

2500 to Receive Degrees Today

The Daily Collegian



FOR A BETTER PENN STATE

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Plowden Will Speak On Soviet Challenge

By ED DUBBS, '58

More than 2500 graduates will receive degrees and hear Sir Edwin Plowden, chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, speak on the Soviet challenge to the free world at Commencement exercises today.

Weather permitting, the Commencement exercises will be held at 10:30 a. m. in Beaver Field. In case of inclement weather, there will be two indoor ceremonies in Recreation Building, at 10:30 a. m. and 2 p. m.

Approximately 25,000 persons are expected to attend the outdoor ceremony.

President Eric A. Walker will confer degrees on more than 2500 graduates, including 214 candidates for advance degrees. Forty-seven doctorates will be awarded.

Sir Edwin is scheduled to speak from the same Beaver Field platform upon which President Eisenhower stood three years ago and proposed, in a bid for peaceful uses of atomic energy, that the United States provide money and "know how" to help other nations obtain atomic research and power reactors.

Acting in the name of the University, Walker will confer an

The weatherman last night was taking bets that today's Commencement exercises will be held in Beaver Field.

He forecast partly cloudy skies and slightly warmer temperatures—and no rain—for today. The expected high is 68.

State College radio station WMAJ, 1450 on the dial, will announce the change in the ceremony this morning in case the weatherman fouled up.

honorary doctor of science degree on Sir Edwin.

Admiral Lewis E. Strauss, retiring chairman of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, will be in the audience to hear Sir Edwin.

Undergraduate members of the class total 1786, while an additional 533 students who have completed two-year technical programs at one of the Centers will receive associate degrees.

In case of rain, candidates from the Colleges of Agriculture, Chemistry and Physics, Engineering and Architecture and Mineral In-

Plowden To Get Degree With Class

Sir Edwin Plowden, chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, will become the second person in "modern times" to receive an honorary degree from the University at Commencement today.

The first honorary degree in modern times was given to President Dwight D. Eisenhower at the June, 1955, commencement. The President was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree by his brother, Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, then president of the University and now president of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

Sir Edwin will receive an honorary doctor of science degree from President Eric A. Walker.

Several honorary degrees were conferred by the University around the turn of the century, but the exact nature of these degrees has never been agreed upon, according to a University spokesman.

Sir Edwin became Great Britain's first chairman of the Atomic Energy Authority early in 1954. He carried with him into the position a wealth of experience in government service and business.

During the Second World War, he served as a member of the Aircraft Production Ministry, rising to the office of chief executive by the end of the war. Afterwards, he returned to directorship in the British

(Continued on page three)

500 New Alums Join Association

More than 500 graduating seniors have joined the Alumni Association as of 5 p. m. yesterday.

The Alumni Association office, 104 Old Main, will be open until 4 p. m. for seniors to obtain memberships.

This is the last day special membership rates will be offered. The special rates are \$2 for a one-year membership and \$70 for a life membership. The life membership may be purchased on an installment plan with \$10 down.

Of the 500 seniors who have joined, approximately 80 obtained life memberships. Most were purchased on the installment plan.

Ross B. Lehman, assistant executive alumni secretary, said the response to the association's drive is running ahead of previous years. He called the response "good."

Lehman said he expects an "influx" of new members today.

AM Facilities Selected For Senior Class Gift

By JUDY HARKISON, '58

A gift of \$10,000 for the establishment of a campus AM radio station was presented to the University by the senior class last night.

The AM station received 639 votes of a total 1555 during the balloting two weeks ago. Runner-up with 371 votes was last year's class gift designation—books for the Library.

Other gift suggestions were a donation toward the Stone Valley Recreation Area project, 299 votes; an arch-environment for the east campus, 182 votes; and a circulating art collection, 64 votes.

The \$10,000 gift and the \$5000 reserve fund of the present WDFM station would be adequate for the installation of AM facilities. The next step toward obtaining a campus AM station presumably would be the University applying to the Federal Communications Commission for a frequency assignment.

AM facilities for station WDFM would allow all students and State College residents to receive the student-produced programming. A recent survey revealed that a maximum 500 radios in the area receive the WDFM signal.

The station would broadcast on both AM and FM frequencies, as the expense for maintaining both would be little greater than the cost of present operations—about \$3000 per year. This is financed by the students, who pay 20 cents per semester.

The \$10,000 class gift is made possible by an accumulation of a 50-cent general damage fee charged students each semester. At the end of four years, each student has approximately a \$4 share in the gift.

