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# The Daily Collegian

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## Customs Critique: They Never Made It

The 1953 freshman customs program ended a couple weeks ago, but the frosh didn't get around to throwing away their dinks until Saturday afternoon. And thus ended the sixth futile attempt at customs since 1950.

After a fairly successful but lengthy program in fall 1950, customs suffered continual setbacks. Upperclassmen refused to enforce customs and the unwanted responsibility fell to haimen. This was the first in a long series of ills that was to face the program.

Customs can serve a good purpose if they are wanted. They can build school and class spirit, something too often missing in the large college. Through them, frosh may also learn school songs and cheers. Namecards and green dinks are perhaps the most constructive parts of the program. The dinks promote class feeling. The namecards help the frosh to meet each other. Namecards, however, were removed about the middle of this year's program.

There is much room for criticism of the program. Primary is prohibition of association of frosh men and women with each other, or upperclassmen of the opposite sex. If customs are to promote good feeling and friendly associations, this regulation is of no value. Elimination of this regulation would go a long way toward improving customs.

Another bad aspect of the program is enforcement by hat societies. These students are leaders and are honored as such. There is no connection between being a student leader and enforcing customs. Enforcement by hat societies tends to lower hat society members in the eyes of both freshmen and upperclassmen.

Haimen and women are frequently looked

upon as pseudo-wheels, impressed with their own importance. Much of this feeling is a result of the role they play in customs enforcement. If this role were removed, a great stride would be made in returning hat society members to the honorable status they may deserve.

Most customs critics complain about indefinite length of the program and lack of enforcement. Something can be done about the length, but little about enforcement. It is rather obvious the student body in general does not want customs.

Only one thing can make customs successful: strong student support. No such support existed this year, and there are no indications it will in the future. The majority of the student body feels customs worthless and even repulsive.

Customs regulations have been revised many times. Interested students have put endless hours into attempts to revive the program. It seems their attempts have failed, for student interest is as low, or lower, than ever.

It appears time to realize school spirit can not be fostered by a method most of the students do not want. School spirit cannot be built by freshmen regulations. If the students want customs, they must come forth to save them. If not, let's shelve the attempt to manufacture school spirit by mass production and find something deeper to build upon.

This year, the customs program fell flat on its face, again. It has had ample time to prove itself. The program undoubtedly will continue to fall flat on its face until those who wish to lead such a program realize it is dead. Then, perhaps Old Man Customs will be buried. It's about time for the funeral; he's been dead now for three years.

## The Town Man and Representation

With the mailing of postcards to town independent men, notifying them of nominations for ward representatives, the independent man in town is once more informed of an obligation that was not lost when he elected to live off campus.

Probably one of the unfortunate reasons men move into town is a desire not to be bothered about campus affairs. Consequently they retreat into their off campus shell.

When they are rewarded for their indifference with poor or no representation on important issues, the howl of anguish can be heard with no trouble.

Town council is the town independent man's primary element of representation. If it is ignored, that artery of communication will probably waste away from lack of use.

Last year there were some objections raised over All-College Cabinet's passing of a radio fee to pay operating costs of the campus radio

station. Unless the men in town possess frequency modulated radios, they cannot receive any benefit from the radio station. But it must also be mentioned that efforts to obtain a sufficient number of representatives for town council met with enough apathy to threaten machinery necessary to get the council operating.

This year the men are receiving individual postcards informing them of the coming nominations. More postcards will be sent out telling them who the nominees are. The men will be able to mail their ballot. The necessity of walking to a building on campus to vote will be avoided. The only thing left up to the men will be accumulating the necessary energy to mark the ballot and drop it into a mailbox.

We hope the effort required to keep the gag of indifference out of the town independent's mouth will not be too taxing.

