

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.

Let Them Talk

We hate communism. As it exists in Russia, it squelches personal initiative, inhibits ambition and, worst of all, destroys the inalienable personal rights of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

But we do not fear communism. Because of the totalitarianistic, repressive oligarchical form of government that appears so intimately bound up with the economic system, Americans will continue to oppose the idea, if free discussion is not suppressed.

(The fact that communism is both an economic and a government system complicates any absolute comparison of it with capitalism and democracy, which are separate and distinct concepts.)

Communism does pose threats to the long-cherished American ideal of personal liberty, which we are still striving to attain. Probably the least serious menace is the possibility of overthrow of the government by force or by treachery.

Much more dangerous is the possibility of self-destruction of freedom, in the course of fighting communism. Our worst enemy is unreasoning fear, leading to witch-hunting, assumptions of guilt by association, name-calling, persecution of true liberals and suppression of free exchange of facts, ideas and opinions.

Isn't it self-evident that communism thrives on oppression and suppression? Doesn't history reveal that martyrdom attracts supporters like flies? Giving communists free reign as far as talk is concerned will effectively spike one of their most dangerous weapons.

What have we to fear from words, anyway? Doesn't our system, in spite of its shortcomings, guarantee the highest degree of liberty to more people than any other? And doesn't our standard of living exceed all others, even with our "slave-labor" Taft-Hartley Act?

Like most university newspapers, we have received, and printed, our share of "communist-line" letters, even though disagreeing with the opinions expressed. But like Voltaire, we will fight "to defend their right to say it."

So we say, let the communists rave. So long as we work as hard for the perfection of democracy as they do to gain their nefarious goals, their rantings will fall on stony ground. If they dare resort to violence, we'll be strong and free enough to squelch them, permanently.

Collegian Gazette

Tuesday, April 12

- MEN'S Bridge Club, TUB, 7 p.m.
- PSYCH Society, 204 Burrowes, 7 p.m.
- WRA Bridge, WH playroom, 7 p.m.
- Fencing, 1 WH, 7 p.m.
- Bowling, WH, 6:30 p.m.
- PENN STATE Bible Fellowship, 417 Old Main, 7:10 p.m.
- NAVAL Electronics Warfare Unit, 200 EE, 7:30 p.m.
- SKULL and Bones, 409 Old Main, 7:30 p.m.
- IFC, 405 Old Main, 7:15 p.m.
- DELTA Sigma Pi, 228 Sparks, 8 p.m.
- LIBERAL Arts Student Council, 102 ME, 8:30 p.m.
- MORTAR Board, Dean of Women's Office, 8:30 p.m.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Arrangements for interviews should be made in 204 Old Main YWCA, April 13, students for director-Health Education Department, teen-age director, and camp counselors.

Atlantic Refining Co., April 22, June grads in EE and ME for positions in engineering and construction departments.

Reliance Life Insurance Co., April 20, June grads interested in life underwriting.

Allegheny Ludlum Steel Corporation, April 26, June grads in ME, Chem E, IE, and Accounting. (1.8 average.)

Burroughs Adding Machine Co. is still interviewing June grads in LA and Accounting for sales positions.

Fidelity & Deposit Co. wants applications from students interested in the bonding field. (Single men under 30 preferred.)

Pennsylvania Railroad, April 25, June grads in EE and ME for special apprenticeship course. Applicants should not be over 23 years of age.

Corning Glass Works, April 25, June grads in Chem E, EE, ME, and Phys. for technical training program.

Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., April 25 and 26, June grads in Chem E, Civ E, EE, IE, ME, and Physics. Standard Pressed Steel Co., April 26 and 27, June grads in IE and ME.

American Viscose Corp., April 26 and 27, June grads from the following curricula: Chem (B.S., M.S., and Ph.D.); Chem Eng (B.S. and M.S.); IE (B.S. and M.S.); and Accounting (B.S. and M.S.).

COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Admitted Saturday: Melvin Widrow, Benneville Strohecker, Judith PoKempner.

Discharged Saturday: Richard McDougall, Adelaide Finkelston, Louise Drozdiak, Elaine Shaw.

Admitted Sunday: James Bowback, Martin Veater.

