

It Depends on the Interpretation!

In a well-publicized statement, Chairman David E. Embury of the recent National Interfraternity Conference remarked that the white Christian fraternities have a democratic right to exclude others, usually Negroes, Jews, and in some cases, Catholics, from their chapters.

"The college fraternity," Mr. Embury said, "is the closest knit, most intimate group to be found anywhere outside the family group. . . . What then could be more natural, more important than choosing new members of the same racial, religious, social, and cultural backgrounds as their own? . . . College and university administrators who attempt to prevent forcibly the nation's fraternities from exercising racial and religious restrictions, in choosing members are violating the tenets of democracy."

Here at Penn State, College officials have followed a policy of keeping hands off the racial and religious restrictions of fraternities and sororities. They realize that these groups, as any group, do have the right to select their own members.

However, sometimes these groups decide they wish to pledge a desirable student and then find

that they are prohibited because that student's race, creed, or religion is on the national fraternity's "taboo" list. If it is un-democratic for the College to dictate who can be members of a group, what about the national organization's iron-clad rules? Local chapters should be able to decide for themselves who they want for their associates.

At the same meeting, a resolution was adopted which called on fraternity members to take steps to cur, "subversive" groups at colleges and also called for the formation of a program "intended to aid undergraduate members in understanding the nature of American democracy and the nature of efforts being made to subvert it." The resolution didn't mention it but in attempting to "understand the American democracy," the fraternity men will probably also glance over the first ten amendments of the U. S. Constitution.

In speaking as he has, Mr. Embury, and others who hold the same line of thinking, seem, to have forgotten a section of "The Principles of Democracy" adopted by that same NIFC group some time ago. A section of that code states, "The college fraternity . . . adheres steadfastly to social, religious, political, and economic democracy as the only sound basis for a satisfying personal and national life (and) defends the individual's right to liberty and equality of opportunity." —BIF

With the Editor

The College Health Service has recently been called upon to treat several students who have had acute neuroses developed from the unexpected exploding of firecrackers in their immediate vicinity.

Dr. Herbert R. Glenn, director of the Health Service, states that there are many combat veterans among the student body who have had very trying experiences during the recent war which are subconsciously associated to a very marked degree with noise from explosives.

It is our belief that the indiscriminate use of firecrackers is nothing more than a thoughtless prank on the part of certain undergraduates. It is inconceivable that some students, on this campus would willingly cause a recurrence of nervous combat exhaustion to his fellow students, such as has already occurred in two individuals.

College Calendar

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

Friday, January 16

AQUACADE, WH, 8 p.m.
TALENT Show, Schwab, 8 p.m.
LUTHERAN Group, swimming party, Glennland, 7 p.m. Ice skating, meet at church, 8:15 p.m.
PENN State Bible Fellowship, 200 CH, 7:30 p.m.
RUSSIAN Chorus, 304 Old Main, 8 p.m.
WESLEY Party, meet at Foundation, 8 p.m.
THESPIAN Banquet, Ballroom, Hotel State College, 6:30 p.m. Dance following for all who worked on Hot and Gold.

Saturday, January 17

VARSAITY Boxing, Bucknell, 7 p.m.
JAYVEE Wrestling, Bucknell, 2 p.m.
IWA Box Lunch Social, Grange Playroom, 2 to 5 p.m.
SKULL and Bones, 417 Old Main, 1:15 p.m., election of officers.
STUDENT Union Committee, 8 Carnegie Hall, 2:30 p.m.
HILLEL Party, Foundation, 9 to 12 p.m.

Sunday, January 18

SHEEPSKIN Serenade, Schwab, 2:15 p.m.
PENN State Bible Fellowship, 304 Old Main, 3:30 p.m.
BLUE Key, 418 Old Main, 8 p.m.
THESPIAN Initiation, 405 Old Main, 7 p.m.
HOME Ec Club, 11c HE, 2 p.m.
ALPHA Tau Alpha, smoker, Alpha Zeta, 2 p.m.
LOUISE Homer Choral Group, 117 CH, 3:30 p.m.

