

# The Daily Collegian

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## Safety Valve—

### Author Defends Stand

Readers who wrote into the paper yesterday have made the assertion that my editorial was an attack on the Christian Faith. It was not. It was inspired by a comment often made by people defending their faith. It runs like this: "There is nothing wrong with Christianity—it is the humans in it."

The editorial was an intended blast at those people referred to in the comment. They do just what was said: worship the Golden Rule and the Ten Commandments and the Faith. Worship in the form of lip service. But as far as responsible thinking concerning these things, they have not caught on to the teachings of Christ.

I was asking that men search their souls and take on some of the responsibility that is being dumped on God's doorstep.

This being Lent, I thought that it might do a little good to set students thinking about their faith. If I have done this, I am glad.

When I mentioned the "dubious trappings of faith," I was remarking about the greatest of all religious evil: self-righteousness, dogmatism, and narrowmindedness.

In regard to churches making little headway in human decency, I was pointing at atrocities like those committed in every Christian nation since one A.D. Man, morally has not improved too much and I still think so.

—Robert Landis

### Fallacies Pointed Out

TO THE EDITOR: In regard to the recent editorial "More Responsible Thinking Is Needed" by Robert Landis, I would like to present the argument of the Christian faith as I have learned it.

First, to point out some obvious errors in Mr. Landis' remarks, the Christian does not worship the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule. These are teachings that are believed in, not worshiped. We worship but one God. The second obvious fallacy is the statement that "Christianity has not caught on." Christianity started with one man, and has spread, in spite of persecutions and misinterpretations so that it is now the major religion of the world.

Now to Mr. Landis' argument that Christianity has not improved the world. That is a hard thing to judge, but if Mr. Landis will read his Bible he will find that Christ does not promise that the world will ever be a perfect place in which to live, nor even a better world than the one he lived in as a man. But he does present by his life and teachings a way of living for the individual that will work in this world as it is. In other words, he came to show men how God would have us live on this earth.

It is my viewpoint that man has been trying to better himself by responsible thinking since history began and that this is what makes the world as it is, not the activities of Christians.

•Letter Cut

—Roger Mauchline

## Gazette...

March 7, 1953

NITTANY BOWMEN ARCHERY CLUB, 7 p.m., 203 Eng. B.

STATE PARTY, 2 p.m., Pi Kappa Alpha, March 8.

TENNIS ASSISTANT MANAGERSHIP CANDIDATES, contact Burt Triester, 1:15 p.m., Rec Hall.

WRA SWIMMING PLUNGE HOURS, 7:30-9 p.m.

### COLLEGE PLACEMENT

Complete lists of visiting representatives are available at the College Placement Office in 212 Old Main. Interviews can be arranged and information secured at the office.

Metropolitan Edison Company will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in M.E. and E.E., March 13.

National Advisory Committee of Aeronautics will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in Mathematics, Chemistry, Metallurgy, Physics, Chem. E., E.E., M.E., Aero. E., C.C. and Arch. E., March 13.

Hamilton Watch Company will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in M.E. and E.E., Physics and Metallurgy, March 13.

Goodyear Aircraft Corporation will interview June and summer B.S. and M.S. candidates in Aero. E., E.E., C.E., I.E., and Physics, March 12 and 13.

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company will interview June and summer B.S. and M.S. candidates in Chemistry, C.E., I.E., E.E., M.E. and Chem. Eng., March 12 and 13.

Goodyear Atomic Corporation will interview June and summer B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. candidates in Physics, Chemistry, Chem. E., E.E., M.E., I.E. and C.E., March 12 and 13.

Parke-Davis & Company will interview June and summer B.S. and M.S. candidates in Bacteriology, Zoology and

## Safety Valve—

### Landis Upheld

TO THE EDITOR: There is no need to apologize for Mr. Landis' recent editorial criticizing our use of Christian doctrine as a shield for un-Christian action. Mr. Landis merely says that the world's troubles stem, not from a lack of faith, but from an overabundance of blind faith.

Christian doctrine has become more and more ambiguous down through the years, until now we have so many interpretations of what action or actions are Christian, that most any cause can masquerade under the protective wall of Christianity. In South Africa today we have a Christian minister at the head of a government that literally has enslaved the majority of its citizens. Yet, Malan excuses the enslavement of the Negroes in South Africa by pointing to his minority group as "God's chosen people." Would we condone racial supremacy on the grounds that it is Christian doctrine?

Let us look back into history for a moment to further illustrate the apparent misuse of the word Christian. Christian doctrine was the fuse that ignited the 30-years war in Germany, a war that many historians feel has been responsible today for many of Germany's ills, despite the 300 year interval. Can anyone believe that the inquisitions of past ages were expressions of Christianity in action? Was it not true that Germany was a nation that, at least in its church affiliations, was Christian when the German people allowed their rulers to lead them into a campaign of brutality that has scarce been matched anywhere in history?

