

The Daily Collegian

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AIM Should Get Facts from Cabinet

If somebody were to check the records, we think they'd find that the Association of Independent Men has set some sort of a record for investigating committees.

There hardly seems to be a time during the College year that several representatives of AIM aren't running about campus investigating something.

This past week, one AIM investigation—to discover why the Book Exchange had canceled the sale of Penn State class rings—was brought to a screeching close. The extent of the "investigation" was to elicit an explanation from BX Chairman Milton Bernstein, an explanation which would have been made in any case.

So as one AIM "investigation" thundered to its conclusion, AIM cast off on two other exploratory missions. It ordered an investigation of the sale of additional items by the BX and an inquiry into the tie-up in the construction of the proposed Student Union building.

It would seem to us that more than being a vote for these investigations, the AIM action was a vote of no confidence in John Laubach, its president, and in the All-College Cabinet committees charged with the responsibility for the BX and the SU.

The BX charter restricts what it may sell to certain items. That is a cold fact. No matter how much investigating anybody does, the facts will not change.

As far as the SU is concerned, the case, as clearly stated is this: The College can build the SU, but it has not received a priority for the allocation of steel. That is the cause of the delay.

Now if AIM proposes to investigate the causes of the tie-up in the SU construction, we suggest that the investigation be directed at the availability of steel and other materials, for that is the seat of the delay. We are certain that the AIM investigators will be welcomed in Washington or by the production officials of the steel corporations.

We do not propose to say that a committee of All-College Cabinet is above being questioned. If there is any question as to its actions, the method for the questions to be raised would seem apparent. If AIM would like to question the BX committee, it should instruct its president to request a report on the floor of cabinet. The same holds true for questions over SU.

Threadbare Profs

A recent letter to the Pittsburgh Press by a faculty member of the College decrying the plight of the professors who sport that "threadbare look" was directed at the legislature of the state, but a reference also was made to the "student mansions" which are in evidence here.

Besides the fact that the letter was badly timed in view of the fact that the College has already gone on record for a program which would include salary raises for faculty members when the 1951 grant is received from Harrisburg, the reference to "mansions" is unfair.

Anything constructed today will appear a mansion in comparison with buildings of an earlier era. The fact that the College saw fit to build dormitories before raising salaries is a matter to be praised or jeered depending on your standard of values or your perspective.

A tour of the Nittany-Pollock area will acquaint anyone with the fact that "mansions" are not the rule at Penn State. The letter-writer also was feeling low about the lack of a club room for faculty. There is one planned for the proposed Student Union building.

Somebody saw fit to build dormitories for the students. For that the student of Nittany-Pollock apologizes, and then roots for the "threadbare" professors.

—BUD FENTON

"If you would wish another to keep your secret, first keep it yourself."—Seneca

Hold SU Fees Until Construction

Unless some action is taken by the board of trustees at its January meeting, the fees students will pay in February will include an item labeled Student Union—\$7.50. If that fee appears, it will work an unnecessary hardship on students, and, in so doing, violate one of the principles on which the assessment was originally presented to the student body two years ago.

At that time, one of the points made by SU's proponents was that because of the estimated short construction time—about a year—virtually everyone paying the fees would actually have some use of the building. Only the graduating seniors would have to pay anything without getting any material benefit therefrom. The fact that these seniors would have to pay without seeing the SU was actually made a point of contention by opponents of the fee.

Partially as a result of this problem, the fee, as finally recommended to the trustees, was only \$7.50 for the first two semesters, with an increase to \$10 per semester thereafter—when, presumably, the building would actually be in operation.

So a basic of SU thinking has, from the first, been the idea that, where possible, no students would have to pay for the building unless they could make some use of it.

Now, however, it has developed that SU construction hinges on the availability of materials—there's a war on, and non-essential use of steel is rigidly restricted. Students, then, are faced with the proposition of a continuing \$7.50 per semester drain, with no guarantee that construction will start anywhere in the foreseeable future.

Why? Why not call a moratorium on the fee, with this understanding: At the time when construction can be definitely guaranteed, the fee will be reinvoiced, on the \$7.50-\$10 basis originally scheduled. The College will have the money already collected for the past three semesters with which to begin construction, as was planned from the start. Students paying the fees will be assured of some use of the Student Union, as was planned from the start. Students who could not benefit from SU would largely be passed over by the assessment, as was planned from the start.

