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The Daily Collegian

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IV. Campus Politics: Looking at the Set-up

(Last of four editorials on campus politics)
Both candidates for All-University president have flatly declared the chief issue in this spring's election is cleaning up campus politics. Yet, neither party has included anything of that nature in its platform. Certainly the chief issue of an election deserves platform recognition.

This is only one example of how campus parties have adroitly avoided committing themselves on important issues.

There are many issues both parties have neglected. What do they think about the student parking situation? Do they favor the dormitory dress rule? Will they attempt to measure student opinion on the Recreation Hall seating plan, and modify it accordingly?

They have ignored the move to merge Nittany and Pollock Councils. They have ignored the problem of freshman-upperclass separation in the West Dorms. They have voiced no opinion on freshman customs, a student book store, the 25-cent student council fee, the inaccessibility of Station WDFM. They have overlooked the idea of analyzing student government and altering its structure—something it could use.

Both parties have avoided these issues because they are ones upon which there is divided student opinion. These issues could cost parties a few votes. Yet the very fact that there is divided opinion on them indicates they are of some importance.

Aside from party refusal to take stands on real issues, there is another factor operating against good platforms. Parties cannot hope to carry out platforms, under present operation, because they lose their discipline and entity immediately after an election.

Of course, party members are associated long after election time in respect to influence and appointments. But between elections, the force to carry out party platforms does not exist. And there is no demand to make parties carry out their planks.

The answer to the platform problem is to provide permanent party registration and activity. This would mean the operation of All-University Cabinet along party lines. Demands would have to be forthcoming to insure party loyalty. If this type of situation is not desirable, then neither is the platform idea.

Without platforms, campus politics would officially become a popularity contest. Because of the absence of party control, it is largely that now. If this is true, and if parties refuse to take stands on issues, we may as well call campaigns "popularity contests," and let it go at that.

It has been repeated over and over on the floor of All-University Cabinet that Penn State has a good student government set-up. Take a look at this semester's operation. Well now, I wonder.

East Dorm Merger: A Strong Council

The old days are gone forever, but members of Pollock Council seem to be trying to recapture them.

The council sent to committee a proposed constitution which would unite it with Nittany Council into an East Dorm Council. At the least, this means a delay in the establishment of a combined council which could benefit residents of both areas.

If Pollock residents wish to regain lost prestige—as they say they do—the best way to do so is to merge into a new council. They then would be able to work through a more efficient government in the entire East Dorms, and would provide their area—which has problems similar to those of Nittany—with a way to solve problems without seeking different solutions in each area.

Pollock Circle dormitories are the last to be filled by the Department of Housing when making room assignments. When vacancies occur elsewhere, Pollock residents are usually moved to Nittany. This means the Pollock area dormitories are at least partially emptied each year. This policy appears to be a continuing process. A separate council cannot be maintained with a skeleton of dormitories providing leaders for the area.

One member of Nittany Council has said, "The only difference in the areas is the macadam road between them." Residents of both areas eat in the same dining hall. Social problems are similar in both areas. A single council would carry greater weight, and strengthen the voice of area residents.

Pollock Council seems to favor the creation of a bi-area social committee. Yet, without political merger, a combined social committee will not succeed. The social committee would be responsible to two councils. Social committees cannot serve two masters. Political union is necessary for social progress. The social policy of the two areas must be coordinated with a merger.

Personal enmity against the initiator of the proposal seems to be another reason for Pollock Council's unwillingness to see the merger accomplished. Council members feel the originator of the merger plan should have come to them with the plan before it was presented to Nittany Council.

It does not seem to occur to them, however, that the president of the Pollock Council was living in Nittany and the vice president and secretary had approved the plan. The present council's officers were elected after the merger proposal was introduced. While the council may have grounds for feeling it was slighted, these grounds were minimized by the council's lack of organization. Proposals cannot be made to empty chairs.

Pollock Council should study the proposals and approve it. Unification of Pollock and Nittany Councils into one strong council, to speak for all residents of the East Dorm area, would be advantageous both to those residents and to the Association of Independent Men, which could benefit by having a strong council represent the area.

