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The Daily Collegian

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Freshman Class Plays Itself a Sucker

About 1500 freshmen rioted in the West Dorm courtyard Monday night, creating much turmoil and accomplishing nothing but a demonstration of immaturity.

The riot, some claim, was calculated to end frosh customs. Others say it was to build school spirit. Still others say they were just out to raise hell. In any event, the mob action was another demonstration of student action that will hurt the College and entire student body.

All-College President Richard Lemyre struck close to home when he told the frosh they were a mob, lacking individuality. Lemyre said he could talk to any of the mob individually and each would admit he was there only because everyone else was.

Mob action of this sort, any thinking student should know, can lead to no good. Shouting, screaming, immature students cannot hope to accomplish anything constructive. They can only bring shame upon themselves and the College. If this was their purpose, and we hope it was not, they have succeeded admirably.

If the freshman class cannot accept minor inconveniences of watered-down customs, it is not a very realistic class. Customs for this year's senior class lasted eight weeks. Dating was not permitted during that time and the class fought a tug-of-war in an attempt to end customs. This year's class has six weeks customs with dating permitted every weekend. And a contest to end customs has been promised.

If hazing practices in Penn State customs

were frequent, or if the customs were particularly stringent, frosh might have room to complain. But the customs are light and enforcement is lax. The frosh themselves have asked for more enforcement. This does not give much room for complaint.

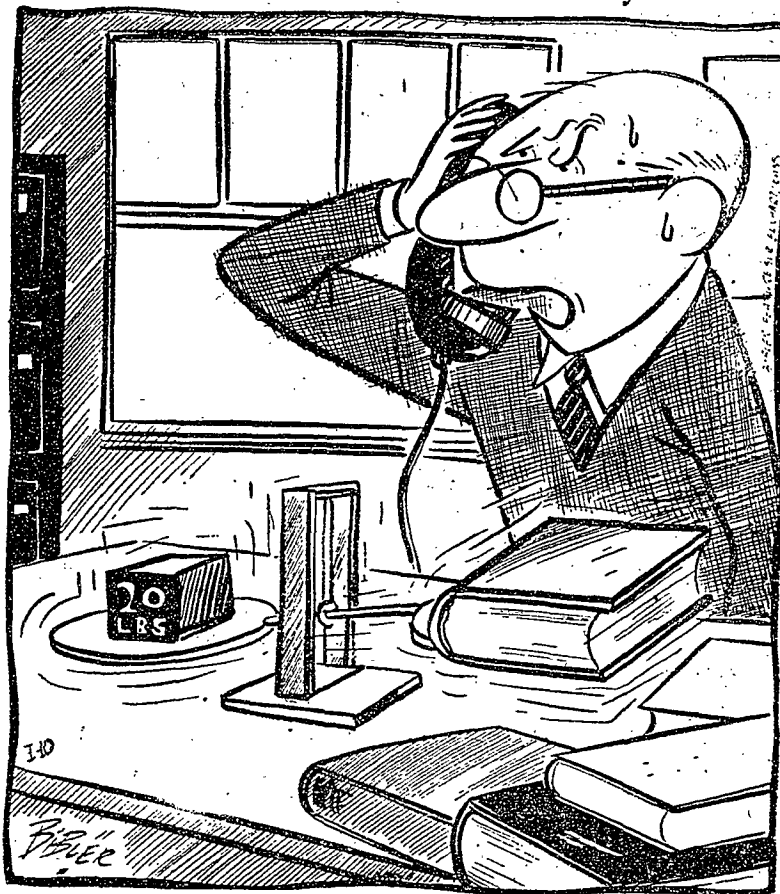
And even if complaint was warranted, it cannot be expressed by mob action. If the frosh feel customs unfair, they must seek relief through normal student channels instead of trying to strong-arm themselves into control.

It is doubtful, however, that frosh customs lie at the base of Monday night's display. Someone wanted to raise hell, and he was smart enough to gather up a lot of suckers to follow him. And so it is the freshman class has been put in a bad light, and has played itself for a sucker.

As our little freshmen grow older, and if they grow more mature, perhaps some day they will realize the stupidity of such riot tactics. Upperclassmen do not welcome freshmen of this caliber. They can bring no credit to the College or themselves.

It is easy to believe, by such actions, the freshman class in general is a rather immature thing. This is not true. The class undoubtedly has intelligent and level heads. But unless those intelligent and level heads take hold of the class, it will be looked upon as an immature thing. And in the end the frosh can hurt no one but themselves.

