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# 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.

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## Constitution Should Be Revised Immediately

Approximately 80 minutes were spent Thursday night by All-University Cabinet in trying to decide if it had the power to charter political parties.

The All-University constitution said it did. The Administration said it didn't.

Over 30 minutes were spent by the group debating if it should take seats away from three representatives, authorized to sit on cabinet by their organization's presidents and unauthorized by the All-University constitution.

The constitution declared these seats illegal. Cabinet overruled the constitution and declared them legal.

The situation is not the most consistent with constitutional procedure.

In fact, it's an extremely unhealthy action for cabinet to record in its minutes. It indicates either that cabinet is dissatisfied with its present constitution and wishes revision (which is a perfectly justifiable condition) or that cabinet holds little or no respect for constitutions (which condition could prove disastrous to student government).

Whatever the motive, cabinet has been acting illegally in several instances for years and to all appearances intends to continue this same procedure until the constitution is revised.

## Defends Mackey's Talk

TO THE EDITOR: I have been watching the Collegian . . . to see if Burgess Mackey had answered the charges of "inaccuracies and false figures" made by Ben Sinclair of the Penn State Young Republican Club. Either the Burgess has not seen the Sinclair letter, or he feels that it is not worthy of an answer. Perhaps he feels that the faculty should not "invade" the student newspaper.

I should like to come to his defense, for Sinclair, obtaining his figures secondhand, misquoted the Burgess . . .

He took the Burgess' figures and applied them to a biennium rather than to one year. Thus the Burgess said, "We need between 200 and 300 million dollars per year . . ." for education in Pennsylvania . . . not per biennium as Sinclair intimated. The Burgess said that in the past year, the sales tax has brought in between 50 and 60 million dollars . . . The Burgess' figures (for one year) were certainly correct, insofar as can be ascertained.

Sinclair stated that the Burgess was deliberately misleading in his use of the Chesterman report. I can not understand how a college student of Sinclair's supposed ability could have made such a gross error. The figure (of possible savings listed in the report) which was used by the Burgess is given in the table on page six of the report . . . I must ask Sinclair to read the report (the question he asked the Burgess) for there is no possible refutation of the Burgess' figures . . .

This 100 million figure is for a biennium, making about 50 million a year. The point the Burgess made was that if all of the saving projected by the Chesterman report were available this year, they would equal this year's return on the sales tax . . .

All-University officers are considering a general revision of the constitution. However the revision has been informally delegated to a cabinet member currently engaged in cross-country. Committee action cannot be started on revision, he says, until cross-country is over for the season.

Cross-country will not be over until Nov. 22. In the meantime, cabinet must rely on precedent rather than an outmoded constitution, continue to act illegally, spend countless hours debating constitutional points which are extremely ambiguous and misleading, and create general havoc and ill-will between cabinet members who do not agree on interpretations of constitutional articles which should, actually, leave no room for misunderstanding.

It would perhaps be unreasonable to ask the delegated revision chairman to sacrifice cross-country activity to begin immediately on the revision.

However, it would not be unreasonable to ask cabinet to appoint a new chairman who does have the time to begin immediate action on the revamping. We cannot ask our All-University officers to give up their sports, but we can ask for a more efficient delegation of duties.

