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The Daily Collegian

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Military Ball and Big Weekend Status

Approval from the Senate committee on student affairs for imports to live in fraternity houses is all that stands between Military Ball and its classification as a big weekend.

Big weekend is generally thought of by students as a weekend when a dance has late hours, coeds have special late permissions, imports are living in approved fraternity houses and house parties are underway.

The Senate committee has already granted late hours for the dance. Women's Student Government Association has approved special coed permissions. Fraternities are planning house parties. It seems a safe bet, then, that the Senate committee will soon come through with permission for imports to live in approved fraternity houses.

Mil Ball's classification comes as a disappointment to some, but is welcomed by most. Some student groups have been promoting their dance weekends as possible big weekends. But a look

at the Mil Ball situation will illustrate the logic of making it one of Penn State's four big social events.

The Mil Ball has been the most rapid growing dance on campus. Three years ago it was a routine affair and ROTC students were depended upon to insure adequate ticket sales.

Last year, however, Mil Ball was one of the best dances of the College year. The addition of a name band brought the ball into its own. Ticket sales are limited by number, one reason for the dance's popularity.

Although the dance is sponsored by the three campus ROTC units, it is open to all students. Attendance runs close to 2000. Aside from three other dances already classified as big weekends, other campus dances usually draw about 1000.

Senate action to allow imports in approved fraternities now must logically follow. If it does, the Military Ball will have gained the distinction it deserves: classification as one of Penn State's four big weekends.

Fraternity Open House: A Clearer Look

Tomorrow Penn State fraternities will hold open house as the second part of the Interfraternity Council fall rushing program.

To many independent men, this will be the first opportunity to see fraternities as they really are. To many, the subject of fraternities has been something heard from roommates and the men down the hall, or read about in the Daily Collegian.

Students sometimes have vague and ill-founded ideas about fraternities before arriving on campus. Purpose of tomorrow's open houses is to give independent men a clearer conception of fraternity life and an understanding of what fraternities have to offer.

The question is often asked, "Why join a fraternity?" There are many answers to this question.

College life is not merely a corridor through which we pass to the business world lying beyond. It is life itself, often at its very best. College is not merely preparation for life, it is part of that life. Fraternity experience often helps make it so.

One of the prime goals for coming to College is learning how to get along with others. There is perhaps no better way to learn this than by living in the atmosphere of a College fraternity.

One of the most common misconceptions about fraternities is that the cost is too high for the average student. Statistics compiled by the IFC workshop in 1950 disprove this idea. These statistics prove there is a fraternity at Penn State within the means of almost every man.

However, the benefits of fraternity life cannot be measured only financially, for there are many other values which contribute to the development and formation of character.

Fraternities are a home away from home. After graduation, they are a place to return and again enjoy college friendships.

It is up to each man to decide for himself whether fraternity life can benefit him. If each man attends the open houses tomorrow with an open mind he will gain a better understanding of what fraternity life can mean to him. He may then decide, on the basis of first-hand information, if fraternity life is the life he wants.

—Jack Reid

On Powder Bowls

Penn State coeds—well known for their athletic ability—will invade Beaver Field this morning to engage in a feminine fray of touch football. Both teams, fielded by Kappa Kappa Gamma and the Aye Sees Colony of Pi Beta Phi will be in there fighting for dear ol' Campus Chest.

For the past several weeks, both teams have been preparing for the struggle. Beaver Field, we understand, is unprepared. The Associated Press is also unprepared—no predictions of the outcome have been made. But dear ol' Campus Chest has been waiting for this day with eager anticipation, as have the referees and coaches. This will be no ordinary football game.

—Dick Rau

An Explanation of the New Traffic Court

Many students, who normally do not know what is going on about campus, were wondering last week just what the new student Traffic Court is. The court went into operation last week, fining 15 students for traffic violations.

The long-needed Traffic Court is the first step in what could be a revolution in student discipline procedure. A need for the court became evident last year when Tribunal frequently sat for two nights to hear only traffic cases. Rather than let Tribunal remain a traffic court, student government set up the new court to handle the situation.

The new Traffic Court is distinctly separate from Tribunal, which hears discipline cases. Tribunal hears appeals from the court. Students who do not wish to contest their traffic tickets

may pay them at the Student Union desk in Old Main.

Under the new court set-up, first traffic offense fines will be \$1 and second offense fines \$4. Third offenses may result in the student's car being sent home. Coeds will not be under the plan, but will be disciplined by Judicial.

The fining system was a recommendation of this year's Student Encampment. The proposal met some opposition from students who felt the second and third offense penalties too steep. It was aptly pointed out, however, that traffic regulations were not made for student convenience.

Out of the Student Encampment came several other proposals for reorganization of the student disciplinary procedure. Two proposals for a more standardized process will be presented to All-College Cabinet in the near future.

Gazette...

Sunday
ALPHA EPSILON DELTA, initiation of new members, 8 p.m., Alpha Epsilon Pi.

