



Federal Secretary of Transportation William Coleman speaks (left) at the graduation of the Penn State Class of 1975.

Coleman outlines government problems

By LEAH ROZEN
Collegian Staff Writer

William T. Coleman Jr., Secretary of Transportation, told 1,500 graduates in Penn State's spring class that four problems—inflexibility in government, increasing government spending, integrity in government and law and morality in government—concern him today for the government of the 1970's.

Outlining these problems at the graduating ceremonies at Beaver Stadium, Coleman said he wanted to "share insights the government I've acquired in my time in Washington."

Concerning inflexibility in government, Coleman said he found that far too many government programs remain static. He pointed to the generally deteriorating conditions of the nation's railroads as an example.

That came down hard on increases in government spending, saying, "We've got to suppress the idea that Uncle

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—William T. Coleman Jr.

Sam will foot the bill for everything."

He termed Watergate as "not a failure of our system of government but a failure of individuals." Calling for an increase in governmental integrity, Coleman said he thought Congress, the press and, "most importantly, the people, work quite well."

Finally, discussing law and morality in government, Coleman said, "Government will only be as flexible, honest

and honorable as we the people demand."

He struck a hopeful note, telling the graduates that "We know that with your talent, determination and idealism, you will make it a better world to live in."

There was one sure way of drawing applause from this spring's graduating class: commiserate with them on their less than bright employment prospects.

Clapping echoed throughout the stadium in response to

Coleman's claims that this year's graduates were entering "perhaps the worst job market for college graduates since the 1930's. You will find it's best to be an optimist if for no other reason than to show the pessimist what he's missing."

John W. Oswald, president of the University, assured the graduates he realized that "In our present economy you have some anxiety about the future."

Frank J. Muraca was presented with the 1975 Eric A. Walker Award, which was given to him for his concern for student problems and his participation in student affairs.

Kenneth A. Ortner picked up the 1975 Ralph Dorn Hetzel Memorial Award. It is awarded to a senior "whose achievements scholastically and in other activities of University life give the highest promise of the kind of useful citizenship in the national life expounded by President (Ralph Dorn) Hetzel" who was president of Penn State from 1925 to 1947.



Photo by Tim Dougherty

You've come a long way, baby!

GRADUATION FROM PENN STATE prior to 1925 is the requirement for being a member of the Pioneers. This group of alumni was especially honored over Alumni Weekend as one of its members was attending his 70th Penn State reunion—as a graduate of the Class of 1906. These former students are pictured at the All-Class Luncheon Saturday which highlights the weekend.

PSU alumni meet for reunions

By GLENDA GEPHART
Collegian Staff Writer

With reminiscences about days past and exclamations over how much it all has changed, about 1,500 Penn State alumni gathered here this weekend for their class reunions.

The reunions, ranging from the class of 1912 to the class of 1950, were held Thursday through Saturday, with the high point of the weekend being the All-Class Luncheon on Saturday afternoon.

The three days offered the former students the chance to see forgotten classmates, sign 35-year old yearbooks, explore a campus almost unknown due to change and, of course, mentally and verbally relive their days in Happy Valley.

The Saturday luncheon was the crucial part of the weekend, when the Alumni Association conferred different awards on 13 persons and gave the University a check for \$4.85 million.

The money was solicited by the Alumni Fund Council from 17,105 separate donations which came from alumni and other private sources. The check was presented to University President John W. Esch.

A former University president also had a role in the alumni festivities. Milton S. Eisenhower, who was

president from 1950 to 1957, was awarded the standing of Honorary Alumnus of the University.

When the announcement was made of Eisenhower's award, he received a standing ovation from the alumni audience. He told the group he was honored by the award and that he had been given a "continuing relationship to this institution."

Eisenhower said he was astounded at the growth in size of University Park adding that the only buildings he recognized were Schwab and Old Main. Returning here was a homecoming, he said.

One mark Eisenhower left on Penn State was establishing the Distinguished Alumni Awards. This year, the 24th for the awards, eleven alumni were honored.

According to the inscription on the Distinguished Alumni Award medal, the recipient is an alumnus "whose personal and professional achievements, and community service exemplify the objectives of the Pennsylvania State University." This year those honored came from all areas including business, medicine, law, engineering and film.

The Distinguished Alumni of 1975 are: Augustus S. Wertz, '17; J.S. McMahan, '41; Alan R. Warehime, '35; Marshall K.

Evans, '53; J. Edwin Metz, '38; Charles G. Overberger, '41; Don Taylor, '42; Marion Dougherty Blossom, '43; Gardner E. Lindzey, '43; G. Montgomery Mitchell, '49; and Ronald R. Davenport, '58.

