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# The Daily Collegian

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## We Must Have a Spark to Start the Fire

A new political clique registration system is in effect this week as a result of the 1953 Student Encampment. The system is an attempt to arouse more interest in campus political affairs.

Under the new system, freshmen and sophomores may register at the Student Union desk in Old Main under the clique with which they wish to affiliate. The list will be used to issue clique cards. Only those on the list may vote Sunday night when the cliques select candidates for class offices.

The registration idea is good, but the present system is faulty. Prior registration with a clique and creation of a master membership list is perhaps a desirable thing. It must be remembered, however, that both parties have already held two clique meetings, and without any official members.

There is something wrong with a system that permits this. Last Sunday, both parties elected class clique officers. But neither those elected nor those voting are official members of the party. They have not yet registered. If the party has no membership, then what is to prevent one party from packing the other party meeting and pushing into office undesirable or incompetent officers?

Another fault of the system was illustrated at a party meeting early this semester when a large number of freshmen elected party clique officers. Many of those freshmen will never attend another party meeting, yet they were instrumental in electing the clique's officers.

In previous semesters, it was necessary for a student to attend two of three clique meetings to be able to vote for party candidates. Under the new plan, a student may vote by merely signing his name and then attending a meeting to cast his ballot. This system may well allow one group of voters to push its candidate into office with little trouble. In the past, it was at least less convenient to do this. Now there is little trouble at all.

Some believe this system will engender new political interest in the students. True, Sunday night's meetings may be more fully attended. But if so, the attendance will be only temporary.

## On Welcoming Penn State Alumni

The thousands of alumni that returned for Homecoming Weekend Saturday were more welcome than ever this year, whether they knew it or not. Because it was many of them, and their classmates, who this year have contributed almost \$190,000 to the new Penn State Alumni Fund.

More than 20 per cent of the College's 50,000 alumni contributed to the first annual fund drive, making it one of the most promising undertakings of its kind in the nation. Through it, alumni may contribute to what they consider worthwhile projects at the College.

More than \$3000 was given to a scholarship fund, and over \$1000 to both a bust of the late Dr. Fred Lewis Pattee and the proposed all-faith chapel. These are only a few examples

Most of those attending will never return to party meetings. Thus, no change will be experienced.

About the biggest benefit of the new system will be its ability to produce a complete list of all party members, before party elections. This will eliminate much confusion at party meetings Sunday night.

It is questionable if the defections in the new plan do not outweigh the benefits. It is bad policy to have political parties in action without official membership. This could be easily remedied:

Registration could be held the week prior to any official clique party meetings. A mass meeting to explain the political setup and both parties might be held prior to the opening of registration. This would give new students an orientation into politics, and allow the party to have members before it has meetings. After there must be a spark before there is a fire.

## Safety Valve...

### On Friendship

TO THE EDITOR: I'd like to extend a thanks, voiced by 43 other ATOs, to the practical joker who set fire to our Homecoming lawn display Saturday night.

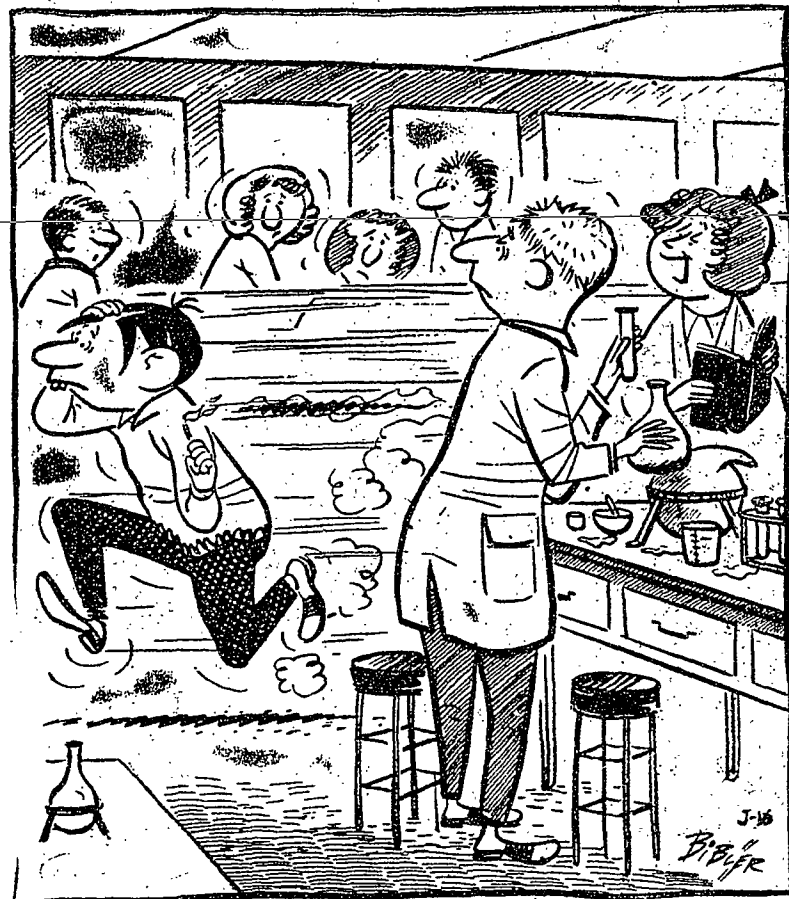
Thanks for burning down a project that took hundreds of hours of labor. More thanks for endangering lives, by completely blocking traffic that was already bottled, by making the presence of three fire engines and a police car necessary.

