

The Daily Collegian

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Legion Showdown Long Overdue

The six-month long charges of communist and subversive activities at Penn State have come to a long overdue head with the disclosure that a special committee of the College Board of Trustees will hear the evidence. Although the establishment of the committee has not been confirmed officially by the College, reliable sources indicated that the committee would be set up in the near future.

Ever since the charges were first made against the College by the 23d district of the Legion July 22, the Legion has been challenged to present the evidence. The challenge has been "Put up or shut up."

The charges by the Legion have from the start been marked by double-talk and misrepresentation. And even in finally agreeing to take its "evidence" to the College for investigation, the Legion has engaged in the same double-talk.

When the charges made against the College July 22 were repeated December 2, the Daily Collegian inquired whether the Legion had ever submitted any of its evidence to the College.

Reported the Daily Collegian of December 4, "Renewed charges of 'un-American activities at the Pennsylvania State College' were accompanied by an admission by an American Legion official yesterday that the Legion had never submitted any evidence to the College."

The Legion official credited with that statement was Paul W. Beardslee, 23d district commander.

This is the same Paul W. Beardslee who Thursday night stated that attempts had been made to present evidence of communist and subversive activities at Penn State to proper College authorities. Efforts to get this evidence to the College was "blocked" Beardslee said.

The fact is that the Legion had never made any attempt to get the facts before the proper College authorities.

In a reply to the Legion's original charges, President Milton S. Eisenhower said, "If evidence were presented to me in good faith, I would make an immediate investigation and would recommend to the trustees whatever action seemed appropriate in light of the facts."

At that time the President pointed out that one case had been brought to his attention, that the matter had been thoroughly investigated, and that the loyalty of the faculty member had been established beyond any doubt.

The President acted in good faith in this instance and the Legion had no reason to doubt that he would do the same again. But the Legion never presented its evidence to the President.

The conduct of the American Legion throughout the entire controversy leaves us to doubt the sincerity and honesty of the charges.

We feel certain that this showdown will prove the Legion's charges to be irresponsible and reckless.

Instructor Listings

Thursday's recommendation to the College Council of Administration by cabinet for the listing of all instructors before the pre-registration date seems almost a foolproof system.

There appears to be no reason for the violation of this system by any school or department if it is accepted by the council.

The recommendation asks all schools to list their instructors if at all possible, but it also presents a plan for the listing of instructors not made known in time for publication in the time tables. Those sections would be given a symbol and instructors would later be posted under those symbols on the school's bulletin board before preregistration.

By this system students could still choose their instructors even though they were not listed in the time table.

This system might also pay dividends for the administration. Working on the assumption that students choose the best instructors, the administration would have a kind of "measuring stick" to the relative value of the College's instructors, at least from the student viewpoint.

Past systems of measuring instructor's ability have proved unsatisfactory, but here is a system that could work. Why not give it a try?

—Andy McNeillie

Decision Making Is Cabinet Function

(Ed. Note: This is the fourth in a series of five editorials designed to present the background and clarify the issues on a subject which has been the issue 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.)

IV. Referendum

Some contend that the \$7.50 Student Union assessment should have been put to a student referendum. The facts are that it already had been as we have indicated in previous editorials, and that another referendum would have been impossible to conduct in time for the next meeting of the trustees. And, it should be added, student leaders who presented the assessment to cabinet did not plan to present it at such a time as to make it impossible to hold a referendum.

In the words of Thomas Morgan, Daily Collegian editor 1949-50, and a student member of the College SU committee, "It was impossible for cabinet to be approached on the fee at any earlier time, simply because construction and financing plans were not finished by Mr. Hostetter's office (Ed. Note—College comptroller) and the College architects until two weeks before the cabinet meeting MacCallum (Ed. Note—All-College secretary treasurer, 1949-50) broached the subject to cabinet; and the final plans of facilities and methods of financing were not approved by the College's student union committee until ten days before the cabinet meeting. No cabinet meeting took place in the interim . . ."

We have never had any reason to doubt Tom Morgan's honesty and shall maintain that faith until such a time when we can be shown otherwise.

We further doubt the validity of the claim that a student referendum should be held to determine student opinion on every important issue which comes before All-College Cabinet. If there is to be a student referendum on each important issue, why then have student government?

It is the function of student government, through its leaders, to make these decisions. Penn State is either going to have responsible student government or no student government at all.

Safety Valve—

Charges Collegian 'Has Taken A Nasty Swipe at AIM'

TO THE EDITOR: The Collegian editor has taken a nasty swipe at AIM, the largest student organization at the school. He states that AIM has had a superfluity of investigations. We are not going to argue that point. However, he points out specific investigations which were useless, even detrimental.

