

# The Daily Collegian

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## Drinking 'Problem' Now Seems Settled

Fears that a crackdown to enforce to the letter the College no-drinking regulations have now apparently dissipated, but not before violent student protest arose over the matter.

Original reports came to light after details of a discussion of the drinking situation leaked out of last Monday night's meeting of the Association of Fraternity Counselors.

A suggestion that counselors advise their houses of College and State laws concerning drinking, and that the College should then enforce those regulations, apparently led to the fear of a crackdown.

We cannot be certain if a crackdown was in the minds of College officials before the report of the meeting came to light, but as best we can learn now, the College plans no change "in the foreseeable future" in the enforcement of the drinking regulations now in effect.

At present responsibility lies with the Interfraternity Council checkers to call a house to task for violations. The College, although apparently not entirely satisfied with the checker system of IFC, can offer no better plan which would be effective.

Violations under the present setup are punished by IFC, yet the College Senate committee on student affairs retains power to review the punishment if it feels it too light.

Dean of Men Frank Simes has indicated that he feels checking either by himself or by persons employed by his office would only lead to intricate buzzer warning signals and locked doors, similar to prohibition days.

And Dean Simes further has emphasized that he plans no change in the present checking mechanism.

He does point out that if a fraternity is reported by IFC, by chaperones, by neighbors, or by students either returning to the dormitories in a drunken condition or apprehended by police, investigations will be carried forth, and if the fraternity was violating regulations, then probationary penalties will result.

Chaperones are requested to report on the parties which they attend with regard to drinking and rowdiness. Dean Simes has emphasized that it is his office's duty to make known to chaperones and to fraternity counselors, the College regulations regarding drinking. However, although drinking does go on at social functions, there appears to be no way of forcing chaperones to report it, unless in their own minds they have felt the conduct out of place.

Though AFC may feel that drinking is a problem at Penn State, it must agree that there has been a notable decline in the severity of the "problem" over the last three or four years.

Though College regulations forbid drinking, the fact is that no better method of controlling the situation than is now in use can be put into effect without merely driving drinking underground.

We think it needless to argue the damaging effects which would result if it were forced underground.

From the College viewpoint then, the solution is in a system of education—education of chaperones, education of counselors, and education of students themselves—a plan which if able to end drinking at all, certainly cannot do it over night.

—Jim Gromiller

## Anti-Discrimination

With the announcement that Pennsylvania's National Guard and State Police will both accept Negroes as members of their units, another step has been taken toward the betterment of race relations. The new anti-discrimination policy will undoubtedly be far reaching in its effect.

In the National Guard, Negroes have in the past been segregated in special units. These units will now be broken up and the men transferred to other outfits.

Experience in war has shown that a policy of no discrimination works extremely well in most cases. It is with this view in mind that the new policy has been brought into play.

There may be some trouble at first. But with patience and tolerance the plan will be successful, and another barrier in the obstacle course of the brotherhood of men will have been hurdled.

## Open Colgate Game To Townspeople

A few weeks ago, All-College Cabinet turned down a plan which would permit the selling of 300 seats in Recreation Hall to faculty, graduate students, and townspeople. The decision was not taken hastily, but rather after much debate both on the floor of cabinet and at the meetings of the various organizations represented on cabinet.

At the first two basketball games of the season, Rec Hall was pretty well filled. With the exception of the temporary bleachers behind the basket at the west end of the floor, almost all the seats were taken.

This Friday, however, the Lions meet Colgate in a home contest. While the Christmas vacation doesn't start officially until noon Saturday, most students will already have left for home by game time Friday night.

The Colgate game should be the best of the home games to date, and since few students will be around to see it, it might be a good idea to allow tickets to be sold to faculty and townspeople for the game. There are several advantages to the plan.

One of the main points to consider is the effect of a partially filled hall on the team. For morale purposes alone, the selling of tickets would be a good idea. Also, while the money taken in would probably not amount to much, it would, of course, help.

In addition, everyone realizes that the basic idea of Dean McCoy's seating plan was good. The reasons for not passing it need not be repeated again. However, with plenty of empty seats assured Friday night, the faculty that will still be around and those townspeople who are interested should be given the opportunity to see the game rather than let the seats go vacant.

There may be some obstacles to the plan, but at least the possibility should be considered. We believe that Dean McCoy, if the suggestion meets his approval, can act with the support of the students in this case.

