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The Daily Collegian

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Legality Does Not Mean Desirability

Pennsylvania's infamous loyalty oath has been declared constitutional by a Common Pleas Court judge. Already the wheels are turning in the General Assembly to manufacture another loyalty bill—one that would put further limits on the rights of state employees.

The present loyalty oath demands, among other things, that presidents of Pennsylvania's state-aided colleges certify the loyalty of college employees. The new bill would permit the commonwealth to dismiss any state employee refusing to testify at loyalty hearings on the grounds of self-incrimination. Both bills are sponsored by Sen. Albert Pechan.

In ruling the loyalty act constitutional, Judge Curtis Bok based his decision on U.S. Supreme Court rulings on similar laws elsewhere. However, Bok said "were it not for the federal cases, we would unhesitatingly strike down this act."

This and other loyalty acts throughout the nation, although they may not be unconstitutional, are certainly undesirable. In attempting to limit subversion in state employment, such acts serve only to limit free expression and instill a fear philosophy in colleges and universities.

These restrictive loyalty acts, coupled with

irresponsible charges and inquisition-like investigations in colleges, are killing the very freedom they are designed to protect. Many professors in state-aided colleges fear the loss of a job if they express views contrary to "accepted" views. When professors must voice only "accepted" views, thought control is here. The trend is definitely evident.

Too many people believe a state-aided college owes strict service to the state. This is not true. These people overlook the fact that in using state funds a college is producing a more educated populace and doing research work which may go far beyond the original state funds in the amount of good derived from them.

When a state-aided college owes strict allegiance to a state, education is not free. If continued legislation is produced which binds free action in a state-aided school, free education is endangered.

Now that the loyalty act has been called constitutional, some people will contend it is desirable. There is no logic to the theory that constitutionality makes something desirable; it merely makes something legal. That even a majority may consider the loyalty act desirable does not make it so. The majority has been known to be wrong.

II. Fair Hearing Poses Judicial Problem

(This is the second in a series of five editorials designed to outline and explain the proposal for a Supreme Court in Penn State's judicial system.)

One of the most important problems considered by the All-College Cabinet judicial investigating committee when it began its work was the matter of a fair hearing for students. This problem, no matter how remote it may seem to most students now, is one of grave importance. No matter how honest and decent a student may be, it is always possible for circumstances to involve him or one of his friends in some kind of disciplinary action. It is for this reason that every student should be vitally concerned with the problem of getting a fair hearing.

Just why is a fair hearing for students a problem under the present system? The answer is not difficult to find. Under the present setup, a student doesn't know where he stands, because there is no set pattern as to how and where a particular case will be handled.

Take for example a disturbance in one of the men's dormitories. Where the case would be handled might often depend on who heard about it first. In most cases, the seriousness of the disturbance would be a determining factor as to the handling of the problem. However, the same type of disturbance might one time be handled by the Judicial Board of Review of the Association of Independent Men, another by Tribunal, or perhaps by the Dean of Men's office. In some cases, the whole question might go directly to the disciplinary subcommittee of

the College Senate committee on student affairs.

Now while each of these bodies would try to be as fair as possible in issuing any penalties, it is easy to see the inconsistencies which are bound to result. In the first place, each of these judicial bodies has a varying degree of power. If the maximum penalty were deemed necessary in each court, the degree of difference between the penalty of the AIM Board of Review and the disciplinary committee of the Senate at once makes it obvious that unfairness will result.

How would the newly proposed system alleviate this problem? First of all, the proposal calls for all but routine cases to be screened through the offices of the dean of men and dean of women. In this way, a continuity of procedure is made possible, since the deans are not changed often and thus can provide a continuity of handling over the years. In addition, the proposal calls for the establishment of set regulations as to how each type of case would be handled when it got into the court of proper jurisdiction. These rules would, of course, be more or less variable, since no two cases are exactly alike in every detail.

Secondly, a uniformity of decision could be obtained by requiring the recording and filing of all cases which are heard. This applies particularly to the student courts, whose membership changes to some degree each year.

Thirdly, the new proposal provides for a clearly defined system of appeal. The appeals system, as proposed, will be discussed in a subsequent editorial.

—Dave Pellnitz
Retiring Editor

Safety Valve—Suggests Use of Honor System

TO THE EDITOR: It seems that one of the unsolvable problems at Penn State is that of cheating. Students have gone to great lengths to steal exams and have found many willing customers for their loot. Many methods have been tried to reduce the amount of cheating. Numerous suggestions, such as placing less emphasis on grades, or elimination of exams, or tighter exam regulations, have been advanced. But still the problem persists. Why?

It is my belief the administration expresses the wrong basic attitude. This was displayed in one exam I took last semester. The instructor scheduled the exam (not a final) in an auditorium-sized room. He seated the students two rows apart with two seats between them. Two extra proctors were present to patrol the aisles. All exams were numbered and students were cautioned to keep their eyes on their own papers.

Now, let us consider what effect this situation has upon the student. In the first place,

it builds up the importance of the exam in his mind, but more important, it displays a complete lack of trust in the honesty of the student.

