

Published Tuesday through Saturday mornings during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper.

The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1857

\$3.00 per semester \$5.00 per year

Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1924 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

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Why No Exam Exemptions

A footnote to the tragic demise of the exemption plan for final examinations can be found in the Senate Regulations for Undergraduate Students.

The footnote is, in itself, somewhat of a paradox. Perhaps the biggest reason the Educational Policy subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Student Affairs had for refusing the plan was that these very binding regulations state flatly that "no one"—but no one—may be exempted from final examinations.

These same regulations state that the instructor has the absolute final say over the student's final grade. This means a final grade including the final examination.

The recent exemption plan, which has been submitted several times in the past to the administration, was featured by the stipulation that the decision whether or not to give a final would be up to the instructor.

Out of all this we seem to have a huge paradox.

If the instructors can give any grade they please despite final exams, it would follow that the instructor could then give a student an A whether or not he took the final.

Senior Class President Joseph Hartnett brought the idea of allowing the instructor to make the decision before the Senate subcommittee and was refused because no student could be excused from final examinations, among other reasons.

The large loophole in the administration's reasoning appears if you take the extreme case

of an instructor who didn't want his "B-or-better" students taking finals. He could just arrange things with the class whereby those people who had a B or above merely "wouldn't worry about the required final exam."

We don't want to put nasty thoughts into anyone's mind but we are only pointing out what we feel is an inadequacy in the Senate regulations especially as they were presented as an argument against the Senior Class Advisory Board plan.

Other comments on the decision (if that is what the refusal could be termed) must include the part about the exemption being part of a long-range liberal education plan.

The only thing we can say about the fact that the plan had been presented many times before is this: This doesn't constitute a strong argument against any plan; it only seems to say that the plan can never be put into effect.

You've got to start somewhere; there's always a first time.

As usual, the student hopes have gone down the drain. The footnoting will have no effect now. The decision has been made. Another attempt will be made to the Senate proper but it has been admitted that it has little chance by the plan's sponsors.

The administration probably has its own plans for exam exemptions and we are convinced that it doesn't include any participation by any students. So, once again a bright student government plan has been nipped in the bud.

—The Editor

Aggies: Keep Up The Good Work

The Agriculture Student Council stands out to us as the most efficient and most effective student council at the University.

Perhaps the most important single reason for its overall effectiveness is that it is set up on a representative basis. Whereas most of the college councils are composed of members who are elected from the student body of that college at large, the representatives in the Agriculture Student Council are officers from the various clubs under the college.

The president of each of the clubs is a member of the council and, according to the membership of the club, one or more other representatives are sent from the club. Because of this type of representation the members of the council are able to maintain a relationship with the student body of the college. There is an interaction of ideas between the council and the students. Therefore the council represents the students in reality rather than in conversation like so many of the other councils do.

Another advantage of the setup is that the council can take an active part in almost all of the college or club functions. The students too, since they hear council news regularly at their club meetings, can influence the council and have their vote considered.

We must also compliment the council members on the meetings. Occasionally an alternate appears, but this is the exception not the rule.

The members of the council are present on time, and the meeting starts promptly. Neat dress and a business like manner add to the general atmosphere of the meeting.

Some other good points of the council meetings are that the members use an agenda regularly, and they use parliamentary procedure, but not to the point that it is a hindrance to the ability to get business accomplished.

Committee reports are written, given on time, given in a precise manner, and include the essentials. Many of the members take notes on the meeting which enables them to carry the important business back to their clubs, and it also means that they can review the previous meeting before a new one starts.

The discussion is usually intelligent, well organized, and without repetition. This, particularly, is not common on some other councils. Members are courteous to each other during debates and attempt to bring out new and good points for or against the topic under discussion. Generally speaking the council is able to come to an accurate decision in fairly short order and without haggling.

We think that during the past few years the Agriculture Student Council has served its student body well and has given it the kind of efficient representation to which every student should be entitled.

—Sue Conklin

Gazette

Tomorrow PENN STATE ENGINEER Coed Circulation Staff, 7p.m.

208 Hetzel Union SKI MEET with Lehigh University, Laurel Mountain slopes

Election Group May Change Office System

All-University Elections Committee yesterday discussed an alternating elections plan to replace the present rotating system.

Under the new plan, independents would hold the offices of freshman and junior president and sophomore and senior vice president. Fraternity men would hold the offices of senior and sophomore president and freshman and junior vice president.

Under the present system, an independent holds an office of president or vice president of his class one year and is replaced by a fraternity man the following year.

The only change suggested in the election of All-University officers was that All-University president and secretary-treasurer be the same (both either fraternity or independent). If fraternity men hold the offices one year, independent men would hold the offices the following year.

