

# The Daily Collegian

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## Guilty on No Proof; Can This Be Right?

During the last week in August the press of the state carried a report of the firing of Wendell S. MacRae, production manager of public information at the College, after the College's Loyalty Review Board refused to certify him "not subversive."

Thus appears in this first test what opponents of the much talked about Pechan Loyalty Act charged would happen: an innocent man is made to suffer for a ridiculous law passed by a legislature influenced by fear—the need to do something, but not knowing just what to do.

MacRae, a 52-year-old Marine veteran of World War I, is not believed subversive by anyone. His immediate superior vouches for him; no one on the review board which heard his case charged he was subversive. Yet the board refused to certify him "not subversive" because MacRae would not, himself, sign a form pledge of his loyalty.

Instead of signing the College's questionnaire, MacRae asked for a hearing before a review board on the assumption that such a hearing was an alternative method of ascertaining the loyalty of a college employee and that the board could, on receiving other evidence of loyalty, certify the loyalty of that person without requiring that he answer the College loyalty questionnaire or take a loyalty oath.

This was the impression of many on the faculty last May when the procedures were announced, and it also was the understanding of the Faculty Advisory Council when the question was raised Aug. 6.

In the original procedures approved by the Faculty Advisory Council May 7, it was provided that the Loyalty Review Board must decide "that a fair preponderance of the evidence shows the uncertified individual to be a subversive" before that person may be dismissed.

The Review board in its decision in the MacRae case declared "that it lacked evidence essential to certify that MacRae was not subversive."

The latter wording resulted from a change announced Aug. 1 by President Milton S. Eisenhower. At that time he announced that "the phrasing" on the rules had been altered "to restate the possible findings" of the board. Nobody realized the significance of the change then, and no protests were filed to it.

For "other evidence" MacRae introduced the reaffirmed oath he took when he entered the Marines, "a sworn statement giving evidence of loyalty to my country that goes far beyond the unsworn statement the College has obtained from other employees," to quote MacRae's published statement.

Under the Pechan Act heads of colleges and universities receiving state aid are required to certify to the loyalty of their employees. MacRae appealed the board's decision to President Eisenhower, but the President was powerless to overrule the very system he had established at a time when his certification of loyalty was due in Harrisburg.

Friends of Wendell MacRae have rallied around him, seeing full well that an injustice has been done. The committee of five faculty members representing the citizen's group has as yet received no assurance, however, that the case will be reopened.

The point of fact, however, is that MacRae was fired because the review board, representing the College, could not or would not certify him as "not subversive." There has been no evidence presented to show that he has or has had any subversive tendencies.

It all boils down to this: MacRae and his supporters are protesting that the rules were changed during the conduct of the loyalty procedures with the result that the burden of proof was lifted from the board and placed upon the defendant.

It is a bit ironical that Sen. A. R. Pechan (R-Armstrong), author of the Loyalty Act, should comment as part of a 12-page statement about the MacRae case: "In America and in my book a person is innocent unless proven guilty."

—Jim Gromiller

## Sound Ideas Result Of Encampment

The first annual Penn State student encampment was a great success. Ask any person who attended the three-day conference at Mont Alto and he'll tell you the same thing. Not only did everyone have a good time, but a great deal of constructive work was done.

Part of this work was in the form of the resolutions which will soon be presented to All-College Cabinet. These recommendations are currently being printed in the Daily Collegian in a series of articles. A great deal of intensive study was put into the forming of these resolutions, and while all of them may not meet with cabinet approval, we believe that the majority of them will be in effect before next year's encampment group meets.

But there is still another function which the encampment had besides the fun and the forming of resolutions. This was the job of improving relations between the staff, faculty, and students. To any students who may have doubted it, the encampment proved that the faculty and members of the administration are really human, too. You can't help but realize this when you are with these people constantly for three days.

Some of the resolutions passed by the group have already been put into effect. It was largely through the efforts of the Book Exchange committee, for instance, that the current expansion of the Used Book Agency in the TUB was arranged. A student-faculty relations committee recommendation that faculty and staff members invite students into their homes has also proved fruitful. H. K. Wilson, dean of men, and his wife have invited members of All-College Cabinet to their home on Sunday afternoon.

