

Editorial

Job Difficulty May Be Draft Difficulty

The Temple University student who has elected to defy the draft is, to our way of thinking, a very foolish gentleman—unless he wants publicity. He is barking up the wrong tree.

He has both public opinion and legal precedent against him. In the World War the Supreme Court of the United States decided that compulsory military service was not (as Ernest Kurkjian claims) a violation of the 13th amendment's protection against involuntary servitude. It said military service is a citizen's duty.

If Mr. Kurkjian cares to cry out against the draft we can think of a better way, of a real sore spot that he and 16,000,000 young Americans are facing or may have to face very soon.

We hope it isn't true, but the students who graduate from Penn State and other colleges next year, particularly those in the non-scientific fields, may have a hard time getting jobs.

A lot of hard-headed American employers who will be taking on new men may not be very anxious to take on those who are liable to be drafted into the army within a few months after they are employed.

This is going to be a very real problem. We know of one young man, not in State College, who was unable to rent a house he wanted because the landlord was afraid he would be called away to the army and his debt obligations suspended a year.

Possible difficulty in securing employment may have the effect of forcing the Class of 1941 to volunteer for a year's army training immediately after it leaves the cloistered ivy towers next June.

If it does, the draft will have fallen down in its attempt to be fair and impartial. The critics of the draft will have plenty of opportunity to rail and rant. The difficulty will be a real one.

As persons who may be directly affected, we will discover that outcry and complaint will only hurt the really important thing which is the draft in principle as a national necessity. Unless we can find a solution (which then should be urged on the nation with all possible haste) we should face the situation as individuals, each of us choosing the course that best fits the individual situation in which we are placed.

Aspirins Needed

Still one the draft and in connection with the above, we can find the quotas released Saturday quite revealing. Pennsylvania's quota of 61,522 for the first year means that only about one man in 24 of the 1,500,000 who registered is liable to call. Liability to the draft will be further reduced by the high number of volunteers.

For college students, who will not be subject to the draft until the end of the academic year, the long run consideration is more important. The draft is to be run for five years and army plans call for 800,000 men to be trained a year. Thus, during the duration of the draft 4,000,000 men will be trained. That means that, of the 17,000,000 men registered, there are at least 13,000,000 who never will be called. The advance of more young men into the 21 year-old group in the next five years is likely to cut this even further.

College students, of course, are more liable to the draft because their exemptions are fewer—only a small percentage are married, only advanced ROTC students are considered as engaged in military service, and none are engaged in essential industry until they graduate.

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

"For A Better Penn State"

Successor to the Penn State Collegian, established 1904, and the Free Lance, established 1887

Wednesday Morning, October 23, 1940

Published daily except Sunday and Monday during the regular college year by the students of The Pennsylvania State College. Entered as second-class matter July 5, 1934, at the post-office at State College, Pa., under the act of March 3, 1879.

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NIBBLING AT THE NEWS

J. GORDON FAY

Dramatic Scene

Years after this second World War has burned the people of the world down to the point where fuel for its flames is no longer available, scenario writers will be finding fresh material from its hells of bomb and shrapnel.

Romanticists will write patriotic tales of fond goodbyes against backgrounds of flying flags, realists will tell tragic stories of human suffering, and the ever-present humorists will ferret out the few laughable notes, but no writer will find a scene with greater dramatic possibilities than that which will be enacted in Rome on the night of November 24.

That scene will open outside the walls of Vatican City, in a blackness impossible for us in America, ignorant of blackouts, to conceive. A gate will swing creakingly open and from it will step in halting rhythm a procession whose way is lighted by smoking, flickering torches and whose steps keep time to a funeral Latin chant.

The group of medieval-robed figures, some of them swinging censers of incense and some of them swaying under the weight of a sort of portable throne, will pick its way through the jet-black streets to where an even darker mass shows against the sky—the blacked out St. Peter's Basilica.

Inside, the procession will descend to the confessional altar above the tomb, while the wavering flames of the torches make grotesque shapes dance in the darkness. There a little, robe-swathed man, leader and highest authority of one of the most widespread religions on the earth, will step from his throne and send a chanting prayer echoing through the vast darkness of the Basilica for one hour.

That prayer, which may be partly drowned out by the hum of bombing planes overhead, will be for universal peace.



TODAY: Social Committee meeting of the Freshman CA "Fourty-Four" in the Penn State in China Room Old Main, 2:15.

The Meeting Project Committee of the Freshman CA "Fourty-Four" will meet in the Hugh Beaver Room Old Main, 4:15.

Delta Sigma Pi pledge banquet, State College Hotel, 6:00.

Liberal Arts Council meeting Room 305 Old Main, 7 p. m.

Meeting of all voting and non-voting Roosevelt supporters in Room 318 Old Main, 9:15 p. m.

E. E. Society meeting at Professor Rice's home, 7:30 p. m.

Ice Hockey Meeting, Beta Theta Pi, 7:30 p. m.

Alpha Delta Sigma, pledge meeting, Phi Gamma Delta, 7:15 p. m.

Willkie-Roosevelt Debate To Be Held Election Eve

Penn State and the University of Pennsylvania have made arrangements for an election evening debate on the presidential candidates to be held in the LA auditorium, Professor Joseph F. O'Brien, Penn State debate-squad coach, announced.