Monday, January 19

DRUIDS, 410 Old Main, 7 p.m.
IWA, 104 Temp, 7 p.m.
CHAPEL Choir Try-outs, 211, CH—tenors, 7 p.m.; basses, 7:30 p.m.
LOUISE Homer Club, 200 CH, 8:45.
ALPHA Phi Alpha, 415 Old Main, 7 p.m.
ALPHA Epsilon Pi, 126 Sparks, 7 p.m.

At the Movies

Cathaum—Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap.
State—Good News.
Nittany—Variety Girl.
Saturday—Same program except for Foxes of Harrow at the Nittany.

College Hospital

Admitted Wednesday: Kenneth Pickering, Sonia Podolnick.
Admitted Thursday: James Moore.
Discharged Thursday: Leon Greenwald, Stanton Roth, James Havard.

Placement Service

Equitable Life Insurance, January 19, eighth semester men, C&F, A&L.
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, January 16, eighth semester men, C&F, A&L.
Carnation Company, January 20, eighth semester men, CE, EE, ME, C&F, San Eng.
Arrangements for interviews should be made at once in 204 Old Main.

One Man's Meat . . .

Miss Romig Writes In

By Ben French

"Blanket permissions will go through!" Phineas T. Glockenspiel, Collegian's feline authority on women's regulations, smiled triumphantly yesterday when we ran into him in the postoffice.

"Changing your tune, aren't you, Phineas?" we asked. "Only last Friday you said the plan didn't have a ghost of a chance of making the grade with the WSGA Senate."



What changed your mind?"

"This letter did it," he explained, showing an envelope. "Here I have it on the authority of none other than Miss Suzanne Romig, president of WSGA, that 'an efficient system of blanket permissions will be set up as soon as possible.'"

"Miss Romig goes on to explain how a Coed Coordinating Committee has been set up and has collected information on the plan from no less than 25 other schools. Then she tears into me for allegedly saying that the WSGA girls are not capable of speaking in favor of an issue. I never said or insinuated such a thing! I only stated that the girls are in no position to force the Dean of Women to accept such a proposal. But if Miss Romig can swing it, more power to her. It won't be the first time I've been wrong!"

"What's that other letter?" we asked.

"Oh, that's my weekly orders from the Kremlin," he laughed. "You know, people are really beginning to believe that about me. You should see some of the letters I receive. But honest, I vote the straight Republican ticket. I'm from Philly and that's the only way the voting machines register."

"Are you going to the Talent Night show on Friday?" was our next question.

"Yeah, I know. You're going to be one of the judges. A lot you know about talent! You're one of those guys who keep calling in Groovology for them to play 'I'm Looking Over a Four-Leaf Clover' by the Uptown String Band. However, in spite of you, I'm going because I got a big kick out of last year's show. Remember Johnny Benglian's singing?"

"Yes, we do," we agreed. "Thank heavens, he went back to boxing! By the way, we haven't heard much from you about Pollock Circle. Danny DeMarino keeps asking how things are going."

"Well, they've found a new way of annoying the fellows," he replied. "Now they post sentries at the doors to frustrate the late comers at 8:30 each morning. We argued and pleaded for five minutes to get our morning crust of bread. The only thing that saved me was Old Main's chiming of the half hour in the background. Even then, they begrudgingly opened the door. However, the various and sundry hired hands (not from the mess hall) had no trouble securing their breakfasts. A little consideration on the part of the supervisors would go a long way toward appeasing the much trampled on Pollock peasants. Most of the time they forget they are supposed to be there to serve the students."

"Come, come, Phineas, Remember, we haven't graduated until next June!"

Here and There

By Dick Sarge

SOWING THE SEEDS

The U of Penn's Daily Pennsylvanian staff is losing no time in striking an attitude for next fall's Penn-Penn State football clash at Franklin Field. A recent issue of their daily carried the slogan, "Beat State in '48."

Now this seems rather early to begin such a drive, but it has been rumored about the office that an anonymous Penn Stater really had the jump several months ago. At that time he (or she) began sending unsigned postcards to Penn coach George Munger bespeaking dire results for the forthcoming battle of the Keystone State giants.

CHAUFFEUR WANTED

There is probably a vacancy right now for a competent chauffeur. Applications should be forwarded to Al Sakovich, the journ major Pollock Cirler who won the new Frazier sedan in the nation-wide Kaiser-Frazier event.