The idea of the student encampment came to the College from Kansas State with President Milton S. Eisenhower. According to a Time magazine article the student encampments began at Kansas when students, mostly veterans, presented the Prexy with a list of "gripes." President Eisenhower was impressed by the list and called in members of the faculty to hear some of the complaints. From this meeting came the 1952 version—during which 125 students gathered with 40 professors for three days of talk.

According to the Time article, 100 different topics were discussed—from the time coeds should be in at nights to ways of bettering the foreign student program. These topics finally were whittled down to 30 recommendations which have been handed to Kansas State's President, James A. McCain.

In the past, the encampments at Kansas State have been responsible for such changes as turning the bi-weekly student newspaper into a daily and placing sidewalks around the campus. In seven years 80 per cent of the encampment recommendations have been adopted.

Perhaps so large a percentage of the recommendations coming from Penn State's encampment will not be put into effect. Though all the suggestions were presented sincerely, many of them may not be practical. However, we can rest assured that All-College Cabinet and President Eisenhower will devote careful attention to all the resolutions presented.

There is little doubt in the minds of those who attended the first encampment that the affair will become a regular part of the Penn State traditions. We suggest now, therefore, that those who receive invitations next year take advantage of the wonderful opportunity to further the interest of the student body as well as the College as a whole.

## Safety Valve—

### The Old College Spirit

TO THE EDITOR: Well here we are, an army of students, new students that is. We're the new freshmen.

All this past Orientation Week we have been walking and waiting in lines, waiting in lines and again walking.

A few of the old upperclassmen even smile to themselves as they see us shooting by. But do we mind this hustle and bustle of our new college life? No, not a bit. In fact, this new experience in our life is actually fun. We're enjoying it. Oh well, once in awhile we do curse under our breath when things aren't going right.

Our rooms are as good as can be expected and the food can't be argued with. The instruction we've gotten in the meetings the past week will help us along the road in weeks to come.

Come on, upperclassmen, have your fun on us. It was given to you, so give it back to us. We can take it. We're not sissies. We're grown-up freshmen. We'll do what you say for we're not ones to break customs that have lived down through the years.

●Letter cut

## Gazette...

Wednesday, September 17

FROTH, circulation staff, 1 Carnegie, 6:30 p.m.  
GRANGE officers, 100 Hort, 7:30 p.m.  
LAKONIDES, WRA Lounge, White Hall, 6:30 p.m.

PENN STATE RIDING CLUB, 317 Willard, 7 p.m.

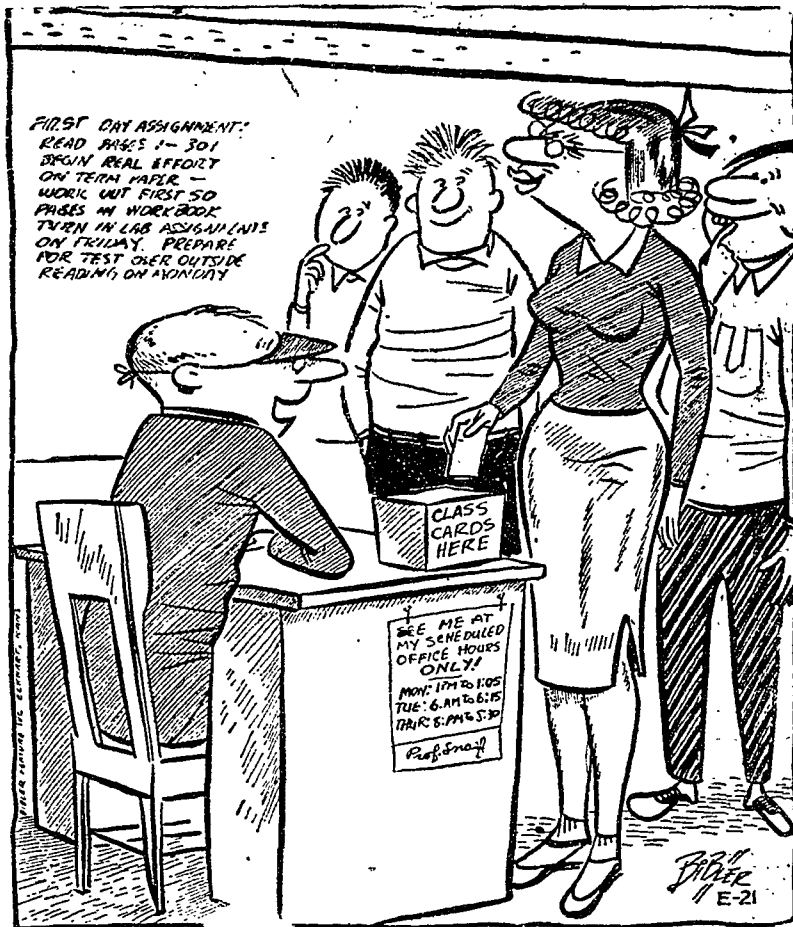
THETA SIGMA PHI, Grange Playroom, 8 p.m.

