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The Daily Collegian

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Editorials represent the viewpoint of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the paper. Unsigned editorials are of the editor.

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Revision Committee Policy: Inconsistent

When the All-University Cabinet revisions committee meets tonight for further revamping of the constitution, it will be in a semi-closed meeting. We hope that when the committee adjourns for the evening, it will have established a more definite policy on whether the meetings are open or closed.

At present, students may attend the meetings as spectators and will not be prohibited unless, according to the committee chairman, the size of the "audience" handicaps committee action and speed. Some students will be especially invited to the meetings, the chairman has pointed out, if they are concerned with a particular article under consideration. In the same light, students can be prohibited from attending at the discretion of the committee.

A Daily Collegian reporter is permitted to attend the committee meetings with the provision that he may not publish a written report of proceedings.

The situation is inconsistent. Student interest in committee action will be tolerated until the interest increases to a point considered overwhelming. Spectators, including a reporter, may absorb what is said and done during meetings, report verbally to whom they please, and yet are prohibited from making a written report.

Two justifiable alternatives are open to the committee: opening the meetings, or closing them completely. Either policy would be a distinct advantage over the present haphazard discrimination.

Closing the meetings would of course shut the committee off from a maximum of initial student ideas. The student body would have no way of knowing officially what point in the constitution the committee has reached, and

therefore would be unable to form opinions and make suggestions on committee action.

Students would hear an occasional committee report to cabinet, presented at the discretion of the committee; but to propose any changes in the revision, a student would have to:

1. Attend a particular cabinet meeting and
2. Analyze, form an opinion, and consider an alternative within the possible hour during which the report is given.

The only justifiable reason the committee would have in closing the meetings would be the time element. Should meetings be interrupted by the voiced opinions of a few as ten spectators, many hours would probably be spent in haggling and debate.

However, such debate will probably come sooner or later when the reports are submitted to cabinet, so possibly it would be advantageous to sound out student opinion in the beginning.

The committee is legally within its rights to close or open the meetings as it sees fit. But since the constitution involves student rights to such a great extent—that is, representation, tribunal, and control of student activities—we feel that the student body should have the most say possible in any alteration of these rights.

Possibly a compromise could be reached between the two alternatives. If the committee, before further procedure, would submit to cabinet a report stating to what extent they are changing the "tone" of the constitution—that is, whether they are increasing or decreasing cabinet authority, student representation, or division of powers—students would feel more comfortable about remaining in the dark about any minor changes.

—Peggy McClain

Safety Valve— On SFA—

TO THE EDITOR: In Friday's column "Safety Valve" (Daily Collegian) was a letter on Red Propaganda which is a good example of half-thinking. Its author, Jack Williams, stated "Most of us would not recognize the Communist line if we did hear it," thus intimating that we cannot depend on our own intellect, so rather than try to form our own judgments, we should depend on some outside force or order to mold our thoughts.

He then praises a group called the Students for America. Since this group's name has appeared in the Collegian in several instances, I believe an account of this group as presented in the March 2 issue of "Reporter" should be summarized here.

"SFA was started by a student at the University of Southern California—Robert Munger, who having failed at conventional campus politics, set himself up as National Director of MacArthur clubs in October, 1951. These clubs later became the SFA under Munger's guidance.

"The handbook of SFA shows how Munger patterned his group after the Communists he sought to outwit. A select hard core membership controls the organization. Local chapters were to be a campus underground. Intelligence sections composed of select individuals unknown to general memberships were to join leftist groups and report all information to national headquarters; this information was then to be forwarded to governmental committees. . . . Munger advised members to seek campus offices, recognizing that SFA should act through fronts. This group has nothing approximating a constitution and no democratic processes by which chapters may vote for national officers."

It is this group which condemns NSA. Those who feel the outspokenness of men like McCarthy, Fulton Lewis Jr., and George Sokolsky is justified, should remember that one of the most ardent fighters against Communism was Adolph Hitler, but who could condone his methods?