Thanks for completely destroying lumber, three spotlights and a lawn that we were all proud of. Since the flames were shooting 30 feet high, we owe you a bigger thanks for making sure the wind was blowing away from the house because the project was 18 feet away from open bedroom windows and inflammable drapes and curtains.

It is nice to know we have such a friend. —Maury Coffee

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"That's th' boy I was telling you about who is working on some 'secret' explosive."

### Glancing Around

## At Wisconsin Politics

By DICK RAU

Having nothing better to do than start getting ready for a blue-book, start one of seven books of outside reading, catch up on standard reading assignments, start a course project, or just plain sleeping, I went to a meeting of the Intercollegiate Conference on Govern-

ment. The subject at hand—a discussion of the political situation in Wisconsin—was fascinating, far more fascinating than the other projects at hand.

The discussion centered around old Bob LaFollette, who's well-known for his fight to get into Wisconsin politics, young Bob LaFollette, who's well-known as a progressive, and Joe McCarthy, who's well-known.

According to the mimeographed announcement of the affair that reached me, the speaker for the evening was to be Dr. Frank Sorauf of the Poly Sci department. The announcement said the good doctor "is a native of Wisconsin," that "he completed his graduate work at the University of Wisconsin" and his "dissertation (1953) examined the party system as it presently functions in the state of Wisconsin." I decided Dr. Sorauf knew something about Wisconsin.

The meeting started off with a blast. The doctor doesn't like the slick analyses of the Wisconsin situation found in today's newspapers by writers who have had little or no contact with the Dairy State.

I immediately felt comfortable. Although I was in Milwaukee at the time young Joe McCarthy came out with his original examination of the impurities in government, my particular concern at the time was the possibility of impurities in a particular type of malt beverage that has made Milwaukee famous.

My major recollection of the incident was a demand on the part of University of Wisconsin students for McCarthy's head, preferably on a silver platter, but any old plate would do.

Since that time the people of Wisconsin apparently reconciled themselves to young Joe's antics. His general avocation of breaking into headlines, according to Dr. Sorauf, is one expected of Wisconsin politicians. The voters there go for the lad who becomes a real personality. And Joe has done that.

The routine with Joe and his state seems to be a "we won't bother you, if you don't bother us." This seems to be particularly evident when it is realized that Wisconsin is one state in the 48 that doesn't have a loyalty oath or has not sponsored state investigations.

I heard Joe was questioned some time or other about his finances. Something didn't add

right. Wisconsin had a rather unusual law that specified income tax returns were public record and anyone could have a peek if he was willing to pay the dollar fee. Well, someone apparently decided a buck couldn't be better spent than on literature. The only trouble was, the person who did the reading happened to be a newspaperman. And Joe got another headline.

The attitude in Wisconsin, according to Dr. Sorauf, centered on the idea that one can't work with mud without getting one's fingers dirty. Maybe so. But there's always soap.

The talk didn't center on McCarthy entirely. He just happens to be one of the currently interesting aspects of Wisconsin's politics. There was also quite a bit of discussion on the history of Wisconsin's politics that might take into account some of the differences of opinion.