Discharged Sunday: Albert Peluso, John Storer, Donald Leavitt, James Bowback, Charles Mathues. Admitted Monday: Effie Lichtler, Richard Hanna.

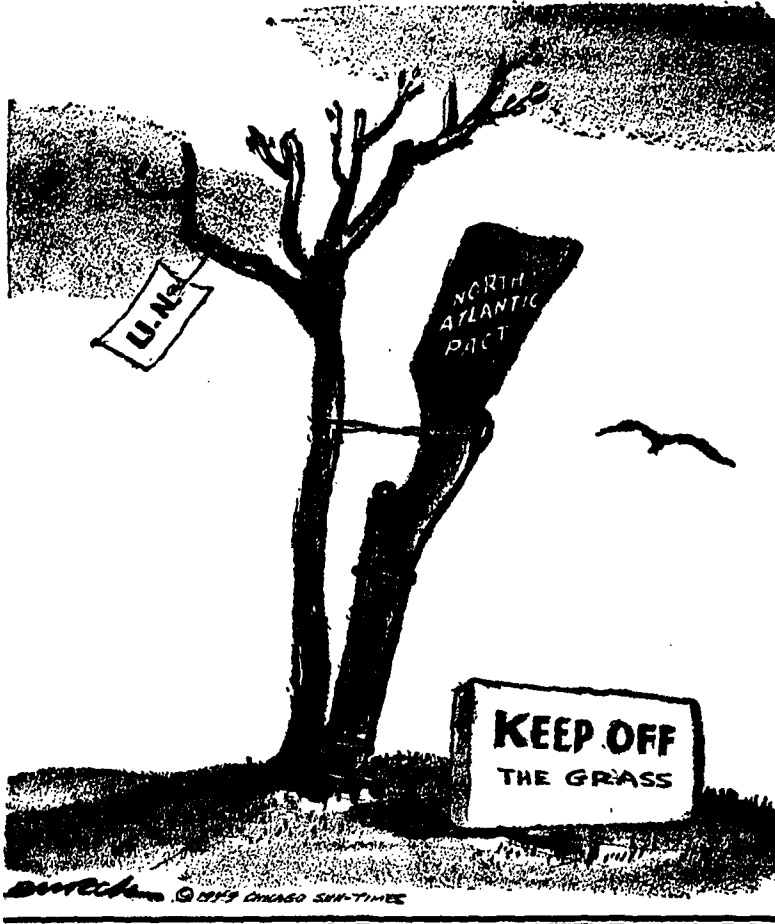
AT THE MOVIES

CATHAUM—That Wonderful Urge.

STATE—Letter to Three Wives.

NITANY—La Reina del Tropico.

As the Twig Is Bent —



Your Lion

By Red Roth

I used to be one of those liberal-minded persons whose motto in regard to Communists, both of the foreign and domestic variety, was "live and let live." But last week everything suddenly changed. Now, in common with most of the American public it seems, I've finally come to the conclusion Russia is going too far.

What suddenly opened my eyes to the dangers inherent in Sovietism wasn't the current trial of American communists in New York. No, nor was it the overuse of the veto in the UN, Russian voicings against the North Atlantic pact, or even all this talk about Communist-dominated labor unions.

Such objections to Reds pale into microscopic insignificance when compared with their latest action. Last week the Soviet official news organ, Pravda, had the gall to assert that it was a Russian mixologist who first concocted a—MARTINI! Yep, if we are to believe what those subtle behind-the-iron-curtainers tell us, it was a Russian equivalent of Joe the bartender who first threw an olive into a glass of vermouth and gin, yelled Na Zdravye, and christened the alcoholic mixture that was burning out his gut a martini (hic).

An ancestor of Lenin performed this revolution in the art of tipling in the year 1492, so Pravda says. So far, however, they haven't had the audacity to state that the only reason Chris Columbus took off and even discovered this decadent democracy was because he got a little high on a couple of these Bolshevik zombies.

Now let it be known to all I am a patient man. When the Russkies first came out with stories that Russians had invented the radio, airplane, steamboat, and automobile, I just laughed. Then when Stalin's boys added that they had also initially conceived of television, color vision, the atom bomb, safety pin, cotton gin, plow, wheel, fire, earth, water, and the bow and arrow, I shrugged my shoulders.

