

Published weekly through Saturday mornings, during the University year, the Daily Collegian is a student-oriented newspaper.

The Daily Collegian

Successor to THE FREE LANCE, est. 1887

Editorials represent the viewpoint of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the paper. Unsigned editorials are by the editor.

Entered as second-class matter July 3, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

DAVE JONES Editor

VINCE DRAYNE, Business Mgr.

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night editor, Mary Bolich; Copy editors, Herm Weiskopf, Roger Beidler; Assistants, Mike Moyle, Phyllis Toiv, Dottie Stone, Ruth Barnard, Ira Wasserman, Bobbe Weinberg.

Spring Elections and Cabinet Action

The spring election will see several experiments in campus politics, all designed to make the Penn State system a bit more appealing. Critics of some of these experiments would say, perhaps, the changes will make the system a bit more appalling. Nevertheless, the experiments should prove interesting innovations in the old process.

For the first time Penn State politics is attempting a decentralized voting procedure. Under this procedure, polls will be located at four places on campus, instead of one, to give more students an opportunity to vote. This plan is designed to increase voting by an unknown percentage.

Also for the first time, the All-University elections code has incorporated what has previously been a verbal agreement between campus parties. All-University Cabinet last week approved the code, providing this year's All-University president shall be an independent, and no independent man shall oppose a fraternity man in any office.

Pros and cons of the decentralization experiment have been rather fully discussed. Little discussion has been forthcoming, however, on codification of the rotation procedure. This codification is far more important than decentralization.

The All-University elections committee first proposed codification of the rotation procedure as a realistic step. The committee felt that, since rotation was traditionally in practice, it should be in written form.

Political parties did not agree. They charged the committee was overstepping its jurisdiction and openly refused to obey what they called an edict. And then, after an elections committee meeting, the parties and the committee reached fast and mysterious accord.

This mysterious accord was not due to compromise. Accord was reached because the parties produced a signed statement, agreeing before the elections committee they would run fraternity men for certain offices, independent men for others.

This agreement has not been publicized because no one connected with the incident will

frankly admit its existence. Neither can they deny its existence. But the agreement does exist. Both parties are bound by this agreement, yet, both parties are reluctant to make it known.

A member of cabinet last week asked cabinet how it could be sure both cliques would nominate in such a way as to keep independents from facing fraternity men in elections. This party agreement provides the means.

The basic question, then, is whether cabinet and the parties have been wise in codifying this policy. Merely because the parties and the elections committee kept their agreement silent does not mean the agreement is a poor one.

Alternating the All-University presidency between fraternity and independent students is perhaps a good idea. This has been the unwritten policy in the past. It prevents the stronger fraternity element from gaining too much hold upon the political system. It is questionable, however, whether it is better for the elections code to say an independent shall be run this year, or to simply state the presidency will be alternated each year.

The agreement that a fraternity man shall not face an independent man in any office need not be codified, as it has been by cabinet. This is an inter-party affair. Reason behind the agreement is to prevent an all-out fraternity-independent fight which has hurt student government on other campuses. Yet, this should be a party matter.

Up until now, neither party has broken its verbal gentleman's agreement to prevent a fraternity man from opposing an independent. There is little need, then, for the elections committee to institute a written policy on this matter. If the parties had violated this tradition, and placed a fraternity man against an independent for an office, cabinet might have had grounds to act. Until that happens, there is little reason for codification.

In one area, then, cabinet seems justified. This is in establishing the rotation of All-University president. In the other, cabinet has been too hasty. There is no need to place more control on the parties until it is shown such control is necessary.

Dorm Separation Plan Misses the Mark

The separation of freshmen and upperclassmen into different living units in the West Dorm area would radically miss the mark in meeting the problems of that area. The proposal should be discarded and a more-to-the-point plan formulated.

The problems that confront the University in this area seem to be those of discipline, the lack of a strong counseling program, and—most of all—the very size of the living units. This last problem plagues both the administration and student government.

All three problems are interwoven into a kaleidoscopic pattern and puzzle that defies solution. All three seem to be reflected in the extent of vandalism and failing grades in the area which James Dean, assistant to the dean of men in charge of independent affairs, has said greatly concerns the University.

