

Letters

Suspects Russian Democracy

TO THE EDITOR: The avalanche of criticism which has descended upon Mr. Stone's article, "Russia Dominates Poland; Freedom Rules Denmark," only serves to impress me with the gross unenlightenment which apparently prevails among our student body concerning the present situation in foreign countries.

I have visited both Poland and Denmark during the course of the past year, as well as several other European countries which were overrun by the Germans.

Although, as Mr. Davis correctly indicates, the historic bases for judging Poland and Denmark are not comparable, it is an error in his reasoning that he attributes the present deplorable situation in Poland entirely to the natural course of history. I seriously question Mr. Schuster's eulogy of Mr. Davis' reasoning powers.

If Mr. Stone's article is wanting, the reason is more probably that it does not stress the degree to which Russia is responsible for present conditions.

Mr. Davis' inference that the Polish peasants, "who now own a few acres of land," are improved in their position, is a gross misstatement. They have neither the seed with which to sow this land, nor is any provision being made by the Russians to supply the essentials for production of crops. Only through American UNRRA does productive equipment enter Poland. One of the mysteries of this post-war period is the use to which this equipment is put.

While I was in Poland I visited several farms with an UNRRA veterinarian, who had previously personally supervised the transport of cattle and horses to these same farms. There was no evidence of the stock. Through an interpreter we were provided the dubious enlightenment that the cattle and horses had "strayed."

May I add to Mr. Stone's list of incidents, those which I personally observed: The mounting of a machine gun in the dock area of Danzig and the shooting of a Pole who was gathering scrap damage with which to build a fire in his home; the indiscriminate firing of pistols and rifles by Russian troops; the indignity of a personal search of American ships' officers; the refusal of the Russians to allow any communication over the sole telegraph line connecting Danzig with Warsaw; the obvious hush which replaces relaxation as soon as Russian soldiers approach a gathering; and finally others which are flagrant violations in other war-ravaged countries such as France, Belgium, Denmark and Holland.

It is certainly true that one does not need to be present in a place to be aware of conditions in that place, however arguments by the unprejudicial Mr. Davis; Mr. Millard, who discusses Czechoslovakia rather than Poland; Mr. Schuster, who contends one's right to analyze with one's ability to accurately analyze; and Miss Gruber, who reads the New York Daily News, do not materially clarify the situation.

N. Raymond Shibley

Collegian Gazette

All calendar items must in at the Daily Collegian office by 4:30 p.m. on the day preceding publication.

Thursday, Dec. 5

FROTH business and advertising staff meeting, Froth office, 7 o'clock.

NEWMAN club executive and committee chairman meeting, Church rectory, 7 o'clock.

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA meeting, 2 White Hall, 6:30 o'clock.

TAU PHI SIGMA meeting, 411 Old Main, 6:30 o'clock.

GAMMA PI EPSILON meeting, 105 Frear Lab, 7 o'clock.

LA VIE art staff meeting with Prof. Andrew Case, 223 Engineering "F," 7 o'clock.

WRA BOWLING club, White Hall alleys, 7 o'clock.

WRA BRIDGE club, beginners, White Hall playroom, 7 o'clock.

CHRISTIAN Science student meeting, 200 Carnegie Hall, 7:30 o'clock.

WRA SWIM club, White Hall pool, 7:30 o'clock.

PENN STATE Bridge club business and game meeting, 401 Old Main, 7:30 o'clock.

MI COUNCIL and committee chairman meeting, Phi Epsilon Pi, 7:30 o'clock.

PENNS VALLEY Ski club meeting, 110 Electrical Engineering, 7:30 o'clock.

PENN STATE Grange meeting, election of officers, 100 Horticulture, 7:30 o'clock.

WRA FENCING club, White Hall fencing room, 8:30 o'clock.

ALL-COLLEGE Cabinet meeting, 201 Old Main, 8 p.m.

At The Movies

CATHAUM: "The Cockeyed Miracle," Keenan Wynn.

STATE: "The Bowery," George Raft.

NITTANY: "If I'm Lucky," Vivien Blaine.

College Health Service

Admitted to the infirmary yesterday: Richard DeCarlucci, Charles Dieffenderfer, Elmer Sealover.

Discharged yesterday: Hilbert Noel.

