

With the Editor—**The Interfraternity Dating Code
And Penn State's 'Total Environment'**

Penn State is administered under the educational philosophy that its students should be living in a "total environment," that is, one in which all the stimuli brought to bear on a student both in and out of classes will be in line with the educational objectives of the college.

Penn State's educational objective and its reason for being is to provide Pennsylvania with an enlightened citizenry. Penn State is supposed to train good Pennsylvanians.

This is a goal which should be incessantly worked for even though it can never be perfectly achieved.

Outside the class room, much of this educational development has come through student self-government. As is natural, such government occasionally falls down, and badly.

One particular failure, evident at other institutions as well as Penn State, has become more important, more dangerous, and more potent here than at other institutions because of the Rachel Taylor murder, and its inevitable reflection on the College.

Fraternalities have failed to keep faith with the College in the enforcement of the Interfraternity Dating Code which they have imposed upon themselves.

Failure to enforce this code has had repercussions beyond the College. Only this summer it brought Penn State unfavorable publicity in a type of publication in which the College would not particularly care to be mentioned even favorably. The eyes of Pennsylvania are upon us since the Rachel Taylor case, ready to magnify any mis-step way out of proportion.

Certainly law enforcement of the self-imposed dating code is not conducive to training the ideal citizens Penn State would care to turn out.

The College should not step in to bring about enforcement of the dating code, but Interfraternity Council should soon take steps to bring about its own enforcement. When it does, it should have the College behind it.

Strict enforcement of the code can have one of two results. It is safe to say that during last year nearly every fraternity could have been found guilty of not one but many separate violations of the code. The possible result, then, is that every fraternity might run afoul of the code and be liable to a suspension of social privileges for 30 days or more.

The more probable result is that fraternity men recognizing the importance of the code will keep within it once they learn it is to be enforced. One or two fraternities will be found guilty and will cry out that they are scapegoats. That may be true, but the net result is likely to be good. It should reflect favor on the fraternities and favor on the College in its successful establishment of a "total environment."

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PENNSYLVANIA AND DEFENSE

EDITOR'S NOTE:—This is the fourth of six articles prepared by the School of Mineral Industries and released to the Collegian. The articles will appear in this column on consecutive Fridays.

By **DR. WILLIAM M. MYERS**
Assistant Professor of Mineral Economics
and Technology

If America should be suddenly cut off from world commerce today, probably no state would feel the loss of strategic import minerals more than Pennsylvania. And this in spite of its enormous native deposits of coal, cement rocks, oil, clay, limestone, and other minerals stretching from Pittsburgh to the Lehigh Valley.

The reason is Pennsylvania's dominant position in mineral processing, over and above home mineral production. Many of the state's vital defense industries—steel, tinplate, aluminum, electrical equipment, and even coal mining—are surprisingly dependent on certain indispensable minerals that must be obtained largely from overseas. The current stocks of these minerals would last barely a year if all imports should cease.

Although the likelihood of a total trade blackout is remote, the present moves by the federal government to build up mineral stocks from abroad, find new domestic sources, and license the exports, strike vitally home in this state. All of the remote minerals which Pennsylvania needs have been put under export license control, as well as several others with which the state is well endowed, including oil and scrapiron.

A look at Pennsylvania's mineral imports will show their importance.

Without manganese, imported largely from Russia, Cuba, India, and Africa, the booming steel mills of Pittsburgh and eastern Pennsylvania would be crippled. Less than 10 per cent of the American consumption of this mineral, which is used in all steels to remove impurities, is produced within our own borders.

During the World War, by utilizing all possible domestic sources, America was able to produce 35 per cent of its manganese needs and forestall a serious drop in steel production. This could be repeated, but only with great cost and delay.

The situation in regard to alloy steels is very similar. Tungsten, chromium and nickel, originating in such widely separated places as China, Turkey and Canada, are indispensable in the production of steel alloys. America produces about one-half of its tungsten needs and scarcely any chromium and nickel, although, interestingly enough, Lancaster county during one period between 1850 and 1890 was the world's chief source of chromium and nickel. The smallness of the deposits and the discovery of rich supplies in other regions soon made this source unimportant.

Letters to the Editor—

To the Editor:

Because of the pro-conscription policy of The Collegian numerous editorials have appeared acclaiming conscription, while to my knowledge not a single anti-conscription article has been printed this semester. I do not wish to attack this policy but would appreciate the opportunity to clarify the entire issue. Even though the majority of the American people have accepted conscription as being the best method by which democracy in the nation might be made to survive the world-wide detonations, I think that millions of equally loyal Americans continue to look upon conscription as the biggest step toward totalitarianism this country has ever taken. Both those for and those against this method of filling the nation's armed forces acclaim its tremendous significance. Both feel that the spirit and traditions of American Democracy are at stake.

One group claims that conscription is a sacrifice of democratic tradition essential to national security and unity in the face of a hostile and aggressive world. Our liberties and our American way of life can be preserved only through such a sacrifice in times of emergency and world crisis like this. We must prepare to meet force with force that good may triumph, that democracy and freedom may predominate in the world, not Fascism. In short, we must sacrifice some of our liberties in order that we shall not lose all.

