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The Daily Collegian

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Fraternity Action: Move for Democracy

Several days ago, the National Interfraternity Conference passed a resolution upholding a fraternity's right to choose its members, free from outside interference.

The problem of fraternity autonomy first came before the conference in 1950 when several members of the executive council offered a resolution defending the right of a fraternity to establish its own membership criteria, and urging colleges and universities to respect that right.

At that time, a number of member fraternities expressed concern that adoption of such a resolution would bring criticism from the public and a breach in relationships existing between college administrations and fraternities.

The question has been brought up at each NIC session since that time. The group decided to take a definite stand on the question this year in order to avert what the executive council called "a situation which may ultimately lead to a crumbling of the strong foundation upon which the fraternity system is built."

As was expected, the resolution met with much adverse criticism. It has been called an endorsement of prejudice and discrimination, undemocratic, and even un-American.

Far from being an endorsement of prejudice and discrimination, the NIC resolution serves to uphold a basic concept of democracy—self-government.

The resolution contains no statement concerning the desirability or undesirability of racial and religious discrimination in a fraternity's membership. To so interpret it is to deliberately misrepresent the facts.

In addition, the resolution is not meant to restrict college and university administrations from setting minimum scholastic and moral standards necessary for fraternity membership.

Fraternities have done much to forward the educational objectives of America's colleges and universities. This has been due largely to the common interests and goals of its members. Anything which tends to weaken these common interests, and unity of purpose, weakens the ability of fraternities to contribute toward those objectives.

Any attempt to restrict or regulate the right

of a fraternity to choose its own members on any grounds, other than scholastic and moral qualifications, is a violation of the democratic process of self-government and the fundamental right of a human being to choose his own associates.

When the time comes for a college or university to dictate the composition of fraternity membership, the fraternity system is doomed.

—Jack Reid

A Pat on the Back

Students received a deserved pat on the back yesterday with announcement by the University that no cases of misconduct have been reported from the Pitt-Penn State football game.

Director of Student Affairs Wilmer E. Kenworthy said nothing had happened serious enough to bring to the University's attention. This is in direct contrast to reports following October's Penn football game.

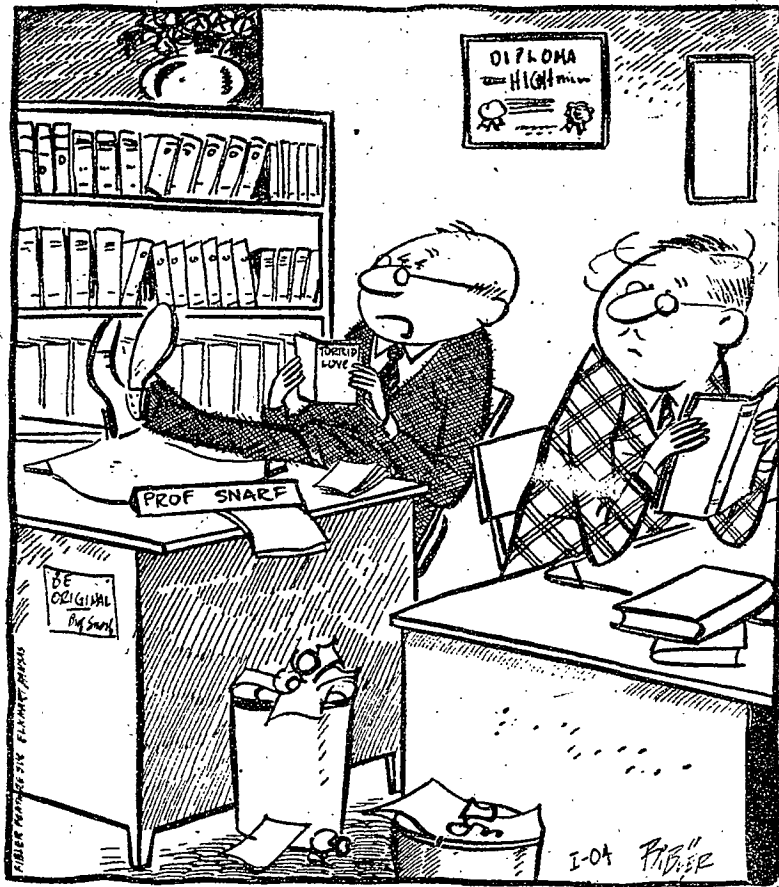
That conduct was much improved may be attributed to either a realization of responsibility, or lack of energy. It is preferable to believe the former. At any rate, it proves Penn State students are capable of conducting themselves in an intelligent way.

