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The Daily Collegian

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STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night editor, Mike Feinsilber; Copy editors, Al Munn, Marcie MacDonald; Assistants, Bill Snyder, Dave Bronstein, Joanne Wohleber.

New Buildings: \$2.7 Million Worth

The \$2.7 million appropriated for the University by the General State Authority prior to Christmas recess will go a long way toward improving the educational value of Penn State.

The GSA money will be used to construct a classroom building and wings for the Infirmary. The classroom building will provide necessary space for expanding classes. The Infirmary wings will allow consolidation of the hospital and dispensary services into one building. These new buildings are but two in the still unfolding construction program at the University.

Contrary to what some students are wishfully thinking, addition of the new classroom building will not wipe out Saturday classes. Classroom space needed at Penn State cannot be solved merely by construction of one building. But office and class space to be in the new building will alleviate crowded conditions now existing throughout the campus.

Perhaps more of student interest is the proposed addition to the Infirmary. For several years students have been bemoaning inadequacies of the University Health Service. One complaint has been the separation of the hospital and the dispensary. Under the new plans, the two will be combined.

Another benefit of the new wings will be increased bed space. The Infirmary now has 33 beds for students. With the new wings, capacity will be almost doubled.

Just as important to the University will be the addition of treatment rooms and technical facilities. Then too, more rapid and complete student health service is sure to follow.

In a recent Daily Collegian poll, students preferred a doctor on duty 24 hours a day. This would present a multitude of financial complications for the University. However, combination of the two services in one building may help answer that problem.

Students also suggested a better plan for class excuses. Under present health service operation, only students confined to Infirmary beds may receive class excuses. Students too ill to attend class, but not ill enough to be put in the Infirmary, are caught in a dilemma. But expansion of health service facilities could make it possible for more students to be hospitalized than before.

The new wings will not be completed for several months, but approval of funds for their construction brings many student hopes near reality.

A New Game: Fill in the Blanks

Eeny meanie miney moe. This means of selection—quite adequate in grammar school days—has hit the campus again in the form of course-scheduling blues.

Only this time it's worse. More than 100 courses have been listed in the spring semester timetable without names of instructors who will teach them. For the student who cares little about how much he gets from a course, this presents no problem. But students sometimes have a habit of caring, and, more often than not, the value of a course depends upon the man who teaches it.

There are reasons—some justifiable—for the appearance of white space or the word "staff" adjacent to so many courses. For example, the schedulers in various departments have no idea how registration will effect course enrollment. There are problems of section overflow, under-registration, and availability of specialized professors at certain times.

In the case of basic courses like economics 14, assignments to instructors are more practical when made after registration, because the scheduler cannot predict the magnitude and trend of section enrollment. Often, when a new section is created, the new class meets simultaneously with another of the assigned professor's classes. Also the employment of graduate students in survey courses depends on the availability of those students, which is generally unknown at scheduling time. White space, then, for some basic courses, seems to make sense.

But what is the sense of omitting the names of instructors in advanced courses—courses that should be predictable in the registration area? Not one instructor is listed for mathematics courses. There are 27 math courses.

Even less scheduling sense is evident, when

we realize that course information is requested from the academic departments by the University scheduling office about two weeks after the start of the semester. The department heads have a month to prepare the information. And when a department head knows fairly well who will be on his staff—as he should—there is little trouble at all.

However, department heads sometime have the idea that students will "gang up" on reputedly easy professors if those professors are listed. This—like eneny meanie miney moe—reminds us of our grade school days. For students who want to learn will avoid these professors if they have comparatively little to offer. Not listing instructors, therefore, can lead to placing a conscientious student in a not-so-conscientious class.

A recommendation made to All-College Cabinet in 1951 asked all schools to list their instructors "when possible" and presented a plan for the listing of instructors not known by the publication deadline. Those sections would be posted before pre-registration. Such a plan seems sensible for administration as well as students, presenting a kind of measuring stick for the relative value of the instructors, a value demonstrated by class enrollment.

As freshmen, we were told the importance of scheduling courses by professors. The desirability of this became even more evident from registration to registration. But it is scheduling time again, and department schedulers have made a "heads or tails" or "no Saturday classes for me" choice the only choice of many students. Unfortunately one thing has been ignored: the student's right to know and, in some cases, to learn.