It ain't so. Why the investigation of BX ring sales? The Collegian says the charter restricts sales in the BX to certain items. But Mr. D. of the Collegian says "The BX can sell anything it wants to." An investigation was legitimate even if to find out who was right.

Why the investigation of the SU building? The Collegian says that the building is being held up by the shortage of steel. Mr. L., high up on student government, says that the hold up is because of a controversy over architecture. Once again, who is right? AIM felt an investigation was in order.

There is a third investigation of interest. Last year many of the independents were asking for Collegian editors' heads because of inadequate distribution. AIM came out with a committee report fully backing Collegian policy.

It seems to us that AIM should be praised rather than ridiculed for taking particular interest in these matters. What would Collegian have the student government organizations do? Maybe they should hold their regular meetings, read the minutes, and then sit back and let the benevolent protectors on All-College Cabinet watch over them.

Finally, it might be said that there are a great number of unnecessary editorials written. But, of course, if editorials come less frequently, editors must necessarily become more scarce.

—Paul Zanoni,
William Brown,
Frank Reese

Gazette . . .

Sunday, December 16

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, two performances, St. Andrews' Episcopal Church, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.

RADIO DAY PERSONNEL, 305 Sparks, 4 p.m.

Monday, December 17

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION, business meeting, Old Main lounge, 7:30 p.m.
INTERCOLLEGIATE CONFERENCE ON GOVERNMENT, Home Economics living center, 7 p.m.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

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.
Man for work on farm on edge of town; 4 to 6 every day.
Woman for housework five days per week from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Little Man On Campus By Bibler



"Professor Snarf says that I stole this sentence for my theme but HE used it in the text HE wrote and called it a reference."

160 Needy Children To Be Entertained

About 160 children of needy families will be entertained this year at seven Christmas parties, Agnes McElwee, coordinator of the Christmas project and president of the State College Welfare Fund, said yesterday.

Six other campus groups have cooperated with family projects and 40 families received food baskets from various fraternities.

Kappa Delta Rho, Tau Kappa Epsilon and Delta Gamma, Beta Theta Pi and Alpha Omicron Pi, Chi Omega and Delta Tau Delta, and Sigma Chi will hold parties today.

Started This Year

Delta Zeta and Pi Kappa Alpha will entertain 20 five to seven-year-old children tomorrow.

A fraternity cooperating with the family project first finds out what the family needs and wants. Then after taking a food basket to the family tomorrow, it will bring the children back to the house for dinner and give them presents that they need. One family will receive furniture, a mattress, food, and clothing.

The family projects were inaugurated this year because there were not enough children to attend all of the planned parties.

General Party

Since many children attended more than one party this year, Miss McElwee suggested that there be one general party in Recreation Hall next year for all the children. The party would cost little as students could provide the entertainment. The money thus saved could be used for more family projects, she added.

Miss McElwee said the Welfare fund appreciated the cooperation of all campus groups which participated in this year's Christmas project.

Davis Presides At Convention

Dr. Arthur F. Davis, professor of physical education, was moderator at the health education section of the 30th annual convention for health, physical education, and recreation held in Philadelphia from Thursday until today.

Dr. Arthur L. Harnett, professor of physical education, was summarizer for this section of the convention.

In a general session meeting of the convention yesterday afternoon, Dr. Lloyd M. Jones, professor of physical education, reported on the national conference on mobilization of health, physical education and recreation.

Prof. Fred M. Coombs, of the physical education school, received an honor award for achievement in recreation at the banquet held last night.

High School Talks Delayed Over Holidays

Students from the College will not speak in high schools during the Christmas season, it was decided by the All-College Enrollment committee at a meeting early this week, because the holiday season is too "hectic" a time for both the high schools and the College.

The purpose of these student speeches is to acquaint graduating high school seniors with the advantages of a Penn State education, Edward Shanken, co-chairman of the committee said. Students rather than the administration are sent because the high school students will question them more freely on various aspects of college life, Shanken said.

Fraternities, sororities, independents, and all other groups at the College will be split up into sections. Each section will have a chairman who will contact students interested in speaking at various high schools.

Those interested in working on the committee and speaking at schools may come to a meeting to be announced in the Daily Collegian after Christmas vacation.

The committee also discussed plans and organization for the rest of the school year.

Dinner, Pageant Set For Canterbury Club

The Canterbury club will have a dinner at 5:30 p.m. tomorrow at the St. Andrew's Parish House. Following the dinner the group will present "The Christmas Pageant."

A Christmas supper has also been planned by the United Student Fellowship of the Faith Reformed Church. The dinner will take place at 5:30 p.m. tomorrow after the singing of Christmas carols. A Christmas play titled "The Blessed Vagrants" will be given after the dinner.

"Great talkers are like leaky vessels; everything runs out of them."—Simmons