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The Daily Collegian

Collegian editorials represent the viewpoint of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the newspaper...

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DAVE JONES Editor

VINCE DRAYNE Business Mgr.

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night editor, Jack Reid; Copy editors, Baylee Friedman, Bev Dickinson; Assistants, Gay Snodgrass, Nancy Gray, Joanne Wohleber, Ruth Barnard, and Ron Gatehouse. Ad Staff, Cindy Manarin, Rod Adams.

Panhel System: In Theory and in Practice

The system of rotating the Panhellenic Council presidency among member sororities is undemocratic, and therefore it would seem a democratic election system should be substituted.

The rotation system prevents cooperative efforts to put the presidency in control of a few sororities. And yet a general election system, if it produced control of the majority by a few sororities, would certainly not result in democracy.

It is a question of where the emphasis is put—on democracy as a theory, on democracy as a practice. Some say we cannot have a democratic organization if the president is not democratic.

On the other hand, Russia has a democratic framework, but Russia is no democracy. It has the form, but not the practice. And this might be Panhel's condition with a general election system.

A general election system, some argue, would prevent a situation in which the best qualified candidate would be bypassed because it was not her sorority's turn for the presidency.

Under the proposed amendment to the rota-

tion system, five women would be suggested by the sorority whose turn it is for the presidency. If one was accepted, the office would pass to the next sorority with the former sorority having a chance again the next year.

It is unfortunate the sorority system needs an undemocratic practice to insure a democratic result. But this failing is not limited to Panhel. Justices of the Supreme Court are not popularly elected because they cannot be put in a position in which their decisions are influenced by public opinion.

At Penn State there is an unwritten law providing for the rotation of the All-College president and class officers between fraternity and independent students each year.

Although the fraternity-independent problem is different from the inter-sorority problem, the rotation system exists for the same reason—to prevent an internal fight which, in the case of Panhel, might well cause the collapse of the council.

Ideally, institutions in a democracy should be democratic. But this is not always possible. The question sorority women must face is whether it is more important for Panhel to have a completely democratic framework that will satisfy the democratic purists, or that Panhel have working democracy that will satisfy those concerned with democracy as a practical result, as well as a theory.

—Paddy Beahan

A New Name for the Student Union

The Student Union building will be needing a bona fide name one of these days, and the time for suggestions for that name is drawing to an end.

Some students feel there is no need to call the new building anything but the Student Union. They reason students in the future will call it the Student Union anyway, regardless of its official name.

University officials favor giving the building a new name because the term "Student" Union does not really describe its purpose.

Naming the Student Union building will be one of the few such events in which students will have a chance to take part.

The Student Union Board has discussed four possibilities: Hetzel Union Building, after former President Ralph Dorn Hetzel; Warnock Union Building, after former Dean of Men Arthur R. Warnock; Memorial Union Building, after Penn State's war dead; and University Center, in line

with the institution's new name. The board will present the four suggestions to All-College Cabinet, expressing preference for Hetzel Union Building.

Final decision on the name, however, does not rest with the student body, as some believe. Cabinet will discuss the Student Union Board suggestions, plus any others mentioned, and will decide upon the name it prefers.

Cabinet's decision merely will be a recommendation to the University Board of Trustees. The board will then consider cabinet's suggestion, along with any others, before it decides upon a name.

There is, of course, no reason to believe the trustees will adopt the student suggestion. There is good reason, however, to believe the trustees will give the student suggestion considerable thought.

With Penn State's centennial in the offing, and the building due to open in that year, there could be no better time for students to make themselves heard on such a matter.

'Security Risks'

The very dangerous practice of the national administration making irresponsible attacks on the party out-of-power has finally been curbed. This has come about as a result of natural workings of the separation of powers on the federal level, and the not so natural unity of the Democratic Party.

A start in the breakdown of the 2200 "security risks" ousted by the Eisenhower administration was made last week by the Democrats on the House appropriations committee.

The results of the breakdown were: four of 131 dismissals accused of disloyalty. Other department breakdowns later in the week disclosed that 23 of 132 dismissed were accused of disloyalty in the Commerce department, one of eight in the Justice department, and 12 of 534 in the State department.

The category of subversives, or those accused of disloyalty, was also attacked by the Democrats as much too broad. Further clarification of the situation was promised.

But, what a hoax the party-in-power almost pulled! Even though some continued to imply past administrations of Democrats had been infested with "commies of all shades," other, more honest men, were retracting past statements as "unfortunate mistakes."

And, what a dangerous practice was begun: the practice of labelling the opposition as disloyal. It is more than an interesting comment that many totalitarian regimes began this way.

—Len Goodman

Gazette...

- Tonight AIM TOWN COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 106 Willard. LAKONIDES, 6:30 p.m., White Hall. MINERAL INDUSTRIES STUDENT COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 108 Willard. NEWMAN CLUB BASKETBALL GAME, 8:30 p.m., Lutheran Student Association. MINING ENGINEERING SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m., 217 Willard. NEWMAN CLUB MISSION, 7 p.m., Our Lady of Victory Church. OMICRON NU, 8 p.m., Home Economics Living Center. PHI UPSILON OMICRON, 6:30 p.m., Home Economics Living Center. PLAYERS ADVERTISING WORKSHOP, 6:45 p.m., Schwab Auditorium loft. RADIO GUILD BUSINESS MEETING, 7:30 p.m., 312 Sparks.

