

Student Body Is 100 Years Old

69 Students Started Work Feb. 17, 1859

By BILL JAFFE

The student body moves into its second century of existence today.

It was 5:45 a.m. 100 years ago today when the first rising bell roused 69 teenage students to begin the educational program of the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania.

The first class was graduated in December 1861 when 11 members who enrolled in 1859 received their diplomas.

Although the University was chartered Feb. 22, 1855, it took the trustees and administrators four years of hard work before they could open the doors to students.

The first student to register was James S. Reed who enrolled on Feb. 16 and completed his work in 1862. He later became a practicing physician in Pennsylvania.

The graduates of '61 returned to the University in 1911 for their 50th anniversary reunion and at that time honorary degrees were conferred upon the entire class.

John N. Banks, a member of the first class and later a member of the Board of Trustees, in responding to an address by Gen. James A. Beaver, president of the board, at the 50th anniversary reunion said the class had no actual commencement exercise and their diplomas were sent home several weeks after they had graduated.

"We came to the institution in its infancy when it required great care and attention to protect it from possible dangers. We return to find it has grown beyond our expectations—having attained a high place among the leading institutions of learning in our land and attracting attention of nations of the world," Banks said.

The University had no president when it first began, Banks said, and Professor David Wilson took over the duties of an administrator and friend of the students. The presiding officer was William C. Waring, who acted as general superintendent.

The students came to the Farmers' High School by stage coach from either Spruce Creek or Lewistown where the Pennsylvania Railroad trains left them off. The students ate their meals in a small one-room building on campus. Nothing but farm lands could be seen from the first buildings, Banks said.

The school was closed for vacation. (Continued on page four)

Grads Hold Top Jobs In Country

By DENNY MALICK

The end product of the University "factory"—its alumni—has been one of the best indications of Penn State's increasing influence throughout the country.

The alumni have spoken well for the University's quality of graduates. Their positions include top jobs in industry, government and entertainment.

Hershey Chocolate Corp., Corning Glass Co., National Can Corp., Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co. and Campbell Soup Co. are among the major national corporations headed by alumni.

The Class of 1922 is one of the top classes as far as having distinguished members in the business world. Samuel F. Hinkle is president of the Hershey Chocolate Corp. and William C. Decker, holds the presidency of the Corning Glass Co.

Another member of the class is Fred Waring, internationally known orchestra and choral director.

Two 1917 graduates hold top positions in industry. They are Robert W. Ostermayer, president of Pennsylvania Industrial Chemical Corp., and Harvey B. Jordan, executive vice president of United States Steel Corp.

Ostermayer has been general chairman of the Alumni Fund for several years.

Van H. Leichter, Class of '30, is another U.S. Steel Corp. executive. He is president of the American Steel and Wire Division of the corporation.

George H. Deike, Class of '03, has been very active in University affairs in addition to serving as chairman of the board of the Mine Safety Appliances Co. Deike is a (Continued on page twenty-four)



FIRST STUDENTS take time from work to pose for pictures. This picture discovered recently by an alumnus shows a group of students plowing in front of the completed wing of Old Main.

Think 8 O'Clocks Are Rough? Try a Chem Class at 6 A.M.

By BOBBI LEVINE

Students of today are living lives of leisure according to records showing the daily schedule back in 1859.

Records in the show cases in the newest library display, "Penn State Opens as Farmers High

School," show students had to attend 6 a.m. chemistry, recreation, political economics, rhetoric and composition classes or spend the time doing manual labor.

Lists of the amount of labor a student put in in a day were carefully kept and tabulated and students received slips certifying performance of labor detail assignments which helped determine their class standing.

A letter from William P. Cottrell, a member of the first group of students admitted, described the type of labor done as: "loading manure, cleaning stables, chopping wood, picking, loading and hauling stones . . ." In this same letter, Cottrell described his room: "I have a fine room on the second floor (of Old Main) which is well furnished. We have a double cottage bed, four chairs, a nice cherry table, bureau with a swinging glass to it, a spittoon, match box, dust pan and brush, a fine closet, a pitcher and tumbler to drink out of . . ."

There were no toilet accommodations in the building, and the only water supply was a cistern in the North Curtin area and a spring at the eastern end of the campus.

The daily schedule of the junior class of the day ran:

6 a.m. to 8 a.m., chemistry; 9 a.m. to noon, manual work; noon to 1 p.m., dinner and recreation; 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., math and land survey; 2 to 3 p.m., botany; 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., zoology; 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., moral philosophy; 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., recreation; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., prayers and declamations in Chapel; and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., study hours.

A bell woke each student every morning. Everyone was required to attend morning chapel services,

and rooms were inspected every morning after breakfast. Before dinner students were required to feed the stock, and evening chapel was compulsory every evening. A bell sounded "lights-out" at 10 p.m., and since each student was required to pay his own gas bill, lights went out at 10.

In 1859, as today, students had Saturday afternoons free. Sundays, students were required to attend chapel services and were forbidden to visit each other's rooms or make noise.

In one of his many letters to friends describing life at the school, Cottrell said he was here for his health and did not expect to graduate.

In order to apply for admission to the school, a would-be student had to present evidence of good moral character. Liquor, card playing, and the possession of cards on campus was forbidden.

