

The Daily Collegian

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UN Anniversary

A renewed appeal for peace through unity among the big powers of the world is expected to be the theme of President Truman's talk at the United Nations this morning.

THE PRESIDENT is reported to be timing his bid in conjunction with the fifth anniversary of the world organization. We think it important and appropriate for students to review the UN, its purpose and progress, during this birthday celebration.

Cynics and pessimists have been belittling the UN as an impotent force since its earliest days. In 1945 they said the UN was just another edition of the League, with no more chance for success.

What they failed to realize is that while the machinery of the League was admittedly imperfect, the idea behind it was sound. So is the idea behind the UN and so will be the idea behind any organization which is an expression of the world's hope for peace.

Later critics have decried the UN's inability to make decisions. Those taking this line have even fostered a movement to form a new organization excluding Russia and her pack of buffer states.

FORTUNATELY this idea has been somewhat squelched by the success of UN action in Israel and, more dramatically, the bold decision to aid the Republic of Korea.

It must be admitted that the UN has not been the success its planners had hoped, but if the founders were unjustified in their optimism, so were the critics in their pessimism.

For a compact statement of the UN's answer to pessimists, we suggest students read the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights," copies of which are available in pamphlet form at the Pattee library. In a ten minute reading of the principles passed by the General Assembly in 1948, the student can obtain a graphic treatment of why nations ban together.

CRITICS WILL, of course, complain that with all these fine principles, you still have nothing more than a series of palatable but impractical ideals. To be truthful, there is little in the statements that is concrete, only the hope that they will someday be meaningful.

The United Nations up to now has been like a salesman putting one foot in the door—his job is by no means over, but he is at least on the way.

—Herbert Stein

Clanking Bottles

Mingled with roar of excited football patrons at the Penn State - Georgetown game early this semester was the clank, clank of pop bottles bouncing from tier to tier down the grandstands. Occasionally, the rhythmic clank was interrupted by the tinkle of broken glass.

THE POP BOTTLES not only distract fans who are engrossed in the game but constitute a safety menace. Serious injuries could result from slipping on a bottle or falling on broken glass.

A large crowd is expected for the homecoming game at Beaver field Saturday. We hope by that time steps will have been taken to eliminate the dangers of clanking and tinkling bottles.

—John Ashbrook

Safety Valve . . .

Hold Down The Roar

TO THE EDITOR: It has probably never occurred to certain groups of freshman men living in the new dorms that many of the dormitory residents would like to study in the evenings. From all appearances, these frosh have little to do but hold bull sessions, marathon races, wrestling matches, ect. The time will someday arrive when these men will realize that study is essential for college success. Until then those who do wish to study must suffer.

This letter is intended, therefore, as a plea to those who regularly participate in creating the dull roar that echoes thru the halls, in particular thru Thompson Hall, to please reserve their noise and gymnastics for some time other than the evening study hours.

—Name Withheld

Harder But Shorter

TO THE EDITOR: Yes, I'm a frosh and I think that I can speak for the rest of my class and even some upperclassmen. It is easy to see that the hat societies and other organizations on campus do not know how to carry out and regulate customs.

First they try to induce a school spirit in us through customs. I will admit I was imbued the first week and I went along 'till the first month. But how do they expect a thousand students to carry out the regulations when even the hatmen get tired of enforcing them. Listen, I've gone through customs in prep school, at least there they knew how to carry them out. They were harder but they were shorter. That's my advice to you.

It is about time you look over these hills around here and see how the other half lives, including the colleges.

● Letter Cut

—Stuart N. Allen

Gazette . . .

Tuesday, October 24

PENN STATE Camera club, 119 Osmond, 7:30 p.m.

WRA Bowling, White hall alleys, 7 p.m.

WRA Fencing, White hall, 7 p.m.

COLLEGIAN Promotion staff meeting, Collegian office, 6:30 p.m.

A.C.E.I. Workshop, Atherton lounge, 7:30 p.m.

NITTANY Bowmen meeting, 209 Eng. C., 7 p.m.

PSYCHOLOGY Club, 204 Burroughs, 7:30 p.m.

PENN STATE Club, 405 Old Main, 7 p.m.

