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# The Daily Collegian

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## Carnival Precautions Are Justified

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Few persons will dispute the sagacity of this timeworn adage.

A recent ounce of prevention was the action of the Spring Week screening committee in rejecting the carnival booth applications of 34 out of 41 groups submitting them. The reason the committee gave for its explanation was lack of sufficient detail.

Possibly there would be no reason to view with suspicion the type of entertainment which has been planned by any of the 34 groups. However the committee was wise in withholding approval until more details were presented.

The 1953 spring carnival was the cause of an undesirable stigma being attached to the entire week. Since the funds raised during Spring Week are used for scholarships for deserving students, the whole program should be viewed as a constructive enterprise, not a source of embarrassment to the University. There is no reason why the persons planning and producing the carnival booths need outdo one another in presenting off-color shows. Their resources could be more valuable if used to develop clever and original ideas for the shows.

There is a pound of cure available to the committee in case some groups do not use good judgment. Groups which open shows which are

"unacceptable" will be given a warning by the Spring Week committee to revise the entertainment, and if satisfactory revisions are not made, the booths may be closed.

It would certainly be more to the credit of the participating organizations, the Spring Week committee, and the entire student body to avoid the necessity of taking such action. Closing booths would indicate enforcement of high standards by police action and would still bring unfavorable publicity to the University.

It is far better to have the screening committee pass judgment now and enable those groups which might risk having a show closed to plan acceptable entertainment and not waste time, money, and resources on a show which would invoke the police action.

It should be the responsibility of the individual groups to make sure the booths they sponsor not only attract patronage from the crowds on the midway, but also are a credit to their organization and their University. Otherwise, the purpose of Spring Week would be defeated, and the administration would be justified in discontinuing the week entirely.

Because of the precautions taken by the screening committee, it may be possible this year to open a carnival which will overshadow the criticism of last year's event.

—Tammie Bloom

## Boxing Championships Deserved Support

The University was honored for the second time in 22 years this past weekend when it played host to the 17th annual National Inter-collegiate Athletic Association boxing championship events.

But the response—student and otherwise—to the journey during the three day sessions left the impression that the "honor" was more of a drudgery, something that occurred periodically and had to be put up with.

Less than 6500 persons paid their way into Recreation Hall to witness the four sessions. This is a figure that anyone connected with the University—from the President on down to a freshman—should be totally ashamed of.

When looking for reasons for this lack of

support, one can not point to the physical layout of Rec Hall. The building will hold over 5100 persons. This means that on the average, the attendance at the four sessions filled Rec Hall somewhere under one-third of its normal capacity.

Remarks at Rec Hall during the sessions indicated the fans thought the attendance comic. Maybe the comment that hit home the best was the simple statement: "There were more people here for the intramural fight finals." And there is more truth than poetry in the statement. It is not to be laughed at.

Even in the ticket sales, the fans got an unexpected break when the Federal excise tax cuts were approved, reducing the rates for a reserved ticket for all four sessions to \$1.30.

But the problems does not lie entirely in the University's lackadaisical support last weekend. Collegiate boxing itself, as a sport, is suffering, and no one seems to have the right answer.

Schools are currently dropping the sport as fast as football was temporarily suspended during the war. The catch is that the schools dropping boxing are doing it on an almost permanent basis. The sport seems to be dying with the right answer yet to come.

Perhaps the fraternity of coaches themselves has an answer to the problem. John Walsh, of Wisconsin, and Jim Owen, of Louisiana State University, have come up with an idea whereby they hope to line up a television network to carry a series of dual meets every Saturday afternoon for about ten weeks throughout next spring. Under the plan, the network would wind up the series with the NCAA championships.

No one will dispute that Walsh knows what he is talking about. The Wisconsin coach has credit for fourteen team championships. And on his home grounds, his teams rarely fail to draw over 10,000 fans for each dual meet. If Walsh has the secret of drawing fans other than the age-old maxim, "everybody loves a winner," he would be the first to tell.

Perhaps the television angle will save the sport. And if it does, fans can always look back and say they knew the sport when it was at its lowest ebb—at Penn State.