Of course, \$2,000,000 is \$2,000,000, but it is better to assess classes further into the future, classes which will have a going SU at the time of payment, than to continue to expect payment—payment as high as \$60—from present classes, which may never see the building.

All-College Cabinet should therefore pass on to the board of trustees, before its January meeting, a request that the Student Union fee be held in abeyance until construction can be guaranteed.

—Ron Bonn

Gazette . . .

Thursday, December 6

ALPHA RHO OMEGA, PSCA Room, 7:30 p.m.
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 304 Old Main, 6:45 p.m.

CIRCLE AND SQUARE DANCE CLUB, Armory, 7 p.m.

COLLEGIAN editorial candidates, 9 Carnegie Hall, 7 p.m.

DAIRY SCIENCE CLUB, 117 Dairy Building, 7 p.m.

FRENCH CLUB, Home Economics living center, 7 p.m.

FROTH advertising staff, 100 Carnegie Hall, 8 p.m.

FROTH circulation candidates, board members and staff, 3 Carnegie Hall, 7 p.m.

NEWMAN CLUB lecture-discussion, John Hammes in charge, 317 Willard Hall, 7:15 p.m.

PUBLIC LECTURE, sponsored by Philosophy Club, 203 Willard Hall, 8 p.m.

WRA SWIMMING, White Hall pool, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Harry Calley, Yvonne Carter, Ariana Dickson, Louis Gornick, Theresa Horrigan, Evelyn Horwin, David Lewis, Wesley Menzel, Ruth Tranter, John Walters, John Zug.

AT THE MOVIES

CATHAUM: Lorna Doone
STATE: The Lady From Texas
NITTANY: Black Magic

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

The Armed Forces Security Agency will interview January graduates in E.E., M.E., and L.A. (non-romance language majors) Thursday, Dec. 13.

Atlantic Refining Co. majors will interview January graduates in Ch.E., Phys., C.E., E.E., M.E., G&M, Math., and P.N.G. Thursday, Dec. 13.

Boy Scouts of America will interview January graduates interested in this type work Friday, Dec. 14.

Columbia-Southern Chemical Corp. will interview January graduates in Chem., Ch.E., C.E., I.E., and M.E. Wednesday, Dec. 12.

Burroughs Adding Machine Co. will interview January graduates in L.A. and C&F, who are draft exempt and have some sales experience, Monday, Dec. 17.

Ohio Oil Co. will interview January graduates in M.E., Ch.E., C.E., and E.E. Wednesday, Dec. 5.

Esso Standard Oil Co. and Standard Oil Development Co. will interview graduates at all levels in Chem., Chem. E. and Fuel Tech. Wednesday, Dec. 12.

Young Men's Christian Association is interested in talking with seniors who wish to consider YMCA work as a career. Students sincerely interested will be invited to a dinner meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 8 p.m. Those interested in attending should inform the GA before 3 p.m. Wednesday.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Room & Board for student and wife, including child. Student must have transportation.

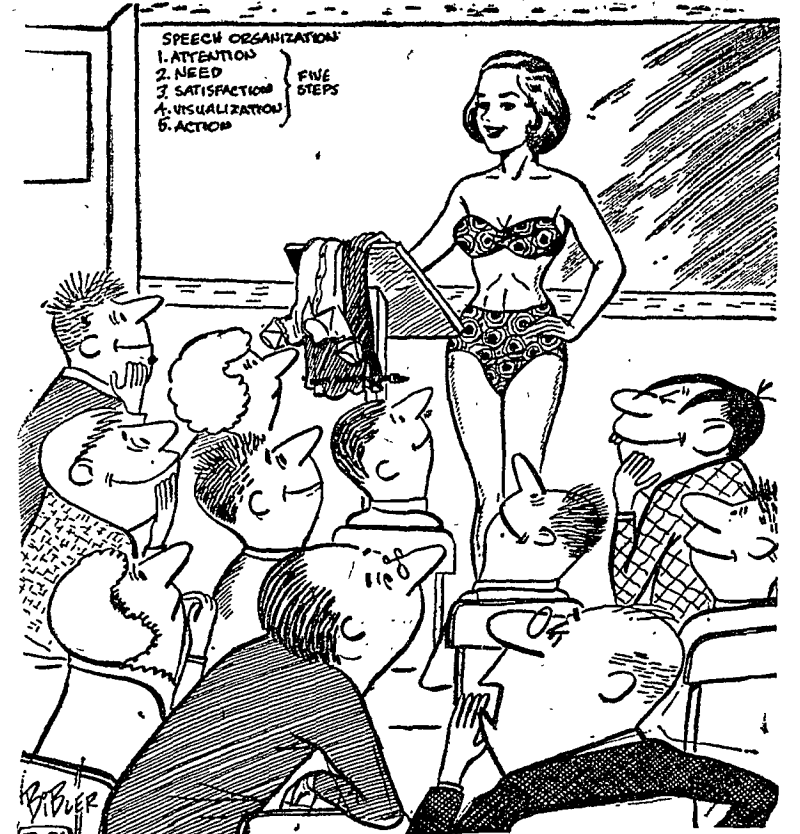
Room & Board for Ag student or man with Ag background. Must have transportation.