COLLEGIAN business candidates, 1 CH, 7 p.m.

COLLEGIAN editorial candidates, groups A and B, 7 p.m., 8 Carnegie hall.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Further information concerning interviews and job placements can be obtained in 112 Old Main.

Seniors who turned in preference sheets will be given priority in scheduling interviews for two days following the initial announcement of the visit of one of the companies of their choice. Other students will be scheduled on the third and subsequent days.

Shell Development company will interview 1951 graduates in physical and organic chemistry and chemical engineering at the PhD level, and January M.S. candidates in chemical engineering on Thursday, Nov. 2. The priority system will not be in effect for this announcement.

Linde Air Products company will interview January B.S. and M.S. graduates in mechanical engineering, industrial engineering, electrical engineering, and chemical engineering on Tuesday, Oct. 31.

Shell Oil company will interview 1951 PhD candidates in physical chemistry and chemical engineering, January M.S. candidates in chemical engineering, chemistry and mechanical engineering, and January B.S. candidates in chemistry on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 2 and 3. The priority system will not be in effect for this announcement.

Sperry Gyroscope company will be on campus Monday, Oct. 30. They are interested in midyear B.S. graduates in electrical engineering who are in the upper half of their class; 1951 PhD candidates in electrical engineering and physics; M.S. candidates in electrical engineering and physics who graduate not later than June 1951. The priority system will not be in effect for this announcement.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

For information concerning the following jobs, applicants should stop in 112 Old Main.

Men with truck to work SDCA pick ups.

Men to sell refreshments at football game Saturday.

Men to work as substitute waiters and dishwashers.

Men to sell cushions at Temple football game.

AT THE MOVIES

CATHAUM: Mr. 880

STATE: Coast of New Orleans

NITTANY: Day of Wrath

Little Man On Campus

By Bibler



"And remember what I said about clean sportsmanship—don't use 'em unless you have 'em."

On The Record

Many people toss the words "off the record" around with wild abandon without really understanding full meaning of the phrase. On a campus such as Penn State's, where contact with the outside world is limited, it is more than likely that the people who use the phrase often have no idea of what "off the record" news material really is.

AS ORIGINALLY EMPLOYED, the phrase was used by government officials to designate to reporters information which they did not want published but about which they wished newsmen to know. Usually they made "off the record" statements to provide reporters with the necessary background for writing a story that would break at a later date. War correspondents received a good deal "off the record" information during World War II.

But, as currently used in Washington circles, the phrase has an entirely different meaning. Nowadays, when a government official wants to get something in the newspapers but does not want to assume responsibility for releasing the information, he will tell reporters it is "off the record." This means, in most cases, that the reporters are free to use the information at their own risk, but they may not say who made the statement. They usually end up by quoting "informed sources" or "a high government official," or some other mythical character.

Many people assume that, if a reporter is told certain information or statements are "off the record," the reporter is duty-bound not to print the information. In actuality, such is not the case.

FOR A STATEMENT to be "off the record," the reporter must agree to the procedure. This decision often is a matter of his own discretion, but often must be approved by his editors. At any point he can tell the person he is interviewing that he will not take information that is not to be published, at which point it is up to the interviewee to decide whether he will say anything more.

There are three situations involving the "off the record" phrase that particularly annoy reporters:

1. Some people will, in the midst of a statement, insert the remark that "this is off the record, of course," and then go on with what they have to say without giving the reporter a chance to say whether or not he will consider the statement as "off the record." It is always the responsibility of the speaker to determine whether the reporter will withhold information.

2. Others will give a reporter a complete story, and then will order him to keep it "off the record." Besides being an imposition, this procedure is an insult to the reporter, who should have been told from the beginning that the speaker did not wish to be quoted for publication.

3. At times, someone speaking in a public meeting open to everyone will state that he wants his remarks "off the record." No good reporter will withhold such information, inasmuch as all his readers, had they wanted to, could have attended the meeting and heard the remarks.

Some reporters are instructed by their editors to tell interviewees that they will report any request for withholding information to their editors, and that the editors will decide whether it is to be published. In such cases, the interviewee must decide if he wishes to give the information and take his chances.

—Dean Gladfelter

Hort Show

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