Monday
INTERCOLLEGIATE CONFERENCE ON GOVERNMENT, Dr. Joseph F. O'Brien on "Parliamentary Maneuver in Politics," 7 p.m., 108 Willard.

WRA BRIDGE CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall Playroom.

WRA FROSH BOWLING CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall Alleys.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT
Mechanical or Industrial Engineer to work between 6 and 10 hours a week.
Waiters or kitchen help for fraternities.

COLLEGE HOSPITAL
Richard Carson, Geraldine D'Alie, Stuart Itzkovitz, Virginio Juan, Ralph Kudart, William Lennarz, James H. McNamara, Edward Ritter, Peter Schoderbek, Alexis Silkrin and Doris Wenger.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT SERVICE
The companies listed below will conduct interviews on campus. Schedule interviews now in 112 Old Main.
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.
MERGENTHALER 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, Ch.E., EE, Aero.E., Arch.E., 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. candidates in Bus. Mngt., Eco., Marketing, Pre-Med., Science, Ch.E., 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.

MANUFACTURERS LIGHT AND HEAT CO. will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in ME, EE, CE, ChE, P.N.G., and Home Ec. on Nov. 4.
GENERAL ELECTRIC LABS. will interview Ph.D. candidates in Chem., Metal, Phys., EE, ChE, and ME expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Nov. 4.
WAGNER ELECTRIC CORPORATION will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in ME and EE on Nov. 5.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Boy, I'd hate to be going into THAT locker room!"

Constitution Revision

Inflexibility Calls For Revision

By M. NELSON McGEARY
Professor of Political Science

(This is the second in a series of faculty guest columns)

Pennsylvania does not have what could be called a model constitution.

I don't feel, personally, that it is nearly as bad as some critics would have us believe. There are many features of it that have worked well through the years. It is an exaggeration to picture it as

an old worn-out jalopy which is on the verge of collapsing from age. Some persons, for example, ridicule it because of a provision against dueling; but such an outmoded feature is no more a defect of the document than is the provision in the national constitution concerning the escape of slaves from one state to another.

There is no denying, however, that the Pennsylvania constitution needs some changes. Its fundamental weakness is its detail and inflexibility. Part of the strength of the United States constitution has been a flexibility which has permitted it to become adjusted, largely by means of interpretation by the courts, to the changing times. The Pennsylvania constitution, it is fair to say, tends in some parts to be a collection of precise laws rather than a basic guide for the governing of the state.

The prohibition against the state's going into debt more than \$1 million without a vote of the people is an example of excessive inflexibility. This limit was established in 1873 when \$1 million was a lot of money. Some limit is desirable, but as this one remained frozen in the constitution through a period of 80 years, the borrowing capacity of the state has in reality been drastically reduced.

Other undesirable rigidities in the constitution concern local government. In a democracy, a considerable amount of "home rule" in local areas makes sense. It seems to me, for example, that if most of the citizens, say, Altoona or Uniontown want the city manager form of government in their city, they should be able to get it. But the constitution does not now give them the opportunity to choose the kind of government they prefer.

Nothing is to be gained here by enumerating a long list of suggested improvements in the constitution. One example of a need is a new provision that will bring about a redistricting of the state after each census. The constitution now requires that each district send a senator to Harrisburg must have the same population as other such districts. No adjustments in senatorial district lines have been made, however, since the early 1920's. One district, as a

result, now contains more than five times as many people as a neighboring district. The constitution should provide for periodic redistricting in the event the legislature fails to act.

Perhaps the most controversial question of all concerns the constitution's provision which has been interpreted to ban a state graduated tax. A large proportion of tax experts agree that a graduated income tax is one of the fairer taxes. The wisdom of a flat constitutional prohibition against such a tax is questionable, although the people twice have rejected proposed amendments to permit the tax.

Granted that some changes in our constitution are desirable, the question of the strategy for obtaining them becomes important. Gradual improvement by individual amendments frankly appeals to me. It is slow and often discouraging. But progress is made. The Pennsylvania constitution is not as difficult to amend as is the national constitution, and as a result we have been able to make 53 changes in 80 years, many of them advantageous. Incidentally, the people are voting on four more amendments at Tuesday's election; all four deserve approval.

It is my candid prediction that, assuming the voters on Tuesday approve the calling of a constitutional convention (which is at least doubtful), the new constitution which is written will be rejected by the voters. If the really needed changes are proposed by the convention, almost every one of them will in some way disturb the status quo and will draw fire from some segment of the state's population. The probability of the opposition's "ganging up" against the new constitution is clear. Based on experience in other states, the way to get a new constitution is first to have a citizenship widely aroused as to the need for change. We in Pennsylvania do not at present seem to have this necessary ingredient. Support for revision seems either sporadic or relatively unenthusiastic.

In spite of what I have said, the only way to vote Tuesday on (Continued on page five)