant, has announced that work on the ice-skating rink is progressing on schedule.

He said workmen were still aiming for the proposed Dec. 15 opening date.

He added that workmen are still completing painting and miscellaneous carpentry work on the interior of the building.

The winter sports division of the Outing Club hopes to schedule figure-skating exhibitions by amateur teams from Altoona, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh during January and February.

University Considering Plans For Future Military Building

A new military building is being considered by the University in long-range plans, Wilmer E. Kenworthy, director of student affairs, said yesterday.

The new armory, which would probably house the three Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University, will not be constructed in the near future, Kenworthy stated.

The armory is inadequate, he said, but a new armory would be of great cost to the University.

Physical plant workmen are also completing several small construction projects already underway.

Seven small poultry buildings are being constructed near the Animal Disease Laboratory on Ag Hill. The buildings will be used

to house diseased poultry under observation.

A small blacktop driveway has also been constructed from Curtin road into the Animal Disease Lab.

Workmen from the grounds and maintenance division of physical plant are clearing the leaves and fall debris from campus before heavy snow falls. They have also finished planting shrubbery around the Nittany Lion Inn and Buckhout Laboratory.

Cold weather, however, has forced most physical plant activities indoors.

Lab equipment is being installed in two large laboratories on the first floor of Whitmore Laboratory and some plumbing and electrical work is being done.

Workmen are also doing general interior painting in Osmond Lab-

oratory, Walker Laboratory, and Electrical Engineering.

The old Athletic Association office, 107 Old Main, has been redecorated and taken over by the Penn State Foundation. The Athletic Association office moved to the new wing of Recreation Hall when it was opened this fall. The old office of the Penn State Foundation, 303 Old Main, will be used by the University Christian Association.

Work will start soon on a small-bore rifle range in the basement of the new wing of Rec Hall, according to Charles A. Lamm, supervisor of building maintenance and operation.

The new range will have 10 firing points and will be used by the College of Physical Education and Athletics.