The other group opposes conscription as a dangerous menace to American democracy and an unnecessary step on the road to totalitarianism. National security and unity are not threatened to such an extent as to warrant such destruction of our democratic liberties, and such concessions to militarism.

Conscription means, they say, deliberate preparation for war, the abolition of our democratic free choice of occupation, a national escape from solving the unemployment problem, the breaking of youth's morality, the violation of religious liberty, and the regimentation of America into a militarized life which will eventually deny our civil liberties such as freedom of speech and press. Conscription, to this group would be the introduction of Hitlerism to solve our problems and the admission that they cannot be solved by democratic means. In short, these oppose conscription because they feel freedom cannot be purchased at the price of that freedom.

Pennsylvania congressmen clearly supported the Burke-Wadsworth Bill in a ratio of almost two to one. This should be a challenge to all Pennsylvania citizens to write to their congressmen expressing approval or dissatisfaction with their actions.

The American system of representative democracy works effectively only when the citizens, the back bone of that system, do their part in bringing out all sides on all issues. In this way alone can intelligent decisions based on the weighing of all factors and all points of view be reached. All over the world the totalitarian, centralized state is replacing this democratic system because of its superior efficiency; only by a revitalization of our democracy, which means the reawakening of the individual to his responsibility can our system of government "by the people" become effective enough to warrant its preservation.

P. R. Thomforde

To the Editor:

On October 8 an editorial advocating war was printed in The Daily Collegian. The immediate cause for the article's appearance was the discussion centering about Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler's "statement of policy" to the faculty of Columbia University, in which statement Dr. Butler claims that academic freedom in the United States must play a secondary role to the subjugation of "bestial and brutish" forces which now threaten to dominate the world. How the throttling of academic freedom would help in this subjugation process is not explain-

**Nibbling
At The News**

J. GORDON FAY

As the Russian Bear daily growls more threateningly at Rumania (and therefore at the Axis powers), the question arises as to what that huge but gangling animal can do, other than getting its nose badly pinched between Germany and Japan.

The most significant answer comes in Tuesday's news-story concerning the following demands made by Hitler upon little Yugoslavia:

1. Yugoslavia must concentrate almost exclusively on increasing her agricultural production at the expense of any industrial development.

The fact that this ultimatum comes at a moment when Stalin is apparently swinging around to Britain's side, or at least away from a pro-Axis attitude, makes this latest move of Germany's Fuehrer seem to be, from all outward appearances, more than just another land-grabbing step.

In other words, Russia's concentration of troops in Bessarabia seems to have been accompanied by a general concentration of Nazi thought on the question, "Where is the next meal coming from?" The answer seems to be, Yugoslavia.

Some 63,000,000 mouths (discounting bombing casualties) must be fed in Germany this winter. Foodstuffs will come from France, the Scandinavian countries, and some from the Fatherland, but it is a safe bet that Russia was being counted upon for wheat, rye, and other ingredients of "the staff of life."

Couple the implications of all these factors with the censored hints of foreign correspondents that the food in Nazi Germany is nothing to brag about, either in quality or quantity, and one gets what seems to be the answer to the question stated at the beginning of this column.

Russia's biggest contribution to the anti-Nazi cause will be a blow in the general region of the belt-line.

ed.

While agreeing with Dr. Butler, the Collegian created a greater error. It allowed itself to advocate war without any other reason than that of the fatalistic one of inevitability. Foolish as this attitude may be on the part of the average "man on the street," it is completely inexcusable on the part of an organ of public opinion such as a newspaper. How can we expect careful weighing of the objectives and probable result of a war with the alternative of peace if a newspaper, catering to ten thousands supposedly more-intelligent-than-average Americans offers inevitability as a reason for war?

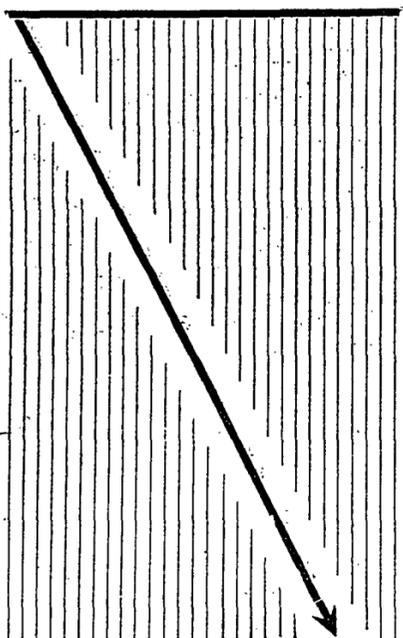
Are there, then, no other reasons for entering into war overseas but that one?

Saul Belllove

Editor's Note: The Collegian regrets it gave this impression. There is a better reason. A new type of government has risen up in the world, one incomparable with our own political and economic structure. With many other thinking people, the Collegian believes these two ideologies are headed for an inevitable conflict in which one or the other must fall. The Collegian would rather that it were not ours.

To the Editor:

There has been much lamentation, wailing and gnashing of teeth of late on our fair campus relative to the regrettable decadence of the grand Penn State spirit of yore! Strangely enough, most comment has missed the salient factor involved: Penn State spirit has declined in proportion to the gradual insidious increase in the coed population. To put the nub of the matter bluntly: Penn State has too many girls! State College Chapter Prevention Co-educational Infiltration (PCI).

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