Students then, too, had to pay for their own text books which were sold to them at "lowest Philadelphia retail prices." Even in 1859 they had something similar to the chemistry breakage ticket of today. A student was (Continued on page twenty-four)

Today's Paper To Set Record For Circulation

Today's special edition of The Daily Collegian will have the largest circulation of any student publication in the University's history—more than 19,000 copies.

In addition to the 7000 copies ordinarily printed for students and paid subscribers, more than 12,000 extra copies are being distributed throughout the county by the Centre Daily Times as a gesture of town-campus good will.

Today's Collegian has been designed to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the student body and to promote greater understanding between students and the people of State College.

Distribution of the paper as an insert in the Times was authorized by Eugene J. Reilly, that paper's associate publisher and business manager, in the belief that townspeople would be interested in examining the student newspaper and reading material on the student body's 100th anniversary.

Old Main, Earliest Building; Still Serves Faculty, Students

Today marks the beginning of Old Main's second century of service to students.

The trustees of the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania contracted for the main building on May 12, 1856. They stipulated that the structure was to be built for \$55,000. Work began on June 24. The first stones, quarried on the school's farm, were laid in the foundation on August 18.

Numerous difficulties followed this early progress but they failed to keep the school from opening. The first students to enroll in the school arrived by stage on Feb. 16, 1859, exactly 100 years ago yesterday. Old Main was the first and almost only building they saw. At that time, only the west wing and curtain were standing. These housed laboratories, class rooms and living quarters for the students. Dr. Evan Pugh arrived in Oc-

tober of the same year to assume the presidency of the school. He described Old Main as "a plain, substantial structure of limestone seated on a pleasant rise of ground."

Step-by-step the character of the building changed until a rebuilt Old Main arose on the site of the original building. Most of the stone used in the reconstruction was again quarried on the campus.

Today, after these series of facelifts, the completed building stands as a monument to the vision and foresight of these founders. Since the original building was planned to service 400 students, it is no longer fulfilling its early purpose as dormitory-classroom-laboratory. Old Main has now become the scene of administrative activity for the University. President Eric A. Walker and his staff use it as official headquarters for a still-growing population of 15,000 students.

On 100th Anniversary

Student-Town Aid Cited

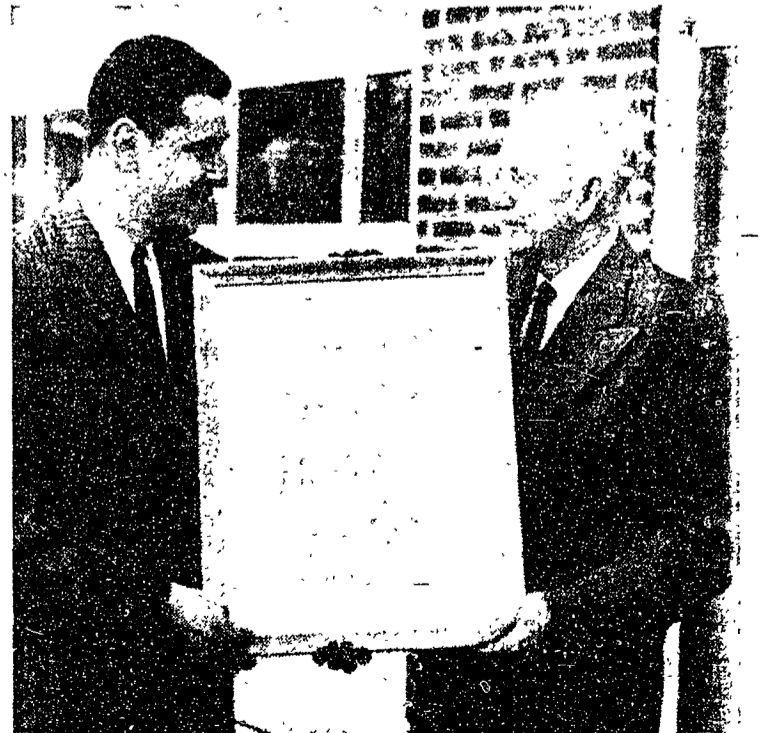
The 100th anniversary of the student body was celebrated yesterday with a renewed emphasis on the importance of good campus-town relations.

All-University President Jay Feldstein presented a citation to Burgess Roy D. Anthony in recognition of 100 years of student-town relations.

President Eric A. Walker, writing for The Daily Collegian (see page 12), called for greater understanding and cooperation between "town and gown" to meet problems posed by the University's expansion program. In addition to performing his duties at the University, Walker has served as a borough councilman for a number of years.

The student-town citation read, "Presented to the people of State College by the students of the Pennsylvania State University in recognition of 100 years as 'Neighbors Across the Street', Feb. 16, 1859, to Feb. 16, 1959, and in the hope of mutual friendliness throughout future years."

Anthony said the citation will be displayed in a prominent place downtown.



100 YEARS AS NEIGHBORS—All-University President Jay Feldstein presents a citation to State College Burgess Roy D. Anthony in recognition of the 100th anniversary of student-town relations.

—Collegian Photo by Bob Thompson