All that Mr. Landis has tried to point out is that Christianity, no matter how good its intentions were and have been, has shown that it cannot be used effectively as a means for saving the world from any disaster that history may have in store for it.

—Byron Fielding

### Idea Poorly Stated

TO THE EDITOR: Quite a stir has been raised over Bob Landis' editorial dealing with faith and responsible thinking. The whole uproar could have been avoided if Mr. Landis had said what he intended to say, and if people had read the editorial carefully before jumping to ill-founded conclusions.

Whether or not Mr. Landis believes in God and religion is beside the point. This is America, where a person should have not only the right to worship freely in his own religion but also not to have a religion if he sees fit. This right, however, does not give him the privilege of ridiculing the thing most people hold very highly—their religion.

Mr. Landis' main premise was well taken—that man cannot sit back and expect God to get him out of a distressing situation without at least making some attempts on his own to relieve the problem which has been brought about by his own blunders and ignorance. Unfortunately, this premise was hidden by words and phrases which could not help but create antagonism toward his stand. On the other hand, I have little use for people who look only at the words and phrases and totally ignore the main premise.

—Name withheld

### God Not to Blame

TO THE EDITOR: I was astonished to read the editorial entitled "More Responsible Thinking Is Needed." Evidently its author is blaming God for today's troubled world. God is not the cause of it. People like you and me who do not live up to what is expected of us by God are responsible.

According to Mr. Landis, the world should be a much better place in which to live with all the praying that is going on. He goes on to criticize those of us who celebrate Christmas, Easter, and even observe Lent. I wonder if he thinks it is wrong to celebrate these holidays or just the ignorance of the masses of which he evidently does not feel he is a member.

His statement that "Christ just doesn't seem to catch on" only proves that it is he who doesn't catch on. The cause of war is not that people are worshipping God, but that they are not worshipping Him. The very precepts that Mr. Landis is advocating are the cause of the mess we are in today.

•Letter cut

—Bill Carroll

Entomology and Chemistry March 12.  
National Advisory Committee of Aeronautics will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in Mathematics, Chemistry, Metallurgy, Physics, Chem. E., E.E., M.E., Aero. E., C.C. and Arch. E., March 13.  
General Electric will interview June and summer B.S. and M.S. candidates in M.E., I.E., E.E. and Physics, March 11 and 12.

Sylvania Electric will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in Chem. E., Chem., Physics, Acctg., Ceramics, Metal., E.E., I.E. and M.E.

Armstrong Cork Company will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in M.E., I.E., C.E., Arch. E., Liberal Arts, Commerce & Economics, Accounting, Journalism, B.S. and M.S. candidates in Chem. and Chem.E., Ph.D. candidates in Physics and Chemistry, March 17 and 18.

Procter & Gamble Company will interview June and summer B.S. and M.S. candidates in C.E., E.E., M.E., I.E., and Chem. Eng., March 17.

Pratt & Whitney Aircraft will interview June and summer B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. candidates in C.E., Physics, M.E., Aero. E., E.E. and Chem. Eng., March 17.

Price Waterhouse & Company will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in Accounting, March 18.

Republic Flow Meter Company will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in M.E., March 18.

American Cyanamid Company will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in Chemistry and Chem. E., March 18 and 19.

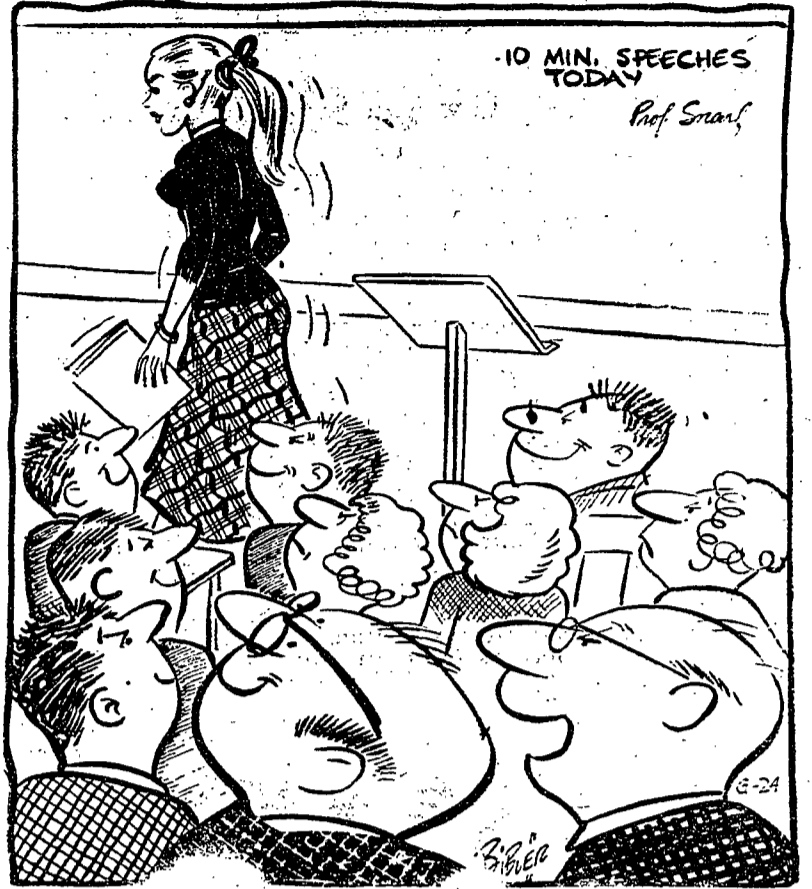
Factory Mutual Engineering Division will interview June and summer B.S. candidates in C.E., Chem. E., M.E., and I.E., March 16.