This same lack of trust on the part of the administration shows itself in regulations on chaperones, dating, hours, and similar matters. This is the basic reason for dishonesty at the College.

I wonder if the honor system has ever been considered as a solution. This system is simple to install and easy to administer. It is based on trust in the honesty, integrity, and character of the student. A student's word is accepted without question. He is placed on his honor during examinations to neither receive nor give aid. Offenses are handled by a student elected honor committee.

I have attended three schools in which this system is used. Cheating was almost non-existent. Why can't we have it here?

—Robert J. Wolf

Gazette...

May 6, 1953
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, election of officers, 7 p.m., 105 Mechanical Engineering.
CHESS CLUB, 7 p.m., 3 Sparks.
PENN STATE FLYING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 217 Willard.
RIDING CLUB, 7 p.m., 317 Willard.
SOCIOLOGY CLUB, 7 p.m., 103 Willard.
WRA LACROSSE, 4 p.m., Holmes Field.
COLLEGE HOSPITAL
Rosetta Berger, Florence Cooke, Edward Feeney, Senora Fetterman, Lawrence Gersh-

man, John Gilbert, Kenneth Hohe, William Hummel, John Johnson, Elizabeth Jones, Chris Karidis, Lee Kummer, Edward Mantick, Nancy McCrady, Joseph Perusic, Eleanor Rakoski, Nancy Schade and Abing Sorriatmadja.
STUDENT EMPLOYMENT
Sagamore, Pa., an adult resort in the Poconos, will interview men May 6.
Tuscarora in the Poconos, will interview men and women May 8.
Men Wanted for waiters.
Men Wanted for garden and lawn work, house cleaning, and odd jobs.

Little Man on Campus By Bibler



"Lemonade! What a cool thought for such a hot afternoon. Worthal."

Short 'Change

By GUS VOLLMER

Some more of the same with a few new twists.

The Daily Kansan, student publication from the University of Kansas, devotes part of its editorial page to rather worthless but interesting material under the heading "Short Ones." This material, I must add, is just what I'm looking for to pass on to you in the form of an exchange column.

Some of the latest lifted from "Short Ones" go like this:

"One campus character thought he was being appropriate wearing a toga in the Union's new main lounge. He said he was waiting for the chariot races to start in the stadium."

"Seems like there is some disagreement as to what sports should be presented in the Kansas University stadium. Dr. Ise is holding out for bullfights. He says actually they would be more economical. More food for the dormitories."

"A Kansas University professor, trying to put across the matter of relativity, asked a woman student what a bad man was? The girl thought a minute, then asked 'which kind?'"

"One of the Kansan's editorial writers sat down the other day to whomp out a piece about spring fever, but couldn't get any farther than the lead. The reason? Spring fever..."

A Big Ten rumor has it that one of the member schools paid its athletes such a high salary that one of the professors enrolled in classes and will try out for the team.

A recent news feature disclosed that Abraham Lincoln still has \$201.80 on deposit in a Washington bank which no one—individual or bank—can use. It's a nice historical item, but rather frustrating.

A barber in town Saturday was in a spot that millions of veterans would envy. He had one of his former officers in the chair. His remark was, "I've been waiting for this minute for years."

St. Patrick's day really started off with a bang this year in Las Vegas when the government set off the Atomic Bomb explosion. This was something new for the Irish. The flame and explosion usually comes inwardly, on the morning after.

An interesting story comes from Akron, O. A new fad has started there. Girls with a love interest wear a dog collar around their left ankle. Those without a boy friend wear them around their right ankle. You can guess where a man wears it after he's been hooked.

English girls in bathing suits picketed 10 Downing street because the boys at Reading University tried to import French girls for their carnival. Penn State's Spring Carnival was never like that.

Any newspaper reader has probably noticed the newspaper custom of placing one or two line filler that will fill unused space at the page bottom.

Who writes these, nobody knows. But whoever he is, he has a vast world of knowledge at his fingertips. This knowledge should be handy to TV quiz contestants.

Here are a few which might be of use to future contestants:

According to Chinese legend, the virtues of tea were discovered by the Emperor Shennung in 2737 B.C.

The Taj Mahal has had a leaky roof since the 17th century.

Ann McKim was the name of the first clipper ship.

Swallows capture and eat their food on the wing and even drink while flying. (This is unusual?)

Tammany Hall derives its name from the American Indian chief called Tammanend.

More men than women commit suicide. (No wonder!)

And finally, British and Norwegian whalers frighten whales with supersonic signals in order to capture them. Well, do tell!

Eng Council Aims Elections Change

Engineering Council last night voted to amend their constitution to provide for the election of both a recording and corresponding secretary for the coming year.

To become official, the amendment must be approved at two consecutive meetings. The amendment was presented last night, and will be restated Tuesday before election of council officers.

The council will elect a vice president, secretary, treasurer, and faculty adviser. Paul Brobst, sixth semester electrical engineering major, was elected president of the group last month.

Animal Nutrition Grant

Monsanto Chemical Co. has awarded a \$2500 research grant to the Department of Animal Nutrition to be used in work involving the use of sodium bisulfite as a silage preservative.