A repeat performance of good conduct at next year's Penn game can do much to improve Penn State relations in Philadelphia. Much criticism arising from this year's Penn game conduct has been labeled unfair. A good bit of misconduct, many say, came from alumni, Penn students, and Philadelphians themselves. This may be true, but Penn State students cannot claim freedom from misconduct.

Improved student conduct, as shown at the Pitt game, is also necessary for continued relations with the University of Pennsylvania. Student misconduct could have much to do with ending the Penn-Penn State game. The student body and the University do not want that.

It is deserving praise the student body has received from the University. Let us hope it will be deserved—and forthcoming—much more often in the future.

Little Man on Campus By Bibler



"I'm teaching four different courses in education, but confidentially, I give the same lecture in all of them."

Short 'Change

By GUS VOLLMER

While Penn State football fans were all bundled up and still were frozen at the Fordham game, the latest thing in football game attire came into being at Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge. This new form of attire is the fan's brightest pair of pajamas. The freshmen in this southern school seem to be most devoted to the practice.

Naturally, the fact that if the freshmen didn't wear night apparel to the game they would be "handled" by upperclassmen, had nothing to do with this colorful phenomenon!

Get out the nightshirt, Ma, and hand me my Ohio State pillow case—I'll see you at the Illinois game!

The News Record of the University of Cincinnati reports students there have some intelligent, clear-cut opinions about the current literary sensation, "Sexual Behavior in the Human Female," by Dr. Alfred Kinsey.

The News Record reporter refers those frustrated Kinsey readers to James Jones' "From Here to Eternity."

The residents of a men's dormitory at the University of Washington are up in arms over the price of a soft drink.

It all began when a coke machine was "swiped" from the dorm and a multiple-drink vend-

ing machine was installed in its place. The machine "cheerfully" dispenses a variety of soft drinks in sanitary cups.

However, some unsuspecting students, at first attempts to use the machine, found it would not accept the nickel that had satisfied the old coke machine. Instead it demanded a whole dime.

The result is making history in the dorm. Several residents got up a petition to protest the price and went on a soft drink strike to add point to the petition. Some went so far as to seal up the dime slot so that unprotesting students could not quench their thirst.

However, the voice of authority "discussed" the situation with the protesters, and the result is that drinks are available for one dime, though business is slow.

Students at Tomsk Polytechnical Institute in, of all places, Siberia, are producing their own television programs on a transmitter which they built themselves. Fifty students worked over a period of 18 months to com-

(Continued on page eight)

Gazette . . .

Today

INTER-CHURCH STUDENT FELLOWSHIP SQUARE DANCE, 7:30 p.m., Wesley Foundation Gymnasium.

PENN STATE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP, 7:30 p.m., 405 Old Main.

Tomorrow

THETA SIGMA PHI PLEDGES, 12:30 p.m., 217 Simmons.

INFIRMARY

Joseph Albini, Lyle Barnard, James Davis, Sidney Goldblatt, Edward Goldston, Alice Grubb, Judith Hartman, John Hogan, William Hoover, Aaron Kaye, Polly Lazarus, Roberta Lerch, Eleanor McKenzie, W. Charles McMinn, Peter Reagan, Julianna Roess, Leroy Sacks, Donald Schwartz, John Sieber, Constance Strook, Kenneth Thomas, Anthony Tornetta, Mary Trolier, and Marilyn Ward.

PLACEMENT SERVICE

The companies listed below will conduct interviews on campus. Schedule interviews now in 112 Old Main.

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.

STANDARD PIEZO CO. will interview Jan. graduates in Bus. Adm., Bus. Mngt., Eco., IE, Arts and Letters, Labor Management Relations, and Math. on Dec. 7.

THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA will interview all men interested in a career in professional boy scout work on Dec. 8.

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.

GRANGE LEAGUE FEDERATION will have a representative on campus Dec. 8, 9, and 10. A group meeting will be conducted for all interested seniors at 7 p.m., Dec. 8 in 105 Forestry. Arrangements for interviews may be made at that time.

VISKING CORP. will interview Jan. B.S. graduates in Chem., Ch.E., and ME; M.S. candidates in Chem., Ch.E. and ME who have completed at least one semester; and Ph.D. candidates in Chem., Ch.E. and ME expecting to receive their degrees in 1954 on Dec. 9.

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