## When Will We Get Hospital Addition?

A new Student Union Building is finally nearing realization, with construction scheduled to start soon—probably early next month. At the same time, the College will appropriate money from unexpended building funds for the construction of an east wing to the Nittany Lion Inn.

The SU project, one sorely needed on campus, will cost about \$2,867,000. Some of this money will come from the \$7.50 fee students have been paying for two years. And that fee will be increased next fall to further aid in financing the construction and maintenance of the new structure.

But, what about the Inn project? Is that where the College can best utilize "unexpended building funds?" True, the number of guest rooms will be doubled, and additional eating and meeting space will be provided. But, it seems that the College could do something more for the students and their needs with the \$1,072,000 it is going to spend on construction in addition to the Inn.

The one project that could be undertaken, one that has been needed since the enrollment has skyrocketed, is an addition to the College Hospital. In the past and just recently students have been forced to remain in the dormitories simply because there was no room left in the Infirmary.

Jokes have been made stating that a student must at least run a temperature of 102 before being admitted to the Infirmary. And, if the Infirmary is full at that time, he still can't get in. Two years ago women students had to stay in dorms with the measles, simply because the Infirmary was full. Last year, the same occurred with mumps and measles.

Most recently, Simmons Hall coeds received student nursing and care when they had some kind of poisoning—which could not be accurately diagnosed. Many coeds were fainting in the dorms, but they could not earn their way into the infirmary—no SPACE.

President Eisenhower said recently that campus construction is designed to provide adequate facilities for programs now underway. He mentioned that some thought has been given to the possibility of constructing a student hospital.

The Infirmary facilities are by no means adequate when sick persons are compelled to stay in the dormitories, perhaps to contaminate others and create epidemics, which have had their success on the Penn State campus.

We contend that important things come first; that the student hospital should take priority over an addition to the Inn. When, oh when, will that student hospital come? We hope it's soon. The contracts for the Inn project are signed. All we can do is hope that the health of the student body is considered before any other adequate facilities are provided by campus construction.

President Eisenhower will soon go to the state legislature with his tentative budget for the next biennium. We hope it includes appropriations for a student hospital with adequate facilities. We further hope that the legislature will recognize the need for such facilities and will grant the request.

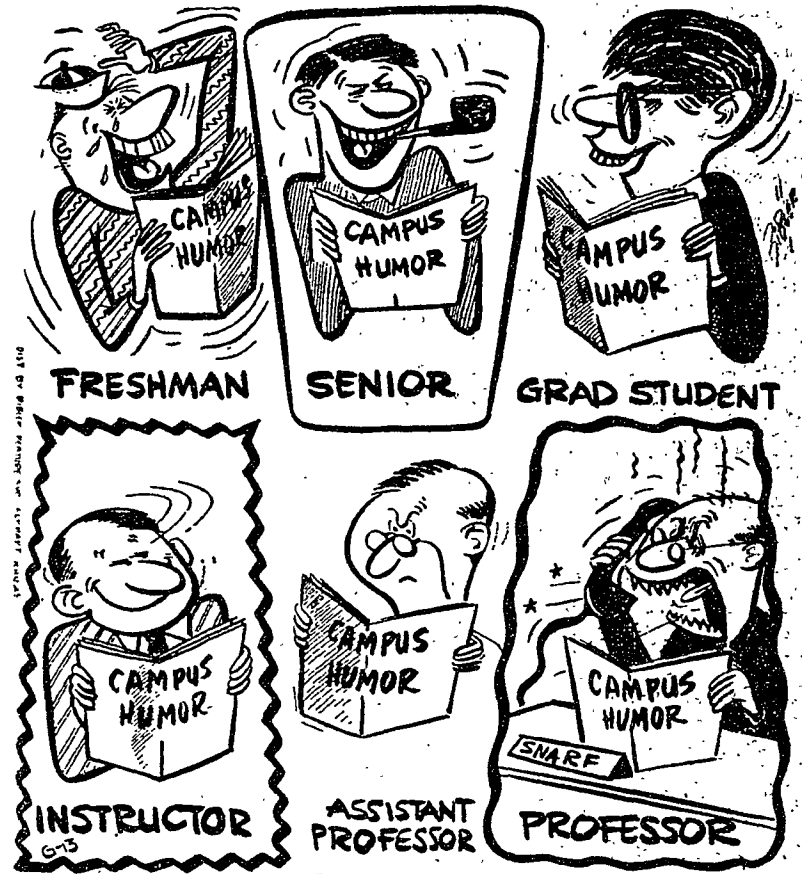
Mimi Ungar

## Gazette...

Tuesday, December 16  
AIEE, IRE, 219 EE, 7:30 p.m.  
FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS OF AMERICA, TUB, lounge, 8 p.m.  
PRE-VET CLUB, A.G.R., 7 p.m.  
TRIBUNAL, 201 Old Main, 7 p.m.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