The addition of AM facilities to the present campus station has been under way over five years. The first obstacle in obtaining the facilities was that of financing it.

Trustee Decision Awaited on Gift

President Eric A. Walker said yesterday that he will not know whether the University will apply to the Federal Communications Commission for an AM frequency until after the July meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Walker said he had received no official word as of yesterday morning on the selection of AM facilities for WDFM as the senior class gift.

For this reason the trustees would not act on the gift at their meetings this week, he said. The board must either accept or reject the gift.

Presumably the next step toward obtaining the station—if the trustees accept the gift—would be the University applying to the FCC for a frequency. The University conducted a frequency search at a cost of more than \$1000 last year. The results of the search have been termed "optimistic."

The University, if it applies to the FCC for an AM frequency, would be the third applicant seeking a frequency in this area.

There is reportedly only one frequency available in this area. This means the FCC—if the University applies—may have to decide which of the three applicants is to receive the frequency.

William Ulerich, Clearfield

publisher and owner of WMAJ, State College station, and Milton J. Bergstein, WMAJ manager and part-time instructor in the School of Journalism, have applied for a 500-watt daytime frequency in Bellefonte. The frequency sought is 1390.

Also seeking the 1390 band for a 500-watt daytime station in State College is the Suburban Broadcasting Corp. of Hyattsville, Md.

The University reportedly found a frequency at 1400. However, this would interfere with the 1390 band. This presumably means that only one new station could broadcast in the State College area.

Both the Ulerich-Bergstein and the Maryland broadcasting corporation proposed stations would be commercial. The University station would be non-commercial. Apparently anticipating some

(Continued on page four)

150 to Receive Commissions

Commissions will be awarded this morning to more than 150 seniors who have completed one of the Reserve Officers Training Corps programs.

The ceremony is scheduled for 8:30 a. m. in Schwab Auditorium.

Lawrence E. Dennis, vice-president for academic affairs, will speak at the program while the oaths of office will be administered by Capt. John P. Roach, professor of naval science; Col. Orin H. Rigley, Jr., professor of air science; and Col. Arthur W. Kogstad, professor of military science and tactics.

Thirty-eight seniors will be commissioned as ensigns in the Navy or Navy Reserve; 12 as second lieutenants in the Marine Corps or Marine Corps Reserve, including three who qualify by enrollment in the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course; 47 as second lieutenants in the Air Force; and 58 as second lieutenants in the Army.

5 Men, 6 Women Given Class Honors

Five senior men—including four varsity athletes—and six senior women received class honors at the Senior Night program last night in Schwab Auditorium.

The seniors, selected by their class members to receive the honors, are:

Johnny Johnston, three-time Eastern wrestling champion and president of the Athletic Association, male class donor.

Les Walters, star end, spoon man.

Edward Dubbs, editor of The Daily Collegian, cane man.

Steve Baidy, two-letter man in baseball and basketball, barrel man.

Ron Rainey, also a two-letter

man in baseball and basketball, pipe man.

Suzanne Smith, Women's Student Government Association president, woman class donor.

Carolyn Johnson, president of Mortar Board, senior women's society, bow girl.

Karen Bixler, May Queen, fan girl.

Susanne Aiken Reilly, secretary of WSGA, slipper girl.

Lynn Kinnier, Education Student Council, mirror girl.

Patricia Moran, Home Economics Student Council president, class poet.

The spoon man award, the top honor going to a male senior, recognizes outstanding leadership and high scholastic attainment. The cane man award goes to the male senior with outstanding leadership requirements.

The barrel man is presented to

an athlete who excelled in leadership and scholarship and symbolizes the old cinder scraps that were conducted on campus.

The tradition behind the pipe man award is much older than the other honors. The origin of the custom is not definitely known but it is believed to have been started as a joke by some who thought it was time to "bury the hatchet" of class rivalry and smoke the traditional peace pipe with the incoming senior class.

Since then the pipe man award has been a symbol of friendship and understanding between the graduating class and the incoming senior class. University tradition and customs are to be carefully guarded by the recipient of the pipe award during the year

(Continued on page four)



Johnston Class Donor

Walters Spoon Man

Dubbs Cane Man

Baidy Barrel Man

Rainey Pipe Orator

Smith Class Donor

Johnson Bow Girl

Bixler Fan Girl

Reilly Slipper Girl

Kinnier Mirror Girl

Moran Class Poet