INFIRMARY

John Apgar, Mavourneen Bender, Burritt Haag, Joseph Hayes, Lois Nissley, John Nute, Robert O'Brien, Emmalyn Schwing, James Smith, Ronald Solovitz, George Stark, Robert Wainscott, Roy Walker.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

The following camps will interview prospective counselors. Students may sign up at the Student Employment office: Barree—Feb. 24; Trail's End—Feb. 27; Hiram House—March 2; Conrad Weiser—March 3; Herald Tribune Fresh Air Camps—March 12; Abington YMCA Day Camps—March 16.

PLACEMENT SERVICE

ARMSTRONG CORK CO. will interview graduating seniors in Journalism, Bus. Adm., Eco., Liberal Arts, Chem (organic preferred) and Physics, Arch E, ChE, CE, IE, M&E on Mar. 9 and 10. PROCTOR & GAMBLE CO. will interview graduating seniors in ChE, CE, EE, IE, ME, Chem, and M.S. candidates in the above fields who have completed at least one semester on March 9 and 10. SYLVANIA ELECTRIC CO. will interview graduating seniors in EE, ME, IE, ChE, Ceramics, Metal, Chem.,

Phys.: M.S. candidates in EE, ME, ChE, Ceramics, Metal, Chem., Phys. who have completed at least one semester; and Ph.D. candidates in EE, Metal, Chem., and Phys. expecting to receive their degrees in 1954, on March 5. THE TEXAS CO. will interview graduating seniors in ChE, EE, ME, and PNG on March 5.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"By the way, Prof—what's th' name of this course anyway?"

WIRE AND WIRELESS

Big Story

By BILL JOST

Once again it is time to check through our file of humorous Associated Press wire stories, select the average and best for this column, and send the rest to a local magazine known as Froth.

On top of the pile is an AP story from Little Rock, Ark. A distraught mother phoned police to report her son had not come home. She noted it was after 10 p.m. and told police operator Joe Day her son never stayed out that late before.

Day asked, "How old is the boy?"

"He's 55," the mother replied.

MIAMISBURG, Ohio (AP)—Troubles just kept piling up on Rufus Stapleton, 32. He was involved in a weekend accident and must pay \$25 damages for denting the fender of an automobile. But there's more. Charged with intoxication, he also ran through a red light, police said, failed to put a coin in a parking meter, and hid under a parked car when they tried to arrest him.

Stapleton was riding a horse.

There's still another traffic story. Out in Detroit, barefooted Robert Smith had a novel excuse when he was hauled into traffic court for running through two red lights and speeding 80 miles an hour.

He told the traffic referee, "I was driving barefoot because my feet were sore and swollen. They felt like lead. I couldn't even feel the accelerator."

He did feel the \$100 fine.

MOUNTAIN HOME, Ark. (AP)—Lake Norfolk has been at a low level and Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Beard took advantage to search along the shore. They found ten rods and reels, 11 anchors, more than a bushel basket of artificial baits, about 125 pounds of sinkers, pocket knives, pipes, and a wallet containing \$700.

Must be better than fishin'.

One of the guests at a pretty Louisville nurse's wedding may wind up swinging from the church chandelier.

If he does, it will be a big disappointment to the 21-year-old nurse. Her pet ringtail, Yatchie, will be dressed in a white satin tuxedo and she doesn't want any monkeyshines out of him.

There have been no objections to Yatchie's presence at the wedding, not even from the nurse's fiancé.

They declined to say whether or not the monkey is going along on the honeymoon.

A woman in Datona Beach, Fla., really showed up the men the other day, we hate to admit. She lassoed a four-foot alligator

as it crawled along a city street while half a dozen husky males, kept at bay by the creature's gnashing teeth and slashing tail, just watched.

A Datona Beach patrolman called to the scene told the woman, "You've got more nerve than I have."

The cop called the local sea zoo and an attendant carried the alligator away.

Jeweler Silent In Red Spy Investigation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23 (AP)—Mrs. Victoria Stone, a New York jeweler, refused today to answer more than 60 questions about Red spying in the United States.

When members of the House Un-American Activities Committee told her they had evidence linking her with Communist espionage in the '30s and '40s, Mrs. Stone exclaimed:

"I have definitely denied it time and time again, and I refuse to answer again."

She said she based her refusal on the grounds "the committee tends to incriminate and degrade me."

The witness, a plump woman of 50, was near tears at the end of 20 minutes of questioning. She protested she had testified for the committee in 1948 without invoking her constitutional protection against self-incrimination, and had appeared before a grand jury, but "still it goes on."

All she wants now, Mrs. Stone told the committee emotionally, is a chance to forget about her past.

Chairman Velde (R-Ill) said previous testimony indicated she was an associate of Arthur Alexandrovitch Adams, identified as a Red spy who fled from this country in 1945.

Tonight on WDFM

Table with 2 columns: Time and Program Name. Includes 91.1 MEGACYCLES, Sign on, BBC Drama, Record Prevue, Bob Crosby Show, Segue Session, Semi-pops, Campus News, Masterworks Hour, Sign off.