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The Daily Collegian

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I. All-University Cabinet: A Crazy Setup

(First of two editorials on the organization of All-University Cabinet.)

The present organization of All-University Cabinet is one of the most perplexing incongruities in Penn State student government.

Cabinet calls itself the highest student governing body on campus. Yet some of those who sit on cabinet are elected by no real segment of the student body, and many represent groups whose very presence on cabinet must be questioned.

Penn State students often tell themselves they have a well-organized student government. It seems this feeling, somewhere along the line, has blinded us to some important facts.

Cabinet is a strange mixture of representatives. Only three of 24 representatives on that body are elected by the complete student body. Others are seated by selection of special groups or election by a large segment of the student body. This would not be so bad if those elected and selected by special groups were chosen on a standard basis. They are not.

Students are represented on cabinet by living unit, college council, class and sex. And two groups represented on cabinet—the Boards of Publications and Dramatics and Forensics—rep-

resent no one but extra-curricular groups. This is a strange hodge-podge of student government.

A quick look at cabinet seats shows this: Three seats filled by general election, four by class, four by living unit, nine by college council, two by all women, one by all men, and two by extra-curricular group. There is little, if any, logic behind this organization.

This type of setup results in some students being represented by as many as seven or eight cabinet members. No student may be represented by less than five. Defenders of the present organization say this cross-representation results in more of a voice for the student. This is not true. In the first place, most representatives are too far from the represented to really represent. Second, this cross-representation can cancel itself out.

Such confusion about representation shows need of correction. Not many have seriously considered the illogical structure of cabinet, and until they do, it will remain a mixed-up group. Some cabinet seats can clearly be eliminated, and others can stand some stiff study.

What might be done in reorganizing All-University Cabinet, to make it a more sensible and truly representative body, will be outlined tomorrow.

Freshman Hours: Behind the Times?

Action toward extension of weekend hours for freshman women is being sought by a committee composed of freshman and upperclasswomen.

The committee plans to ask the University Senate that freshman women be permitted to take an 11 o'clock and a 1 o'clock permission on Friday and Saturday nights. Freshmen now have a 10 o'clock and a 1 o'clock on weekends. Upperclasswomen have 1 o'clock permissions both nights.

There should be no hesitation on the part of the administration in granting this one-hour extension.

Freshman hours are more strict than those of upperclasswomen because it is believed the first year in a university is a crucial period, in which great adjustments must be made. This assumption is a valid one. It is true that good study habits should be established during the freshman year. The assumption that early dormitory closing hours promote studying is also reasonable. However, it cannot be determined how much knowledge is absorbed during this one hour on a Friday or Saturday night.

An argument used by advocates of more lenient weekend hours is that under the new fraternity social code, which will go into effect in September, freshman women will be permitted in fraternity houses and should have an extension of hours.

It is questionable whether freshman hours

have been strict in order to keep the women out of fraternity houses on weekends. If this were the purpose of the 10 o'clock it would have to be instituted both Friday and Saturday nights to prove effective.

The problem, then, is whether 18-year-old women can be given an extra hour per week outside the dormitory and still fulfill their academic obligations. Probably most of them could and would.

Possibly the restrictions on freshman women are a carry-over from the days when freshman customs lasted for a year, and upperclassmen lorded their privileges over "green" frosh.

It is easy to understand why such a situation in regard to hours, if unjust, was never changed. Women complain about "unfair discrimination" when they are freshman, but by the time they are in a position to recommend a change they are upperclasswomen, with later permissions, and are not affected by freshman regulations.

The lack of concern and possible wish of upperclasswomen to preserve a status above the frosh means they give little support to any plan to obtain more lenient hours for freshman women.

A survey by the committee studying the problem has shown freshman women on many other campuses have later hours. There seems little reason why Penn State should cling to the present setup just because it has always been that way in the past.

—Tammie Bloom

Monsoons Again

The Penn State monsoon season is again upon us.

For those who are spending their first spring at the University, it should be explained that the rains that put in unscheduled appearances during this time of year are merely seasonal. They somehow occur about this time every year, regardless of what the weatherman predicts.

It should be further explained that daylight saving time and the monsoon season do not appear at the same time each year. Opponents of our weather claim that the monsoon season is brought about by the people who are dissatisfied with daylight saving time. This is not true; it is merely a yearly coincidence.

Our monsoon season is a type of "now-you-see-it, now-you-don't situation." The spring showers will be gone almost as quick as they appeared. Mostly the showers appear between classes. And occasionally they appear in the late afternoon in time to temporarily postpone all extra-curricular outdoor activity.

To condemn the showers or to come out in favor of them would be pure folly. Perhaps Mark Twain has come up with the best comment yet. About 50 years ago, Twain said: "Everyone complains about the weather, but no one does anything about it." Who are we to go one better than Twain?

—George Bairey

Let thy speech do better than silence, or be silent.—Dionysius, the Elder.

Youth is a blunder; manhood a struggle; old age a regret.—Benjamin Disraeli.

Good Will is the mightiest practical force in the universe.—Charles Fletcher Dole.

Gazette...