College Placement Service

DEC. 5—General Electric Co. will interview graduating men from the following curricula: EE, ME, IE, metallurgy, chem, chem eng. and physics.

General Electric Co. will also interview graduating men for possible appointment to their Business Training Program.

DEC. 11—New York, Chicago, & St. Louis Railroad Co. will interview senior civil engineers and graduating senior architectural and E.E.

An Open Letter

to those who accuse Collegian of being a reactionary, timid rag . . . of following a mushy, wishy-washy attitude . . . of having narrow editorial views . . .

I do not know if you've had the time to follow Collegian's edit page closely but I think you will find that we have printed several edits lauding the work (and speech) by St. John who is certainly no timid, reactionary; we have printed several edits denouncing British Imperialism in Greece and Palestine which were definitely not reactionary.

We advocated better housing (a cry that has been actively pushed by the AVC and the Common Sense Club) in edits and urged students to attend the meetings held by these two groups but the student body failed to respond.

We objected to the administration's surrender on the Dairy problem; we supported the Liberal Arts Post-War Planning committee editorially and through our news columns—and the Liberal Arts students didn't bother to attend the meeting, though they can be found sitting around the Corner Room, complaining about the "poor profs in the L.A. school."

We have been fighting for a Student Union building . . . and that is being done chiefly by Larry Foster, news editor of the Collegian, and a very small handful of students—men like Sid Gold who give of their time and energy.

The Coed Coordinating committee sent us a letter (which we printed) advocating corsage-less dances, in an effort to save students money in these inflationary times . . . as yet no student groups or even individuals have bothered to write a letter discussing such a plan.

The only reaction to that seems to have been the very noticeable reduction in advertising by the Florists in town—a loss of better than several hundred dollars worth of advertising monthly—perhaps by coincidence, but certainly apparent to our business staff if not to our readers.

Maybe we are timid, but we printed that letter knowing full well what might and seems to have happened. I am not complaining because we feel that we were right in printing that letter—airing the opinion of the Coed Coordinating committee—for this is a free country.

Don't forget, we can talk for the student body but we need active student support and we aren't getting it.

Many Collegian edits this semester have "said nothing" insofar as their being "two-fisted" attacks. Many a time the editor or staff members would spend as much as six or eight hours running after the details of some "grave injustice" only to find that there was another side to an issue . . . the resultant editorials printed both sides (and that can hardly be called "a narrow edit policy"), leaving it up to the student body to decide what the next step should be.

You talk about racial prejudice that exists in State College and you are right. A Negro cannot walk into a State College barber shop and get a haircut. This is well-known. I have mentioned this to various student leaders but what group has come to me and said, "We have a solution and we want your aid"? None.

We supported the X-GI club's objection to high movie prices and second rate pictures by printing their letter. Tuesday we had as our lead story the free movies the club will bring to Schwab Auditorium. In Wednesday's issue we again had a page one article publicizing these free movies. Yet what groups have come forth to second this excellent proposal?

Again we printed what the students wanted publicized and pushed a move, knowing that we ran the risk of offending one of our largest advertisers because we think the students could benefit by a free movie venture—that maybe we can help stretch that \$65 or \$90 a month that the VA sends veterans.

It was suggested in a letter that ticket sales be limited; carried to the proper authorities, arrangements have been made to limit Thespian ticket sales to six per person (as is the case with Artists' Course tickets). Mr. Donovan, Student Union manager, is still trying to work out a successful method of limiting sales of dance tickets that will be satisfactory to a majority of students. We have yet to see any student come forth with a valid solution to this problem though.

Everyone wants something done about something but not many are anxious to step forth and accept responsibilities.

Reorganization of a Student-Faculty Relations committee was urged by a Collegian edit, to maintain coordination between students and members of the College staff. The College has taken several measures to bring about such cooperation.

We pushed class meetings (where students can give vent to their feelings) and staff member Richard Sarge promoted three pep rallies which had moderate turn-outs.

The Collegian backed the IMA in its fight to get College-served meals for students. But most of that battle is being carried on by Gene Fulmer, president of the Junior class, and Frank Davis who is feature editor of the Collegian.

Never does the Daily Collegian pretend to be the official voice of the student body. The discriminating reader sees every day on our edit page the statement, "Editorials and features in The Collegian reflect the opinions of the writer."

