

OFFICIAL BULLETINS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Physics Colloquium Prof. P. Ehrenfest
Thursday and Friday, January 22 and 23
4 P.M., Room 4-270

Two lectures will be given by Professor Ehrenfest, of the University of Leiden. These lectures will take the place of the regular colloquium, the next meeting of which will be on Thursday, February 12. Among the topics to be discussed in these lectures are crystal thermoelectricity, the cyrogenic work at Leiden, and remarks on the quantum theory. Open to graduate students and members of the instructing staff.

CALENDAR

Wednesday, January 21

5:00-6:00 P.M.—Banjo Club rehearsal, East Lounge, Walker Memorial.
5:00-10:00 P.M.—Class of 1900 dinner, Faculty Dining Hall, Walker Memorial.
5:30-7:30 P.M.—Alpha Chi Sigma dinner, Grill Room, Walker Memorial.

Thursday, January 22

7:00 P.M.—Fiftieth anniversary banquet of "THE TECH", Colonial room, Ritz-Carlton hotel.

Friday, January 23

5:00-6:00 P.M.—Banjo Club rehearsal, East Lounge, Walker Memorial.
5:00 P.M.—Technology Photographic Society meeting, Room 5-130.

Infirmiry List

- Aurelio C. Alvarez '34.
- George E. Best '34.
- Khitish Biswas, Asst. Prof.
- Donald C. Harrison, Grad.
- Richard L. Lankes '31.
- Stuart D. Miller '32.
- Walter P. Donalson, Jr., Grad.
- Philip Bonticilli, Emp.
- Maurice M. O'Brien '31.
- Fred J. O'Sullivan '31.
- L. Pashon, Emp.
- Alexander L. Pavlo '31.
- Rodrigo A. Porras '33.
- Harundun D. Rashduni '31.
- E. J. Salstrom, Inst.
- Neal F. Schappert '34.
- Fred W. Smith '34.
- Walter V. Skees '34.
- Edward R. Toporeck, Grad.
- George Q. Thornton '32.
- Russell S. Robinson, Unc.

UNDERGRADUATE

B. A. A. GAME TICKETS

Tickets for the B. A. A. Games on February 14th maybe had by getting in touch with Mr. Hedlund in the track house any afternoon. A block of fifty tickets in one of the best sections has been procured and may be obtained from Mr. Hedlund.

CREW

Freshmen substituting Crew for P.T. must sign up in Mr. McCarthy's office, Room 335 Walker, before January 24th.

Prof. H. Muller will speak on "Colloids" at the meeting of the M. I. T. Physical Society to be held Friday afternoon at 5 o'clock in Room 4-231.

That last minute tutoring before examinations exerts a "vicious influence on the intellectual life of the university," was the statement made in an editorial recently by The Daily Princetonian, undergraduate publication of Princeton University.

"First, cramming is a superficial method of review," the paper said. "It deadens undergraduate initiative and places a premium on merely getting by. Second, in view of the fact that only certain types of examination questions can be asked, and that these can be easily spotted by experienced tutors, cramming by Hun puts university examiners under the temptation of trapping the trapper and giving tests that will beat Hun and fail everybody."

"Third, shallow tutoring, foreign to the purpose of all worthwhile study, encourages habits of mental laziness and is worse than useless in preparing for comprehensive examinations of upper-class years.

"Fourth, it is partially responsible for the failure of men who relied, in freshmen and sophomore years, on intellectual dope and found it unavailing later."

Northwestern University—A committee of thirteen students has been selected to make a survey of educational methods in various American colleges and universities and to attempt to correlate that material with Northwestern practices.

Representatives from sixty-three foreign universities and colleges are listed in the student bodies of the New York University Graduate School and the Graduate School of Business Administration, according to the annual reports of the two schools.

The Tulane Hullabaloo brings the news that co-eds at the University of Michigan were defeated in their attempts to prove themselves "human beings" in a debate with men students of the University.

