

# The Daily Collegian

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## STAFF THIS ISSUE

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## New Fine Program Is Improvement

The new revision of fines and paying procedure announced yesterday by Tribunal is another step in the effort to get the student court back to its chief purpose, enforcing the rules and regulations for male students, not just acting as a traffic violation court.

Since the current parking plan went into effect, Tribunal has been deluged with violators. The rush got so bad for awhile that the board had to meet two nights a week in order to hear all cases.

Under the new plan, the number of hearings should be greatly reduced, and the stiffer penalties called for should be one factor in reducing the number of violations. By allowing first offenders to pay their fine at the Student Union desk, fewer students will make an appearance at the Tribunal sessions. Only those who believe they can justify their violation will bother to come before the court. In the past few months, about 80 per cent of the traffic violators who came before Tribunal were first offenders. The new plan also is a convenience for the student violator in that he can pay his fine without having to wait in a long line at the Tribunal sessions.

The tightened restrictions on second and third offenders should somewhat deter the flagrant violations of the parking regulations which have been so noticeable this year. The approach of spring may also bring a decrease in the number of violations.

In any case, the new fine program should be an improvement over the old system.

## Alpha Kappa Alpha Reaches Its Goal

The newest sorority on campus is the Delta Gamma chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha, which received its charter at a ceremony Saturday.

Although many obstacles confronted the women who were interested in getting a College chapter of the national sorority, ever since October, 1950, the women have overcome those obstacles until their sorority is finally a realization on the Penn State campus.

Yvonne Carter and Charlotte Page, two of the three persons who were instrumental in the organization of the sorority, did not give up when they were told no new sororities would be permitted on campus until ground was broken for new women's living units. After a short time, it became apparent that the delay for the construction of new women's dormitories might be indefinite because of other building needs, and thus, the sorority was given permission to organize a local chapter, the Ionians. After a one year probationary period, the women were told that they would be granted a charter—but, no suite.

And so, the AKA's did just that, and now, without a suite, they are officially the 20th sorority on campus. This is a goal they have strived for during the past two and one-half years. We should like to congratulate them on their untiring efforts, and hope, along with them, that it will not be too long before the College provides some provisions for a sorority suite.

—Mimi Ungar

## Nuclear Reactor

The news that Penn State might be the site of a nuclear reactor before too long impresses once more on the people of the state the importance which atomic energy will eventually have in everyday life. That Penn State is making efforts to get into the field early is another indication that the College is continuing to keep up with the current of the times.

The College Board of Trustees has approved the idea of constructing the reactor. Only approval by the Atomic Energy Commission stands in the way of final action on the plans. If this approval is given soon, the reactor could be completed by the summer of 1954—another fine addition to the campus for its centennial year.

The proposed reactor would undoubtedly be a boon to the accredited status of the College. It is already high in many fields, particularly agriculture and engineering. The reactor will make available facilities for important experiments in several fields. Approval by the AEC will mean another stride forward for Penn State in the field of science.

## Safety Valve—

### 'Lute Song' Criticized

TO THE EDITOR: The recent review of "Lute Song," Penn State's latest failure, reflects the sterile conventionality that pervades our campus theater. An experiment of the grossest sort, it not only bespeaks the confirmed mediocrity of most of our dramatic attempts, but also ironically echoes the cultural aspirations of a stagnant, not silent, generation of students.

Defended by reviewer Mathias as spectacle (which, by the way, begs DeMillian definition), this oriental excavation is little more than a mixture of artificial theatrics, a director's show piece, a catalogue of quaint (neither historical nor histrionic) Chinese custom, steeped in religious ritual and mummified mummery. As the work of uninspired actors, it is insipid imitation; as the experimental product of a deferential director, it is inoriginal sin; and as an interpretational document of oriental theater, it is an insult to Chinese intelligence.

Why is our theatrical artistry bought at the expense of common sense? Must our plays be mediocre failures to be commercial successes? Where is the director's sense of balance, our actors' sense of discretion, the theater-goers' sense? Until Collegian reviewers can criticize without apologizing for the truth, until our theater assumes the stature missing in our youth, this restrained critic will corrode himself with the cinema.

•Letter Cut —N. Fitzgerald Craig

### Where Do We Start?

TO THE EDITOR: The Harvard report cited in Dave Jones' column of last Saturday highlights an eternal problem: "Where do we start?"

