

The Daily Collegian

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Marv Krasnansky Editor
Edward Shanken Business Mgr.

STAFF THIS ISSUE

Night editor, Joan Kuntz; copy editors, La-Vonne Althouse, Arnie Bloom; assistants, Bob Schoellkopf, Evvie Kielar, Marshall Donley, Audrey Rothschild.

Ad manager, Dorothy Naveen; assistants, Joan Hoffman, Margie See.

SU Assessment Got 3 Student OK's

(Ed. Note: This is the first of a series of five editorials designed to present the background and clarify the issues on a subject which has been the cause of much discussion, the proposed Student Union building and the \$7.50 student fee recommended to the College Board of Trustees by All-College Cabinet and approved by the trustees in 1950.)

Since the announcement by the College that construction of the Student Union building has been delayed by a shortage of steel, the once-dead issue of the SU assessment has been thoroughly reincarnated. The SU assessment has not been brought back to life in its true picture, however. The SU assessment which now stalks the Penn State campus is portrayed as a bloodsucking vulture, hushed up until the last moment, and then forced upon the pocketbooks of an unwilling student body by an All-College Cabinet which was the tool of a few willful people.

I. History

When cabinet approved the plans for the Student Union and the present assessment in 1950, the action was the culmination of a 13-year campaign to get a much-needed SU building for Penn State. In 1939 89 per cent of 800 students polled in favor of an SU, with 84 per cent indicating a willingness to pay a fee. In March, 1946, Daily Collegian Managing Editor Larry Foster led a drive which netted 2700 signatures on a petition calling for a \$5 increase in College fees in order to finance the SU.

In May, 1946, Foster and Wesley Turk, another student, appeared before a Joint Trustee-Alumni committee on a special building campaign, and the following month this committee reported and recommended four things to the College Board of Trustees, including a \$5 per semester student fee. The board accepted the report and asked the committee to "continue to study the problem further," although the fee was not accepted.

In April, 1947, the student body voted ten to one in favor of a Student Union over a field house and favored a \$5 per semester fee beginning with the fall semester, 1947.

President Ralph D. Hetzel presented a letter to the trustees in May, 1947, from All-College President Robert Foote, urging the SU and citing the student vote for a fee. This was the second time the students had asked for a fee.

When cabinet approved the fee in May, 1950, it was the third time the students had made such a request.

Was this "railroading"?

Safety Valve—

Student Union Fee Was a Most Infamous Deed

TO THE EDITOR: In your Student Union editorial . . . you have recalled and supported one of the most infamous deeds ever perpetrated by All-College Cabinet here—one of the worst farces ever performed on student government at Penn State!

Student representation received a hollow mockery on that night in May, 1950, when some 20 student "representatives" decided that their constituents would pay \$7.50 a semester for an indefinite period to construct an edifice, the facts about which were still vague in their minds.

The student body was never consulted on this! 1. Cabinet knew students are reluctant to contribute money for any cause; 2. The proposal had to be railroaded through in a hurry in time to go to a meeting of the College trustees with a false stamp of student approval.

And you dare say, "It should be noted that it was the students themselves, through All-College Cabinet, who asked for the fee."

There were a few honest people on that cabinet. Several abstained from voting because they admitted they could not vote honestly on the assessment because they had no idea of how their constituents felt.

Then and today and tomorrow the SU assessment would undoubtedly lose in a student referendum. A very good reason for SU backers to avoid such action.

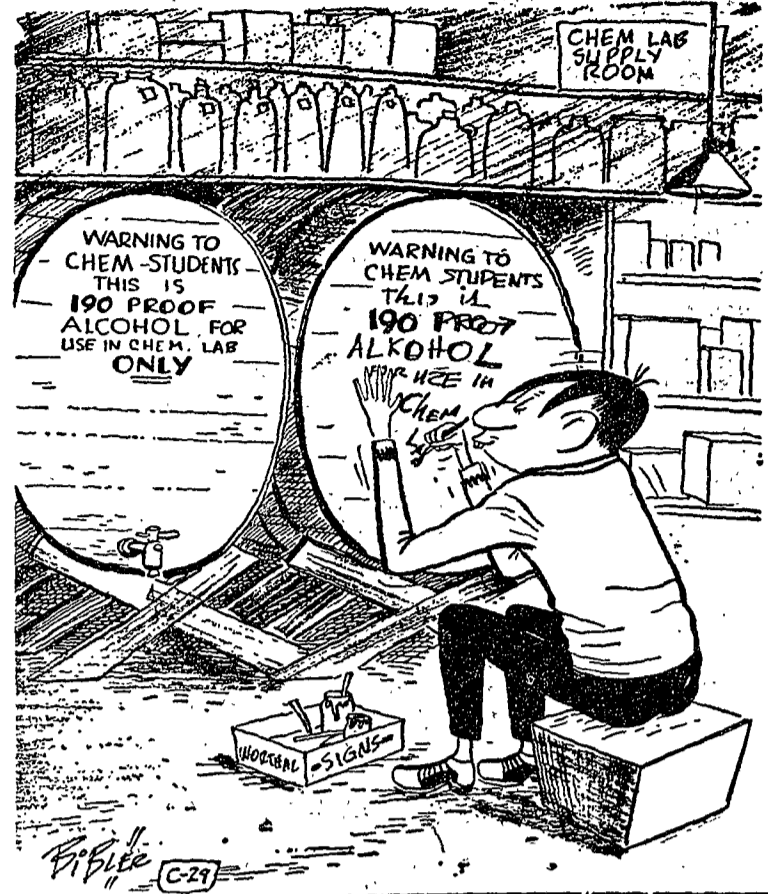
Yet a good many Penn Staters, myself included, would have been willing to be assessed for a building we would never utilize if we could at least have had the democratic and idealistic privilege of approving our own donation.