Little Man on Campus By Bibler



"Hello, Professor Slither, say would you bring some weighty philosophy books over here—I'm having the darndest time selecting a text for this course."

Glancing Around

At Desks and Junk

By DICK RAU

Editors are a stuffy lot. I find desks much more interesting. It seems the other day the editor of the Daily C made a decision concerning new brooms and good sweeping jobs and proceeded to clean out the general filing cabinet in his little glass-walled domain. This operation raised eyebrows among the more conservative members of the staff. After all, why shouldn't the Daily C hang onto a 1932 copy of the College catalogue. It's only a little obsolete.

Flushed with the success of this mission, he proceeded to put his brand new desk in order, upsetting another hallowed tradition of former Collegian editors. During the job of stacking equally useless bits of information into mathematically equal piles, he constantly kept up a series of side remarks concerning my desk.

He finally broke down my resistance, and I wound up cleaning my desk, no doubt bringing down the spiritual wrath of all the editorial directors before me. The task was particularly uninspiring. Only the stuff one might naturally expect was there.

The job of straightening up the mess is only part of my gradual weakening of character. Just before I left home, I broke down and cleaned up a desk drawer. Cleaning them one at a time is the only way to do it. No sense in burning myself out before I'm 95.

The cleaning job at home was far more inspiring. I made a list of 45 general items. Some of these with explanatory comments might be mentioned. In fact they not only might be mentioned, they will be.

Included in the mess were 27 pennies worth 13 cents in this country and \$2.70 in China; 37 pencils thoughtfully left at home; one Panamanian quarter worth 25 cents in Panama; one German mark worth nothing anywhere; a New Jersey road map particularly useful in New Jersey; a Milwaukee map and transit guide of inestimable value in State College; and a Japanese brass pipe for those who prefer brass to tobacco.

There was also an American pipe in the collection, for smoking tobacco, not Americans.

Included in the collection were 31 postal money order stubs. I don't know where I got the money for paying the charges involved. I must have been a budding capitalist. There was also a small American flag, flag staff, and flag holder stored in the rear of the drawer. I'm a veteran.

But this wasn't the end of my discovery of long forgotten treasures. There was a padlock, no key, just the lock; one bottle opener (no comment); a table knife for opening paint cans,

piggy banks, locks, and in dire circumstances, for table use; a newspaper clipping on an easy way to get worms for fishing bait (this one puzzles me, I don't especially care for fish); a broken pocket watch that cracked up while trying to synchronize with Old Main's chimes; and four penny post-cards now worth 2 cents.

An unimpressive looking envelope of cold pills was found lying innocently in one corner of the drawer. I probably at some time or another decided that since the pills wouldn't cure the cold, I would wait for pneumonia. The medical profession can cure that.

That isn't all. There are more goodies in store such as an auto cigarette lighter that I never got around to installing; a good three-cent stamp pasted to part of an envelope, an 11th grade report card (I burned it); a bottle of brass cleaning powder (presumably to give the smoker of the brass Japanese pipe a cleaner smoke); four Boy Scout service stars (no comment, again); instructions for operating a movie projector (no projector, just instructions); various and sundry pictures, and one picture purchased in Honolulu considered neither various or sundry.

This wasn't all I found. But then everyone has a magnetic compass, a cherry wood letter opener, a roll of friction tape, four small hinges, a vehicle code book for Pennsylvania, a World War II gas ration book, a Japanese cigarette case, a copy of "Allentown Plant Agreement between Mack Manufacturing Corporation and the International Union United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America Local 677," one copy of the UAW-CIO constitution, glass cutter, screw driver set, a collection of miniature key ring auto license plates, and a book of matches measuring 3 1/2 inches by 4 1/2 inches in his desk drawer.

'Hay Fever' Tryouts

Final tryouts for Players' "Hay Fever," will be held at 7 p.m. tonight in the Little Theater, basement of Old Main.

The comedy by Noel Coward will open Nov. 5 in Schwab Auditorium.

Cabinet Oversteps Its Jurisdiction

Thursday night All-College Cabinet adopted a recommendation, after amendment, that men living in the dormitories should be subject to rules which would establish greater decorum in the dining halls. The motives behind this move were of the highest sort, namely to require a mode of dress at evening and Sunday meals dissimilar to that found in the College barns.