But this latest assertion is just a little too much. When the Soviets can claim to have discovered the very foundations of our American democratic system, then the danger of this country turning an off shade of fuchsia becomes highly possible.

If we permit this latest Russian fantasy to remain unopposed, there's no telling how far they'll go. Soon Russian newspapers will be out on the kiosks in Red Square with stories to the effect that jockey shorts, strapless bras, juke boxes, and Toni home permanents were also brought into being by "intellectually pure" countrymen.

Just imagine the damage that would be administered to the collective American pride if the Kremlin dwellers also said they were the first to come out with musical ditties about soft drinks in big bottles or cigarettes that lift you up and calm you down at the same time, be bop, and Dick Tracy.

Finally, if the Reds wanted to put the crusher on the American society, all they'd have to do would be to prove that soap operas were a Soviet innovation and that in reality "Ma Troitsky" or "Young Widder Vishinsky" was the first daytime serial. En masse housewives of the United States would clamor for that economic system which produced such happiness-provoking revolutions in entertainment.

So realizing the insidious danger inherent in the RED MENACE, I want to go on record as saying that we should weld every crack in the Iron Curtain. Close it so air-tight nothing can leak out. Further, outlaw domestic spreaders of such terrible falsehoods.

We have enough trouble deciding between 33 1/3, 45, and 78 rpm records.

The Safety Valve

No College People Wanted

TO THE EDITOR: A few weeks ago my wife went for an interview for a position advertised in the local newspaper. The employer asked her the usual questions and then finally asked her, "What does your husband do?"

"He's a student," my wife said.

The employer immediately came back and said, "We don't want to have anything to do with the College, or College people."

My wife walked out disgusted.

Two days ago, another position was listed in the local paper. My wife applied and the employer looked her up and down and said, "You wouldn't want this job, and anyway, it's been filled." The very next day from curiosity, we found out that it wasn't filled.

When are these State College merchants going to smarten up and realize the College is their livelihood?

—Name withheld.

• The first owner claims to have been misquoted, explaining that he does not fill permanent positions with students' wives who plan to take vacations with their husbands.

In the second case, the job was hot, difficult, disagreeable manual labor, for which some applicants were obviously unsuited. Before the position was finally filled, the number of applicants under consideration had been reduced to two.

'Spreading Like Disease'

TO THE EDITOR: May I point out that it is no coincidence that the current witch-hunt and violations of civil rights are "spreading like a terrible disease" and may I point to abominable mistreatment of the negro people and the rejection by Congress of promised civil rights laws, purges among government employees, firing of college professors, the persecution of conscientious objectors, the harassment of liberal minded religious leaders, the attacks on the public school system, the thought control trials of minority political parties, etc. This all-sided drive against free speech, free thought and free schools is organically linked to the deliberate preparation for another war. The fight for democracy is no abstraction. In its fullest sense, it is really a fight against the war that is in preparation.

—Name withheld.

Time for the Mailed Fist

TO THE EDITOR AND MR. MIGDON: Agreeing with you in your feelings about the local chapter of demagogues I might add they attack the "existing order of things" because they owe their allegiance, not to your country and mine, but to the Soviet Socialistic Union.

They slander Wall Street, because actually it is the Main Street of every hamlet and village across this fair land. It is part of the 18 million Americans who own, or buy and sell, securities and have faith in the future of the country. They fear Main Street because someone may become wealthy on it. However, they do have enough good sense to realize that it will never be themselves, for they are now, as always, the leaners and not the lifters, the "get something - for - nothing" economic schemers. A fine example of this philosophy can be found in the socialistic experiment going on in Great Britain, financed by American taxation dollars, where last year only 45 persons received more than \$24,000, after taxes. Everyone can be legislated poor, but where is the proof that everyone can be legislated rich?

The Atlantic Pact is a defense-mechanism for peace, aimed at the tyranny of the Asiatic-Mongolian hordes who are accomplishing what Hitler tried, by overrunning Europe. The fallacy of appeasement was exploded in 1939 at Munich. It is time for the mailed fist of the military of all freedom loving nations to deal with the imperialistic aggressor—Russia. It is now clear that the U.N. was nothing more than a dream to be shattered by the Soviets.

—James MacMillan.

• Letter cut.

The Daily Collegian

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