—George Bairey

## Safety Valve...

### Political Rotation

TO THE EDITOR: We have just learned of the recent fraternity-independent rotation amendment to the All-University elections code . . . We understand that this action was ostensibly based on a similar "unwritten law" acknowledged within both the Lion and State Parties in the past.

Contrary to the prevalent opinion, this "unwritten law" was never a fact within either party—at least from 1947 through 1951 . . . Instead, in each of these years an honest effort was made by both parties to obtain the most able people who could amass enough votes to win the respective offices . . . The true "unwritten law" of the past was to pick an able winner, not to rotate.

The advantages of the previous free non-rotation system are obvious. Why should the respective political parties be bound in choice by restrictions based on social affiliations or living circumstances? Why should capable men and women be completely ineligible to hold office—and have their initiative and enthusiasm killed—because it is not "their year" to hold office? . . .

The recently-passed amendment smacks of the same unrealistic, restricted system used by the Panhellenic Council, in which each sorority is automatically given the Panhel presidency once in two decades . . .

The All-University rotation system just passed is unfair to both independent and fraternity men and women . . . It is not based on past "unwritten" precedent. Therefore, this might well be one of the first items to be brought under consideration by the newly-elected All-University Cabinet, by the next All-University elections committee, and by the student body . . .

- Morton Snitzer, '49-'50 Lion Party chairman
- Robert Keller, '48-'49 State Party chairman
- Bill Shade, '49-'50 All-College elections committee chairman

### Harkins to Speak

William M. Harkins, dental prosthodontist, will speak before Sigma Alpha Eta, honorary speech correction society, at 7:30 tonight in 19 Sparks. The lecture, on the "Cleft Palate Prosthodontia," is open to the public.

### Sigma Xi Lecture

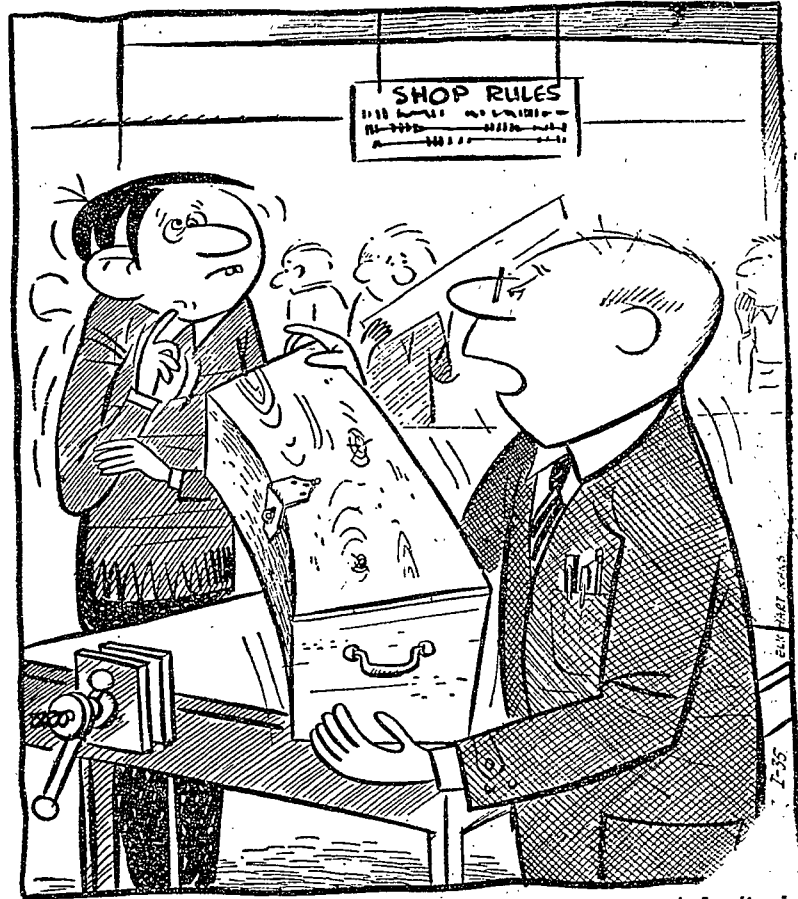
John A. Wheeler, professor of physics at Princeton University, will speak at the Sigma Xi lecture at 8:30 tonight in 119 Osmond. His topic will be "Our In-substantial Universe."