But, examine for a moment what is proposed—and was even approved by the West Dorm Council—to meet the situation:

1. House upperclassmen in McKee Hall;

2. Have three resident counselors per floor in the other men's dorms of the area and restrict these dorms to freshmen;

3. Convert present counselor suites into study rooms and move counselors into single rooms. First, there is no proof that the freshmen have caused enough of the damage in the area to merit further supervision, although more counseling might decrease the number of failing grades among freshmen. Yet, the problem still remains of producing a sense of individual and group responsibility for conduct and study habits in a "living unit"—in this case a dormitory floor—housing over 150 men.

Furthermore, even though a few more upperclassmen would be permitted to live in the area, the total number of students in the area would be decreased if counselors were given single rooms. The necessity for study rooms is also questionable.

Thus, the proposals miss the mark. The aim was poor anyway.

—Len Goodman

Froth Prevention...

Today the Penn State Froth, that Penn State fraud, which appears a bit less irregularly than it should, departs from its usual forsaken format, and climbs to a new low.

Today Froth pokes its own sort of grim fun at seven Penn State publications. It claims to parody the Penn State Farmer, Forester and Scientist, the Home Ec News and Views, and Independent, Inkling, the Penn State Engineer, Penn State Fraternities, and (gasp!) this publication.

Froth thinks this is funny.

We don't think it is funny. We asked people on the staffs of the seven publications. They don't think it is funny. We're going to get up a petition.

Froth's appearance this week is particularly ironical. This is National Smile Week. Now, we try to be patriotic. We try to smile during National Smile Week just as we try to prevent crime during National Crime Prevention Week. But how can we smile? Froth is upon us.

Maybe we can yet perform our patriotic duty. Froth is a crime. Maybe we can prevent it. Then we could smile.

—Mike Feinsilber

Gazette...

Tonight

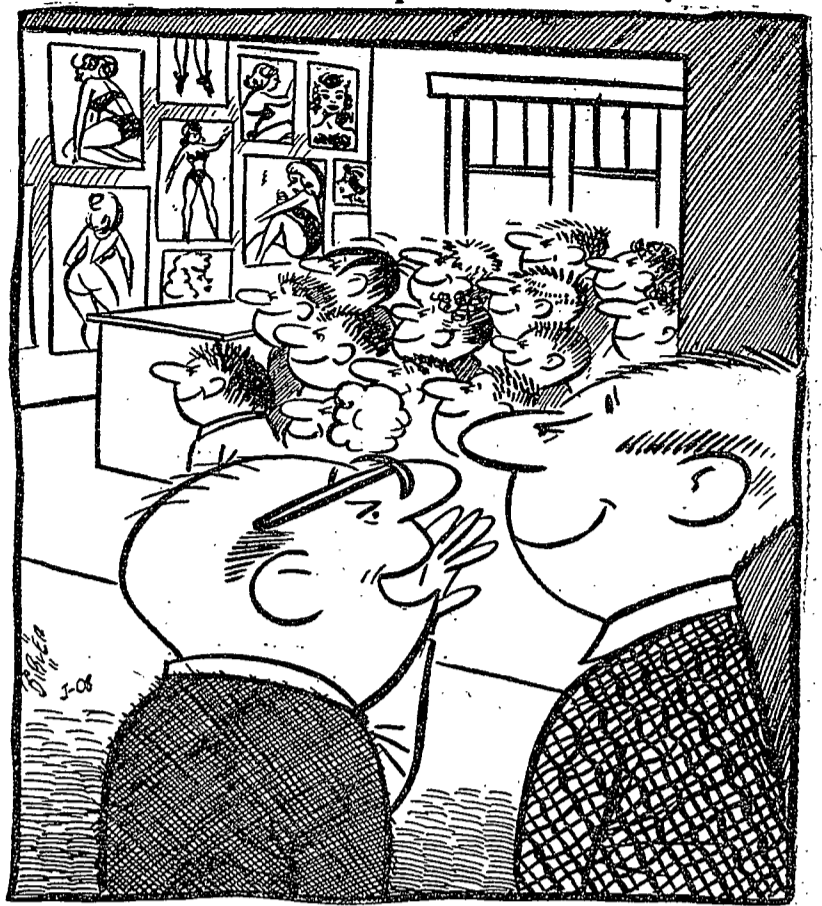
- AMERICAN CERAMIC SOCIETY, 8 p.m., 229 Mineral Industries
- FROTH ADVERTISING STAFF and CPA ADVERTISING STAFF, 7 p.m., 9 Carnegie
- GRANGE, 7:30 p.m., 100 Horticulture
- LAKONIDES, 6:30 p.m., White Hall
- PENN STATE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m., Mineral Industries Auditorium
- PERSHING RIFLES drill meeting, class 4, 7 p.m., Armory
- NEWMAN CLUB BASKETBALL GAME, 8:30 p.m., Lutheran Student Association
- NEWMAN CLUB DISCUSSION, 7:30 p.m., Catholic Student Center
- RADIO GUILD, 7:30 p.m., 312 Sparks
- TOWN COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 106 Willard
- WRA MODERN DANCE CLUB, 7 p.m., White Hall Rhythm Room
- CHESS CLUB, 7 p.m., 3 Sparks

