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# The Daily Collegian

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STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night Editor, Nancy Showalter; Copy Editors, Dave Bronstein, Jackie Hudgins; Assistants, Margie Blank, Ruth Barnard, Fran Fanucci, Harry Davis, Don Barlett.

## Can Customs Be Called a Success?

The customs program ended for some 2700 freshmen noon Saturday and the question to be answered now is could the freshman customs program be called a success?

For students who actively participated in the program it can be called a success. However, for more than half of the freshman the program was a failure.

Enthusiasm was lacking on the part of upperclassmen the first week and this lack of spirit spread to the freshman class the second week. The first joint customs day was successful, according to the Freshman Customs Board, and students. The other three lacked the vigor of the first, however. Frosh walked around campus without dinks, signs, or handbooks.

Upperclassmen watched everything with equal unconcern. Frosh themselves said that they were seldom asked to button or curtsy. Groups of frosh singing the songs or giving a

Short Yell-State were hard to find after the first week.

Such lack of enthusiasm and spirit among all the students is detrimental to the entire customs program. If there isn't going to be any enforcement or participation by the students, then why should we have customs? The program is just a waste of time for everyone.

Certainly the customs program cannot be made any easier for freshmen. Men and women, as freshmen, are allowed to date. Two years ago they were no allowed to date for three weeks.

One solution would be to cut the enforcement period to one week. Some freshmen think the program, to be effective, should only be one week. Enforcement would have a good effect because spirit would still be high and enforcement strong.

—Mary Bolich

## Safety Valve—

### Clarifies Cabinet Statemen

TO THE EDITOR: In Saturday's Collegian, Diehl McKalip saw fit to "censor" me, on the grounds that my statements before All-University Cabinet last week were not carefully prepared. In other words, I was taking "a shot in the dark."

Allow me to clarify a few things for Mr. McKalip. First of all, I am not the uniformed tabby cat or would be martyr that he would make me out to be. I know how the political system on this campus works from some past for State Party Elections Chairman for AIM etc.). Let me add further that the knowledge I have gained led up to my attack in cabinet. In fact, I would contend that my speech in cabinet was probably better prepared than Mr. McKalip's editorial.

Both Mr. McKalip and the Collegian reporter that covered the meeting seemed to miss the real point I was striving to put across. I was calling for a little more democratic idealism and clear thinking on important issues as opposed to the selfish ambitions of some of the representatives and the muddled thinking on semantical trivialities. Of course, I made the mistake of telling the members I was speaking from an idealistic point of view when I called for the revamping of our present predatory political system where one ambitious Lion (or State) feeds on the carrion mistakes of the other. I should have realized that idealism is more of bogeyman around here than McCarthyism.

As for intelligent comment, let me quote from the only member who did make any kind of a comment, Robert Dennis. Mr. Dennis said, "Any changes made would have to be made slowly." May I remind Mr. Dennis there is a point reached when a moving object is moving so slowly that it is impossible to tell if it is actually moving or standing still. In the two years I have been at the University I have seen only one change. Every year the names of the members in cabinet change.

All that I ask is that the members of our student government think about where they are and what they should be. They are in a University, and they should have some spark of idealistic value in them. They will see enough of the practical, mediocrity of every day living when they leave here. There is no sense in

## Gazette...

Today

- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 6:45 p.m., 304 Old Main
- COLLEGIAN AD STAFF, 6:30 p.m., 9 Carnegie
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 10 Sparks
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 7 p.m., Collegian Business Office
- COLLEGIAN CIRCULATION STAFF, 6:30 p.m., Collegian Business Office
- COLLEGIAN PROMOTION STAFF, 7 p.m., 102 Willard
- ED STUDENT COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 209 Burrows
- LA VIE ART STAFF CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 105 Temporary
- PENN STATE BRIDGE CLUB, 7 p.m., TUB
- PENN STATE CLUB SMOKER, 7 p.m., 411 Old Main
- PENN STATE DeMOLAY CLUB, 7 p.m., 320 South Pugh Street
- PHI MU ALPHA, 9 p.m., 100 Carnegie
- PHI UPSILON OMICRON, 7:30 p.m., Home Ec Living Center
- PLAYERS AD CREW, 6:45 p.m., Schwab Loft
- PLAYERS PROPERTIES WORKSHOP, 7 p.m., Schwab Basement
- THETA SIGMA PHI, 8 p.m., 202 Willard

### UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Jesse Arnelle, James Clokey, William Douglass, Eugene Epstein, Norman Gittlen, Robert Heilman, Margaret Jones, William Kanz, Peter Petroff, Rowenna Pounds, Joseph Racik, Harry Richman, Carol Schwing, and Rosemary Yohe.

### PLACEMENT SERVICE

WAGNER ELECTRIC CORPORATION will visit the campus Oct. 5 to interview January graduates in the fields of EE and ME.  
THE TRANE COMPANY will visit the campus Oct. 7 to interview January graduates in the fields of ME, IE, and ME.  
THE TRANE COMPANY will visit the campus Oct. 7 to interview January graduates in the fields of EE, IE, and ME.  
ROME AIR FORCE DEPOT will visit the campus Oct. 7 to interview January graduates in the fields of physics and EE; M.S. candidates in EE who have completed at least one semester; and Ph.D. candidates in EE expecting to receive their degree in 1955.

adopting the worst features of the "outside world" here merely for the sake of on the job training. Let us be University students and unchain ourselves from the conventional ward-healers' morality.

—Byron Fielding

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



WORTHAL! Say, I haven't seen much of you since you got that cute little sports car."

### Education Vs. Specialization

## Faculty Club Hears English Lit Prof

By MARNIE SCHENCK

The problem of general education versus the specialization which modern employers demand was discussed yesterday by Frederick L. Gwynn, assistant professor of English literature, at the weekly Faculty Luncheon Club meeting.

Gwynn said that the unstable world makes it impossible for us to feel whole; he said there is a feeling against the intellectuals and

that the very multiplicity of the world has led to the great specialization which exists in higher American education. Gwynn added that an almost "hero worship" exists now for the specialist.

Gwynn said the jobs nowadays have become so cut and dry that there is no longer any reward for the person.

He said businesses are now beginning to complain that the college graduates come to them with a general education. They want people with general knowledge and then to train their specialists themselves. The blame for this problem can not be put wholly on colleges, however. Fortune stated it should rest partly with the recruiters for jobs. Colleges have failed, according to Fortune, because a freshman learns immediately what techniques they are going to need to get the job of their choosing and then develop that throughout their college career, and that the bigness of colleges is now a general curse. Then to increase the

graduates income he needs more specialization.

The demand for specialization led to the development of departments in a college and then with the invention of the elective system around 1870 the departments started vying with each other for students, Gwynn said.

The movement which is now starting is not to do away with specialization, Gwynn said; it is only to add a general education to our curriculums.

There are three plans now on trial in various colleges throughout the country. The first approach is the rationalist. This is practiced by Chicago University and most of the Roman Catholic (Continued on page five)

### Tonight on WDFM

|                 |                             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 91.1 MEGACYCLES |                             |
| 7:30            | One Night Stand             |
| 8:00            | Behind the Lectern          |
| 8:30            | Music of the People         |
| 9:00            | Informally Yours. Thespians |
| 9:15            | News                        |
| 9:30            | This World of Music         |
| 10:30           | Sign Off                    |

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