

The Daily Collegian

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Registration Fine

In recent years there has been great striving for efficiency in the registration process. To date, the actual business of filling out forms in Rec hall has been boiled down to a 15-minute process, with the result that fewer gray hairs are noticeable on students' heads at the beginning of each semester.

NOW THE COUNCIL of administration and the senate have come up with another suggestion that should simplify and streamline first phase registration, the filling out of schedule cards for the next semester. By devoting two class-free days to the process, and by scheduling students at 15-minute intervals, this streamlining should be accomplished.

However, laudable as the plan is, we can't really see the need for a fine for late pre-registration. Under the new plan, students who fail to pre-register during the specified days would be required to make out their preliminary schedules with the board of control at the beginning of the next semester.

This means that late registrants will not be certain of getting into classes they want, and that they will have to wade through the torture of the board of control.

To us, the board of control is the worst punishment imaginable, yea, verily, worse than banishment to Pollock Circle.

As to possible cabinet endorsement of a fine, we cannot see how an agency devoted to student government has any right or duty to interfere with a matter which, in its major aspects, is administrative and academic.

Pool For Ideas

National Student association is in effect an idea pool for students in colleges throughout the nation. It was started in 1946, but already it has 325 member colleges.

NO ONE WILL DENY that NSA is a good idea. The primary complaint heard on campus is over the cost of belonging to the organization, and the cost of sending delegates to conventions.

Certainly it would be nice to have an organization of this sort which costs nothing, but the fact remains that the only organizations which accomplish things are the well organized ones and whether the organization is non-profit as NSA is, or whether it is a profit-making group, it costs money to keep an organization going.

AS FOR SENDING delegates to the national convention, this has been attacked by a member of Cabinet. The fact is, if you belong to a national group with the prestige and backlog of accomplishments that the NSA can show, the membership is meaningless unless you can benefit in every respect from the opportunities offered.

At the conventions, there are not, despite the attacks of Cabinet members, long and meaningless squabbles over trivial political doctrines. Rather, there is a group of public spirited college students who are interested in exchanging ideas on how to improve their colleges.

If, for example, Penn State has a Campus chest—which incidentally was started by NSA—the delegates tell the convention about it and how it operates. Then if any other schools are interested in the idea, they get the benefit of Penn State experience.

But if on the other hand, Temple, the University of Wisconsin, or the University of Idaho has an idea which might be applicable in State College, such as a faculty and course rating system, then we get the benefit of their experience, and their help in setting up such a system on this campus.

WITHOUT DELEGATES, we are in much the position of a fraternity man who pays house rent, and then goes to live in a rooming house.

— Jack Garretson Butt

The football season is a severe test on the turf on the athletic field. A. E. Cooper, College extension agronomist, has been working with county agents and school officials throughout the state in improving the surface of playing fields.

Meet The People

Student leaders sometimes like to talk about the effectiveness of student government at Penn State. They often say the system here is good, surpassing campus government operations of other colleges.

WE WONDER how many of those leaders have considered methods whereby effectiveness of the system can be increased.

Real representation of the individual student is one point which, if obtained, would greatly increase value of the government. How many leaders now approach the campus John Doe's to sound out opinions on specific issues and general policies? We think very few.

Admittedly, to approach each 10,000 students personally would be a huge task. Still, the school councils have a great opportunity to work in that direction. At their disposal are the school newsletters in which council president could explain to constituents their stands on various issues before Cabinet. Through this channel, they could ask for students' opinions on important matters.

OTHER METHODS of obtaining student views on current issues include the use of questionnaires and of small group discussions. In the past, IFC leaders have employed the latter method by having each fraternity representative present important problems to his house for discussion. The AIM dormitory council plan is of a similar nature. Increased use of this channel could be used.

The questionnaire method could be employed by the individual school council member, perhaps assigning to each member a certain number of the students enrolled in the school. Questionnaires could be used on important single issues and in planning general council policy.

Only a trial of these methods would prove their worth. The important thing is, however, that student government officials continually keep in mind that to truly represent their campus groups, they must know what students of those groups are thinking.

— John Ashbrook

Armistice Day

Armistice day, 1950, finds the world far removed from the peaceful hopes for which the day is dedicated. The brief ceremonies to be conducted here this morning by members of the three ROTC units, are perhaps an indication that while we honor the dead of other wars, we are still thinking of the possible dead in future wars to make this a larger celebration today.

GOVERNOR DUFF'S proclamation is another indication of this attitude. "Not only our democracy is threatened; the peace of the world is in jeopardy. There may well be fears for the future, if we, by our own actions or inactions, fail to remain a strong and united people," he said.

"Let us dedicate ourselves again on Armistice day to freedom and liberty and the rights of the individual, so that human decency and peace may come around the world," the governor concludes.

— Herbert Stein

Safety Valve . . .

Weather Flags

TO THE EDITOR: Could you please tell me what the different flags on top of MI building mean? I know it's supposed to be the "official" weather but . . .