### WISE AND OTHERWISE

## Let IFC Handle Drinking Controls

By DAVE JONES

Ever since last week's Daily Collegian article citing evidences of a "crackdown" on fraternity drinking, the fraternity drinking problem has been a topic of wide discussion. Administrative officials have said there will be no change in College policy toward the problem. Nevertheless, whether action is to be taken or not, there are interesting points on both sides of the drinking question.

The basic conflict in fraternity drinking is the unfortunate idea that drinking is necessary for a happy and socially successful life. This idea is so much a part of student thinking that elimination of fraternity drinking would, almost surely, ruin social life at Penn State.

The question arising here is whether ruination of social life is preferable to the type of social life now in existence. The ruination of social life at any college is bad for that college and its enrollment unless the social life is far enough out of hand to warrant its ruination as a healthy improvement.

Although Penn State has had its share of bad social conduct, these cases have for the most part been infrequent. It is therefore improbable that the ruination of Penn State social life would be of any benefit to the College.

The College is powerful enough to halt fraternity drinking to a large extent. The College has the legal right to stop fraternity drinking, and perhaps even the moral obligation, if we interpret in the strictest sense.

Eradication of drinking would surely improve Penn State's name throughout the state. But despite the College's power and right to remove drinking, it cannot be completely wiped out. Drinking is bound to continue in fraternities, openly or behind locked doors, and the College cannot legislate away this social condition.

Here the entire drinking problem reaches its climax. If the College stops open fraternity drinking, then drinking will go into hiding and as a result be more serious than ever. If students who want to drink cannot

do so in fraternities, they will find someplace else to drink—be it in bars, on the streets, or in parked cars. There is no solution in sending the students into the streets to drink.

Perhaps the wisest thing to do is to allow Interfraternity Council to place controls on fraternity drinking and see to it those controls are enforced. The IFC has failed in this duty in the past by neglecting to clamp penalties on violators when necessary. This laxity has been demonstrated in a recent case, where students returned to their dormitory intoxicated and IFC failed to recommend a penalty for the offending fraternity. Too many similar actions by IFC are bound to make the administration feel the need to enforce the controls itself. Result: student enforcement goes out the window!

Moderation, most people realize, is desirable in any area. Moderation in drinking exists for a good part at Penn State. Those fraternities that cannot moderate themselves should be penalized.

Complete elimination of drinking, or complete indifference to it by the administration, is not the answer to the problem. Moderation is the answer, and students must moderate themselves as intelligent human beings. If students cannot control themselves intelligently in this area, they cannot be successful in controlling any phase of their lives. Such lack of self-control is perhaps the most deadly disease that can attack anyone.

## Military Honorary Initiates 21 Men

Scabbard and Blade, national military honor society, has initiated 21 men.

Those initiated were Henry Arnold, Robert Brickner, Charles Garson, Richard Humes, John Ream, and Richard Schmidt, Army; Philip Carothers, Robert Carr, Harold DuBois, Louis Ivey, and Joseph Musial, Navy.

David DeFerie, David Fishburn, James Greenwood, William Johnson, Charles Leisher, Mark Loewner, David Lucas, Horace Ray, John Sarikianos, and Glenn Stumpff, Air Force.

## Gazette...

COLLEGE HOSPITAL  
Sybil Brieger, Jesselyn Clark, Barbara Felt, Joan Flinn, Marcia Goldberg, Alyce Grunberg, Donald Lane, John Leshko, Eleanor McKenzie, Margery Phillips, John Rentschler, James Wilson.  
STUDENT EMPLOYMENT  
Permanent part-time job in multilithing operation.  
Woman to do housework mornings, five days a week.  
Boys to work for meals.  
Grad student for library work in evening from 5 to 7.  
Living Quarters and meals for couple without children in exchange for work.  
Boy to work evenings in local restaurant.