

Editorials and columns appearing in The Daily Collegian represent the opinions of the writer. They make no claim to reflect student or University consensus. Unsigned editorials are written by the editor.

An Evaluation

In the face of considerable opposition, a boycott of the barber shops was begun, accompanied by the expected wide range of viewpoints.

Now the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has agreed to suspend the picketing while representatives of town and campus groups attempt negotiations with the local barbers.

An evaluation of the boycott, its accomplishments, detrimental effects and lessons, would be appropriate at this time.

If the purpose of the boycott was to dramatize a social shortcoming in the College community, it has certainly accomplished its aim.

It is difficult to conceive of any one being ignorant that an anomalous problem exists when Negroes are denied the personal services of a barber in a college community in the heart of Pennsylvania.

Only the most flint-hearted and closed-minded of the intolerant or indifferent could fail to think about the question; many will conclude that there is no reasonable grounds for continuing the present practice.

Unfortunately, an undetermined amount of bitterness and friction has been inevitably stirred up. We are little concerned about the discomfort of those so hopelessly tarred with the brush of racial intolerance that nothing on earth would ever persuade them to accept the truth.

But if there be any truth to the fears of some that the progress of State College toward true and complete democracy, in practice as well as theory, has been impeded, or even reversed, then we must take carefully-considered measures to counteract such reaction.

The boycott, which in itself could not have been expected to solve the problem, has succeeded in placing it on public view. Ultimate success can yet be realized if all the leaders of the community will cooperate to solve the problem by reason and persuasion.

The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1887

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John Hancock - 1948



Guide-Posts of Freedom

A document which should occupy a niche in history even more exalted than those filled by the Magna Charta, the Declaration of Independence and Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation has been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.

Like these other papers, this Declaration of Human Rights cannot and will not automatically make the world a Utopia or guarantee freedom to all people.

Yet such resolutions serve a valuable purpose. They create an atmosphere conducive to the growth and spread of social betterment. They serve as brilliantly-illuminated guide-posts, pointing out the direction which all peoples and governments should follow to obtain universal freedom and equality of opportunity.

The Russian brand of Communism is revealed in its true light, because the Soviet bloc bitterly opposed the declaration on the grounds that it violated "sovereign" rights.

Among the rights are life, liberty and security of person; freedom of thought, conscience and religion; the right to a nationality and to an adequate standard of living.

All human beings are born free and equal, in dignity and rights.

The Safety Valve

Letters to the editor must be signed for inclusion in the Safety Valve, although names will be withheld on request. Telephone numbers and addresses must be included to facilitate verification of authenticity of signatures. Letters exceeding 200 words in length may be cut when required by space limitations.

The Fault Lies

TO THE EDITOR: We are all familiar with the present impasse between the State College barbers and the members of NAACP. Few persons, however, are familiar with one aspect of the difficulty. Nowhere else in the State of Pennsylvania are there non-discriminatory barbershops. The laws of the state make no provision for the rights of Negroes as regards restaurants, hotels, barbershops and the like. Pennsylvania has taken no step toward granting Negroes full citizenship. The fault, then, lies not so much with the barbers as with the legislature of Pennsylvania.

To be sure, sentiment and public opinion cannot be legislated but the first step should be to secure official recognition and legislative rectification.

Those who would do something about the existing racial inequality could best serve by combating the condition at a place where positive action—as contrasted with the negative action of picketing—is possible. That place is the State Legislature. A barrage of letters to Harrisburg, while perhaps not bringing about an immediate solution, would certainly serve to force the condition to the attention of every member.

No matter how much groups such as NAACP struggle with this important problem, it is in the State Legislature where the final solution must be found.

—John A. Erickson.

Collegian Gazette

Wednesday, January 5

CLUB 51, Sophomores, 304 Old Main, 7:30 p.m.
 HOME Economics Club, H Ec Living Center, 7 p.m.

College Hospital

Admitted Sunday: Frances Lohr.
 Admitted Monday: John Boddington, William Marsh, Cyril Sedlak, Max Gersenson, Joan Warner.
 Admitted Tuesday: Joseph De Les, Edgar Thomas, Louis Weiss.
 Discharged Tuesday: Louis Weiss.

College Placement

Burroughs Adding Machine Co., January 11, January graduates, C&F, L.A.
 Kroger Co., January 11 and 12, January graduates, C&F, A&L, HA.
 Johnson Service Co., January 14, January graduates, EE, IE, ME.

At the Movies

CATHAUM—Belle Starr's Daughter.
 STATE—Sealed Verdict.

CLEAN UP!

MACHINES HERE DO YOUR WASHING THE WAY THAT YOU DESIRE - YOU TURN A SWITCH, AND PRESTO! YOU SIT THERE AND ADMIRE

MARSHALL'S
 Automatic Laundry
 454 East College Ave.—Rear

"ALL MY SONS"

A PLAYERS' PRODUCTION

To Be Presented in SCHWAB AUDITORIUM

JAN. 13, 14, 15

Tickets On Sale Monday, Jan. 10 Student Union

A LETTER FROM A BARBERSHOP PROPRIETOR

as reprinted from the Sunbury Daily Item, Dec. 17, 1948

529 Market street, Lewisburg, December 14, 1948

Editor, Daily Item:

I wish to commend you on the editorial concerning the racial problem in last night's (December 13th) Daily Item.

The incident of the Negro who was denied a haircut in a State College barber shop is particularly interesting because it comes so near home. This incident, of course, has appeared in the news several times during the past week.

Whether or not to cut a Negro's hair, or shave him, has never been a problem in my business practice.

More than four years ago I made it known to certain Bucknell faculty members that I would be happy to serve Negroes going to college here or any other Negro or foreign persons.

So far I have never heard any adverse criticism for this practice nor do I know of any good customer who has refrained from coming to my shop because I serve Negro customers. Certainly business has not decreased any during these last four years.

In short, I am sure that no business will ever suffer through the application of Christian principles to that business.

Yours respectfully,
 George D. Yoder

DEMOCRACY DOES WORK

This ad paid for by the Penn State Chapter, NAACP.

New Beauty for A New Year

Start the new year now with an appointment to meet new beauty. Our shop is replete with modern equipment and highly experienced beauticians. Come in today and see for yourself.

Hotel Beauty Salon

Above the Corner Phone 2286