

University Owns Real Lion! May Be Living in Bronx Zoo

By JIM MORAN

Remember the letter in yesterday's Collegian, in which somebody thought that Penn State should have a real, live lion? And remember how you laughed at such a preposterous idea as you took another sip of coffee?

Well, brother, the laugh's on you. Penn State does have a real, live lion. At least, it might have.

Exactly 16 years ago this week, a wartime nationwide radio program, "Vox Pop", presented the University with a lion cub. The man to talk to about this episode is Dr. J. F. Shigley, State College veterinarian. He had to feed the lion every two hours for one week, back in 1943, when he was professor of veterinary science and in charge of all the University's livestock.

Dr. Shigley explained how the radio program was coming to Penn State to do nationwide radio broadcast. Featured in the show were Warren Hull, who is still active in television, and Parks Johnson, prominent radio personality of the day.

"Well, a few nights before the show," Shigley recalled, "I got a phone call around 10 p.m. from Ridge Riley, secretary of the Alumni Association. He told me to get ready because I was going to take a trip to Lewistown.

"I told him that I wasn't going anywhere that night, but he finally talked me into it and I found myself on the way to Lewistown."

When they arrived in Lewistown they met a late train. On the train was one representative of the Bronx Zoo and one scared lion cub.

"Riley told me that the University was going to be given the lion, and that it would be my job to take care of him," said the veterinarian. "The man from the zoo informed me that I would have to feed the cub every two hours. Well, we came back to State College and I took the lion to my house and began feeding him."

Shigley told how he mixed the lion's meals every two hours, managing to catch a few cat naps, or, as he referred to them, "lion naps," in between feedings.

"Of course, I had to teach my classes in the day time," he continued, "So I packed him in a crate and hauled him off to classes with me. I had to feed him in between classes."

The night of the show came. Shigley said he had to take the lion to rehearsals several times before the big night in Recreation Hall.

"They had a lot of entertainment, and about halfway through the show, they brought the lion out and announced they were giving it to the University. So, I took him back home and kept on feeding him every two hours.

Shigley said that student spirit was at a peak in preparation for the Pitt game that year.



LIONSITTER—Dr. J. F. Shigley (center) holds the lion presented to the University in 1943 by "Vox Pop", a wartime radio program. He is flanked by the show's stars, Park Johnson (l.) and Warren Hull. The picture was taken at the time of the presentation.

Students were up in arms over the chipped nose on the Nittany Lion statue, which was only one year old at the time.

Pitt students were blamed and a guard was thrown up around the statue. In addition to these incidents, the Associated Press sent a photograph all over the country, showing the real lion nestled in the paws of the stone lion. Penn State was on the map and students made the most of it.

"After the students saw the cub, they fell in love with him immediately," Shigley went on. "Coeds by the dozen came out to my place to admire the little fellow. Fraternities offered to guard him. I kept on feeding him every two hours."

Finally the chore became too great for Shigley, and the University could not find anyone else to take care of the lion. They decided to send it back to the Bronx Zoo and to its mother, he said.

"When we sent the lion back, he weighed eight pounds," Shig-

ley said. "I talked to the veterinarian at the zoo a year later and he said our little cub had grown into a 220-pound beast. I haven't heard from the zoo since, so I don't know if he's still alive."

Shigley, who had never handled lions up until that time, says it is very possible that the lion is still alive today. He doubts if it could be located at present, since lions come and go many times in zoos.

Shigley feels the lion is better off in the Bronx. "I don't know what they would have done with him here. I sure wasn't going to lead him out on the football field, unless we pulled his teeth and filed his

(Continued on page twelve)

Penny Candy--

(Continued from page four)

ster Eggs. In the true spirit of the time it should be the patriotic duty of every American to dye Easter eggs next year with cranberry juice left over from the days of the Great Contamination.

When Arbor Day rolls around, ceremonies across the nation would feature the planting of cranberry bushes, the new national bush.

And finally we reach Independence Day. On July 4, 1960, another new flag will be made official. Isn't the government morally obligated on that day to make final amends for its cruel destruction of Thanksgiving and the free enterprise system? There is just one course open to them. They must replace the 49 stars in the American flag with 50 round, red cranberries.

But one of our professor's had an even better idea. Since the contaminated berries give rats cancer, he said, the government should buy them up and use them as poison to wipe out rats in the United States. Well, Happy Thanksgiving.

Soc Club to Hear McClain

James McClain, probation officer for Huntingdon County, will speak on juvenile delinquency at a meeting of the Sociology Club, at 7 tonight in 110 Electrical Engineering.

German Club Celebrates

The German Club held a bi-centennial celebration last Thursday, honoring the famous German dramatist, Frederick Von Schiller who was born Nov. 10, 1759.

Professors from the Department of German read several works by Schiller which included: "The Glove," "Division of the World," and the "Victory Feast."

Have a WORLD of FUN!

Travel with **SITA**
Unbelievable Low Cost

Europe
60 Days incl. steamer from \$675

Orient
43-65 Days incl. steamer from \$998

SEE MORE SPEND LESS

Many tours include college credit

Also low-cost trips to Mexico \$169 up, South America \$499 up, Hawaii Study Tour \$398 up and Around the World \$1878 up

27th Year **SITA** WORLD TRAVEL
30 Rockefeller Plaza New York 20, CO-5-7078

CHILLY ON THE OUTSIDE?

Keep cosy with any one of these collegiate headwarmers:

- jersey turbans
- jersey flowered wigs
- knitted hats
- scarf hats
- berets
- fur ear muffs
- capadors
- angora ear warmers

All attractive in assorted colors.

The Hat Shop

"Where Quality is not expensive"

CORNER OF McALLISTER and E. BEAVER

Daily 9-9 AD 8-6847 Sat. 9-5

Newman Club Forum Series

Presents:

MODERN SOCIETY AND CATHOLICISM Evolution and the Catholic Church

Speaker: Father Edward Wenstrup, St. Vincent's College

Thursday, Nov. 19

111 Boucke — 7 P.M.

BE ASSURED . . .

You'll look your loveliest for all the holiday activities with a hairstyle designed for you by our European specialist.



VOGUE
BEAUTY SALON

Formals Jewelry Blouses Dresses
Coats Skirts
Dresses Formal
Casual Dresses
the Atherton shop for women
725 S. Atherton St.
State College, Penna.
ADams 8-2212
10 a.m. — 8 p.m.
Basic Dresses
Handbags
Suits Coats Jewelry
Cocktail Dresses Suits Handbags Blouses