—Peggy McClain

## Gazette . . .

Today

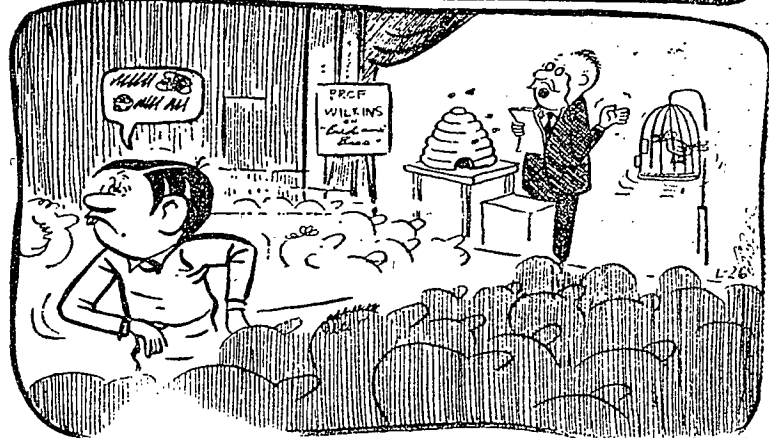
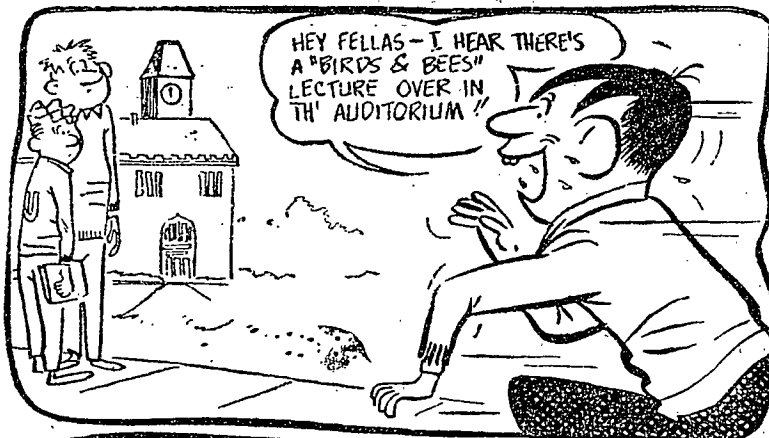
- AG HILL PARTY EMCEE TRYOUTS, 7 p.m., 103 Agriculture
- BLOCK AND BRIDLE CLUB INFORMAL INITIATION, 7:30 p.m., Beef Barn
- CLOVER CLUB, 7 p.m., Delta Theta Sigma
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 100 Weaver
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 6:45 p.m., Carnegie
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF SENIOR BOARD, 8:45 p.m., Carnegie
- COLLEGIAN CIRCULATION STAFF, 6:30 p.m., Collegian Business Office
- ED STUDENT COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 204 Burrows
- HOME EC STUDENT COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., Home Ec Living Center
- INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 7:30 p.m., 405 Old Main
- MINERAL INDUSTRIES STUDENT COUNCIL, 7:30 p.m., 208 Willard
- NEWMAN CLUB, 8 p.m., Catholic Student Center
- PSYCHOLOGY CLUB, 7:30 p.m., Psychology Laboratory

I should like to register a strong objection to the tone of Sinclair's letter. He tried to be flip-pantly abusive, and the result was particularly contumacious, inasmuch as he was exactly 100 per cent off . . . There are two sides to the election questions, and I should like to believe that members of the Young Republicans are making a sincere effort to present the facts honestly. This is serious business—not rah, rah, BMOG stuff.

—Lois Hummel  
Young Democrat Club

## Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



## Burcik Explains Stonecutting Art

By JOANNE WOHLBER

Members of the Faculty Luncheon Club were introduced to the art of cutting semi-precious stones yesterday by Emil J. Burcik, associate professor of petroleum and natural gas.

Burcik, whose lapidary endeavors are a hobby he has enjoyed for the past four years, calls fellow lapidaries "rock hounds," while young initiates with the gem-cutting bug are termed "pebble pups."

All these jewel enthusiasts, he said, cut and polish gems to enhance their beauty.

Burcik considers semi-precious gems more beautiful than precious gems in many instances, and he distinguished between synthetic, genuine, and imitation stones.

Synthetic stones have the same chemical composition and physical properties as the genuine stones. However, they are crystallized by man. A flawless synthetic stone is impossible to distinguish from a genuine one.

A lapidary may use either a cabochon or a faceted cut on a stone. The cabochon is the simplest of the two, and involves merely the polishing and shaping of the stone into a smoothly rounded oval.

A faceted cut entails more skill and patience. A gem holder maintains the stone in a stationary position while a wheel rimmed with diamond dust cuts a level plane on its surface. Certain cutting rules guide the lapidary in de-

termining just where to facet the stone.

As many as 58 facets may be required in the cutting of a brilliant diamond, Burcik said. It is for this reason that gems retail for so much more than their intrinsic value.

Some types of faceted cuts are buff, emerald, and star. Burcik showed a series of colored slides to illustrate the beauty of such semi-precious stones as opals, topazes, amethysts, rose quartz, Venus' hair stones, laboradorite, sunstones, and tiger eyes.

He also pointed out that color and price is the only difference between turquoise and emeralds.

## Tonight on WDFM

- 91.1 MEGACYCLES
- 7:25 Sign On
  - 7:30 One Night Stand
  - 8:00 Behind the Lectern
  - 8:30 Music of the People
  - 9:00 Informally Yours
  - 9:15 News
  - 9:30 This World of Music
  - 10:30 Sign Off

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to interview unmarried graduates with majors in

### ENGINEERING, PHYSICS and GEOLOGY

See your Placement Director for interview Schedules