- AD STAFF, 7 p.m., 102 Willard
- BELLES-LETTRES, 7 p.m., NE Atherton Lounge
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 6:45 p.m., 304 Old Main
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 6:45 p.m., Collegian Business Office
- COLLEGIAN CIRCULATION STAFF, 6:30 p.m., Collegian Office
- COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 111 Carnegie
- COLLEGIAN PROMOTION STAFF, 7 p.m., 104 Willard
- EDUCATION STUDENT COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 206 Burrowes
- GERMAN CLUB, 7 p.m., 202 Willard
- MINERAL INDUSTRIES STUDENT COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 208 Willard
- NEWMAN CLUB SOCIAL COMMITTEE, 7 p.m., McElwain Recreation Room
- PENN STATE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, 4 p.m., 110 EE
- POLLOCK COUNCIL, 6:30 p.m., Nittany Dorm 20
- SOCIETY OF AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERS, 7 p.m., 105 Mechanical Engineering

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
Lenore Babione, Richard Beegle, Thomas Dolan, Robert Doxey, John Gatehouse, Louis Grieco, Theodore Mortensen, Harry Nelson, Harvey Nixon, Cecelia Poor, William Powdrell, Elaine Rothstein, Jean Schnetzer, Joseph Shick, Anthony Spinato, Sally Wainger.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT
Philadelphia YMCA will interview men and women for six camps in the Philadelphia area April 29.

UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT
WOMEN INTERESTED IN NURSING as a career may talk with Miss Mary Florence Taylor of the University of Pittsburgh this afternoon. Arrangements for interviews may be made in 112 Old Main.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler.



"Don't select one of th' professors for th' commencement speaker—We're limited for time."

Excursion Last

Walden Sea

By LEN GOODMAN

This series, which I called "Walden Sea," must end on a humble note; for, I am afraid, much of the defiance and omniscience left with the evening tide. I tried to sketch briefly a philosophy, or the bare bones of a philosophy, in the essays, and though I promised there might be ranting but never raving, I now discover I neglected to fulfill my promise—there was both.

Skimming through what was written, I now find only germs of ideas and none very fully developed; some reflections of old ideas in new garb; and many, too many, items I can now only classify as miscellaneous redundancies, or downright foolishness.

It was Thoreau, America's most sincere rebel, who first helped me collate my ideas. As I reread Thoreau, thoughts fell into place as my mind seemed to enter a room cluttered with old books that I could now understand.

I found there was truly much that was worthwhile and ennobling in "Walden Pond" and "On Civil Disobedience," and much that might certainly jolt the complacent American of today, not that I was especially interested in "jolting" anything or anybody. Most of the doctrine was not applicable to present problems, but the stimulus those doctrines afforded was indeed very real.

The problem I attempted to confront in "Walden Sea" was the attainment of an individualism in a society that no longer stressed the individual. It was an impossible task, I now know, but the quest was no less interesting, and certainly gave me, if no one else, an opportunity to allow thoughts to gell. And, even though philosophy is such an inexact science, still, exasperation was not the outcome of the quest.

For Thoreau, himself, "Walden Pond" was really an escape from society. His concern was for himself, his own development and expression, nothing more. His doctrine of civil disobedience was a mere rationalization for shirking responsibility, and pursuing his own true love, Nature. Even though the doctrine did contain many fine thoughts and sentiments, his motive is questionable.

Walden was a retreat, in the sense of escaping from the fight, and too, in the sense of that to which he might escape. Actually few would have had Thoreau's pluck, though most would not desire his goals. Does living in society make cowards of us all? Or, am I stretching "cowardice" to illustrate a point?

Still, I wanted no retreat, but attempted in "Walden Sea" to piece together a philosophy embracing both individualism and responsibility. I may be accused of wishing both to have and to eat

the proverbial cake, but I believe the goal is still possible.

In the series, among other things, I discussed the necessity for an abiding faith in the worth and potential of the individual as a basis for a social philosophy. I attempted to demonstrate the subjective element present when trying to explain anything, including history, and an idea of "progress." One essay dealt with the confusion that results when ideals and goals are not differentiated enough; I drew upon the play, "Death of a Salesman" to illustrate that point.

In another essay, I emphasized the need for an occasional mental spring cleaning, a dusting of old ideas, in a democratic society. Finally, I discussed the need for what Bertrand Russell termed a "courage tempered with sensitive ness" in the individual.

So much has been left unsaid, and so many loose strings are apparent that I am afraid only a hopeless knot has resulted, or at best one that can be untied only with the strongest intellectual fingernails. My only hope is that I have not—giving a twist to that which was recently said of Heminway—"mistaken the Holy Grail for a fish"—pond.

FFA Speaking Finals To Be Held Tomorrow

Region III finals of the vocational agricultural speaking contest of the Future Farmers of America will be held tomorrow on campus. The contest will include both parliamentary procedure and public speaking.

Eight districts will send finalists to compete for the district title, which will qualify winners for the statewide finals. Finals will be held June 8 to 10 at the University during spring week activities of the Future Farmers.

Exhibit to Close Friday

An exhibit of books, poems, and other writings by alumni, former students, and faculty members will continue until Friday at the University Library.

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	News
9:30	Music Hall
10:30	Sign Off