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# The Daily Collegian

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## Customs Still Lack Student Support

Freshman customs experienced somewhat of a boost with joint enforcement day Thursday, but the program on a whole is still sadly lacking.

Customs began Monday and by Tuesday the frosh were issuing the usual question: What happened to enforcement? With the exception of Thursday, it just isn't here.

Exuberant freshmen tramped over campus at various times during the week, singing songs, and enforcing customs on themselves. Many hatmen and hatwomen came forth to enforce the program as they have been asked to do. But upperclass participation in general was weak. This is the fourth successive customs year, and the fourth time enforcement has been poor.

Although it is nice to be optimistic, it seems apparent there is nothing but gray skies ahead for the customs program. About 600 Korean veterans are enrolled in the freshman class this

year. These students are not under customs. With more Korean veterans returning home and being discharged, Korean enrollment might well increase next semester or next year. This provides a cleavage in the class and reduces the number of frosh undergoing customs. Conceivably, veterans could rise to such a number that customs would no longer be possible.

But by far the thing most threatening to a customs program is upperclass disinterest. Most upperclassmen have no interest in its purpose. Enforcement therefore comes only when upperclassmen may haze frosh women. This does not particularly promote the purpose of customs—to build school and class spirit.

Without upperclass support—which has been sadly lacking this year as in the past—customs cannot succeed. So far this week, support has been missing and so has the spirit. If the interest does not soon pick up, customs should perhaps be quickly junked.

## AIM Can Get More by Asking More

The recent move by some leading members of the Association of Independent Men to spell out one of the principal responsibilities of dormitory and area presidents—the maintenance of order in the dormitory areas—is one that will help to establish prestige for AIM.

All too often in the past the sincere effort of many independent student government leaders to strengthen student government through the recognition of their responsibilities has been thwarted by the actions of irresponsible student government officers.

The presence of irresponsibility in student government, whether it be independent or fraternity, can be traced to one defect in our system of government—irresponsibility on the part of those who elect these persons to office.

Student government elections have placed some excellent students in governmental positions. However, this is somewhat off-set by the practice of turning elections into popularity contests. Student elections have too often pushed the dormitory clown into office. On other occasions, small cliques have pushed friends into office. In the latter case some good

men have been brought before the attention of students.

With AIM expecting dormitory and area presidents to inspect disturbances in their areas, the necessity of electing students to these offices who will command the respect of the men becomes imperative. The expectation might also make anyone who is running for office and who is not willing to face the required responsibilities reconsider.

There is more to be gained than simply putting someone into office who is willing to look into dormitory disturbances. The responsible individual who is elected to office will, more than likely be the sort of person who can be depended upon to act in the same manner when representing the dormitory in council meetings. He will also probably be the one who can be depended upon to lift the dormitory into more group activities, rather than let the group slide into the mood of stagnation, where nothing is accomplished.

Only by demanding more of their key personnel can AIM reach the area of accomplishment that should be within the grasp of independents.

—Dick Rau

## FMA Is the Practical Way to Buy

This semester the Fraternity Marketing Association enters its second full year of operation. Patterned after a similar plan which has worked well at Ohio State University for over 20 years, FMA enables fraternities to purchase canned goods and potatoes at reduced rates through large-scale buying. Present plans call for expansion into fuel oil, coal and fraternity laundry items.

FMA was incorporated January 1953 when it replaced the Association of Fraternity Counselors' joint buying committee. FMA is open to any chartered fraternity and is composed of 26 members.

Any fraternity wishing to join FMA may petition the FMA Board of Trustees for membership. At this time a deposit of \$100 is submitted to the association. Upon approval of the board of trustees, the group is accepted and thereafter has a voice and vote in FMA affairs. The \$100 is added to the association's capital but remains the property of the individual fraternity. The system works similar to a bank checking account. With each order made through the association, FMA deducts the amount from the fraternity's deposit. At the end of each month, the fraternity is required to restore this withdrawal to the original deposit.