Any teacher of freshman classes realizes the wide variation in high school courses as regards area and depth of coverage, and the equally wide variation in ability and ambition of students. Nobody has been able, so far, to devise a way to avoid the high freshman mortality due to poor preparation or to lack of effort, or to avoid boring the student who is unusually well prepared.

In some fields, courses have been provided for students having varying degrees of preparation. In mathematics there are Math. O for students without adequate high school algebra and Math. 54 for those with better-than-average preparation. In English composition a course, English Comp. O, is provided for those not adequately prepared.

As one who has been an adviser to numerous engineers from their freshman year through their course, I should like to state that until our high schools do a better job of preparation, we must stress fundamentals even more strongly in the freshman year: the engineering freshman who finds his college work too easy is the rare exception.

—W. B. Shepperd

### Independent Cooperation

TO THE EDITOR: In reference to the editorial in the Daily Collegian of March 17, representatives of the independent groups have already begun "to get the ball rolling." We plan to hold a meeting at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow in McElwain Hall at which time representatives of the various independent groups will present their plans for organizing independent participation in the Spring Week activities. Once the plans have been formulated, the committee will be able to submit a joint booth proposal to the Spring Carnival committee under the direction of JoAn Lee. It is hoped that all independent organizations will send a representative to the meeting to hear the plans proposed before making any decisions to join with other groups.

—Ethel Wilson, Andy Jaros, co-chairmen of the independent Spring Week committee

## Gazette...

Wednesday, March 18

ALL-COLLEGE CABINET FOOD COMMITTEE, 7:15 p.m.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, 7 p.m., 105 Mechanical Engineering.

CHESS CLUB, tryouts, 7 p.m., 3 Sparks.

DEMOLAY CLUB, 7 p.m., behind Old Main for trip to O. W. Houts.

OPEN CAMP SEMINAR, 4 p.m., 405 Old Main.

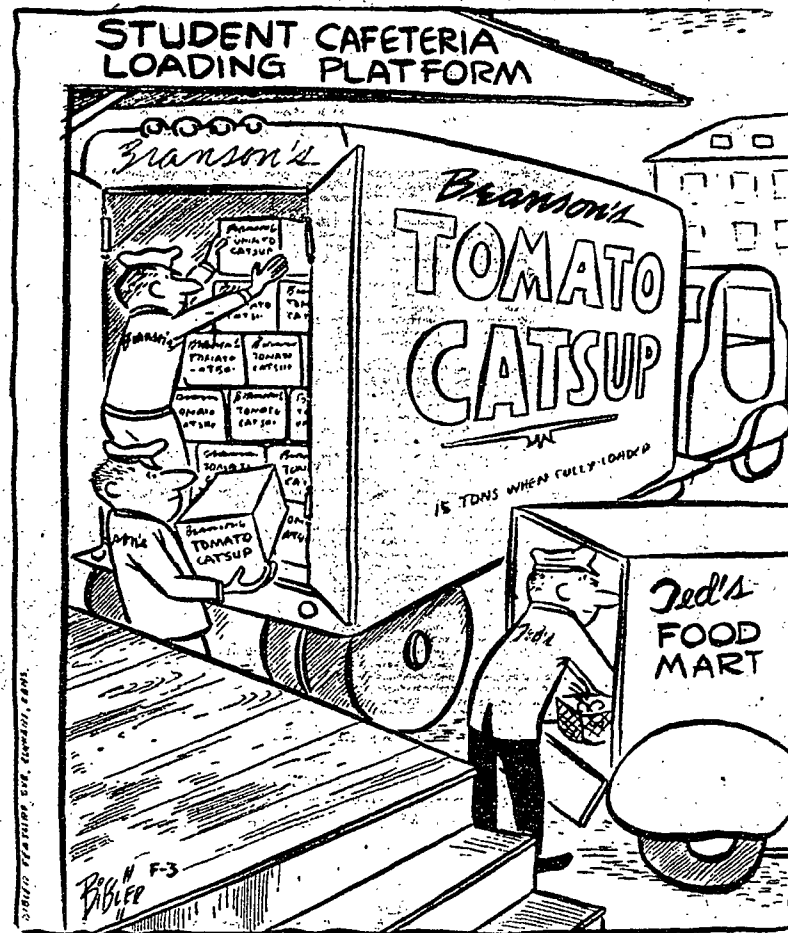
COLLEGE HOSPITAL  
Oliver Bonnett, Patricia Collins, Richard Grotefon, Robert Hetrick, Walter Hoopes, Gilda Koplowitz, Emerson Laubach, Dale Matson, James Miller, Lee Myers, Roger Owens, Bruce Parizo, Edward Rizika, Edith Spalding, Ralph Tencate, Ronald Velosky, David Wilson and Robert Hislop.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT  
Camp Conrad Weiser, Pa., will interview March 17.  
Guys 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 Redwing and Winnicut will interview March 18 and 19.  
Camp Skycrest, Pa., will interview boys March 28.  
Camp Sinking Creek, Pa. will interview boys March 18.  
Couple without children wanted for summer employment near State College.  
Boy with experience wanted as linotype operator.  
Waiters wanted for permanent work in fraternities.  
Interviewers for survey.