Award Honors Late Trustee

A scholarship fund in memory of the late John N. Forker, trustee of the University from 1943 until his death last September, has been established at the University.

Known as the John Norman Forker Memorial Scholarship in Engineering, the award will make it possible for outstanding high school graduates to enroll at the University and to remain if they continue to show promise.

The student receiving the scholarship will be enrolled as a freshman in one of the engineering curriculums. He will be chosen on the basis of scholarship, character and financial need. Preference will be given to Pennsylvania residents. Students at centers are also eligible.

The award will be supported by interest from the initial grant and from other contributions that may be added from time to time.

Sixty-five telephone trunk lines connect the University residence hall phones with downtown State College.

Soc Prof Writes Chapter for Book

Dr. Jessie K. Bernard, professor of sociology, has contributed a chapter to the first volume of a series entitled "International Sociological Studies" published in Madrid, Spain, under the auspices of the Instituto "Balmes."

Her 36-page chapter, "Current Trends in American Sociology," deals mainly with new developments in the theory and techniques of sociological research and gives special emphasis to the gathering, organization and interpreting of sociological data.

Contributors to the book included leading sociologists in the United States, England, France, Spain, Italy and Germany.

Prof Begins 10th Year Of Editing Coal Journal

Theodore S. Spicer, professor of fuel technology, is starting his tenth year as associate editor of Utilization, The Magazine of Coal Uses.

A member of the staff since its initial publication in 1948, he has contributed over 40 technical articles to Utilization.

Little Man on Campus

by Bibler



"—so tired today I almost fell asleep in class."

'Round the Rim

With 'Wet-Walking', Coeds And Wisdom

By BECKY ZAHM

The spring semester has finally rolled around and along with it a more than substantial dose of Penn State 'wet-walking weather.' Luckily, the 'Dead Sea' beside MacAllister Hall has been erased, but numerous other spots on campus are vying for the title.

I suppose it's just wishful thinking that any of the

powers - that - be care, especially since the University seems to like the idea of hosing off the walks when the water is the deepest.

An incident of this type occurred this week in front of the HUB. A workman, standing on a high level, was hosing off the curved sidewalks. The students, traversing to class on a low level (naturally), were doing everything but swimming. One irate coed muttered, "There's not enough water. They have to get out the hose!"

But as Mark Twain said, "Everyone talks about the weather, but no one does anything about it." It's the same with Penn State sidewalks.

While in the vicinity of MacAllister Hall a rather humorous incident occurred. The waiters in the MacAllister Dining Hall saw fit to dedicate one of the tables in the hall to a campus figure who has long used that particular dining hall as a prime target. A card on the table read—The Sue Conklin Memorial Table.

Then there's the story making the rounds which is rather derogatory to the noble Penn State coed.

It happened, so the story runs, when two student Romeos set out to one of the local night spots (outside of State College, logically) to have an evening of drinking and dancing with the local talent.

After a short time one of the pair bet the other that he couldn't pick-up a girl. The other took him up on the offer and the bet was on. After selecting a 'Victim' our hero swung into action.

He smoothly asked her to dance three or four times and then suavely suggested that they step outside. "Wadda ya think I am," the girl retorted belligerently, "a Penn State coed?"

Our hero is now wiser—and several dollars poorer.

Another bit of wisdom is offered by the Lehigh Brown and White: It concerns a young man who just received his college degree and rushed out and said, "Here I am world; I have an AB!" And the world replied, "Sit down son, and I'll teach you the rest of the alphabet."

Two Profs To Retire With Titles

Dr. Donald S. Cryder, professor and head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, and Sybil D. Emerson, professor of art education, will retire on June 30 with emeritus rank.

Dr. Cryder, who is a native of Tyrone, received his bachelor of science degree in industrial chemistry in 1920 at the University where he also received his master of science degree in 1923. He received a master of science degree in 1929 and in 1930, a doctor of science degree, both from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

On Faculty Since 1920 Appointed to the chemistry faculty in 1920, Dr. Cryder was chosen in 1948 to head the newly created Department of Chemical Engineering.

Miss Emerson, who was born in Worcester, Mass., received her bachelor of science degree in education from Ohio State University. She also studied art in San Francisco and in Paris.

Taught in High School She began her teaching career in New York high schools, then taught in high schools in San Francisco, and at Lycoming College, before her appointment to the faculty at the University in 1942.

Miss Emerson's career has included free-lance designing, decorating, painting, textile designing, writing and the illustrating of children books. She has exhibited in Paris, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia and other major cities. Last summer she designed and directed the making of the dossal that hangs in the meditation chapel of the Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel.

Elections Committee

The All-University Elections Committee will meet at 2 p.m. Tuesday in The Daily Collegian office.