

Polling PSU

Activities Among 'Best Likes' In High, Elementary Schools

Extra-curricular activities appear to be among the things that students like best, both in elementary and high school, according to a recent poll taken in an education class at the University.

The poll cited the opinions of the students concerning their own elementary and secondary education.

The 35 students in the beginning education class of Dr. David W. Russell, professor of education, were polled on "What I Liked and Disliked about My Elementary and Secondary Education" as part of a special class study project on "The Organization and Structure of the American School System."

The extra-curricular program topped the list of "likes" for both elementary and secondary school. Their lack in some schools headed the "dislike" column.

Other enrichments of the high school academic program, such as field trips, excursions, library facilities and opportunity for creative work in art, music and shop also were praised.

Like Sports, Trips
Also among the elementary school "likes" were sports, games, field trips, spelling bees, story hours and "nice teachers." Several high school students also listed good teachers as among their happiest memories of their secondary school years and cited their good influence.

"Inadequate preparation in key academic subjects, lack of extra-curricular activities, partial teachers and too-short lunch periods" were among the "gripes" expressed.

Poor grounding in mathematics and English, key subjects in preparation for college, was cited by many students. Several criticized their teachers for not showing enough interest in college-preparatory students and for not being well-trained in their specific subject fields. Others scored teachers for unfairness and partiality.

Cite Overcrowding
Several mentioned overcrowded classes as among their dislikes in high school. The "too-short" lunch period came in for a large share of criticism.

Several students thought home-room periods were a "complete waste of time." One or two scored over-emphasis on athletics while others felt sports facilities in their schools were inadequate.

Many of the same criticisms were leveled against elementary education as were made of high school classes. Among these were lack of good extra-curricular and sports activities, poor lunchroom facilities, too-short recess periods and partial teachers.

Other students attacked the so-called "busy work" assignments given in elementary schools in lieu of challenging, creative activities. Several expressed dislike of having one teacher for all subjects, one student stating "it is all right if you get a good teacher, but very bad if the teacher is not competent."

The poll answers were as varied

as the personalities, backgrounds and experiences of the 35 students themselves.

The consensus of a panel discussion of the poll results was that the main purpose of the American school should be to aid in the development of the academic, social and physical growth of youth and that schools should be geared to meet the needs of youth.

A teacher should be a person

who likes young people and who understands their growth processes, the panel members said. Personality as well as mastery of subject matter are two key qualifications for a teacher, it was stated.

Iris Ress of Pittsburgh was chairman of the panel. Members were Linda Lowenthal of Harrisburg, Charles Lamb of Windber and William Bromley and Anthony Gianni, both of Philadelphia.

Educational TV Specialist Named to University Staff

Dr. H. Seymour Fowler, a specialist in educational television and conservation, has joined the College of Education faculty as associate professor of nature and science education.

Dr. Fowler was assistant professor of biology at Iowa State College before coming to the University.

Since 1952, he has produced the college's "TV Schooltime Series," a program of elementary science telecasts for in-school viewing. In radio, Dr. Fowler participated for three years in the "Ask the Scientist" program broadcast from stations at Iowa State College and the State University of Iowa.

Dr. Fowler has directed the Iowa Teachers Conservation Camp since 1953, and is chairman of the state planning committee on the camp. In 1953 and 1955, he was consultant in science to public schools throughout Iowa.

A native of Highland Park, Mich., Dr. Fowler received three

degrees from Cornell University—BS in 1941, MS in 1946, and PhD in nature education and ecology in 1951.

After four years of teaching in New York high schools, Dr. Fowler joined the faculty of the Southern Oregon College of Education for two years, moving to Iowa State College in 1952.

He is a member of 13 professional societies, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Science Teachers Association, the Conservation Education Association, the American Association of University Professors, Phi Delta Kappa national educational fraternity, and Phi Kappa Phi national scholastic honorary fraternity.

Storage Building Planned for Farms

Plans have been completed for the construction of a prefabricated, insulated metal storage building north of the two chemical storage units on the University farms.

The building, for which the contract will be let in the near future, will provide storage facilities for all colleges of the University, especially the Colleges of Mineral Industries, Chemistry and Physics and Engineering and Architecture.

It will be of concrete block construction to the window sills, with insulated galvanized metal walls, aluminum roof, and steel windows. The building will be 174 feet long, 36 feet wide and 10 feet high.

Impressive Record

Rip Engle's seven straight winning seasons, when added to the eleven straight compiled by the teams of Bob Higgins, boost Penn State's total to 18—one of the most impressive records in college football.

'Neighbors' Grow, Prosper Together

For more than 100 years, State College and the University have grown and prospered as neighbors across the street.

State College has always been a college town, pure and simple, and there has been a remarkable correspondence between its populations and those of the University.

In 1860, for example, there were 110 students and 25 townspeople. By 1920, the students numbered 3232 and the borough population had swelled to 3200. The numbers evened up at 6400 in 1946 and at present students outnumber townspeople 14,000 to 12,000.

The income of State College is largely made up of student expenditures. During the school year 1950-51, a survey showed \$3 million in student money went to State College retail stores.

Was Once Crossroads
When the University was established as a Farmers High School in 1859, the borough was merely a crossroad. Merchants and farmers soon began a settlement, however, and in 1896 the borough incorporated with a population of 300.

State College has been called a community of homes. Pugh and the other residential streets are filled with handsome old dwellings. The fraternity houses add to the air of quiet dignity in the residential areas.

Pains have been taken to avoid row houses in the new home developments that have mushroomed in recent years.

Streets Tell History
Many street names in the borough bring to mind some of the great names in University history. Many of them have been named for University presidents, such as Atherton, Sparks and Calder.

Transportation to State College has always been an acute problem. The sole transportation in 1858 was a thrice-weekly stagecoach. Things improved in 1892 when State College was made a stop on the Bellefonte Central railroad, but this service was soon discontinued.

Buses and private cars are now the main source of transportation into and out of State College.

Typing Position Open

Any student with previous experience in typing and shorthand may apply for a position in the All-University Secretariat in 203 Hetzel Union.

Group Obtains Famed Artists For Concerts

The State College Concert Association brings to the campus each year several outstanding artists in both vocal and instrumental programs.

Last year's program included the Westminster Choir, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, William Primrose, viola virtuoso appearing with the Festival Quartet; Moura Lympany, pianist, and Eileen Farrell, soprano.

The annual membership drive is held early in October. Last year membership including a series ticket costing \$7. Membership is limited to the seating capacity of Schwab Auditorium where the concerts are held.

Fraternities, sororities and other organizations may buy a block of series tickets. Members of the groups who wish to attend the individual concerts can then divide the use of the tickets.

Artists for this year's series will be scheduled after the membership campaign has been completed. The best artists that the budget can afford will be obtained. The number of memberships sold determines the number and type of performers.

W3YA-A3YA Is Amateur Station

Since 1909, W3YA-A3YA, the University's amateur radio station, has given students extra-curricular training, provided a reserve of trained personnel and afforded facilities for instruction, recreation and public service.

Any student or employe of the University may join if he has a valid radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

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