Goods are delivered to participating fraternities every two weeks and the fraternity is then billed by FMA. The fraternity pays no money to individual vendors, but pays FMA, which in turn pays the entire association bill at one time. Last semester, FMA's buying was limited to

canned goods and potatoes, but with proper support from Penn State's 51 fraternities, FMA could and would handle all goods and services essential to the average fraternity.

Since its inception last fall, FMA has done over \$20,000 worth of business with savings to its members of from 4 to 5 per cent more than those enjoyed by fraternities dealing alone.

New items could be added if more fraternities woke up to the savings being offered them. If participation in the association had been complete last year, fraternities at Penn State could have saved at least 12 per cent over the usual quantity discount on purchases.

Fraternities do an annual business of \$800,000 in the State College area. Although this volume of business represents one of the greatest buying powers in the area, fraternities command no power price than the average large consumer-loving business at the corner grocery store.

If this buying power were brought under FMA, fraternities could command respect and receive tremendous savings on everything from light bulbs to laundry. FMA is the only way to organize such buying power, and the only way MA can accomplish this power is with cooperation and participation from all houses. This is the ultimate goal of FMA.

It is up to each fraternity to decide for itself—to continue throwing away savings year after year, savings which could be put to use elsewhere—or to join together under FMA and buy the only practical way.

—Jack Reid

## Safety Valve... Calls Collegian Partisan

TO THE EDITOR: During the past weekend I had the extreme pleasure to partake in certain festivities at one of our fraternities which I deem worthy of being brought to the attention of our student body.

This past weekend Charles "Rip" Engle—to whom we owe our football prestige here at Penn State—was initiated into one of our fraternities.

When one man who is nationally known, who joins in brotherhood with two of the nation's best football coaches... to form... the All-American Coaching Board, and who is initiated in the presence of national officers of the fraternity, is brotherized, we have an immensely significant event.

However, apparently the Collegian believes this event insignificant...

I hope in the future the Collegian will show a less partial attitude toward certain fraternities and give full coverage to a story which influences not just one fraternity but the entire system.

H. R. Welder Jr.

Editor's Note—The Daily Collegian did not

print a photograph and main substance of a story of Engle's initiation into Welder's fraternity. Collegian policy does not call for partial attitudes to any fraternities.

## Gazette...

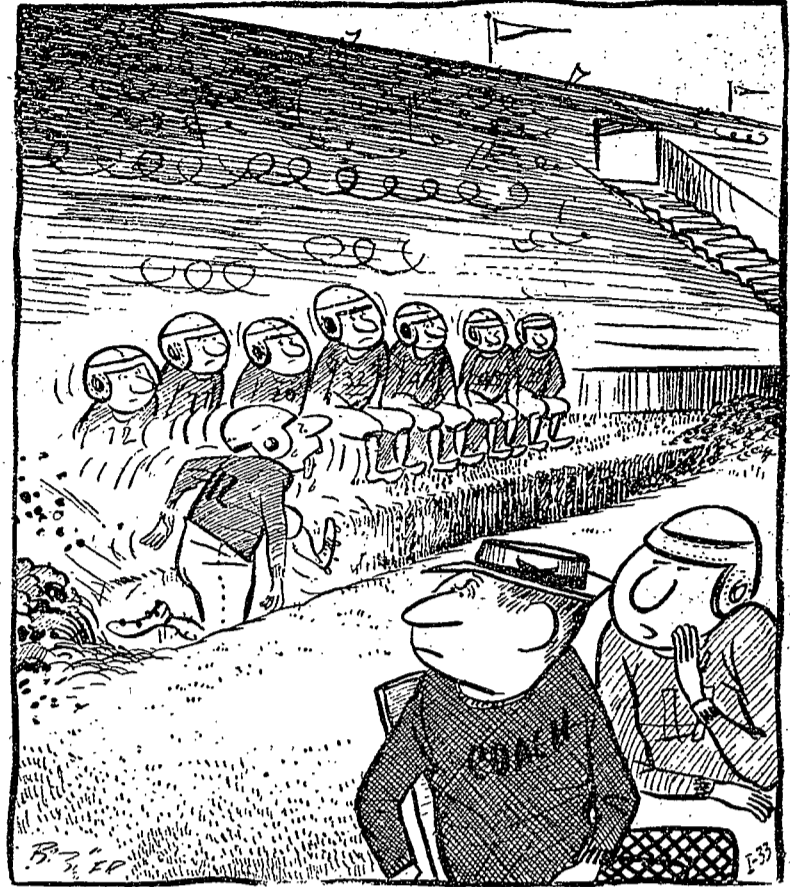
Sunday, Sept. 27, 1953  
COLLEGIAN AD STAFF, 7 p.m., 9 Carnegie.  
FRESHMAN WOMEN COMMUTING STUDENTS, meeting 9 p.m., second floor lounge Atherton Hall.  
HILLEL RADIO, 7 p.m., Hillel Foundation. General meeting and casting.