### Prof Misidentified

James H. Moyer, a resident of Elizabethtown, was caught in the State College speed trap last week. The Daily Collegian erroneously reported that James H. Moyer, professor of education, was caught in the trap.

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"... Bar two ... because it's way out of line ... an' don't give me that 'bad eye' routine again this year."

### Excursion 9: Idea-ology

## Walden Sea

By LEN GOODMAN

The evolution of ideas has been noted by many over the years, but to each succeeding generation the phenomenon is ever fresh and fascinating. Unfold the canvas of history and before you is spread what we certainly like to believe is that steady, however slow, "progress" of mankind. Of course, there have been dissenters, deny-

ing progress of any kind, and claiming that only a process combining specialization, complication, and integration, has been the outcome of the so-called stream of history. The dissenters have been definitely in the minority, however; and few gloomy prophets remain.

But, those who see a straight-line development in history, down to our own rational, highly technical, culture, seem unable to answer with any fair amount of reason, "Where do we go from here?" The conclusion is that either the line stops here and now, which it surely doesn't, or that it fades into a remote future, which they think it does. Yet, a study that tells you where you are, possibly how you got there, but not where you are going, seems quite a waste of time.

The "missing link" in the process of straight-line progress through the ears seems to be the inability to view events in motion, which have direction, but no real significance in themselves. Instead, it is the influence of these phenomena that seems to give them significance—influence on those events which we might roughly call contemporary, and those other events that follow which we term "the future." The exact dividing line between these two concepts ("contemporary" and "the future") is sometimes very hard to determine: an author through posthumous biographies and an increase in his reading public oftentimes seems more alive when he is dead.

Thus, the straight-line becomes an indefinable, almost illusory, series of points in time and space—as all good straight lines are. At first glance, the stream of history seems obvious enough, but closer examination reveals a series of seemingly isolated events only whose summation makes any sense.

If we accept this, "how can there be an objective writing of history?" you ask. "There isn't any," I'd answer. There are too many "points," or events, to consider, and no man lives for centuries, is everywhere at the same time, and at the same time is infallible in his judgment. A subjective choice of those events, which are then loosely termed "influences," is made, with the result that other events are disregarded, and some given more weight than others.

But, enter: one "missing link": when events in motion are considered, the phenomena take

on a meaning; and even if the meaning turns out to be merely a subjective evaluation of the stream, still, something has been accomplished.

And, what has been accomplished? The individual has now fixed himself in both time and space, feels himself part of the movement, and may even better judge how to add to that movement. There's even consolation, I believe, in the fact that others are also lost, if that be your verdict.

Even though academicians love to pull rank, there is always room for individualism in presenting the significance of events. Each generation has its historical spokesman, even if the spokesman be a poet such as T. S. Eliot. And, maybe if we cannot understand our spokesman, it merely shows we cannot understand our age.

## FMA Explained To Fraternities

Fraternity Marketing Association has sent letters explaining the programs of FMA to non-member fraternities and to members not participating in the meat plan.

Clifford A. Nelson, president of FMA, said fraternities may apply to join FMA before May 3. Membership would begin with the fall semester, Nelson said.

The letters contain an explanation of advantages in the meat purchase program for members not participating in the program. Member fraternities may join the meat purchase program at any time by signing a contract, and paying a deposit equal to half their monthly meat bill.

### Belles-Lettres to Meet

Kelly Yeaton, associate professor of dramatics, will speak on "Attack on Pedantry" before the Belles-Lettres Club at 7 tonight in the northeast lounge of Atherton Hall.

### Tonight on WDFM

7:25	Sign On
7:30	Record Review
8:00	UN Story
8:15	Call Card
8:30	Tops in Pops
9:15	Pan-American Music
9:30	Sign Off