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The Daily Collegian

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Collegian editorials represent the viewpoint of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the newspaper. Unsigned editorials are by the editor.

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Bus Strike: A Personal Problem?

Although the threatened Greyhound bus strike did not materialize prior to Thanksgiving recess, many students were struck by a comment they felt was the University's attitude to their travel dilemma.

In announcing no plans had been made to begin the recess early, a member of the administration said he felt the situation was "a personal problem for a small number of students." Because the strike was delayed, it is hard to appraise the full effect this statement could have had if the strike were called.

More than a few students were concerned with the statement. Those concerned were not only those who planned to take busses home, but others who did not like what they felt was the wrong attitude.

But students who were disturbed with the statement did not fully or correctly interpret it. The statement was a personal opinion, not necessarily designed to voice the University sentiment. Then too, the speaker had no authority himself to say what action, if any, might be taken. The thinking student, therefore, should have realized this inability to speak for the University.

The University attitude was perhaps best expressed by representatives of the food service and department of housing. They indicated dormitories would remain open for those stranded.

Although the strike would have affected a

small number of students, several hundred would have been in a dilemma. The major student concern, it seems, was elimination of classes. Perhaps criticism of the statement sprang from the desire to have classes end early. This is not a realistic idea, since students probably would not have had too much trouble getting professors to excuse them from class.

It is disturbing, however, to find some may really believe such an event a "personal problem." The student body is expected to attend classes until a specific time. A bus line advertises special busses from the University. Many students plan to take those busses. When these students suddenly find themselves without a way home, it is far from a personal problem.

That it was not a personal problem was illustrated by indications that the dorms would stay open. The University need not cancel classes early to recognize this was not a personal problem.

If such a situation is a personal problem, then also a personal problem is student conduct during the Pitt and Penn football games. These games are held during vacation periods and though sponsored by the institution, are no less connected with the students than the bus strike situation.

It is not a personal problem when many students are stranded at the University without a way home. Penn State is large, but it need not be as impersonal as that.

Customs Revision: Commendable Start

The Freshman Joint Customs Board made a limited but commendable start on customs revisions two weeks ago when it lifted frosh dating restrictions and proposed centering customs enforcement in the sophomore class.

The need for revision of the dating code was obvious to anyone who observed the large number of violations, by both frosh and upperclassmen, of rules against freshman dating and talking to members of the opposite sex during customs period. Little needs to be said on this matter.

However, a great deal of controversy might well arise over the proposed switch of enforcement from an all-University activity to a sophomore class activity.

Under such a change, sophomores would be chiefly responsible for enforcing the program. Upperclassmen could participate in enforcement if they wished, but their major role would be that of spectator. The new plan would probably divorce hat societies from their delegated power as major enforcement agencies. It would also probably call for revision of the customs board.

The ideal function of the sophomore-centered

program would be stronger enforcement of customs. In comparison with all-University enforcement, that centered in the sophomore class could be more easily achieved solely on the basis that a single class is more effectively appealed to, and coordinated, than an entire university. The sophomore class seems to be the best enforcement agency because of its relative proximity to the frosh class and ordeals of customs.

Immature and time-wasting as any customs program is on a university campus, strong enforcement of the existing program is necessarily the main goal of that program's coordinators.

It is perhaps a shame that the sophomore may be "stuck" with this burden of enforcement, but there is also that possibility that such a group can inject into the program some humorous spirit, and even a bit of value. If nothing else, it will give the class opportunity to pass on any mock revenge it has stored up from its own customs tribulations.

—Peggy McClain

On Christmas Cheer

A week before Thanksgiving recess, Santa Claus was being sprinkled into many towns throughout the nation by helicopter, airplane, sleigh, and parachute, for all we know. And this has some of us wondering whether last week's vacation was for Thanksgiving or Christmas.

But after all, it wasn't hard to figure out. It is all part of the unorganized but definitely intentional process of getting Old Saint Nick into the town so the merchants may begin selling Christmas gifts. And viewed from this angle, Christmas is becoming more unpleasant every year.