—Baylee Friedman

Sign of the Times

The sites for both the All-Faith Chapel and the nuclear reactor were approved simultaneously by the University Board of Trustees last month. This was a sign of the times.

Who will deny the connections the mind makes between these two structures is typical of our thinking today and the age we live in? With our right hand we construct monuments of hope and faith; with our left hand we build power plants of despair.

Yet these power plants of despair today may become the source of a newer and better life tomorrow. Given time, we may yet be able to put the atom to work for us. Let us hope we are given time.

The problem is not only for our right hand to know what our left hand is doing, but also for our understanding and foresight to bring the two into harmony.

It's about this time that a prayer is offered for our country—isn't it?

—Len Goodman

Gazette...

Today
ACEI, 7 p.m., Home Ec. nursery school.
CHESS CLUB, 7 p.m., 3 Sparks.
NEWMAN CLUB, 7:30 p.m., Catholic Student Center.

Thursday
POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB, 7:30 p.m., Home Economics Living Center.

INFIRMARY
Arnold Dalton, Janet Fetterolf, Donald Garber, Berna Joseph, Jeannette Kohl, Samuel Lear, William Matthews, Joseph Mijares, Dean Moyer, Phyllis Roberts, Norman Schue, Roland Taylor, Nancy Wenner, Joyce White.

PLACEMENT SERVICE
LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY representatives will visit the campus Jan. 13 to interview Ph.D. candidates in Physics, Math, Chem. (Inorganic or Physical) and Metal, expecting to receive their degrees in 1954. M.S. candidates in Phys., Math., Chem., (Inorganic or Physical) and Metal, who have completed at least one semester, and graduates in the above fields who wish to consider summer work.
CAMP DELWOOD in the Poconos will interview students here on Feb. 16, who are interested in counselors' positions. Interested students may sign up for appointment at the employment office.

Pa. Missionary Dies While Serving in India

NEW DELHI, India, Jan. 5 (AP)—The U.S. Embassy here received today a belated report of the death of an American missionary, Miss Marjorie Ann Smiley of Rural Route 1, Scenery Hill, Pa., in a fall into the icy Himalayan River Gori Ganga Dec. 22.

Education—The inculcation of the incomprehensible into the ignorant by the incompetent.

—Sir Josiah Stamp

New Unemployment Rise Of 400,000 Is Reported

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5 (AP)—The Department of Commerce said today unemployment rose about 400,000 from November to December, increasing the jobless total to 1.85 million.

The department's monthly report on employment showed little change in non-farm employment, but a sharp drop in farm work with the onset of winter weather.

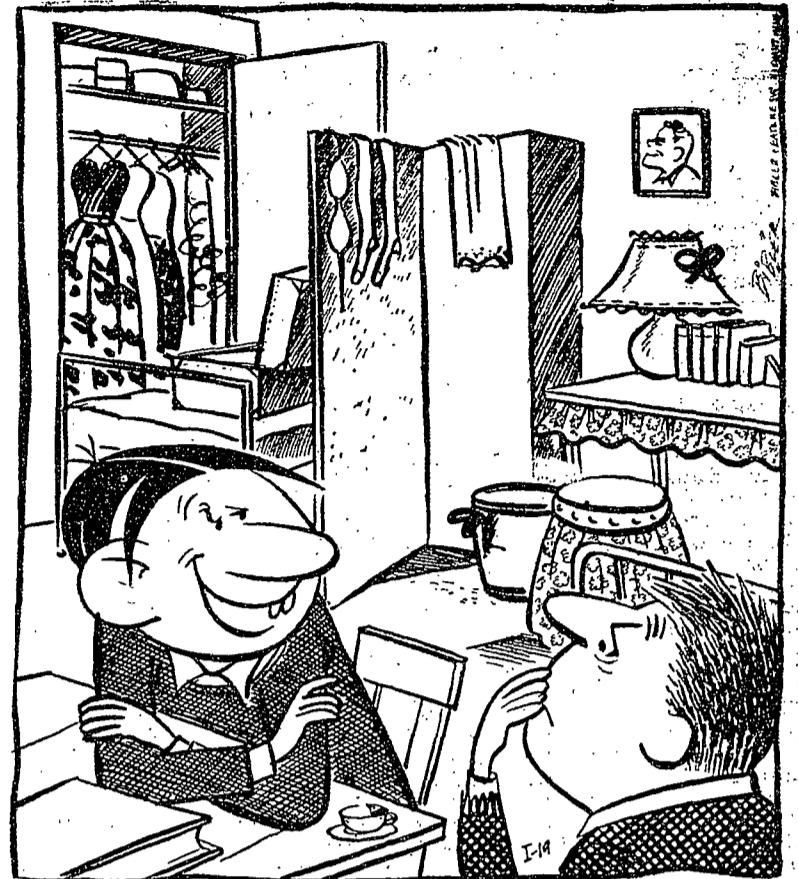
Britain's Railroads Ask Freight Rate Increase