The affirmative side of the topic, "Resolved that Willkie can do more for the country than Roosevelt," will be taken by William Harkins '42 and one of the U. of P. debaters, the negative side of the argument will be taken by David R. Benjamin and another U. of P. debater.

Letters to the Editor—President Boosts Semi-Formal Hop

To The Editor: I would appreciate the use of a few lines on your editorial page to inform F. Lloyd Convers, alias "Half-Baked," that last year's Soph Hop was also semi-formal, and that this was at a time when Campus-elect John Long was Sophomore Class President. Furthermore, I am of the opinion that the general student body of Penn State welcomes all rulings which tend to equalize the social opportunities for all students, rather than those rulings which tend to set aside such an affair as the Soph Hop for those who can afford the price of a tuxedo.

F. R. Flynn, Soph Class President.

Dear Editor: I am very glad to see by The Daily Collegian that we have a new Chemistry Building. I presume this will mean that the Chemistry department will no longer need the third floor of the new Physics Building. However, I am at somewhat of a loss to know why Dr. Ham and five other physics professors should want to move into the new Chemistry Building when they have their own new Physics Building to move into. Could you please set me straight on this matter?

Sincerely, A. Reader.

Ed's Note: — Enough said. We apologize.

Bookplates Now Shown In Library

Over a hundred bookplates covering a wide range of the coat of arms type, from the extremely modest to the very ornate, are being loaned by the Southern Printmakers Society of Mt. Airy, Georgia to the Library for exhibition until October 31.

Among the outstanding plates in the collection are those from Harvard, Dartmouth, Brown, Yale, Pennsylvania, Vassar, and Radcliffe. Plates of the Gamma Tau chapter of the Sigma Nu fraternity at the University of Minnesota, and of the Beta Eta chapter of the Delta Tau Delta are shown.

Birmingham, San Francisco, New Haven, Detroit, and Boston public libraries are represented in the plate exhibit.

Ten of the bookplates are those of statesmen and writers including Woodrow Wilson, Burton Holmes, Brete Harte, and Newton D. Baker, Jr.

Alpha Delta Sigma Selects Pledges

Alpha Delta Sigma, honorary advertising fraternity, will hold its first pledge meeting this evening, 7:15, at Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. The informal and formal initiations will be held on November 10.

Those accepted as pledges by Alpha Delta Sigma include: Don West '41, editor of Froth, Murray Druck and Oscar Kranich '41, editor and business manager of Fraternity News, Wayland G. Hier '41, advertising major, Robert Copeland '41, advertising major, Fred Nale '41, advertising major, Paul Goldberg '42, Collegian business staff, James McCaughey '42, Collegian business staff, Marechel Clegg '42, advertising major, and Alfred Taylor '42, advertising major.

Throughout the year, Alpha Delta Sigma has planned several smokers with noted Pennsylvania advertising men as guest speakers. They will also cooperate with Sigma Delta Chi, honorary journalism fraternity, and Theta Sigma Phi, women's honorary journalism fraternity, in producing an employment booklet for senior journalism students. In the spring the annual formal banquet and field trip will be held.



This is not our afternoon to be clever. We can't help wondering precisely what is meant by those excellent persons who mutter ceaselessly of "Penn State Tradition." Nobody has ever defined our traditions; no one has ever explained them or recorded them. This might perhaps be due to the fact that we have so little reverence about us; what we cannot put to work, what will not produce ergs and dynes, that we destroy. Give us specific gravity, and tensile strength, and yield per acre. How much is tradition worth the ton; can you refine it for less than petroleum? Will it built new buildings and get publicity? Will it?? Did the old Ghost Walk? Did the little garden in front of the old Zoology building? Did the Forestry shack? Those were State traditions, but they were useless. Therefore they were got rid of. But we have new buildings. Cold, efficient, magnificent. Get the feel of them, but don't grow to love them. Don't let anything on this campus stand for anything sentimental. Because as soon as it fails to produce its quota or uses two tons too much steam pressure, they'll tear it down. To build a new one.

And you ask about tradition. Didn't you know that tradition is old-fashioned. No money in it. No efficiency.

So the Collegian has come all out for war!! What a pleasant thought. What a pleasant idea, to be sure. So vibrantly original, too, is the line of reasoning taken; so magnificently phrased the resonant challenge... Johnny get your gun, Kill the Kaiser, kill Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin, Emperor Hirohito, the High Lama of Tibet... name it and you can kill it... Get a broom...

The great brains that dream up the editorial policy of this publication ought to take a couple of aspirins before they commence rattling the gleaming saber and waving the glorious battle streamers under the "bestial adversaries'" noses. They might do well to examine the state of this nation. We, you understand, are the most powerful nation on the earth. On paper. On the order of ten thousand mills and factories, there is the potency of the republic. Our majesty hasn't enough nuts and bolts. In an open field near Detroit the Chrysler people have erected a sign: "United States Arsenal." The factory to be built there will produce its first tank some time in 1941... Stop by the armory some afternoon and ask them to sell you one of their spare Garand rifles.

"Forward the Light Brigade... The Hussars will take up the Charge... The Lancers hold our flanks"

Phooey. Cassius.

For Houseparty

DOUBLE BREASTED TUXEDOS \$22.50

Black or Midnight Blue...

KALIN'S MEN'S SHOP

The Home of Hart, Schaffner, and Marx