—Phil Austin

Gazette...

Today

PENN STATE GRANGE WORKSHOP, 1 p.m., basement of Schwab

Tomorrow

HILLEL UPPERCLASS INDEPENDENTS, 7 p.m., Hillel Foundation

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

The following camps will interview at the Student Employment Service, 112 Old Main; Camp Menatoma, Maine, on March 29 and 30; Clear Pool Camp, N.Y., on April 1; Camp Kiwanis on April 2; Camp Conrad Weiser on April 7. Sign up for interviews in advance.

UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT

This is a partial and unofficial listing. Complete information on placement may be secured at 112 Old Main.

SEABROOK FARMS CO. of Bridgeton, N.J. will meet with freshman, sophomores, and juniors interested in summer employment on March 30 in 105 Forestry to arrange interviews for March 31. Seniors interested in employment upon graduation will also be interviewed.

THE KROGER CO will be on campus March 31 and April 1 to interview interested seniors. Names should be listed with G.N.P. Leitch, 112 Old Main.

O'Brien To Serve On Speech Group

Joseph F. O'Brien, professor of public speaking, will serve on the committee on constitutions division and the committee on state and local oratory at the meeting of the Speech Association of Eastern States next month in Philadelphia.

O'Brien's article, "Don't Shove, Mr. Knowles—Parliamentary Law is Basically Sound," appeared in the recent issue of Today's Speech, a publication of the association.

Summer Jobs Available At Employment Office

Students may contact the Student Employment Service about summer job sources, John J. Huber, director of student employment, has announced. Huber said the over-all low employment level may make it difficult for students to resume previous industrial or office jobs this summer.

He added that there are openings in camp and resort jobs in 16 different states available at the employment service office, 112 Old Main.

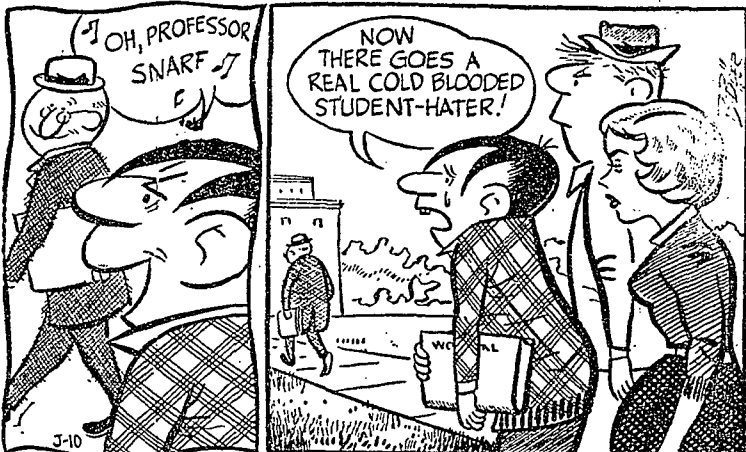
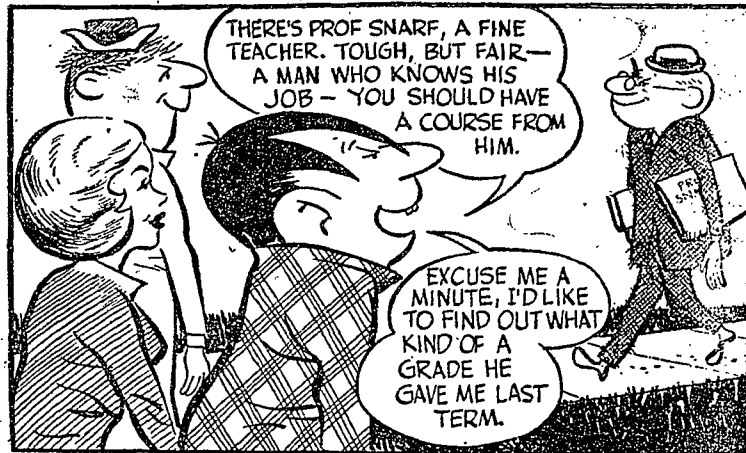
Alderfer to Speak At Travel Series

Harold F. Alderfer, professor of political science, will discuss "An American Sees Greece" at 7:30 p.m. Monday in 107 Main Engineering. The talk will be the first of the international travel series sponsored by the Penn State Cosmopolitan Club.

