

Vacancies Appear On SGA Council

The Student Government Association is once again faced with beginning-of-the-term vacancies as well as the responsibility of having elected four carry-over members for the 1963-64 Council and a president from among these new members. Problems are immediately posed due to the lack of willing candidates.

A possible eight vacancies need to be filled due to resignations for one reason or another since the fall elections. These members will fill the position of representatives until June 8. The temporary appointments made throughout the Winter Term by the SGA become vacant on April 18, the scheduled day for mass student elections at Behrend.

At this time, four carry-over members will also be elected for the 1963-64 academic year. These representatives shall serve for the next full academic year, one of whom will be elected on this date to serve in the capacity of president. The Spring Council will also elect the SGA treasurer for next year later on this term. In this manner, the president-elect will have one full term to study under outgoing President Runzo and Treasurer Barney before assuming the responsibilities of these offices on June 9.

Besides these feature attractions, amendments to the SGA Constitution, which have been duly passed by the total membership of the SGA, will be referred to the student body for final decision. The question of how to use the 1963 Class Gift Fund will also be resolved.

Speeches for candidates for the various positions will be presented during Common Hour on Thursday, April 18, 1963, in room 101. A voting booth and registration table will be placed in the lobby of the Otto F. Behrend Science Building on the scheduled day of elections. Each student must show his (her) matriculation card in order to be able to vote. Voting will take place immediately following the speeches during Common Hour and will be in session until 5:00 p.m. Results will be posted on the bulletin board in the science building as soon as they are tabulated.

Those planning to run for the Spring Council need only be at Behrend for the duration of this term. Anyone planning to run for carry-over or president must plan to return to Behrend for the Fall and Winter Terms of next year, and preferably all three. One may run for carry-over without having to run for president; however, those planning to place themselves in candidacy for president must run for carry-over as well. A 2.00 cumulative and past term average are the scholastic requirements to run for any position.

The responsibility of student government lies directly in the hands of the student body. These two entities are not merely literary symbols, for they express the ironic reality which should exist and which is not always honored on every college campus—the need for student voice. If this were not true, the members of fourteen councils at Behrend would not have dedicated and sacrificed much of their personal time for public office. Furthermore, the mandate for representative institutions helps to form the basis of our present society in the United States. A sad commentary it would be, indeed, if the work of the past fourteen years is to be lost because we will not take the time today to be heard, reviewed, and counted.

Today's TV Books, Movies Termed Moronic

In Plato's "cave", men, chained so that they could look in only one direction, saw by the light of a fire behind them only shadows, and heard only echoes, were led by what they necessarily believed torturous and unwanted journey into the world above them. They were blinded by the bright sunlight and deafened by the noises of this world. They were quite unhappy.

I believe that these men, used as examples by Plato, could be used equally well as examples of today's society with its unending, boring television shows, moving pictures, and novels.

On television, we see a ceaseless display of cowboys, hoodlums, private eyes, and, once in a while, a classic such as Shakespeare's Hamlet, or King Lear. However, by the time such a program reaches us, the viewers, it is unrecognizable, having been emasculated by censorship. The television industry of today is programming its shows for the "average American", presumably, in the industry's eyes, a moderately high-grade moron. He must be a discriminating moron, however, to choose among the various products hawked by the sponsors of these shows. We see advertized soaps and cars, deodorants and swimming pools, and almost any other thing which any American might conceivably be talked into purchasing. The amazing thing about it is that these shows are popular; the American public wants to lose itself for an hour or two in a world of fiction concocted by some hack. We do not want to be enlightened; we want to remain in our self-made morass of ignorance.

The movies the American public pays good money to watch are more evidence of the wish to remain mired in illiteracy. We see movies concerning hoodlums, insipid comedies, exposes which expose nothing, all earning fortunes for their producers.

The books we read are equally unsatisfactory: biographies of hoodlums, a moral film personalities, and unscrupulous businessmen. Books which are, in short, trash, with which the American public would like to identify itself.

Plato's cave-people were living in a world of half-light and half-sound, hearing only echoes and seeing only shadows. The American public of today is doing exactly the same thing while watching movies and television and reading books, identifying itself with some cowboy of fifty years ago, or with some unscrupulous, fictional private-eye, or with some dishonest "brain" on a big-money quiz show. Does the public watch "good" shows — Hamlet, MacBeth, High Tor, King Lear, or Playhouse 90? It does not! At least not by the evidence of the ratings. And, because of this, the number of such shows has been considerably decreased. a situation I, for one, consider deplorable.

THINGS I'D REALLY LIKE TO BE

By Ed Scharrer

I would like to be one of those men who Hit cows on their heads with sledgehammers In Chicago.

There's real dignity in working with your hands.

I would like to be a real faith healer like Oral Roberts who can cure cancer by Squeezing people's heads.

There's real satisfaction in doing good for all Those people.

I would like to be a president like John F. Kennedy and have a nice wife, pretty kids, And ponies.

Imagine all the things you could do for people If you were the president.

It would be nice to be the janitor At a movie house and be able to sweep up the Popcorn, candy, papers, wallets, and things the Customers left behind after the show.

Because Cleanliness is next to Godliness and There's a crying need for a Godly movie house.

TOMORROW

8 P.M.

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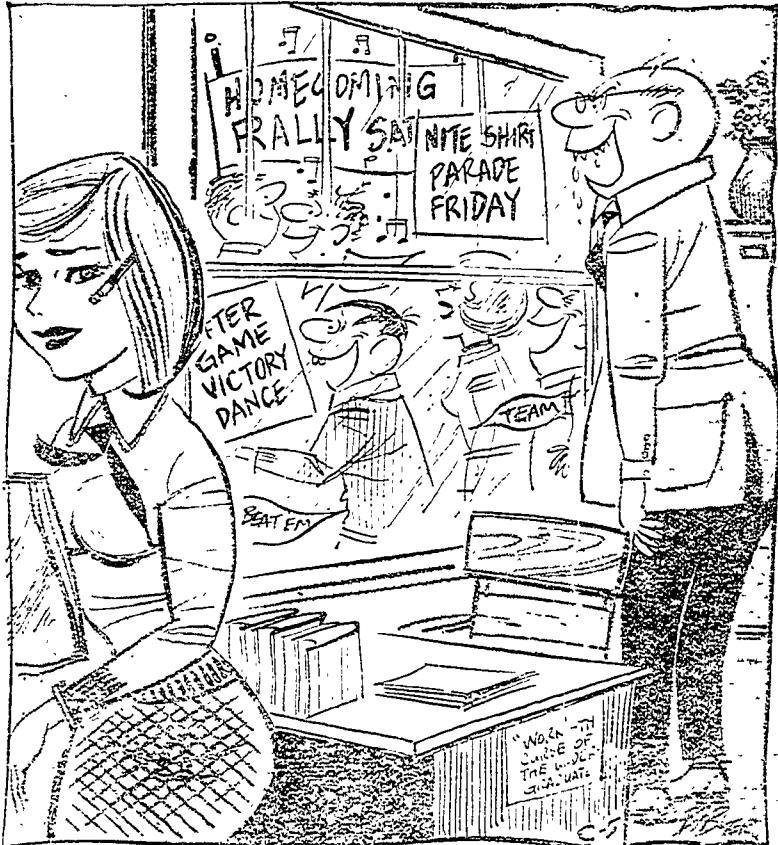
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