—George Borosque

Gazette . . .

- AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR METALS, 8 p.m., Mineral Science Auditorium
- ALPHA KAPPA PSI, 7:15 p.m., Theta Delta Chi
- CENTRAL PROMOTIONS AGENCY SENIOR DIRECTOR-ATE, 6:30 p.m., CPA Office
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANIZATION, 6:45 p.m., 304 Old Main
- CLOVER CLUB, 7 p.m., Alpha Gamma Rho
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, Senior Board, 8:45 p.m., 9 Carnegie Hall
- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF, 6:45 p.m., Collegian Business Office
- COLLEGIAN PROMOTION STAFF, 7 p.m., 102 Willard

On Campus Chest

The final score for campus chest was not what a 12,000-student University could have tabulated. The drive fell short by almost 50 per cent of its goal of \$7250.

At a glance it would seem that Penn State students are not charity-minded. However, this is not the case, as has been shown by previous responses to Greek Week projects, group-sponsored foster children projects, children's Christmas parties, and even the purchase of the Lion's suit from student donations.

Evidently the problem lies with Campus Chest itself, its particular contingents and its implementation.

The chief complaint against the drive this year was the lack of a system to designate to which charities students wanted their donations given. Last year, students could check off the particular groups they wished to support. This year the practice was discontinued, mainly to facilitate bookkeeping—both the time element and the added expense. Last year's chairman spent the greater part of the semester tabulating the percentages designated on the donation cards.

Preference of a designation system indicates that students do not care to contribute to all listed charities. Thus, it would be wise for All-University Cabinet to derive some way of polling student opinion as to what groups should be dropped from the list.

The real problem of low contributions would be solved if the chest were dropped completely. However, unless solicitors were prohibited from campus, students would be swamped with charity-seekers. And complete prohibition of charity drives would indicate a very poor spirit of public welfare on the part of the University.

Possibly, chest could be dropped with the provision that no solicitations could be made in dormitories or classroom buildings. This would not cut off the campus from charity groups completely, but it would eliminate the nuisance of continuous personal solicitations.

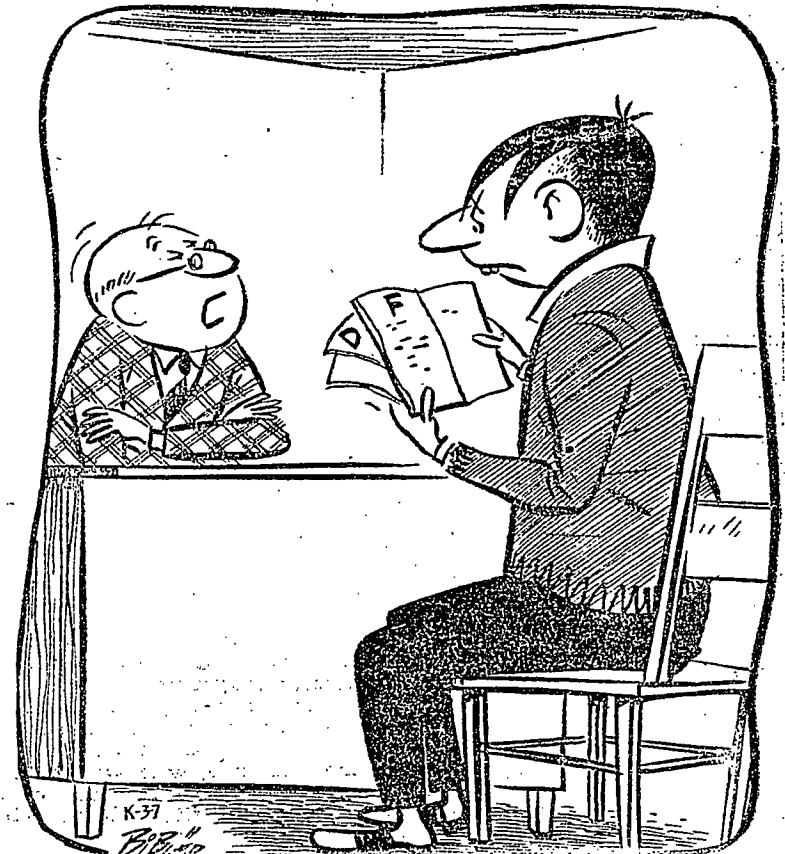
We hope that cabinet will decide upon a new course of action for the chest. Its results obviously do not warrant the great amount of work which student committees and solicitors put into it. And from the low figure on contributions, it is not meeting the needs of students so far as an all-inclusive charity drive is concerned.