—Dick Rau

## Gazette...

- Today**
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 6:45 p.m., 304 Old Main.
  - COLLEGIAN BUSINESS CANDIDATES, 7:30 p.m., 228 Sparks.
  - COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 7 p.m., Business Office.
  - COLLEGIAN CIRCULATION STAFF, 6:30 p.m., Business Office.
  - COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 9 Carnegie.
  - COLLEGIAN PROMOTION STAFF, 7 p.m., 111 Carnegie.
  - DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB, 6:45 p.m., TUB.
  - EDUCATION STUDENT COUNCIL Koffee Klutch, 7-9 p.m., McElwain Lounge.
  - FENCING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., North Corridor Rec. Hall.
  - GERMAN CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 104 Willard.
  - LAVIE ART STAFF, 7 p.m., 201 Temporary.
  - MARKETING CLUB Field Trip, leaves 11:05 a.m., front Mineral Industries.
  - PENN STATE CLUB, 7 p.m., 405 Main.
  - PHI LAMBDA UPSILON, 8 p.m., 116 Osmond.
  - PI LAMBDA SIGMA, lunch, 12 p.m., Allencrest.
  - PSYCHOLOGY CLUB, 7 p.m., 317 Willard.
  - THETA SIGMA PHI, 7 p.m., Grange Playroom.
  - VETERAN'S CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 110 E.E.

### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

- Man with car one night a week for delivery work.
- Counselors—The Iron Rail, Mass. will interview experienced women Oct. 26.
- Girl to cook every evening 4-7 p.m.

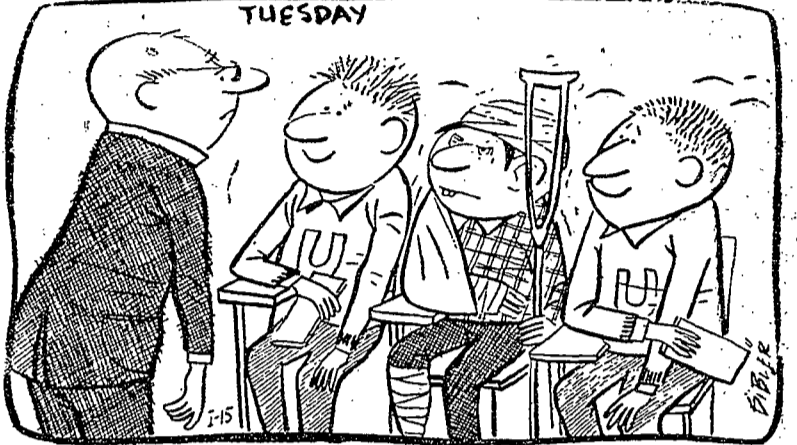
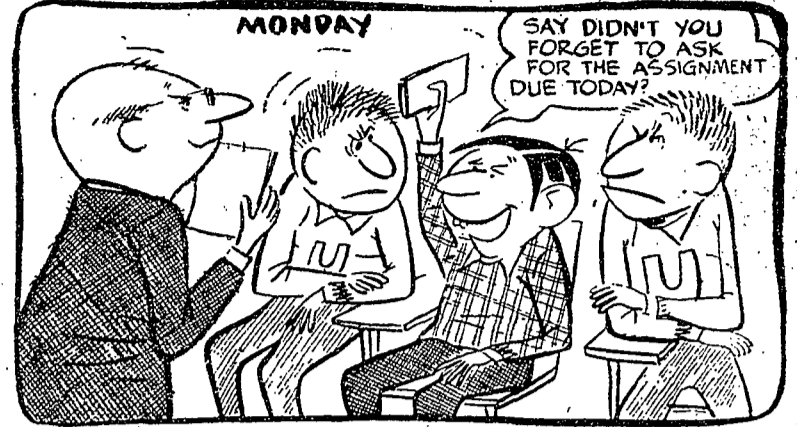
### COLLEGE PLACEMENT SERVICE