TREBLE SINGERS, 10 Sparks, 7 p.m.

WSGA SENATE, WSGA room, White Hall, 6:30 p.m.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Nice to have you in one of my classes again Miss—ah, Miss—I can't remember your name, but I never forget a beautiful face."

### Interpreting the News

## Russia, China Pull Save-Face Deal

By J. M. ROBERTS Jr.

The Russians and the Chinese Communists seem to have worked out about the best face-saving arrangement they could for abrogating their 1950 agreement to return Manchuria to China.

The Russians say they are returning the Changchung Railway, which connects Port Arthur and Vladivostok with Russia. But they are continuing their occupation of

Port Arthur by Chinese "request," and you can bet your bottom dollar the railroad—and all Manchuria along with it—is going to be run as the Russians say.

The excuse for a brogating the treaty is that Japan is now in position for new aggression. The words must have been wormwood in the mouths of the Chinese Reds, who specified in 1950 that Manchuria would be returned to the Chinese sovereignty because China under the new regime was now able to defend it.

Now Russian withdrawal is made dependent upon a peace treaty with Japan. Not because Japan is a major force in present circumstances, but because the original treaty was worded that way.

What everyone will be wanting to know now is what else was agreed upon at Moscow, the announced portions having caused no surprise.

On the face of it, China gets nothing but a setback in her hopes for reinclusion of Manchuria. Nearly always there is at least a bunch of words about the economic help Russia is going to give her allies. That may come later, but so far the silence on this point is striking, since the Chinese delegation to Moscow included several economic experts, and she was generally adjudged to be in need. There were discussions, that's all we know.

It is natural that anything about continued or extended military aid should have been excluded from the public announcement.

The situation in Korea is, of course, the hub around which all Russo-Chinese relations revolve at this time. If there is any shift in policy there, it is more likely to be revealed through actions in the truce negotiations or on the battle front than through public announcement.

We learn nothing new, either, about the new "peace offensive" which the Russians obviously are preparing for this fall. There's to

be a big peace congress in Peiping about which you can bet the Chinese Reds were well-coached.

In this connection, it is interesting to speculate about the presence in Moscow during the Chinese-Russian talks of the Mongolian Premier. Mongolia was the first part of China to be snipped off by the Russians, who began their infiltration there soon after World War I and consolidated it during World War II. Russia may be working out an Asiatic United Nations of her own, a "peace front" including Mongolia, North Korea, Red China and Tibet, with which to make propaganda hay.

But Manchuria remains under the Russian thumb, just as everybody knew it would. The next thing you hear about her operations there may be some sort of Asiatic version of the "50-50" corporations by which she took virtual ownership of the industries in her European satellites.

## Mackey Speaks To Radio Guild

David R. Mackey, assistant professor of speech, spoke last night to a meeting of approximately 50 Radio Guild members and new candidates, explaining the past and the possible future of a campus radio station.

Listing briefly the complete history of the proposed station, Mackey traced the work of a joint student, faculty, and administrative committee in studying the possibility of setting up such a station.

Mackey said that an application for a license for the proposed station has been filled out and will be acted on soon. A record library with a nearly complete set of sound effects has been obtained and work is now progressing on a sound wagon for studio use, he added.

Patricia Hathaway, president of the guild, announced plans for personal candidate interviews at 7 p.m. Monday and 8 p.m. Tuesday and also a general candidate's meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday.