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# 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.

## Great Importance

**TO THE EDITOR:** The stirring letters of James Macmillan continue to arrive at your office in untold numbers. They shall be, however, ignored, for the purpose of this letter is not to criticize, but to praise.

This gem, of such proportions as to be quite a rarity, is directed to one of the Collegian's staff members, one L. D. Gladfelter. I am happy to find that he has arrived at a point in his journalistic career where he actually does some reading in monthly periodicals of literary significance. By this I do not mean to infer that others of the paper's staff do not read. I am sure many of them probably glance through Froth occasionally.

What Mr. Hechinger said in Harper's and the manner in which Mr. Gladfelter so aptly wrote upon it are of great importance, I feel. The American press has made many protests in the past to the charge that it is controlled by "vested interests." I think that it has, in the majority of cases, at least, been justified in doing so. However, the press can never deny the charge that what it prints are not merely facts observed by trained newspapermen, but facts twisted and distorted so that they will fit a pre-conceived pattern woven by either the editor, who feels he is an excellent judge of "public opinion's taste," or the publisher himself. Very correctly so can the slogan of a great number of the country's papers be made to read "All the News that Fits the Pattern."

—Francis Pollak.

## No Faith in Ability?

**TO THE EDITOR:** Mr. Rubinstein neglected to have his local address printed in the College directory, so I am forced to address my questions to him through the Daily Collegian.

1—What's the matter, old man, don't you have any faith in your abilities? If you did, you wouldn't worry so much about those five hundred families your friend Lundberg writes about, would you?

Oh, I realize that you're worried about our welfare, aren't you? Thank you, but most of us are doing pretty well living under our present form of individual enterprise. It really doesn't matter one iota that you've become disillusioned and seem to yearn for a change. You, mister, are one among many who are satisfied.

2—What's wrong with our country (the U.S.A. not the U.S.S.R.) preparing itself so that it will have the strategic advantage in some future war?

I am confident that the U.S. will not be the aggressor nation if and when war strikes. Forewarned is forearmed, the saying goes. This country has been forewarned, so why shouldn't we be forearmed?

3—Would the "American imperialism" (sic) you say has been "planned for the people of Europe" be a worse fate for them than subjugation by the NKVD?

The only reason that the Communists are enjoying the partial success they've achieved in Europe and Asia is the fact that bread speaks louder than promises to those underfed peoples. But the Marshall Plan, which you and your ilk condemn as "imperialism," is not a mere promise—it is bread. Democracy, not Communism, is the real answer, Ruby.

4—And tell me, Mr. Dissatisfied-with-our-way-of-life, did you read the Associated Press news bulletins in Friday's Collegian? I realize that the only news items you read appear in the Daily Worker, but please read Senator Tom Connally's remarks to your friend Henry (Bless Russia) Wallace: "What do you want us to do—sit down and let Russia absorb the world and do nothing about it?" Put the shoe on, Mr. Rubinstein—it's a perfect fit!

—Dick Schoenberger.

## Misrepresentations

**TO THE EDITOR:** Because of the misrepresentations about socialism, I would like to try to clear up a small part of it.

Reformist socialism would try to cure the evils of the capitalist system, evils which all thoughtful persons realize exist, by patching up the wrongs capitalism has inflicted. But militant socialism is diametrically opposed to capitalism basically as an economic system and would do away with it, supplanting it with a more equal economic system.

Militant socialism opposes capitalism because of the consequences of capitalist production: the concentration of wealth and power at one pole of society and the accumulation of poverty and mis-

ery at the other (the U.S., only one of the capitalist countries, has the highest standard of living, yet many millions of southern sharecroppers and workers in the large city slums live on extremely low incomes); the ruin of the middle classes and increased exploitation of the working class (illustrated by the squeezing out, ruination, or absorption of small capitalists by the big capitalists and the intensification of labor, not any more through the coercion of necessity to live, but through speed-up systems such as piece work, and bonus and incentive-pay, transforming the worker into his own slave driver; periodic depressions (caused by the anarchy of production) which bring needed production to a halt, destroy wealth, and inflict untold suffering upon the working and middle classes; and, most important, imperialism and world war (competition between capitalists on the international scale is at first only in the economic field, but later, when unable to cope with the ever intensifying competition, they drag in the military of their respective countries which "protests" and further enlarges their interests); and others.