LONDON, Jan. 5 (AP)—Britain's nationalized railroads, faced in 1954 with wage increases and higher operating costs, today asked the government for permission to hike freight rates 10 percent starting Feb. 1.

If the application is approved, it will be the third time in as many years that Britain's state-owned rail system, struggling to keep out of the red, has increased its charges.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



—Well, did you see that silly ad I put in yesterday's newspaper for a roommate?

Glancing Around

At the Creative Life

By DICK RAU

There exists in this University one of the greatest things that has been developed since Kinsey invented the book. It is a course in photography—press photography.

The fact that the course is called press photography hasn't bothered me at all. I still continue taking pictures not worth printing.

One of the primary advantages in taking the course is the sense of imagination that it builds in the student. I understand one of the professor's compensations in teaching us the art is the privilege of first-hand observation of the variety of errors that can be made.

I'm gunning for the record. I think I'll make it.

The course involves traipsing about campus with enough equipment to make one almost look professional. This illusion fades when the picture-taking starts. The cameras are not of the aim-the-box-trip-the-shutter variety. They have a number of gimmicks and gadgets which enable one to take pictures of varying degrees of quality in almost any situation.

The gadgets also provide a greater variety of ways to make mistakes than a travel guide written in Hindustani. For example, everyone in the course is provided with a micographed list of picture assignments that must be completed by the end of the term.

Included in the list is a picture of a newsworthy event. Good newsworthy pictures seldom come by when one happens to have a camera signed out. I was fortunate in having one newsworthy event walk into Carnegie one night.

This particular newsworthy event happened to be surrounded by a window screen. My trigger-quick mind decided that this was not an ordinary occurrence. Most men on campus prefer belts.

He did not look particularly pleased with the situation. His companions on the other hand didn't seem to mind at all. I didn't mind either. In fact I was delighted. One of my problems was solved.

His friends wanted his picture taken. I wanted his picture. He looked like he wanted a can opener.

After carefully checking the camera adjustments, I calmly stepped forward and in my best professional manner I preserved the poor boy's pan and position for posterity.

There was only one thing that I overlooked. I was just a wee bit too close. I chopped off the top of his head.

If anyone else cares to get himself jammed into the opening of a Nittany dorm window screen, I would appreciate knowing about it first.

Despite these little annoyances,

my interest in the art has increased. So much so, that when I received a bit of currency at Christmas, I decided to invest it in a tank and some smelly chemicals for developing roll film.

My only experience with a roll tank developer before was a sad one. I blithely started to load film into it when the realization that I did not know what I was doing slowly sank in. Perhaps it was because I had the film all wadded up. The class was told originally that the best results are obtained when the film fits on the reel smoothly. The professor bailed me out of that jam.

It was with considerable relief then that I learned that the roll tank I was considering buying would practically load itself. The merchant even included a practice roll of film to try before using the tank in the darkroom.

I trotted home with my proud possession and immediately started loading the film. This time there would be no mistakes.

There were two conditions present that demanded a dark room. One, the film in my camera had become jammed somehow and would have to be unloaded in the dark. Two, the film would have to be loaded into the tank in the dark.

The architect who designed our apartment, however, did not take into consideration my future thoughts and desires. He neglected to install a dark room. I (Continued on page five)

Tonight on WDFM

7:25	Sign on Prevue
7:30	BBC Drama (Who'll Buy My Fresh Herring's)
8:00	Record Prevue
8:15	Spotlight on State
9:00	Semi-pops
9:15	News
9:30	Masterworks Hour
10:30	Sign off

LaVie Group Photo Schedule

The unofficial schedule of group pictures for the 1954 LaVie today at the Penn State Photo Shop:

Hat Society Council	6:30
Mortar Board	6:50
Chimes	7:10
Philotes	7:30
Druids	7:50