Russia's Five Year Plan Seen As Menace To Our Old Methods

Schedules Set By Stalin And Aides Has Been Exceeded In Some Industries

Whether the present plan for Russia's rehabilitation and stabilization will succeed has been the topic of many articles, the greater number of which have not considered more than the merest touch upon the condition at present, necessary to the completeness of their thoughts. Let us consider the Five-Year Plan, now under way under the direction of Joseph Stalin, the chief of Communism at Stalingrad, Russia.

There are three great troubles with the operation of the plan as it now stands. The internal system of the country's transportation facilities has completely collapsed under the strain of the increased production which the plan has called for, in every industry. There lies a field for the American railroad engineer. The second fault lies in the fact that the increased production has not been arrived at with due regard for the demand on the world's market for the product being boomed. Therein lies another opportunity for the young American. The third fault is not of interest to an engineer, being the deflated condition of the rouble.

Engineers Are Needed

Aside from the adjusting and correction of these faults, there is a call for men in all the fields which the modern engineer is trained to work in.

An example of such a thing is the oil situation, which is a very complex matter, one calling for men of every branch in the industry. The crude is being produced at a loss now, or rather being produced in the interior, and being sold at the coast for prices which do not cover the cost of its transportation there. Men are being imported for the refineries, because there is a pipe line from the field to the coast, which is capable of taking the lighter oils and fuels to the sea cheaply. There are more men going to supervise the storage of products at each end.

Magnetogorsk, about two hundred miles inside the borders of Asia, is the scene of the greatest engineering feat that the world has ever known. A steel plant is being constructed there on the piece work idea, which will make Gary, Indiana, and Pittsburgh appear as models, and which will be rivalled only by the great German steel works. The latest American equipment and planning is being used to assure the efficient operation of the plant, and American engineers are in charge of all operations.

The world's output of asbestos is at present insufficient for the demands put upon it by modern industry, but there has been an enormous supply of it in Russia known, but not worked, for a long time. Under the plan of Stalin, this great pit of asbestos will be put in operation to produce double that amount already being furnished by the other countries. To date, there has been seen a progress toward this, which is colossal, until compared with the gains made in the rest of Russian industry, and the chances are that the plan's requirements for a two-year period will be exceeded very shortly. The output in oil has already come above the desires of the Communist chief, and has caused an over production of oil on the markets of the world.

Ferro-manganese, the constituent of many of the tough steels, at present being supplied by the United States, will soon be produced by Russia in sufficient quantities to seriously menace our own profit in the industry. The ore at the mines is the purest in the known realms of mineralogical data, and is to be smelted in Russia, as well as mined. The mills to do this are not only under construction, but some are working, and within a year will outrun the efforts of all others in competition.

Economic Progress Made

While such tremendous advances are being made industrially, the same speed is being effected economically. The forests are giving the lumber business material in quantities which were thought impossible a year ago, and there is no limit to the possible increase, for the immense forests are not noticeably depleted, and reforestation is amply replacing the timber cut. Again, in the field of food supply, the community farms are providing the necessary sustenance for the country and enough more to make export profitable.

The most exact, advanced, and clear-sighted economists state that the

economic center of the world; in the future, will rest, for a while, at least, in Russia and China, the countries which are now applying methods that are ahead of the times, instead of those merely meeting the immediate demand, such as are practiced in the so-called "progressive countries" today.

Not only do the Communist chiefs see this, but they have had it more in mind than is apparent when they have seemed to dismiss so ruthlessly, all culture and refinement. The normal person would be shocked to know the extremes to which this practice is carried. However, the men at the head of the organization plan to let such social civilization develop to an extent that will not hinder the economic balance of the country, and will not destroy the mentality of the people. Sad to say, the great leaders see this last danger in the United States, where one admits that the rate of intelligence is decreasing, in spite of the increasing rate of literacy and education.