- The companies listed below will conduct interviews on campus. Schedule interviews now in 112 Old Main.
- MERGENTHALER LINTOTYPE CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Accounting, Bus. Mgmt., IE, and ME on Nov. 2.
  - BURROUGHS CORPORATION will interview Jan. graduates in Accounting and Business Administration on Nov. 2.
  - GLENN L. MARTIN CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Aero. E., CE, EE, ME; M.S. candidates in Aero. E., CE, EE, and ME who have completed at least one semester, and Ph.D. candidates in Aero. E., CE, EE, and ME expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Nov. 2.
  - SQUARE D CO. will interview Jan. graduates in EE, IE, and ME on Nov. 2 and 3.
  - SHELL OIL CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Chem., CE, EE, Ch.E., IE, ME, Mining, and Petroleum Engineering; M.S. in Chem., CE, EE, Ch.E., IE, ME, Mining, and Petroleum Engineering on Nov. 2 and 3.
  - DUREZ PLASTICS & CHEMICALS, INC. will interview Jan. graduates in ME, Ch.E., EE, and Chem., Ph.D. candidates in ME, Ch.E., EE, and Chem., expecting to receive their degrees in 1954, and M.S. candidates in ME, Ch.E., EE, and Chem. who have completed at least one semester on Nov. 2.

- THE PHILADELPHIA GAS WORKS will interview Jan. graduates in CE, EE, IE, ME, and Ch.E. on Oct. 27.
- BARCOCK & WILCOX will interview Jan. graduates in CE, EE, LE, and ME on Oct. 28.
- CARTER OIL LABS. will interview Jan. graduates in ME, EE, Ch.E., P.N.G. and Geo-Chem. on Oct. 28 and 29.
- WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CO. will interview Jan. graduates in ME, IE, EE and Phys. on Oct. 29.
- SHELL OIL will interview Ph.D. candidates in Chem. and Ch.E. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Oct. 29 and 30.
- PROVIDENT MUTUAL INSURANCE CO. OF PHILA. will interview Jan. graduates in Bus. Ad. and Arts & Letters on Oct. 30.
- CELANESE CORP. OF AMERICA will interview Jan. graduates in Ch.E., IE, ME, Chem., and Labor-Management Relations on Oct. 30.
- WEST PENN POWER CO. will interview Jan. graduates in EE and ME on Oct. 30.
- DOW CHEMICAL CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Metal., Chem., Ch. E., ME; M.S. candidates in Metal., Chem., Ch.E. and ME who have completed at least one semester, and Ph.D. candidates in Metal., Chem., Ch.E. and ME expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Oct. 28.
- STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA will interview January graduates in CE, EE, MR, Ch.E., Fuel Tech., Geology, Geophysics, Geochem., P.N.G., Chem., and Physics. on Oct. 20.
- MALLINCKRODT CHEMICAL COMPANY will interview Ph.D. candidates in Ch.E., EE, ME, and Chem. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954; M.S. candidates in Ch.E., EE, ME and Chem. who have completed at least one semester; and B.S. January graduates in Ch.E., EE, ME, and Chem. on Oct. 20.
- RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA will interview January graduates in EE, ME, Ch.E., Physics and Ceramics Oct. 20.
- RCA VICTOR will also interview Jan. graduates in IE and Metallurgy on Oct. 20-21.
- PROCTOR AND GAMBLE CO. will interview Ph.D. candidates in Chem. and Ag. Bio-Chem. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Oct. 21.
- SOCONY-VACUUM OIL CO. will interview January graduates in the fields of CE, ME, Ch.E., Bus. Adm., and Liberal Arts on Oct. 21.
- DU PONT will interview Ph.D. candidates in Ch.E., ME, Engineering Mechanics, Chem. and Physics expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Oct. 21-23.
- THE BURROUGHS CORPORATION will interview January graduates in ME and EE on Oct. 22.
- FEDERAL TELECOMMUNICATION LABS. will interview Ph.D. candidates in EE and Physics expecting to receive their degrees in 1954, M.S. candidates in EE and Physics who have completed at least one semester, and January B.S. graduates in EE and Physics on Oct. 22.
- DU PONT will interview M.S. candidates in Ch.E., ME, IE, Chem., and Physics who have completed at least one semester, and January B.S. graduates in Ch.E., ME, IE, Chem., and Physics on Oct. 22-23.
- SHELL DEVELOPMENT CO. will interview Ph.D. candidates in Physics expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Oct. 22-23.
- SYLVANIA ELECTRIC PRODUCTS INC. will interview January graduates in Chem., Physics, Accounting, Business Management, Mathematics, Ceramics, Metallurgy, Ch.E., EE, IE, ME, on Oct. 23.
- CHRYSLER CORP. will interview January graduates in Ch.E., EE, ME and Metallurgy on Oct. 23.
- NORTH AMERICAN AVIATION (COLUMBUS DIV.) will interview Jan. graduates in Aero. Engr., ME, EE, CE, and Arch. Eng. on Oct. 27.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