Socialism believes in the principle of production for use, whereas capitalism works on the principle of production for profit. A capitalist will produce poison gas as readily as he produces shoes and more readily if it yields a greater profit. The fact that people always need shoes has no concern for him unless he can realize a profit. Workers, however, are concerned primarily in producing for their continuous, required needs. This irreconcilable conflict, militant socialism fully and honestly recognizes. Capitalism and reformist socialism, on the other hand, try to evade and color this issue in order to keep the workers confused and apathetic about their interests.

The capitalistic American press has done a worthy job of associating socialism with Russia and all things evil. It has led us to believe that socialism is something completely foreign, whereas capitalism is something sacredly American.

● Letter cut. —Paul R. Boehner.

# Collegian Gazette

Wednesday, May 11

NEWMAN Club Discussion Group, Church rectory, 7 p.m.

PENN STATE Bible Fellowship, 417 Old Main, 4 p.m.

WRA Badminton, WH Gym, 6:15 p.m.

Bowling (beginners), 6:30 p.m.

Modern Dance, WH, 7 p.m.

Modern Dance Concert Group, WH, 8 p.m.

IFC Meeting, 405 Old Main, 7:15 p.m.

COLLEGIAN Sophomore Board, 8 CH, 7:30 p.m.

## COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Arrangements for interviews should be made in 204 Old Main

Wear-Ever representative will interview students May 11 and 12 for summer and permanent employment.

State Department of Highways, May 13, June grads in Ag Eng, Accounting, Chem Eng, Engineering seniors, Forestry

Hotel du Pont in Wilmington, Delaware, has openings for two or three dieticians. Applicants should be Food majors.

## AT THE MOVIES

CATHAUM—Joan of Arc.

NIITANY—The Adventures of Don Juan.

STATE—Alias Nick Beal.

# The Daily Collegian

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## Happy Landing



## House Drafts Pension Bill; Would Limit Some Benefits

Late AP News Courtesy WMAJ

WASHINGTON—A new pension bill is scheduled to emerge from the House Veterans Committee today which would provide payments of up to \$72 a month to veterans at age 65, or, in cases of total disability, at a lower age. Benefits would not go to unmarried veterans earning more than \$1,200 or to those with dependents earning more than \$2,500.

## Embassy Spies

WASHINGTON—The Polish embassy in Washington, says General Izidor Modelski, former embassy military attache, is a center of spying against the United States. The General, appearing before a Senate committee, said that Moscow-directed agents are laying plans to ultimately break the U.S. into a series of smaller nations for Negroes, Germans, etc.

## Call On Hall—

Continued from page one

a \$5 bill. Meanwhile the borrower signs his name and address on a card and places it in an envelope. Ed clips this envelope on the place from which he removed the cash.

For seven days the card will remain in the envelope; this is the time during which the loan is to be repaid. If, at the end of a week, the money isn't returned, the card will be removed from the envelope, and the name of the borrower will be exposed to the glares of the public.

So there it is fellows, a terrific deal. No interest is charged; no questions are asked, because Ed Hall believes in the honesty of college fellows. "I don't expect to lose money," he said. "A lot of people think I'm crazy, but I don't think so."

## Income Decline

WASHINGTON—A decline in consumer income during the first three months of 1949 was reported yesterday by the Department of Commerce. The sharpest drop was recorded in March. At the same time, Senator Edward Martin was making demands for less government spending on the grounds that the administration spending program will lead to bankruptcy.

## New Cabinet —

Continued from page one

will be led by William Shade, with Joseph Karvois, Sidney Manes, Richard Manchester, Ralph Moyle, Roger Mulhollen, Edwin Watson, Nancy Jacobs, Betty Lou Shelley, and Dorothy Werlinich. Bernard Carbeau and Rose Eifert were appointed to the Calendar committee.

Orientation Week committee will be headed by Harry McMahon, members being Ted Allen, James Balog, Frederick Auch, Robert Fast, Peter Giesey, Harry Kondourajian, MacCallom, Walter Miller, Gorden Olsen, Paul Sabol, Sam Vaughn, Frances Eshlemen, Shirley Gauger, and Sylvia Ockner.

The Book Exchange committee, headed by Richard Evans and Marilyn Mahla, will consist of Andrew Grasty, Thomas Kennedy, George Oehmler, Jacob Schwalb, Dorothy Coons, and Patsy Meconi. The Co-op Board of Control, with no designated chairman, is to be made up of Edwin Barnitz, Balog, Evans, Gabriel, Stephen Hughes, and Schweiker. Norman Sims and Schweiker will make up the Community Forum committee.

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