The third award highlighting the alumni luncheon was the Lion's Paw Medal Award, a presentation made by the Lion's Paw Alumni Association since 1965. It goes to any person who the association feels has notably served the University and its traditions.

The 1975 Lion's Paw Medal Award went to Harold J. O'Brien, associate dean for Commonwealth Campuses in the College of Liberal Arts. O'Brien received his doctor of philosophy degree from Penn State in 1952.

Besides the luncheon and individual class reunion dinners and parties, the 25th Annual Alumni Institute was held this year.

The institute, a program of presentations by current University faculty members, was conducted Friday in the Keller Building. It began with a panel discussion on the changing role of women. The ten other discussions throughout the day covered topics such as inflation, the Middle East conflict, newspaper reporting, body language, heart attacks and photography.

Alums reflect on PSU; new buildings surprising

By MARIE GREEN
Collegian Copy Editor

To June Mohan it "feels very strange" to see Penn State again after 30 years.

"There's so many more buildings and people—it's three times the size it was," said Mrs. Mohan of the class of 1945, who was here with her husband Joe, '46, for her class reunions and the 25th Annual Alumni Institute last weekend.

Although the more than 1,500 visiting alumni had difficulty recognizing new buildings on campus, Ken Uhler, '45, said he thinks the University is basically unchanged. "It's grown tremendously," Uhler said, "but I just spent two hours walking around campus and it still looks as beautiful as ever. It still looks like Penn State."

Thomas S. Barbero, '25, said when he was a mechanical engineering student here the campus looked completely different—for example, the football field was behind Rec Hall. "And there were a lot of 'temporary' engineering buildings that were here for years," he added.

Downtown also has changed, according to Carl Rice, '25. He said Graham's was at the same location but a student bookstore, the Coop, occupied Moyer Jewelers' present site. There were two or three movie theaters in 1925, such as the Cathaum, which was then on Allen St. "We used to call it 'The Armpit,'" Rice said.

Louis M. Dorfman said only Schwab and a few other buildings remain on campus from his student days in 1915. Not even Old Main is the same building. The headquarters of University Administrators was a combination dormitory, classroom and lab building, infirmary, chapel and library for 30 years. The original Old Main burned down and has since been rebuilt.

But Norman C. Dale of the 1918 class can remember when the University was mostly fields and Willard was the Armory where students drilled each morning for compulsory ROTC training. Dale said he and his brother Edwin, '20, used to take rides on Parker's Boat, the train to Bellefonte.

C.H. Nissley said 1912 students would amuse themselves by buying ice cream at the campus dairy or pulling pranks at Old Main entertainments. "We used to throw stink bombs in the crowd at spelling bees," he said.

Nissley said students normally wore corduroy pants, woolen

shirts and high boots (because of the mud). "We were a real rough and ready group," he said.

"Everyone used to fall out of bed at 7 a.m. for ROTC drill and we had to go to chapel every morning too," Nissley said.

Despite the strict discipline, there was a great deal of freshmen hazing, particularly in the early 1900s. Harold D. Davis, '12, said one form of hazing was to cut off freshmen's hair.

"Then they would call you 'Baldy,'" he said.

Julius Torok, '25, said he "had a grand time" when he went to Penn State but the male-female ratio was a little unbalanced then—about 3,000 men and 300 women. "You had to call three months in advance to get a date," he said.

Although women began attending the University in 1871, Mary Ervin Thompson said there were only four women in her 1912 class and the other three majored in home economics. A liberal arts major, Thompson said most professors did not treat her any differently but one professor told Thompson that she would not want to be in a class with all men. "So I just walked out—that was one course I exempted."

"It was wonderful then" because of the smaller class sizes, Thompson said. "You got to know everyone better and you made a lot of lasting friendships."

Ralph A. Freed said one outstanding feature of his 1912 class was "the togetherness—and there's not enough of it now."

Another 1912 graduate, Harold Davis, said what he remembers most is Class Day. "Everybody made a circle and went around shaking hands and saying, 'Hi, Bill, remember the night we did such and such?' I could call all but four by their first names," Davis said.

Many of the visiting alumni have been back at least a few times but Louis Dorfman has returned for every reunion since 1915. "That must be some kind of record," his classmate Eugene A. Siegler said.

Gil Fieger, '25, a member of the Boxers' former Penn State collegiate fighters, said the group attends every reunion. Boxing was dropped as an intercollegiate sport in 1946 but the Boxers are attempting to revive it. Fieger said when he was at Penn State, boxing was as popular as football is today. The team boxed at the Armory, he said, and the place would be "filled to the rafters."

"Ah, it brings back old memories," one 1912 graduate said, looking around the campus.