### Interpreting the News

## The Big Three And New Problems

By J. M. ROBERTS Jr.

Associated Press News Analyst

Just a few weeks ago things seemed to be looking better for the Western world.

It was bolstered by the Korean truce, the German elections, the decision of France to go ahead with the European Defense Community, and by indications from Russia that she could use a period of lessened tension.

Today even the most cursory glance at the dangerous situations which have developed gives one a queasy feeling in the stomach.

When the Big Three foreign ministers planned their London conference, which has just ended, they were primarily concerned with relations among themselves and Russia over Germany.

Before it was over they had to take cognizance of developments which even pushed their fundamental question into the background for a moment.

The Trieste issue was smoking and capable of bursting into flame at any moment. So was the Israel-Arab situation.

Things began to go bad for France in political negotiations designed to obtain greater support of the Indochinese states in the war with the Communists there.

Britain had a flareup in Guiana which pointed up America's critical apprehension about Communist progress in Latin-America.

Even as Secretary Dulles was returning to Washington, reports from Dahrhan in the Persian Gulf brought word of a long-feared development in that oil-heavy but poorly lubricated area—a display of resentment against American interests in Arabia. It came at a time when Americans already were worried about the health of aged King Ibn Saud, with whom the oil deals were made.

As the diplomats sought to handle these questions, there was no slackening in the urgency of problems which were already pending.

The Communists agreed to meet with American negotiators at Panmunjom to make plans for the Korean conference. But they still were insisting on having neutral nations at the table. The United States, meanwhile, was denying a report growing out of the London conference that she was backing down on the subject.

At London the ministers drew up a new note to Russia about a meeting to consider the German problem, but there was nothing new in it as a bait for the reluctant Reds.

There was more hope for another proposal, that the Big Three meet with Italy and Yugoslavia about Trieste. But Yugoslavia doesn't want it until the idea of giving Allied-held Zone A to Italy has been dropped. Italy

doesn't want it until that has actually occurred.

There was no solution at any of the danger points which did not involve troublesome side-taking within the non-Communist camp.

The Kremlin men, if they wished could just sit back and watch the world stew in its own juice. It was just the sort of situation they love to see. But they weren't just sitting back. They were putting in the stirring spoon at every opportunity, and had more spoons in reserve.

## A Bluff Is a Bluff Is a Bluff Is a...

A double bluff at Coogan's Bluff in New York City has resulted in the arrest of three bluffers.

Three men who posed as policemen were arrested by policemen who posed as street sweepers and taxicab drivers.

Police (the real ones) said the three had come to collect \$200 in "hush money" from the owner of an apartment two of them had raided under the guise of narcotics agents.

Charged with assault, robbery, extortion and conspiracy, the three who posed as police are now in jail, reposing.

## Psychology Club To Hear Barthol

Dr. Richard Barthol of the Psychology department will speak on "Democracy in Industry" before the Psychology Club at 7 tonight in 317 Willard.

The meeting is open to students. Election of officers will be held following the discussion.

## Radio Station Meeting

Students interested in control board operation for WDFM, new campus radio station, will meet at 7 tonight in 304 Sparks.

## Eng Council to Meet

Engineering Student Council will meet at 7 p.m. tomorrow in 107 Main Engineering.

## Frosh Council to Meet

Freshman Council will meet at 6:30 tonight in the day student room of Woman's Building.