There was a time—they say—when Christmas was a holiday to celebrate the birth of Christ. Now it may be more of a celebrated time to spend, or make, money.

The next thing we know, the Easter rabbit will be rearing his head during Christmas recess. And then things will be really fouled up.

Maybe the first Christmas is so far away that we just cannot capture the spirit on an assigned day.

Someone else was puzzled about this once too, when he wrote:

Christmas cards confuse me so . . .
Why the kittens? Why the doe?
(Why not) something simple now and then,
Saying just: "Good will to men."

Gazette . . .

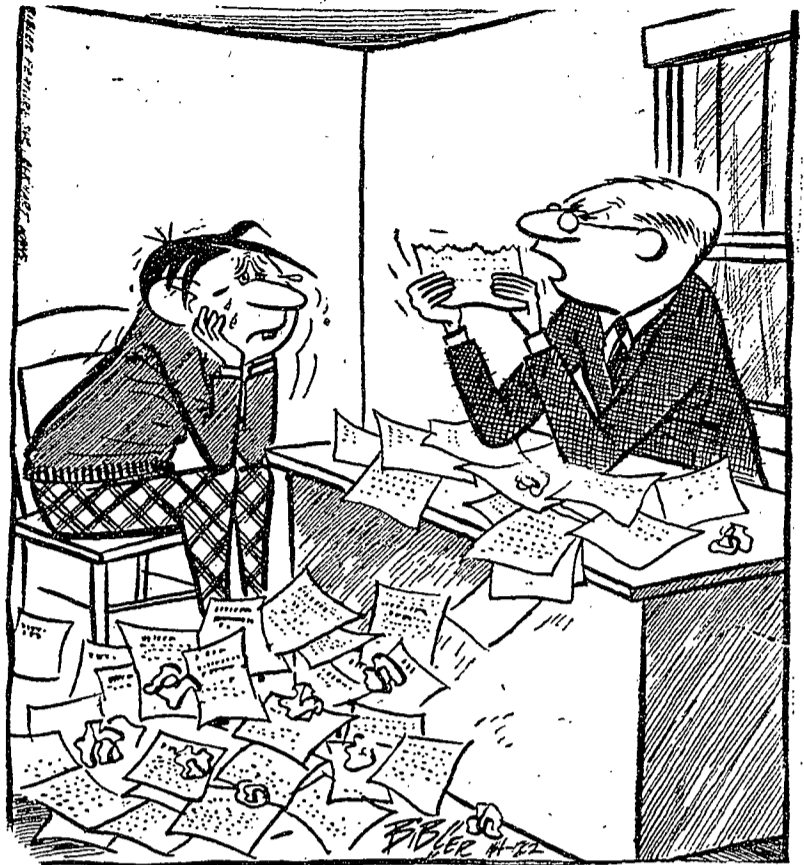
- Today**
ACCOUNTING CLUB, 7 p.m., Sigma Chi.
ARNOLD AIR SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m., Delta Tau Delta.
BELLES LETTRES, 7 p.m., Northeast Lounge, Atherton Hall.
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 6:45 p.m., 304 Old Main.
COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 7 p.m., Business Office.
COLLEGIAN CIRCULATION STAFF, 6:30 p.m., Daily Collegian Office.
COLLEGIAN PROMOTION STAFF, 7 p.m., 111 Carnegie Hall.
LAVIE SOPHOMORE BOARD, 7:30 p.m., 405 Old Main.
PENN STATE FENCING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., North Corridor Rec Hall.
Tomorrow
PENNS VALLEY SKI CLUB AND OUTING CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 109 Agriculture.
PHI EPSILON OMICRON, 6:45 p.m., Home Economics Living Center.

INFIRMARY
Lyle Barnard, Richard Bruce, Jack Calderone, James Davis, Francesca Dickey, Yvonne Fino, Elaine Focht, Richard Guzikowski, Francis O'Brien, Nancy Ann Peiz, and Gay Sheley.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT
Waiters wanted on and off campus.