Women for waitress work from 7:30 to 11 p.m. in dairy store.

Busboy for Mondays from 9 to 12 a.m.

Woman for housework five days per week from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Little Man On Campus By Bibler



"She makes use of all the steps, but that lip of hers will flunk her."

The Old Millstream

By MOYLAN MILLS



The American Legion slams made against the College, the College faculty, and the Daily Collegian earlier in the week reminded us of a case that happened last summer. It is the case of John Paton Davies Jr., a State Department official, who was charged with subversive activity by Sen. Joseph McCarthy. These charges needlessly blackened Davies' name and probably ruined his career.

In actuality, Davies, a senior member of the State Department planning staff, was doing nothing un-American, but was merely following a policy which he thought best at the time and which was also thought best by quite a few persons other than Davies who professed to be in the know.

As might be guessed, the incident involved United States Chinese policy during and immediately following the Second World War. Davies was a political adviser to Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell at this time and was held in high respect by the State Department.

It seems there were two schools of thought on what to do with the muddled Chinese situation in those days. One school held that more air power should be developed and that the Chinese Nationalist government should be strengthened. Davies belonged to another school which advocated American military aid to the Chinese Communists. Incidentally, General Stilwell, whom we trusted with some mighty important jobs in China during the war, held to the same view as did Davies.

Joseph Alsop, well-known syndicated columnist, who has written much on the Davies affair because he was a buddy of Davies in those China days, has said that he disagreed entirely with Davies' Chinese policy but that he never had any doubts as to Davies' loyalty to his country. In fact, Alsop admits that Davies' views on the explosive Chinese situation have held up better than his own views which were more in accord with strengthening the Nationalists.

Most observers of the Chinese scene at the end of 1943 and the beginning of 1944 felt that the corruption-ridden Nationalist government would collapse after the war and that the Communists would get control. Two methods of dealing with this situation were talked about at the time and, as we have seen, neither of them were carried out.

The view held by Alsop and others was that the United States should strengthen Chiang Kai-shek's forces so they would be able to continue in power after the cessation of hostilities. Davies was part of another school of thought which held that the Nationalists were past saving and

that the way to prevent a Communist victory was to come to terms with the Reds.

According to Alsop, Davies knew that the Communists had developed in China without any outside or Russian help. It's a fact that the Nationalists were the only group receiving aid from the Soviet Union during the war. Thus Davies foresaw Titoism before Titoism had occurred. He believed that moderate aid to the Communists would give the Reds confidence in America, and thus they would develop without Russian influence. This was a drastic plan but Davies believed it was our only alternative to giving in to a hostile Red regime in China. So we see that he was not disloyal and was not betraying his country when he subscribed to this plan.

Either plan might have worked out, according to Alsop. Unfortunately, at this point the United States let its Chinese policy become almost no policy at all. Out of the middle of these developments we see Davies' prediction of the fall of the Nationalists and the rise of the Communists became an actual fact.

Then along came Senator McCarthy several years later, branding Davies a subversive when he was only trying to formulate a decent policy for the U.S. to follow in China. We wonder if the Senator realizes how close Davies came to diagnosing the situation in its true light.

Davies' prestige has been ruined, his reputation has been sullied, and his rising star in the State Department has been cut off in mid-flight. And all because of some wild statements without any factual foundation by a United States senator.

Our own American Legion has been using the same tactics and may well ruin another innocent person or organization with its sensational, superficial charges. A loyalty oath could very well have much the same effect as the McCarthy charges. Under provisions of the Pechan loyalty oath bill a person may be dismissed from a public job on mere suspicion, not facts.

John Paton Davies Jr. is an example of what can happen when people become hysterical and go overboard. For heaven's sakes, let's keep level heads.