We've opened our edit page to the student body, placing letters to the editor in the same size type and position as edits because we do not believe that Collegian writers alone have all the answers.

As a result many letters have been written, clarifying muddled situations; too many letters have been out and out gripes, but we have printed these to air the gripe and in hopes that somebody will take the time to work out the problem.

—The Editor

Editorials and features in The Collegian reflect the opinions of the writer. They make no claim to represent student or University opinion. All unsigned editorials are by the editor.

CLASSIFIEDS

LOST—Before Thanksgiving, necklace of carved white beads. Sentimental value. Call 3117.

LOST—Navy leather flight jacket, taken by mistake Wednesday Sparks. Name plate on front Wado Kemerer. Call 4979. Sentimental value.

FOR SALE—Two Tuxedos; size 34, single breasted with vest; size 37, double breasted with vest. Call 4083.

FOR SALE—Double decker bed, good condition; reasonable price. Call 4095 after 6:30 p. m.

WANTED—Tenor saxophonist, good reader; steady work. Call Joe, 4908, between 5 and 7 p. m.

LOST—Alpha Epsilon Phi sorority pin; initials M.L.M. Call Maggie, 2nd floor Irwin.

FOR SALE—Men's gold wrist watch, 17-jewel Swiss, gold expansion wrist band. Also new Parker "51". Call Brown, 4304.

FOR SALE: Practically brand new Reflex type camera with 3.5 lens with complete set accessories. Call 3971.

LOST before Thanksgiving a black and gold Eversharp pen in Eng. A. Please return to Student Union.

RIDERS WANTED: to Pittsburgh leaving 1:00 p. m. Saturday. Returning late Sunday. Call 3181 between 6:30-7:00. Bob Ball.

SPECIAL RATES for Time, Life. Students: \$4.25; vets \$3.50 yearly. See or call Vince Bachman, Baaron Pittenger, 2848.

WANTED: Ride to Harrisburg or Washington, D. C., December 18, after 12 o'clock. Call Ruth 2647.

WANTED: Passengers to Pittsburgh. Leave Friday afternoon. Share expenses. Len Freedman 3950.

LOST: green Esterbrook fountain pen between Chi Omega house and Carnegie Hall. Phone Kay, 4660, or return to S. U.

WANTED: Riders to Meadville, Saturday noon. Return Sunday. Room 28, Dorm 7, Pollack Circle.

FOR SALE: Woman's ice skates. Figure type blades, white shoes 6 1-2. Reasonable. Call 3840 after 9 p. m.

WANTED—ride to Philadelphia and return. Leaving Friday afternoon, returning Sunday. Call Len, 4933.

FOR SALE: medium-sized trailer priced low. Installed in Windcrest. Immediate possession. Call at 377 Windcrest anytime.

SOMBREROS: want to rent 5 sombreros 3 nights, good care, guaranteed. Call Betty Schmitt 2622.

FOR SALE: Skis (6 ft. 6 in.) and bindings very reasonable. Call 3840 after 9 p. m.

Does HER Christmas gift have you worried? How about Chanel No. 5? Call Lew 2687.

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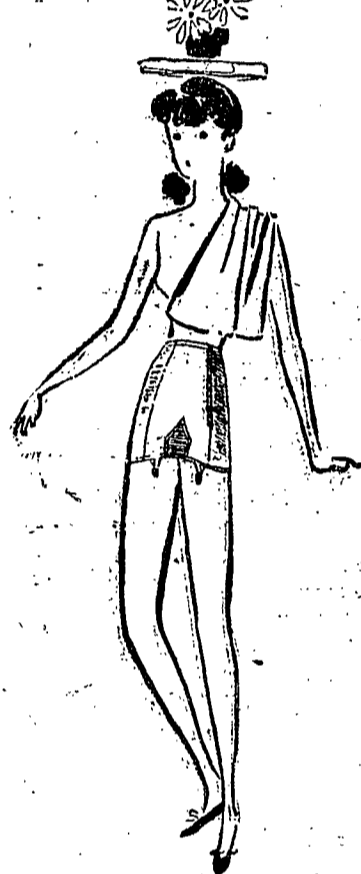
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