PLACEMENT SERVICE
The companies listed below will conduct interviews on campus. Schedule interviews now in 112 Old Main.
WHEELING STEEL COMPANY will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in Ch.E., Chem., CE, EE, IE, ME, Fuel Tech. and Metal. on Dec. 3.
BENDIX-WESTINGHOUSE (AUTOMOTIVE AIR BRAKE CO.) will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in ME on Dec. 3.
M. W. KELLOGG CO. will interview Ph.D. candidates in Chem., Ch.E. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954; M.S. candidates in CE, ME, and Ch.E. who have completed at least one semester; and B.S. Jan. graduates in Ch.E. in Dec. 7.
ATLAS POWDER CO. (CENTRAL RESEARCH LAB.) will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in Chem., Ch.E., Mining E. IE, CE; M.S. candidates in Ch.E. and Chem. who have completed at least one semester; and Ph.D. candidates in Ch.E. and Chem. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Dec. 8.

Little Man on Campus By Bibler



"Now that we've boiled your paper down to this relevant material—I think you're ready to re-write."

Interpreting the News

Fate of EDC Rests on Big 4

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

Official statements in Washington and London indicate there is no longer much question about whether a four-power conference on Germany will be held, and that Allied talks at Bermuda will center primarily around what kind of a front they will put up.

The United States still feels the Russian switch from intransigence to negotiation is entirely a tactical matter, designed to interfere with European defense plans rather than to reach an accord.

But after a couple of days in which there were signs of an American desire to further pin down Russian intentions before agreeing to the meeting, Secretary Dulles indicated a shift toward the Anglo-French view, which was to get ahead with a meeting as the best test.

"We approach a possible meeting with the representatives of the Soviet Union," said Dulles at a congressional committee hearing on another matter.

Anthony Eden was telling Parliament that Britain believes, on the basis of information already obtained from the United States, that "it will now be possible to arrange a meeting . . ."

There were reports in Washington that President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles, agreeing on this point with France and Britain at Bermuda, would present a simultaneous request that France go ahead with ratification of the European Defense Community without waiting either for the or-

ganization of the four-power conference or its results.

The New York Herald Tribune carried a report in this connection that the United States, to give the French government something to work on with recalcitrant members of Parliament, would give assurances that American troops would remain in Europe to balance the strength of a rearmed West Germany.

The recent French vote on Premier Laniel's pro-EDC foreign policy, however, led to small hope that ratification could be obtained now, even if the Russians had not revived die-hard hopes in France that the sovereignty surrender and the rearmament of Germany might somehow be avoided.

The European foreign ministers meeting at The Hague also found that it would take them four more months merely to draw up a proposed constitution for the supra-national civil control organization under which EDC is to operate. This gives French opponents of the unified army the opportunity to claim that it would be premature to ratify the army before they can see how it will be controlled.

Student Paper Threatened For Its Contrary Views

Two University of Georgia students, who published an editorial attacking the position of Georgia's governor on school segregation, have been described as "little sissy boys" by a Southern politician-editor.

The editorial, appearing in the campus weekly newspaper, expressed a liberal view on race segregation. It particularly hit the condemnatory remarks of Gov. Herman Talmadge on several law suits dealing with segregation in schools, now pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Roy C. Harris, long-time supporter of Talmadge and publisher of an Augusta weekly, called the involved students "a little handful of sissy, misguided squirts." Writing in his paper, Harris went on to say:

"But the time has come to clean out all of these institutions of all communist influences and the crazy idea of mixing and mingling of the races (Continued on page five)

LaVie Group Photo Schedule

The unofficial schedule for LaVie group pictures tonight at the Penn State Photo Shop is:

- Players 6:30
- Thespians 6:50
- LaVie senior and sophomore board . . 7:10
- Education Student Council 7:30
- Collegian junior and senior board 7:50