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The Daily Collegian

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Opposition to NSA Shows Poor Logic

Although membership in the National Student Association has been renewed this year, doubt is circulating among students as to the value the University receives from such membership.

The essence of this doubt seems to be that "prestige" is the only value the University draws from NSA, and student government bodies are unwilling to accept the knowledge students gained from NSA conventions.

However, students of this opinion are using rather distorted logic when considering this a reason for opposing further support or participation in NSA functions. Actually, by such reasoning they are saying that because the University is not drawing a maximum from NSA, NSA itself is not worth support.

Students opposing support of the organization are right that at present the University is gaining little more than prestige. However, this cannot be considered a fault of the organization; rather it must be regarded as a lack of education about NSA and an extremely negative and shortsighted attitude on the part of many students.

As has been pointed out in previous editorials, some of the greatest advantages in NSA membership are intangibles: opportunity to gain a broader perspective of academic affairs and exposure to the "high-level minds" of other campuses.

However the tangible benefits can be listed just as concretely. The central NSA office in Philadelphia maintains files of information on structure and implementation of many campus organizations at other institutions. From these files, available to all NSA members, can be drawn suggestions, recommendations, and ideas for setting up or improving campus organizations.

NSA, nationally, composed of student officials from various parts of the country, also takes an active part in national political issues

pertaining to student welfare, such as income tax exemption for students. By acting as a consulting group for Congress, NSA assures that congressmen know the views of students when dealing with student matters.

Dissension is frequently voiced against the policy of sending a small minority of the student body to NSA conventions; many students feel that while these particular representatives are benefiting from the contacts and experiences they find at these conclaves, the University as a whole does not benefit. This is in part correct; only a very few students from the University attend these conferences. However, any lack of verbal conveyance of the ideas presented at these conferences is not due to reticence on the part of University representatives. Students from Penn State who attended the national congress this summer returned to campus prepared and willing to spend hours discussing the conference; unfortunately they met with a negative attitude of indifference on the part of their potential audiences.

NSA might well be compared to a certain extent with the University's Student Encampment. While NSA is much larger and deals with a broader field of subjects, both groups are essentially a melting pot of student opinions for the purpose of formulating recommendations and solutions to problems dealing with colleges and universities.

Few students could deny the advantages the University has drawn from Student Encampment. Yet this group includes only 120 faculty and students from an approximate 12,000-person student body and offers no more tangible results than NSA has produced.

It would possibly show a more educated level of thinking if students, rather than reject support of NSA on the grounds that the University is not drawing from it, would study a few basic facts about the organization and possibly awaken to the benefits that are the University's merely for the exercise of taking them.

—Peggy McClain

Chest Cents are Sense

Almost \$6000 was raised by last year's Campus Chest drive through solicitations from only 55 per cent of the student body. This year the chest is asking for \$7250; during the three-day drive, 400 student solicitors will be working toward this goal.

Last year Campus Chest aimed at 100 per cent participation with no set monetary goal. However, 100 percent of the students did not participate.

This is in part understandable; students living on a set allowance tend to feel annoyed when asked to donate a part of this to charities and the like. However, through Campus Chest, students are being relieved of unending solicitations from the dozens of charity groups seeking donations. Because of the chest, no other national or local group can solicit students privately or at any other time.

Under the chest, 15 national and local groups receive contributions from the student body. Whether the individual student contributes or not, the campus is free of any solicitation not included under the chest.

However, this all-inclusive provision can not rightfully be considered an escape from individual donations. The student, because he is a student, cannot waive his community responsibilities. Usually groups included in the chest drive are actually those groups to which students would normally contribute, such as the Red Cross, the heart fund, and the cerebral palsy fund.

Added to these charities are campus organizations which will benefit directly from student support and in turn increase the strength of the

Gazette . . .