Hiram House Camp and Camp Cleveland will interview March 9.

Camp Conrad Weiser, Pa., will interview March 10.

Trail's End Camp, Pa., will interview March 14.  
Boys wanted to work for meals on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, for the rest of the semester.  
Summer resort seeking three or four piece combo.  
Camp Nassau, N.Y., will interview boys March 8.  
Camp Lauderdale, N.Y., will interview girls March 8.

## Little Man On Campus By Bibler



"Did she make a good speech, Professor?—I was so busy checking 'gesture,' I didn't stop to think."

### Interpreting the News

## Possible Significance Of Stalin's Death?

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.

Associated Press News Analyst

Despite polite expressions of the moment, the Western nations have been waiting avidly for years for the death of Joseph Stalin. Yet now that it has occurred, they are scared out of their pants lest Russia produce someone worse.

Also, Western diplomats are repeating so consistently the belief that the dictator's passing means no change in Russia's world attitude that they may be freezing their minds against what may be one of the greatest opportunities they have ever been offered.

## Safety Valve—

### Protests News Play

TO THE EDITOR: I find certain policies of The Daily Collegian hard to understand. The misunderstanding arises out of the emphasis your paper gives to certain types of news.

Yesterday, the lead story on the front page pertained to a fraternity being put on social probation. The same fraternity, only a short time before, had instituted on its own initiative a program that said a great deal for itself and cast a good light on the entire fraternity system as well as on Penn State. Your coverage of that event was appreciated. The item appeared on Page 3.

There have been many beneficial things accomplished by individual fraternities at State this year. All feel the coverage of such events has been adequate. But let a house step out of line, and the Collegian always gives such an incident maximum attention.

And yet, members of your staff become indignant that the IFC executive committee continually refuses to give information to your reporters regarding such cases. The reason should be obvious.

—Arthur Rosfeld  
President, IFC

## Larceny Charges Dropped on Lacue

Ronald Lacue, fifth semester arts and letters major, arrested last week on larceny charges, paid restitution Thursday for articles he stole, and the charges were dropped.

Lacue, accused of "shop-lifting" numerous articles from the Ethel Meserve store in State College, paid \$105.63 in restitution at a hearing before Justice of the Peace Guy G. Mills. He also paid costs.

Lacue pleaded guilty to the charges at a preliminary hearing Saturday and was released on \$300 bail.

It may not come immediately. But it seems inevitable that Russia will go through a governmental upheaval before this year is out. Both the history of Russia and the history of all despotisms testify to it. It is up to the West to recognize its approach and be prepared for whatever opportunities it offers.

One of the great speculations before the world today is whether a new Russian government can command the loyalty of Communist leaders in satellite countries as Stalin did.

This leads directly to the question of whether the free world can do anything to drive wedges. Stalin, walking hand in hand with the ghost of Lenin, and of a Marx whose theories he perverted into unrecognizable weapons of aggression, occupied a unique position in world communism, being first and only.

That the relations of his successor can be the same is wholly out of the question. Whether they can be as strong, if different, is very doubtful. The tissue of ideological ties may well begin to fall apart, especially if there is a drop from the expertness with which Stalin manipulated Communist theory for purposes of political and economic control of the captive countries. That would leave Russian hegemony stripped to the bare bones of its fundamentals, which always was force or the threat of force.

Ambitious men could use the Russian crisis for their own purposes. Hitherto loyal men might become doubtful. For the sake of their positions, these men have seen their countries milked by Russia's expert economic thieves. Tito pulled out of the Russian sphere because of it. Others may now be emboldened to try.

Mao Tse Tung of China, himself an expert manipulator of Communist theory, may consider Russia's leaders, without Stalin, as beneath him. It is possible that he could succumb to some of the many traditional Chinese attitudes which mitigate against a binding tie with Moscow. Es-

(Continued on page eight)