PLACEMENT SERVICE

SQUARE D CO. will interview graduating seniors in IE, ME, & EE on March 17 & 18.
 THE TEXAS CO. will visit the campus on March 8 to interview graduating seniors in ME, CHE, Chem, & CE; M.S. candidates in ME & CHE and Chem, who have completed at least one semester; and Ph.D. candidates in the above fields expecting to receive their degree in 1954.
 THREE DIVISIONS OF CONTINENTAL OIL CO. will interview graduating seniors in Chem., CHE, ME, IE, & PNG; and M.S. candidates in the above fields who have completed at least one semester on March 17.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"I used to have the darndest time getting those front row seats filled up."

Interpreting the News

Nationalist Chinese Posed as Threat

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.

Associated Press News Analyst

Nationalist Chinese sources in the Far East are whispering that if the United States persists in holding their army on Formosa merely as a threat against Red China, instead of unleashing it for invasion of the mainland, it is going to get rusty.

Their argument is that the forces which Chiang Kai-shek withdrew from the mainland in 1949 are rapidly approaching an overall age at which fighting efficiency is greatly impaired, and that there are not enough replacements.

These sources are inclined to belittle the interest of Formosans themselves in the idea of reconquest, and there is little chance of bringing recruits from the non-Communist forces on the mainland, where at any rate they would be needed.

The issue was revived by the recent statement of Asst. Secretary of State Walter S. Robertson that the United States intends to keep Chiang's force strong as a constant threat. This is taken by some as an oblique statement that it will not be permitted to take the initiative.

Actually, however, Robertson has also said that the United States must not wait too long in aiding Free China, which was accepted by Nationalist Chinese in the United States as advocacy of a more active program if not of actual early invasion.

Chiang's premier, Chen Cheng, recently told Free China's Parliament it must concentrate on plans for an early assault on the mainland.

The Nationalist sources in the United States still cling to the idea that this country must eventually come around to the invasion idea as the only means of taking China back from Red control. They make a strong appeal.

They just don't quite seem to realize that the United States and her Western Allies are not going to take the initiative at this time in anything which creates additional disturbance in the world. That had to be clarified last year, after Republican campaign speeches had left the impression the Eisenhower administration would support revolutions to liberate the European satellite countries.

Syngman Rhee of Korea has now fallen into the same position

as Chiang on this point. He says he would like to resume fighting the Communists who held the northern part of his country. The Allies have given him a flat thumbs down. But he is being given a buildup for defense, and for participation in a renewed war if the Communists start it.

That is the best the Chinese Nationalists can hope for, too.

Three Cadets Win In NRA Matches

Three Army ROTC cadets won medals at the National Rifle Association Sectional Championship match in Carlisle Sunday.

Hugh Swartz, seventh semester poultry husbandry major, took first place in the sharpshooter's class.

Donald D. Greth, fifth semester forestry major, and James G. Byrne, fourth semester forestry major, won awards in the marksmanship class.

Eiser Places First In Poster Contest

John Eiser, sixth semester architecture major, has won first prize in the 1954 engineering-architecture open house poster contest. Robert Breeding and Warren Gran, sixth semester architecture majors, won second and third prizes, respectively.

The Department of Architecture faculty judged the contest sponsored by the Engineering Student Council.

Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES	
7:25	Sign on
7:30	BBC Concert Hall
8:00	Spotlight on State
8:15	Guest Star
8:30	Women's Angle
9:00	Lest We Forget
9:15	Campus News
9:30	Masterworks Hour
10:30	Sign off

TODAY! FROTH PARODY!