

The Daily Collegian

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Action On Vote Plan Should Come Now

That an organized pressure campaign by NSA for lowering of the voting age to 18 might be in order is indicated by a recent Collegian survey of student leaders, in which a majority of those interviewed favored the lower voting age. However, the survey revealed that not all those interviewed were behind the proposal, and consequently any such campaign by NSA—or any other body representing the students generally—would have to be preceded by a good deal of discussion and debate.

SOME FEAR that such a campaign at this time might be disadvantageous because it might do harm to the NSA fight to have the state legislature adopt an absentee voting law which would enable college students to cast ballots in general elections without the inconvenience of traveling to their home voting precincts. Certainly the lower voting age idea would encounter much stronger opposition than an absentee voting law, and feeling against a lower voting age could be used by enemies of both measures to defeat the absentee voting proposal.

Yet, we feel that, if action ever is going to be taken in favor of an 18-year-old voting age, now is the time for it. The fact that men of non-voting age are being drafted to fight and die for their country—although the fact in itself is not necessarily sufficient reason for the change—does serve to focus attention on the question.

In our view, a lower voting age can be justified on a number of grounds. The idea contains, however, an element of the radical, and thus would receive scant attention during ordinary times. For example, it attained considerable support during World War II, but for several years afterwards little was said about the plan.

AS A RESULT, one would expect exponents of the idea to make use of the wartime psychology to arouse sentiment for the cause. Not that we think that—on a strictly intelligent plane—it is necessary to play on the wartime psychology in order to present convincing arguments for the 18-year-old vote. But the present situation does tend to spotlight the issue and to make people more receptive.

Although sentiment apparently is split among students, we have no doubt that the idea carries sufficient support to justify investigation by NSA and student government. Quite obviously students at least should be interested in evaluating a plan which would enfranchise almost all college students.

Important Meeting On Senior Finals

Tonight will be the last chance seniors will have to express themselves en masse on the issue of final examinations for graduating seniors. The proposal to abolish exams for eighth-semester seniors—if approved by the class tonight and by All-College cabinet tomorrow night—will go to the College senate for final consideration.

WE FIND IT hard to conceive of a senior who is not interested in the possibility that he may not be required to take final examinations at the end of his last semester. Consequently, we find it hard to conceive of a senior who would not make an effort to attend the meeting tonight and to make his opinions known.

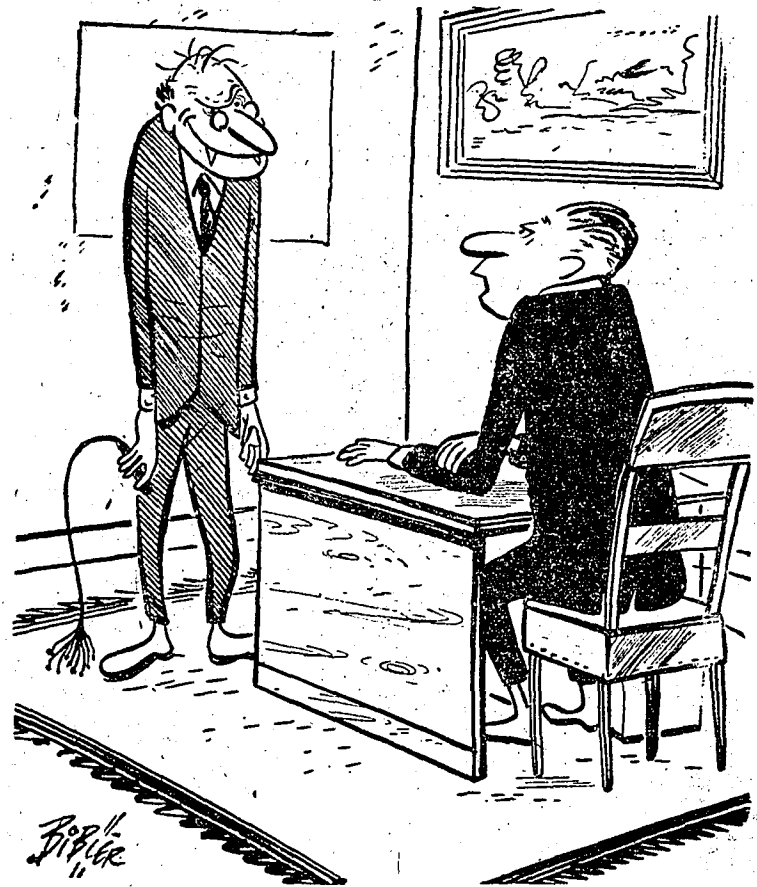
Although the tenor of the original class meeting which discussed the proposal indicated that the class generally favored abolition of finals for graduating seniors, doubtless there will be disapproval and opposition from some quarters. We feel that good arguments can be produced on both sides of the question, but we would tend to favor waiving finals for seniors because, at that late date in a student's education, we doubt that a final exam really means anything.

Of course, if the plan should be adopted by the senate, provisions should be made to allow seniors who wish to boost their grades to take final exams. Probably it also would be best to require that students with below-grades for any course be subject to finals. But, for the average student, we can see little real value in finals at the end of the senior year.