For example, how in the same party organization, in this case Republican, can an internationalist, an isolationist and a progressive, whose plans look more like they came out of the Democratic party, exist?

The answer seems to be that there is no strong party organization in Wisconsin, according to the doctor. Why isn't there a strong party in Wisconsin? The answer to that one apparently goes back to old Bob LaFollette. Old Bob, when he was young, wanted to get into politics. This was fine except for one thing—the boys who held the ropes in Wisconsin around the turn of the century liked the setup the way it was.

So if the boys wouldn't let him play with their marbles there was only one thing to do—take the marbles away from the boys. He did, and the Republican party became his party.

There is one facet of party politics that provides for continuity—the party primary. If there is a closed primary in the state, the boys who play with machines are able to control pretty well who gets nominated. If the state happens to be largely a one-party operation, their control is felt in the general election.

Well, old Bob did something that probably turned the old machine boys cold. He eliminated the closed primary and instituted the open primary, in which any-

(Continued on page five)

## Gazette...

Today

- ANDROCLES HAT SOCIETY, 10 p.m., Phi Epsilon Pi.
- CHEM-PHYS STUDENT COUNCIL, 7 p.m., 103 Osmond.
- MARKETING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., Sigma Nu.
- NEWMAN CLUB DISCUSSION GROUP, 7:30 p.m., Catholic Student Center.
- PENN STATE GRANGE, 7:30 p.m., 106 Ag.
- WRA MODERN DANCE CLUB, 7 p.m., Rhythm Room.
- WRA UPPERCLASS BOWLING CLUB, 7 p.m., Bowling Alleys.

### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Experienced Waiters. Mechanical and electrical engineers needed in State College and Bellefonte.

### COLLEGE PLACEMENT SERVICE

- The companies listed below will conduct interviews on campus. Schedule interviews now in 112 Old Main.
- THE TEXAS CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Ch.E., EE, ME, P.N.G. on Oct. 28 and also Petroleum engineering students desiring temporary summer employment—Juniors preferably.
- BOEING AIRPLANE CO. will interview Jan. graduates in ME, EE, CE, and Aero. M.S. candidates in ME, EE, CE, Aero., Math., and Physics who have completed at least one semester, and Ph.D. candidates in ME, EE, CE and Aero. expecting to receive degrees in 1954 on Oct. 28.
- THE FORD MOTOR CO. will interview January graduates in Acc., Finance, Industrial Management, Mech. Engr., and IE on Oct. 28.
- BABCOCK and WILCOX CO. will interview Jan. graduates in CE, EE, IE, and ME on Oct. 28.
- SHELL OIL will interview Ph.D. candidates in Chem. and Chem. Eng. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Oct. 29-30.
- S. S. KRESGE CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Bus. Adm., Acctg., Bus. Mngt., Eco., Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, Marketing, Secretarial Science, Trade and Transportation, Arts and Letters, Journalism, Advertising, Languages, Meth., Labor-Management Relations on Oct. 28.
- DOW CHEMICAL CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Metal., Chem. Engr., and 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- ELECTRO METALLURGICAL CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Business Administration, Chem., Phys., Metal., Chem. Engr., EE, IE, ME, and Min. prep. Engr. on Nov. 3.
- WESTINGHOUSE AIR BRAKE will interview Jan. graduates in ME on Nov. 3.
- MERGENS LINOTYPE CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Accounting, Bus. Mngt., 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.
- GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER CO. will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in Chem., Phys., Metal., ChE, EE, Aero., ArchE, CE, IE, ME, on Nov. 5.
- CONTINENTAL OIL CO. will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in Petroleum Production Engineering on Nov. 5 and 6.
- PAUL E. WILLIAMS, Ph.D., will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in Bus. Mngt., Eco., Marketing, Pre-Med., Science, ChE, EE, IE, ME, and Arts and Letters on Nov. 5.
- I-T-E CIRCUIT BREAKER CO. will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in EE and ME on Nov. 5.
- ALUMINUM CO. OF AMERICA will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in Metal., IE, ME, CE, and EE on Nov. 4.
- NEW JERSEY ZINC CO. will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in CE, EE, ME, Mining E., and Metal., plus a few outstanding geologists; M.S. candidates in Chem., Metal., Min. Prep., and Ch.E. who have completed at least one semester; and Ph.D. candidates in Chem., Metal., Min. Prep., and Ch.E. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Nov. 4.