- Today
- AG STUDENT COUNCIL, 7 p.m., 103 Ag
 - CPA DISTRIBUTION STAFF, 7:45 p.m., Collegian Business Office
 - CPA SENIOR DIRECTORATE, 6:30 p.m., CPA Office
 - CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 6:45 p.m., 405 Old Main
 - COLLEGIAN AD STAFF, 6:30 p.m., 9 Carnegie
 - COLLEGIAN BUSINESS CANDIDATES, Women, 6:30 p.m., Men, 7:30 p.m., 100 Weaver
 - COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 6:45 p.m., Collegian Business Office
 - COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF SENIOR BOARD, 8:45 p.m., 9 Carnegie
 - COLLEGIAN CIRCULATION STAFF, 6:30 p.m., Business Office
 - COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 1 Carnegie
 - COLLEGIAN PROMOTION STAFF, 8 p.m., 102 Willard
 - ENGINEERING STUDENT COUNCIL, 7 p.m., 107 Main Eng.
 - NEWMAN CLUB, 8 p.m., Catholic Student Center
 - PHI MU ALPHA, 9 p.m., 100 Carnegie
 - SIGMA ALPHA ETA, 7:30 p.m., 1 Sparks
 - SOPHOMORE CLASS MEETING COMMITTEE, 8:30 p.m., 101 Willard

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
Albert Harman, Roscoe Kauffman, Samuel McKibben, Fujio Oda, Albert Sankin, Harry Spayde.

University. Such groups as the Penn State Scholarship Fund and the University Christian Association all add greatly to University life. Yet their strength is relative to student financial support.

Whether you adopt one of the slogans of past chest drives as your reason—"Give Once, Serve All" or "All the Beggars in One Ask"—or merely feel your duty to your fellowmen, you can not fail to see the good in the drive starting tomorrow. It consolidates your charitable gifts into one giving, and it enables you to do your part.

—Jackie Hudgins

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"I put a desk at both ends of the classroom—confuses heck out of those students who always sit in the back row."

"Loyalty" at . . .

The Philing Station

By PHIL AUSTIN

Columnist George Sokolsky wrote a column Saturday which would have been as funny as Fulton Lewis Jr.'s broadcasts—if it did not have serious implications for the American college student.

It seems that Mr. Sokolsky picked up a brochure of the Labor Youth League, which is a Communist organization, on a college campus.

What troubles Mr. Sokolsky is that there is no "activity" among students that competently hits at this pernicious propaganda among our sons and daughters.

In other words, he believes present college students are being sent to the dogs on the Moscow express. Undoubtedly he would agree with the college administrations which feel that the national debate topic is too hot to handle.

But the inference of the article is that college students aren't loyal. Mr. Sokolsky admits he does not know how widespread this Communist Party propaganda has been circulated. But he is afraid.

"I wonder on how many campuses there is a Labor Youth League and how active it is in denouncing the United States and in serving the interests of Soviet Russia. This has nothing to do with academic freedom; it has to do with undermining the United States among the young."

Then Mr. Sokolsky lists some campus organizations which can undo this influence. The first of these is the ROTC (apparently with its loyalty oaths). The second is with religious organizations, and the third is with the "not-yet effective" Students for America.

Students for America is the conservatives' answer for the National Student Association. However, it is an organization which deals

only with the problems of Communists on American campuses, rather than with general campus problems as the NSA does.

The first time I was personally acquainted with SFA was last year when I picked up an exchange copy of the University of Virginia Cavalier. Seems down in the Old Dominion State, an FSA chapter was formed. Then someone wrote to the paper charging that an organization with fascist intents was active on the campus. The fight was on.

But the real joker as far as I concerned is the ROTC: apparently America's first line of defense in Mr. Sokolsky's book.

The epitome of everything is the requirement for all ROTC cadets to sign loyalty oaths. However, this seems to be inconsequential since some men and coeds do not take ROTC. The only way to get around this will be to have all students entering the University sign loyalty oaths. (This also would eliminate any Com-

(Continued on page five)

Tonight on WDFM

- 91.1 MEGACYCLES
- 7:25 Sign On
 - 8:00 Behind the Lectern
 - 8:00 The Air Force ROTC, Colonel Riva
 - 8:30 Music of the People
 - 9:00 Informally Yours
 - 9:15 News
 - 9:30 This World of Music
 - 10:30 Thought for the Day
 - 10:35 Sign Off

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DECEMBER 1, 2, 3