The final certainly is not necessary to arrive at a grade for the student. At the very end of the student's career, we doubt that it would be of value in forcing him to study harder. But freedom from finals would provide valuable time in which the senior could make contacts for a job, settle his affairs at the College, and make arrangements for stepping out into the world.

ACTION at the senior class meeting at 7:30 o'clock tonight in 119 Osmond will be vital in bringing such a plan into reality. It is an issue in which every eighth-semester student has a stake. It is in the interest of every graduating senior to attend the meeting and to make his weight felt in the direction of whatever action he favors.

Little Man On Campus By Bibler



"Professor Snarf, I want to congratulate you on building the engineering school into one of the finest in the country. I overheard some students say you flunked over half the class last term."



You Name It

By HERBERT STEIN

In the two semesters of customs since the end of World War II, officials of the programs have had more trouble with hatmen and upperclassmen than with the frosh themselves.

NOBODY, it seemed, wanted to do any "hazing." Of course this might have been because they couldn't find any freshmen. It wouldn't surprise us. Collegian reporters spent the better part of two days just trying to find out how many new frosh there are on campus this semester and they never did get an authoritative figure.

So ridiculous did it become that somebody decided to end it all by rigging a polo match. What made it even funnier, an informant told us, is that the frosh who were supposed to be handed a victory refused to play at all and the hatmen, tired of waiting, won it themselves.

All of which shows you can't trust anybody—whether it's basketball players or polo players.

IT'S NOT DIFFICULT to understand why technical students sometimes get disguised with students in other schools when, for instance, they happen to pass by a certain classroom in Sparks and hear a "professor" bellowing forth on the weighty subject of the winged T versus the single wing.

The Associated Press reported last week that the marriage of Barbara Stanwyck and Robert Taylor had been successfully "liquidated."

Ah, this atomic age!

Those who like to argue manners and morals helped themselves to new food for thought last week when it was discovered that more students attended a supposedly sexy French movie than the keynote speech of Religion-In-Life week—even when the speaker hap-

pened also to be the President of the College.

Comparing the two attendances, Clark Young, Education school council president, said he thought it was "extremely regrettable." That's putting it mildly.

The Korean conflict has provided a windfall for the Smithsonian institute in Washington, D.C. A recent survey of additions to the museum included a batch of snakes and lizards brought back by an American soldier.

War may be hell but you can't deny that GI's do get a crack at some interesting cultural items.

Campus politics will be busily pondering planks for party platforms in the next few weeks. We hope they come up with a few more interesting than the usual recommendation of better student-faculty relations.

Perhaps a real attempt to take a stand on some controversial problems would bring out the heavy student vote that campus leaders call for at every election.

Gazette . . .

Tuesday, February 27

- CHESSE club, 3 Sparks, 7 p.m.
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE organization, 409 Old Main, 8:05 p.m.
- COLLEGIAN business candidates, 2 Carnegie hall, 7 p.m.
- COLLEGIAN business junior and sophomore boards, 9 Carnegie hall, 7 p.m.
- COLLEGIAN editorial candidates, 1 Carnegie hall, 7:30 p.m.
- INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS club, 218 Willard hall, 7 p.m.
- JEWISH FOLK DANCE group, Hillel, 7:30 p.m.
- NEWMAN club business meeting, 219 Electrical Engineering, 7 p.m.
- WRA BOWLING, White hall alleys, 7 p.m.
- WRA FENCING, White hall, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

- Bell Telephone laboratories will interview June graduates in E.E., M.E., and Physics Thursday, March 8.
- Standard Oil Development company will interview June graduates in Chem. Eng., Chem., and Fuel Tech. Thursday, March 8.
- National Supply company will interview June graduates in I.E., M.E., and Png Eng. Friday, March 9.
- Elhart company will interview June graduates in M.E., and E.E., Friday, March 9.
- Duquesne Light company will interview June graduates in E.E., M.E., and C.E. Monday, March 5.
- Union Carbide and Carbon corp., Electro Metallurgical division, will interview June graduates in M.E., E.E., C.E., C&F Metal., Chem., Chem. Eng., Phys., and Math. Monday, March 12.
- American Cyanamid company will interview June graduates in Chem. and Chem. Eng. Monday, March 12.
- Koppers company, Inc. will interview June graduates in C.E., I.E., and M.E., Monday, March 12.
- Haskins & Sells will interview June graduates in accounting who are interested in public accounting Monday, March 12.
- Colgate Palmolive-Peet company will interview June graduates in Chem. Eng., and M.E. Monday, March 12.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

- Room and board for student able to do outdoor work; farm experience preferred.
- Barber, for three afternoons a week; 70 per cent of intake offered; local shop.
- Substitutes wanted for dining hall and snack bar; remuneration in meals; off-campus residents.
- Interviews now being scheduled for Camp Henry, Mahoyes Hall, N.Y. Male student in Ed., Soc., Psych.; juniors, seniors, graduates. General, nature music counselors wanted. Representative will interview morning of March 3.

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