

University Survives 4 Wars During 100-Year Existence

During its 100 years of existence, the University has survived four wars.

Dr. Evan Pugh, the President in 1861, had as his main problem that of keeping his students from picking up muskets and running off to fight for the preservation of the Union.

During the Spanish-American, it wasn't a problem of losing students, but knowing what to do with the influx of thousands sent to the campus for the specialized training that scientific methods of warfare demanded.

World War I and II turned the University in its rural setting into an important part of a vast military machine practically overnight.

Not only men, but women also were trained in the classrooms for jobs in the war of production to feed and equip armies.

Despite the fact the University in its 100-year history has reeled under the impact of four wars, it was in each instance able to maintain its program of education.

The Civil War could have wrecked the University. As the Farmer's High School, it had opened its doors to students only three years before the outbreak of hostilities, and it was tottering financially. During the four years of strife classes were never wholly suspended, though there was a general exodus in the summer of 1863 as many students and professors left to join the army during Lee's invasion of Pennsylvania.

Records showed that 196 students and faculty members bore arms during the Civil War.

The blowing up of the Maine in Havana harbor in February 1898 had its reverberations on the campus, but on the whole the student body was relatively unaffected by the Spanish-American War.

Within less than a month after

the declaration of war by the United States in April 1917, 300 men from the University volunteered for military service and were sent to Madison Barracks near Watertown, N.Y.

Scientists in the laboratories abandoned researches dealing with peacetime investigations for those which could help speed victory. Sports, campus politics, club meetings—all extra-curricular activities also quickly lost their consuming interest and were forgotten in the grim and immediate task of training for wartime service.

In June and July of 1918, the University sent two big ROTC detachments to Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y.

By the fall of 1918, the War Department had completed arrangements for the Students Army Training Corps, and when the new term opened, the University, in common with other institutions throughout the country, was under military control. The University also held farm training camps for boys in the spring of 1918. It conducted four 10-day instructional camps for 1088 boys.

The Agriculture Extension Service devoted its efforts to increasing farm production in the state to go along with the World War I slogan, "Food will win the war." The College of Engineering con-

ducted three specialized training programs for the War Department. It trained 200 enlisted men in machine shop and electrical work, 150 students in automobile mechanics, and 500 as trench telephone operators.

On the day following the Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, the Council of Administration took steps to enable the University to make its contributions to winning the war. An accelerated program was adopted and the University was put on a 365-day-a-year schedule.

This speedup was designed to allow students called by Selective Service to complete all or a major portion of their courses and to make other students available more quickly for war industries.

In May of 1942, the first of 775 trainees in the Army Specialized Training Program began arriving on the campus and started the first 12-week term of the program in June.

Six hundred trainees of the Army Air Corps arrived in March of 1943 for the first of a series of 5-month preflight programs. They were followed in July by 600 Navy and Marine Corps reservists in the Navy's V-12 program.

The University's scientists devoted their genius to all types of research and experimentation.

Food Fair--

(Continued from page two) Co. on how to select meats for preparation in different ways.

When questioned about the fair from the point of view of one of the demonstrators, a representative of Curry, Cannon, Co. of Altoona said, "We're more than satisfied with the results."

A representative of another company said he found the crowd "very nice to deal with."

Various companies gave samples of products that couldn't be prepared at the fair to anyone who wanted to take them home and test them.

Town Relations--

(Continued from page four) find a problem. In 1926 State College paved its streets to help the car owners. In 1928 the College solved its problem by banning all cars from the campus.

The rapid growth of the College and State College has resulted in a close intermingling of interests. Many of the members of the staff who live in the town have taken an active interest in its affairs. Some are members of the borough and town councils and other political and non-political organizations.

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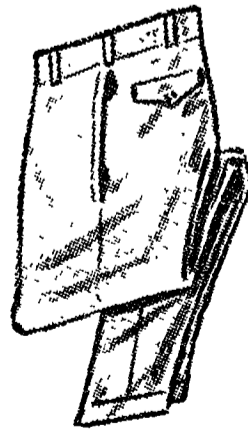
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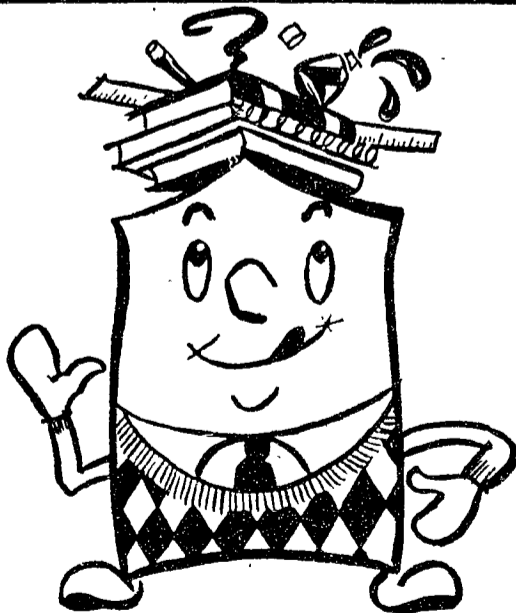
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