I got it from a friend who picked it up from Ray McLaughlin, the local dealer, that Sakovich doesn't even have a driver's license.

IT WAS A SURPRISE TO ME

It was with some misgivings that a group of us went up to Recreation Hall Wednesday evening to see the West Virginia-Penn State basketball game. Reports which came in from a fairly successful weekend road trip for our court club didn't shake the impression we had gained that Coach John Lawther didn't have much this year.

However, we decided to go up anyway to see this smooth West Virginia outfit, ranked fifth or sixth in the nation, operate against our club. And we stayed to watch Batnick, Simon, Kulp, Biery, Nordbloom, Parkhill, Ruhman and the rest turn in an excellent performance.

After their football defeat and basketball downfall, both of them while riding on a crest of wins, West Virginia could well develop a Penn State complex.

LET'S HAVE A MEETING OF MINDS

What's this we hear of a possible walk-out of student-diners at the Nittany Dorms dining commons? Supposed to be complete with photographers, reporters, et al.

Didn't we just get over one unfortunate wave of unfavorable publicity for the school? Must the wire services again carry news of dissension on the Penn State campus?

If the food situation is so bad that it warrants concerted action by the complainants (and it may well be), wouldn't it be well to confine it to Vale and not ring the rest of the nation in our plight?

That way the administration will find out that you actually mean business and want improved dining service. But our dirty linen will not be aired to public view.

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Editor's Mailcall

AVC-Chastaine Debate?

TO THE EDITOR: We of the International Relations Club have viewed with interest the recent exchange of letters between the American Veterans' Committee and Colonel Chastaine of the Military Department.

We would like to suggest, as a neutral party, a public discussion between representatives of the A.V.C. and Colonel Chastaine on the pros and cons of Universal Military Training. An open debate on the question should prove more beneficial to the student body than an exchange of letters.

If both parties are interested, the International Relations Club will undertake to provide a convenient time and place of meeting for early next semester.

Jane Fouracre, President
John Hamer, Vice-President
Evelyn Armstrong, Secretary

SDA Speaks Up

TO THE EDITOR: I've been reading, with a great deal of interest, the argument between the pro and con sides of PCA and I think that it's about time that SDA put a word in.

It seems to me that all the arguments put forth so far have been negative ones; arguments which put both sides against some ideological conception. We in SDA do not think along those lines. SDA stands for democratic procedures all the way down the line; it stands for ideas which help the little people of this world. Naturally, the result of this positive statement is the corollary position of being against totalitarianism in all forms. However, it is far more constructive to work for a positive democratic ideal than to work against something.

One other thing which SDA considers important is a program, as yet unformalized, of trying to help out in those areas on the campus which seem to be neglected by other discussion groups. We are not concerned directly with national issues because there are sufficient warnings given by our national headquarters so that we can acquire the knowledge necessary for a positive stand on our part.

What we are primarily interested in is to organize a discussion group which will attract all those students who have vague ideas about what is wrong with Penn State and the community and try to help them get those ideas into action.

I am thinking particularly now of the women students who do not have a voice in griping. We feel that there are many women students who would like to change things around and never have a chance to discuss them. SDA is going to try to be the place for them to work their ideas out and try to get them accomplished. —Larry Rothstein

For Lower Nittany Rents

TO THE EDITOR: No wonder we have to pay high room rents here in Nittany Dorms!! We are now having some sort of black material put around the baseboard of our rooms at a cost of only \$11.50 a room.

No one seems to know what good it will do but it must be for our comfort. I'm for lower room rents. Never mind the fancy trimmings.

—Truly yours, Bob Powell

● George Ebert, superintendent of Grounds and Buildings, reports that the "black material" reader Powell speaks of is an asphaltic baseboard that is required by the building specifications to protect the plaster and to make the rooms more sanitary. As to reader Powell's estimate of the price involved, Mr. Ebert explains that it is far higher than the actual cost.

Where's the Ice?

TO THE EDITOR: I'm sending a very brief but very urgent plea for flooded tennis courts. You'd make many car-less skating enthusiasts happy if you'd provide a close-to-home rink. We had one last year—what about now? —Name Withheld

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