The series is designed to acquaint students with the United States and foreign countries by means of speeches, slides, and movies.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



Interpreting the News

Sovereignty Is Hoax In East Germany

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.

Associated Press News Analyst

Now the slogan of the anti-Communist European undergrounds, that "Liberation comes only with war," can be applied to East Germany as well as to the other Russian satellites.

Russia, by announcing a "sovereign" government for East Germany, merely confirms what was made plain at the Berlin conference—that she intends to stay in central Europe indefinitely.

There will be almost no difference between the operation as of day-before-yesterday and the operation as of tomorrow.

East Germany autonomy will be exercised under Russian occupation troops and Russian direction of relations with the Western world.

Russia will claim, of course, that this is exactly what the Allies did when they sponsored the establishment of the West German government, and it is true that the forms are very much the same. It is the intent, and the spirit of administration, which are so different. West Germans have given evidence of their satisfaction with the present arrangement, pending even further partnership with the West, in several entirely free elections. East Germans have had no free elections, and have evidenced nothing but hatred for their Moscow-imposed rulers.

Politically, the chief impact of the announcement is to serve notice on Western Germany that there will be no reunification except under Russian terms, which would give the Communists an opening to take over the whole country.

Practically, the chief immediate effect seems likely to be the creation of further difficulties in intercourse between East and West Germany, with the Elbe River line becoming not merely one of demarcation, but an international boundary.

The East Germany army, which the Russians have been developing under the guise of an internal security force, presumably will be formalized now.

Russia may also add East Germany to Red China as another "sovereign" nation for which she seeks diplomatic recognition and a seat in world councils. You can lay your bottom dollar that the United States is not going to fall for anything like that. One of Secretary Dulles' most adroit maneuvers at the Berlin conference was to avoid, at several points, anything which could conceivably be interpreted as recognition of any responsibility at all for the Communist regime in East Germany.

The Russian action came as no surprise to Western observers, who have been expecting it for years. New York newspapers handled it under single column

heads. The State department evaluated it as "sheer facade." That means phony. Another definition of "sheer" is something easily seen through.

21 Apprehended In First Day Of Speed Trap

Three students and four instructors at the University were caught exceeding the speed limit by borough police yesterday in the first day of use of new speed trap equipment.

The seven were part of a total of 21 apprehended in two hours on S. Atherton street where the speed limit is 35 miles per hour. Police officials said many others were missed because they were borderline cases or they were lost in traffic congestion.

Students listed as offenders are Martin Kornbluth, graduate student in English literature; Robert Lane, fourth semester student in the Division of Intermediate Registration; and Gilbert Offenhardt, eighth semester arts and letters student.

Faculty members included Russell B. Dickerson, associate dean of the College of Agriculture; Harold J. O'Brien, assistant professor of speech; Robert L. Riddle, assistant professor of electrical engineering; and Thomas J. Whalen, research assistant in ceramics.

This Weekend On WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES

| Tonight | |
|----------|-------------------------|
| 7:25 | Sign On |
| 7:30 | BBC-Music of the People |
| 8:00 | Jazz Mood |
| 8:30 | Paris Star Time |
| 9:00 | Light Classical Jukebox |
| 10:30 | Sign Off |
| Tomorrow | |
| 3:00 | Phi Mu Alpha Concert |
| 7:30 | Masterworks from France |
| 8:00 | Third Program |
| 10:30 | Sign Off |
| Monday | |
| 7:25 | Sign On |
| 7:30 | Spotlight |
| 7:45 | Serenade in Blue |
| 8:00 | Top Drawer |
| 8:15 | Hamburger Stand |
| 9:00 | Just Out |
| 9:15 | News |
| 9:30 | Symphony Hall |
| 10:30 | Sign Off |