In its attempt to improve appearances on campus, cabinet forgot one thing. The decision did not rest with cabinet alone. Either the administration should specify such requirements in its conditions of contract furnished incoming dormitory students, or the matter should have been put before the students most vitally concerned with the regulation—the independent men.

The administration could have had little way of knowing what would come out of the Student Encampment at Mont Alto—the origin of the idea for more appropriate dress in the dining halls. Therefore, the possibility of including these dress specifications with the conditions of contract is, by a matter of time, excluded.

Cabinet on the other hand was urged to act quickly, one way or the other, on these recommendations so that, if approved, the habit of

dress could be instilled before other, less acceptable, habits would be formed.

In view of these facts, cabinet's action might be understood as the best possible means to an end. The will of the majority was expressed and the recommendation was put into force. However, the will of the majority does not condone domination of the minority by the majority. The establishment of dress requirements was done largely by those least affected by the ruling.

As one sardonic observer from the Pollock Circle dormitories said, "What do women care what we wear in the dining halls? They never come down to look at us anyway."

Although perhaps a slightly bitter outlook, the remark did serve to bring out one point. No governmental agency tells the American people what they shall wear in their own homes.

The world, either campus or outer, will not fall apart because more desirable attire was sought in the dining halls, just as the world has not fallen apart because of the change in governmental administration. But the campus world can take a pretty severe beating if student administrations continue to extend their authority into areas that do not directly concern them.

—Dick Rau

A Modern Fable

A long time ago lived a man named Aesop who wrote a story about "The Shepherd's Boy." The story went something like this:

There was once a young college student who lived in a beautiful dormitory at Penn State. It was rather boring for him one night, so he thought upon a plan by which he could fool his friends and have some excitement.

He rushed down towards the door, pulling the dorm fire alarm on the way, and all the dorm residents ran out of the building. This pleased the student so much that a few days afterwards he tried the same trick, and again the friends ran out of the dorm.

But shortly after this a big fire actually did break out in the dormitory and began to burn the building, and the student of course turned in another fire alarm. But this time the friends, who had been fooled twice before, thought the student was again deceiving them, and nobody ran out of the dorm.

So the flames made good kindling of the student's friends, and when the student was sorry the wiser students of the college said: "A liar will not be believed, even when he speaks the truth."

And so the moral of the story is, the student who cries "wolf" too many times may pay for it with someone's life.

The first farmer was the first man, and all historic nobility rests on possession and use of land.—Emerson

The highest possible stage in moral culture is when we recognize that we ought to control our thoughts.—Darwin

Man's best possession is a sympathetic wife.—Euripides

Gazette...

- TODAY**
AERONAUTICAL SCIENCES, 7 p.m., 105 Mechanical Engineering.
AGRICULTURE CLUB, 7 p.m., 210 Agriculture Building.
AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL Society, 7:30 p.m., Mineral Industries.
COLLEGIAN PHOTOGRAPHY candidates: Meet in Room 111 Carnegie Hall, Thursday Oct. 2, 7:00 p.m.
PETROLEUM ENGINEERING Society, 7:30 p.m., 105 Willard.
PSCA Assembly, 7 p.m., 405 Old Main.
GRANGE, 7:30 p.m., Horticulture.
RIDING CLUB, 7 p.m., 317 Willard.
SOPHOMORE FORESTRY, 7 p.m., 105 Forestry Building.
THESPIAN program committee, 7 p.m., 101 Willard.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Experienced baker.
 Experienced clothes presser.
 Man eligible to work 25 hours a week in bookstore.

COLLEGE HOSPITAL

Ted Cohen, Fred Drabenstadt, David Fineman, Hana Gach, Ronald Gardner, Paul Green, Mrs. Evelyn Grubb, Robert Jones, Virginia C. Juan, William Kudaroski, James C. Leslie, Mary E. Mason, Leonard Moore, Dean Moyer, Gilbert Offenhardt, Sally Ostrom, Shirley Rollins, Manfred Sayer, Lee Wetmore and Robert J. Watson.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT SERVICE

The companies listed below will conduct interviews on campus, and in most cases, are interested in talking to graduating seniors regardless of draft status.
REM-CRU, INC. will interview January graduates in ME, IE, EE, Metallurgy, and Accounting on Oct. 13.
GENERAL MOTORS CORP. will interview January graduates in Chem. Eng., Arch. Eng., CE, EE, IE, ME, and Accounting Oct. 13-15.