"Nine-tenths of our university teachers are more competent to discuss the literature of England than the literature of America."

—Stuart Sherman

## Little Man On Campus By Bibler



### Interpreting the News

## France Working On New War Plan

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.

France, whose diplomats have consistently proved themselves among the world's great realists in the postwar period, is working on a new plan for conduct of the war in Indochina which contains, perhaps only incidentally, the germs of some tough fundamentalism.

Essentially, it has been produced by the strain of carrying on the conflict in far Southeast Asia while attempting to maintain a position as the leading nation in the defense of Western Europe. Even with American aid, the French have found it impossible to do either properly.

Under these pressures, Premier Rene Mayer is expected to bring to Washington in a few days a proposal which, in its long-term effects, tends to take France more out of Indochina and put the United States in. In essence, it calls for the U.S. to finance most of the Indochina operation and for the Vietnamese to take over most of the fighting. In return, France would agree to hoe her own row in Europe without U.S. aid.

Entirely aside from relieving pressure on France, the idea contains the seeds of approach—whether the French intend it that way or not—to a revised attitude in Indochina itself which is basic if the conflict there is ever to be concluded successfully.

There would be an inference that France was renouncing Indochina as an empire project, and an implication that American influence would in its traditional fashion tend toward greater Indochina independence.

France created three new states in Indochina right after the war, giving the governments a certain autonomy but retaining control over foreign and military affairs. These controls were inevitable in the face of the Communist-led war, but unsatisfactory to nationalists who, despite Communist intervention and eventual control, continued to look upon the war as more for their liberation than as Communist aggression. France has never promised, and of course is not yet promising, to do as fully for Indochina, once the Communist threat is over, as Britain did for India. And that is really what the people want.

It seems fairly obvious, however, that a reduction of French responsibility and an increase in American responsibility, if the latter is handled carefully, would give the people increased hope and reduce their cooperation with the enemy.

There is, of course, an important question as to whether any new enthusiasm would be sufficient to make a national army.

dependable against the Vietminh forces which, while Communist led and supplied, are still composed largely of people who started fighting because they wanted to oust the French. But it is a fertile field for experiment.

The French long ago found themselves in the red on the colonial ledger in Indochina, the war having eaten up all the profits. They rightly contend they are now carrying on out there as a public service to the rest of the free world.

The record would be a little clearer all round if this sector of the anti-Communist front could be put on more of an Allied and less of an individually French basis.

## 22 Are Initiated Into PS Club

Twenty-two students were initiated into the Penn State Club, independent men's social organization, last night.

New members are William Albright, Philip Austin, Carl Buss, Todd Carter, Douglas Crowl, Michael Fackenthal, John Fogel, Stuart Horn, Jack Iseman, William Jones, Willis Kuhns, John List, Paul Mackes, Rudy Marisa, Robert Meurer, Cameron Myers, Bert Orban, Lavier Procopio, Bruce Stauffer, Richard Witney, James Wyatt, and Ronald Zuilkoski.

William Rudderow, club president, said election of officers will be held following the Easter vacation.

Final plans are being made for the club's annual spring formal which will be held March 28 at the University Club. Jack Huber will provide music for the dance.

### Political Science Club Meeting Canceled

The Political Science Club meeting which was to be held at 7:30 tomorrow night has been canceled.

The Columbia Law School representative scheduled to speak to the group will be unable to attend the meeting.