— Courtney McMahon

Ed. note — A white flag indicates fair; red—warmer; blue—colder; red, white and blue—cloudy; blue and white checked—precipitation (rain or snow); red and white—windy.

Expensive Collegian

TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Collegian is getting rather expensive lately, isn't it? The Wednesday issue has a price of five cents listed on its heading on the front page.

— E. B. Martindale

Ed. note — The five cent price has been in effect since 1943. This price, however, applies only to individual copies or subscriptions. It does not apply to students.

Gazette . . .

Monday

PHILOTES meeting, WSGA room of White hall, 6:30 p.m.

COLLEGIAN editorial senior board, 8 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.

General Electric company will interview chem. and chem. eng. at the M.S. and Ph.D. levels, who will graduate by June 1952, on Monday Nov. 20.

Philadelphia Electric company will interview January graduates in E.E. and M.E. on Tuesday, Nov. 21.

Western Electric company will interview January graduates with an average of 1.9 or better at the B.S. level in M.E., and I.E. on Monday, Nov. 20.

Bell Telephone laboratories will interview January graduates in physics at the B.S. level; in E.E., M.E., and physics at the M.S. level; and in chemistry at the Ph.D. level on Monday, Nov. 20.

COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Patients: Judith Hutkin, Mrs. Ellnor Huppert, Jacob Corman, Frederick Dietz, Burton Tarr, George Jacob, James Pollard, Paul Anders, Robert Fatzinger, Richard Peyton, Kenneth Horton

Little Man On Campus

By Bibler



On The Record

The Space Problem

One of the major gripes heard by a Collegian editor concerning the Collegian is that many of the plethora of student groups on campus just can't seem to get news concerning their activities into the columns of the newspaper. The gripe—and it certainly is a legitimate one—comes from many quarters almost every day of the week.

UNFORTUNATELY, because of the conditions that exist, Collegian just can't do an awful lot about it. The principal reason is that, although the College has gone through a great period of expansion, the size of the newspaper has not increased appreciably. Such expansion of the College brings with it formation of many new organizations that have the right to have their news published, and produces a great number of other situations—known in newspaper parlance as "running stories" that must be covered. Because the size of Collegian has not kept pace with the growth of the College, an extreme problem concerning the news space available has developed in recent years.

We realize it's no solace to campus groups to be told that there just isn't enough room in the newspaper to publish their news, but that's the saddest fact of Collegian life, and it's something we have to live with.

Although a student assessment is the most important source of revenue for the Collegian, the amount of advertising scheduled for any particular issue determines the number of pages in that issue and, consequently, the amount of news space available.

ACTUALLY, COLLEGIAN has printed more eight-page papers so far this year than in the similar period of preceding years, and thus has been able to print more news stories than previously. But even this expansion has not been enough to provide adequate coverage for all campus news, and at the moment there doesn't seem to be much that can be done to produce more eight-page papers.

Certainly, Collegian editors and the staff don't like the situation. We'd like to be able to get every bit of news available into the paper. But until some method of further enlarging the newspaper can be found, our readers will have to bear with us and hope for the best.

— Dean Gladfelter

Feline Foolishness

On this campus, the week of Nov. 5-11 might be known as Local Blue Book week, but, on a national scale this seven-day period has additional significance.

THE AELOUROPHILES (cat lovers) have chosen this week to reform all aelourophobes (cat haters). Through the auspices of the American Feline society, recognition is being sought for the 21,000,000 cats of America whose "utilitarian worth in the store, warehouse, farm, and factory, as 'rodent insurance' is being brought to the attention of the public."

Why all this furor over feline welfare? Well, it seems that about 12 years ago three cat-loving females, concerned about the demise of the position of the cat, formed this society to "alleviate cat suffering and abuse."

In ancient days in Egypt, 'tis said, the cat was accorded mummification equivalent to the most prominent citizens. From this exalted position the cat has fallen to such a subservient state that he has often been classified as a pest (the category of his arch-enemy, the rat).

But, the day of the cat is approaching. Currently, the press, radio, and television are giving him more acclaim than he has lapped up in the past 79 years. Indeed, the news columns are filled with felines giving fire alarms, helping the disabled, caring for children; also, in the comic strips, our whiskered friends figure in de-tales.

And, then there is the position of the cat in industry. Even the United States government makes annual appropriations for the maintenance of cats in the Post Office and other departments.

EVEN WITH ALL THIS ACCLAIM, these unobtrusive creatures, give generously to man and mouse and ask little in return.

A little melts (spleen of pork, beef, or lamb), a saucer of milk (not dehydrated please), freedom from collars, a daily brushing, a tennis ball to play with, and an old chair to scratch—these are the simple desires of the puss.

Such goodness should be acclaimed say the 63 chapters of the American Feline Association. "Help save America's Cats—adopt a cat."

— Janet Rosen