Intercollegiates

That the suggestion of the Barnard College Bulletin that the women of the college should riot in order to call attention to their school and thus gain finances, was not entirely wasted, was indicated, according to the New York Times, when a Princeton man sent the paper \$1, accompanied by a letter, which read, in part:

"We feel that nothing will indicate our sentiments better than the enclosed donation, the interest of the principle to be used for the purpose of fostering, inciting and urging on to riot, the Barnard students. We would appreciate notice of the time and place for any forthcoming riot to be conducted under your auspices."

The dollar is to be used to purchase the Barnard postcards which Barnard alumnae are selling in their campaign of publicity for the college, The Bulletin said.

Barnard undergraduates this year have awakened to the fact that their college, because it is associated with Columbia University, appears to the public to have lost its individuality.

BOOK LIST

Frederick The Great By MARGARET GOLDSMITH. Albert and Charles Boni Company. \$5.00.

Though it would seem idle to try to compare favorably a small biography such as this one of Frederick the Great of Prussia with, for instance, Carlyle's, there are points wherein the newer work surpasses the old. Miss Goldsmith, sharing the views of modern biographers, pictures Frederick as far from faultless, a man of autocratic pride, cruel cynicism, greed for power, in short, a ruler fully imbued with the worst of Prussian creed. Carlyle, on the other hand, has idealized his subject to such an extent that this newer, smaller biography far exceeds his in truth. He was blind to the fact that Frederick the Great started the Seven Years War for personal gain; that his preference for French culture was unreasonable; that his refusal to recognize Kant and Goethe as well as his beloved Voltaire was ridiculous.

However, Miss Goldsmith, it must be understood, has clear understanding of and due appreciation for the characteristics that justified Frederick's greatness. She illustrates again and again his courage, his simplicity, his fertility of brain, his sense of morality, and his ultimate honesty. His faults she attributes to weak heritage, to his peculiar training in youth, and, most of all, the fact that he lived and died unloved. She devotes herself, in the early part of the book, to an emphasis of his childhood, which, in making Frederick what he was, changed the destiny of Europe.

And so, while Miss Goldsmith's biography cannot hope, in its ten short chapters, to give a detailed account of the history of the time and of contemporary personalities, it has corrected the errors that earlier biographers have made about the character and life of one of the most important men in European history. Also, though it is not brilliant or beautiful in literary style, this book has the superior advantage of consisting of truth, conscientiously told. C. B.

Poly men ought to be on the lookout for the news-reel pictures taken by Paramount of the famous "Dry Navy" of Georgia Tech. This unit, a Naval R. O. T. C., though located many miles from any large body of water, has drilled and perfected itself in all the work accompanying the handling of a battleship.

That middle-aged students can learn as rapidly, if not more rapidly, than young students, has been proved by the University of California in a series of examinations conducted there.

According to university officials, adults taking correspondence work as well as regular college courses during the past year, have in general showed greater progress in their subjects than campus undergraduates of college age.

The annual battle between the engineers and law students at the University of Missouri is called a football game to prevent police interference.



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The following is part of an advertisement in the State College News, of the N. Y. State College for Teachers:

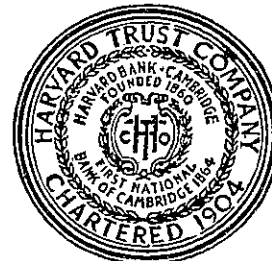
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* * *

A plan to secure a fund of \$200,000-000 for the benefit of American liberal arts colleges has been formulated by the Liberal Arts College Movement, recently organized with President Ward, of Western Maryland College as chairman.

The purpose of the movement, its sponsors declare, is to promote liberal arts studies.

"We shall undertake a vast advertising campaign," said Dr. H. J. Burghstahler, of Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa, "which shall urge American youth to undertake such college work as will make them well-rounded citizens. Too frequently students are graduated with a lop-sided education. They know one subject very well, but don't know anything about anything else."

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