I would have voted in favor of the assessment, and many others would be willing to contribute if they had just been consulted in some way first. Now the whole deal leaves a sour taste in our mouths.

John Dalbor,
Collegian Managing Editor, 1950-51

Little Man On Campus

By Bibler



Fundamental Issues

By LEN KOLASINSKI

We owe our existence today, in part, to the old theory of the balance of power. Most political scientists the world over espouse this principle as the only means available in our times of carrying on international relations. That kind of thinking, therefore, helps perpetuate an insidious and dangerous means of diplomacy.

Thirty-seven years ago the balance of power proponents created the machinery which when set into operation resulted in World War I. During the latter part of the 1930's the same method introduced the Axis powers to the scene. Previous to the birth of the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo coalition the victorious allies hamstrung Germany with the Versailles treaty. She had one recourse and that was to overcome the stigma of being a second rate power, creating the cycle to the balance.

While it is true that economic factors also played a part in Hitler's rise to power and the League of Nations did fail to serve as an effective arbiter of international disputes, the Axis as such was the product of balance of power thinking. As usual, when one side of the scales decided it outweighed the other, then that heavy side wanted to crush the other. Today the world is balanced

again—precariously so to say the least. And the old school is holding firmly to the principle that can start another great war. Military alliances with such new imposing names as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization are as fashionable now as they were in 1914 and again in 1930. Newer, deadlier weapons are replacing the older deadly weapons. The machinery is being re-erected.

True, the West cannot throw down its arms and invite Russian invasion, but the West should heed the words of two leaders of former Axis countries who call for a federation of Europe now. While the federation is, at this time, strictly for defense of the West and a part of acquiring more weight to the West's side of the scales, it does have future value if real peace does come.

Premier Alcide de Gasperi of Italy said recently his country

(Continued on page five)

Gazette . . .

Wednesday, December 12

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURE ENGINEERS. Dr. Lyman E. Jackson speaker. 105 Agricultural Engineering, 7 p.m.

COFFEE HOUR, cabinet and dean of men. 109 Old Main, 4 p.m.

FENCING CLUB, Beaver Field Water Tower 7:30 p.m.

PETROLEUM ENGINEERING SOCIETY movies, 203 Willard Hall, 7 p.m.

RELIGION IN-LIFE WEEK general committee, 209 Willard Hall, 7:30 p.m.

WRA BOWLING, White Hall alleys, 7 p.m.

WRA DANCE, White Hall rhythm room, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Gloria D'Antonio, Karen Gold, Michael Goldstein, Louis Gomlick, Elaine Gottlieb, Ronald Heisman, Nancy Misner, Thomas Mulligan, Conrad Nagel, Aviva Sare, Cornelius Smith, Norma Waters.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Equitable Life Assurance Society of the U.S. will interview January graduates in C&F Thursday, Dec. 13. Haller, Raymond and Brown, Inc. will interview graduates at all levels in E.E., Phys., and Math Monday, Dec. 17. Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. have opportunities in sales leading to retail management or wholesale sales. Further information may be obtained in 112 Old Main.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

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 6 p.m.

Gifts

For
"The" Girl



Lovely Gift Blouses —
Tailored or fussy. White
and colors. 1.98 to 7.95



Wonderful Sweaters of
Wool or Nylon — Asst.
colors and styles 2.98 to
7.95



Costume Jewelry —
Necklaces, Pins,
Bracelets 1.00 to 4.95

Danks & Co

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Cathouse

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CYD CHARISSE
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RENEGADE"**

State

BARBARA HALE
RICHARD GREENE
"LORNA DOONE"

Nittany

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JOHN ERICSON
"TERESA"

Make this a
NYLON CHRISTMAS

Give something lovely
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Slips and Petticoats

Tailored and lace trimmed. Black,
white, tealose and blue. Slips in
sizes 32-50, \$4.95 - \$8.95
Petticoats \$5.95 - \$6.95

Nightgowns

All colors. Lace trimmed and
tailored. Sizes 32-40. \$8.95-\$10.95
Gift wrappings—a specialty. Can
be wrapped for mailing. Open
every night except Wednesday.



Clearfields

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