Monday, Sept. 28, 1953  
COLLEGIAN PHOTOGRAPHY CANDIDATES, 8 p.m., 9 Carnegie.  
PENN STATE FARMER STAFF, 7:30 p.m., 109 Agriculture.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT  
Bartender, must be over 21.  
Movie projection operators for campus work.  
Clothes presser.  
Experienced waiters.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Say, Rip, some of the boys feel you're makin' 'em 'warm up' too long."

## Interpreting the News

# Korean Policy Problems Begin

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.  
Associated Press News Analyst

State department consideration of policy for the Korean peace conference, if one is ever held, is just beginning.

So far no quid has been produced with which to bargain for the Communist quo.

Officials will actually get down to work in conferences at the State department next week. They will be searching for something to offer the Reds in return for establishment of a unified Korea under a freely elected government. They aren't very optimistic on that point.

The other chief problem of the conference, the withdrawal of all foreign troops, is considered more soluble, but even that is largely a matter of degree.

This troop problem has led to informal suggestions among diplomats that there is a possibility of covering both major objectives of the conference through a U.S.-Russian-Red Chinese treaty guaranteeing the neutrality of a unified Korea.

The one great drawback to this suggestion is that there is nothing in it for the Reds, since they have nothing to fear from Korea anyway. Such a threat as the Koreans can pose is hardly likely to cause any great loss of sleep in the Kremlin or in Peiping. Some sources even credit them with a desire to resume the war when convenient, rather than shrinking from it.

Another thought that has been kicked around in State department circles was that Russia might be sufficiently interested in a five-power conference on general settlements to make some

concessions on Korea if that were offered. But that idea looked better a few weeks ago than it does now, the Russian post-Stalin peace offensive having died down somewhat.

High-level consideration has not yet been given to any of the ideas produced so far. In State department parlance that doesn't mean, of course, that the policy-makers are not thinking, but that they have not gotten around to conferring with the men who gather the facts and produce assessments of the situation and the alternatives it offers.

One thing that hampers this sort of work is the uncertainty over whether there will really be a conference and, if there is one, whether the Reds intend to use it merely in an effort to force the Allies to break it off in frustration and so lay themselves open to criticism throughout Asia.

The chances now are that the Korean War will not prove to have changed the status of Korea at all, except that the Chinese Reds have been drawn into North Korea to replace the Russian

(Continued on page five)

## New York Regents Outlaw Communist School Teachers

ALBANY, N.Y., Sept. 24 (AP)—The New York State Board of Regents today listed the state and national Communist Parties as subversive and automatically barred their members from jobs in the state's public school system.

In an unanimous action, the 15-member board swiftly adopted the report of its special committee, which had held hearings under the state's Feinberg Law. The committee found the Communist Party teaches and advocates the overthrow of the U.S. government by force and violence.

The three-man group was the first governmental unit in the nation to put the party itself on trial. It heard 2300 pages of testimony in 20 hearings between last Dec. 4 and June 25.

"We unhesitatingly find there has been presented to us ample, sound, competent and relevant evidence of a probative character to compel the conclusion that the Communist Party of the United States of America and the Communist Party of the State of New York are each subversive as defined by law, in that they advocate, advise, teach and embrace the doctrine that the government of the United States should be overthrown by force and violence," the report said.

A lengthy court battle over the decision appears likely.