—P.M.

- COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF CANDIDATES, 7 p.m., 100 Weaver
- DAILY ROSARY, 4:30 p.m., Catholic Church
- SOLEMN NOVENA, 7 p.m., Catholic Church
- POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB, 3 p.m., 108 Willard
- ZOOLOGY CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 214 Frear Laboratory
- UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
 - Patricia Collins, William Cunningham, Delroy Heiser, Janice Karp, Richard Larrick, Sue Levy, Ken McPheeters, Arthur Miller, Jack Muse, Irvin Reichley, Willard Robb.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"I thought perhaps you didn't know. There are three possible higher grades than D and F."

Hot and Cold

Impressions

By DIEHL McKALIP

HOT TIME AT HOUTS—

We went to a fire at the Houts' store on Saturday night. It was not a very pretty sight, but as usual at fires the attendance was excellent and comments from the University crowd and others were abundant. The attendance, in fact, seemed to be better than at the basketball game then in progress in Recreation Hall.

The big trouble was that we saw not just flames and smoke shooting sky-ward and billowing over the borough, but in those flames and smoke we saw the Christmas for hundreds of little Centre County boys and girls. Not only were the dolls and trains being destroyed, but also the paychecks of the parents who worked there.

Our sadness was lifted somewhat, however, when we discovered no one's homes were afire and so none would be forced to spend dreary holidays mourning their losses. Too, there were no lives lost, but only machinery and iron and cement which can be replaced with money.

Yes, the Houts' fire seemed to be the social center of State College for there we met all our friends. Girls and boys, men and women, together and single, some in jeans and loafers, some in high heels and hobble skirts. All of them standing about in a paste of mud and shivering.

Comments heard were: "I hear the Centre Daily Times is going to run a ten-page extra tomorrow; the first page of pictures and the other nine of fire sale."

From the observations of three State College high school students as they charged towards the fire: "These University students are always getting out of control at a fire."

Coming from an observer who had picked up the traditional yule-tide warning we heard: "It must have started in the Christmas trees they had decorated in their display windows."

A black mark was chalked up against spectators in general by the State College fire chief. Aiming his charge particularly at students (this is as usual but it must be admitted they comprised the majority of those watching), he

said the onlookers had been very uncooperative and had even cheered the firemen as they had fought the blaze.

STUDENT UNION BUILDING— Considering the new Hetzel Union Building yesterday, we wondered if the students and organizations are ready to use it. As it was shown to a group of visiting student unioners from other campuses over the weekend, their eyes glowed with envy at our physical plant.

We ask George Donovan, who will direct the monster, if everything was ready for the occupation, particularly by the many student groups who will have offices in the building. He said, "Yes," adding all furniture and other essentials except typewriters would be supplied by the University.

Frankly, we mean more than this. Advisors to many of the groups think they should be preparing schedules of how they will staff the offices and utilize them so that they do not become mere depositories for outdated records and minutes. This is true, for the main reason of having the offices is to provide a place where all may contact the group housed there.

PERSONALITY Heard this morning with the arrival of the cold spell:

"It was so cold this morning when I left the fraternity house that the mercury in the thermometer was half-way down the broom handle underneath." His nose was blue too.

Tonight on WDFM

- 91.1 MEGACYCLES
- 7:25 Sign On
- 7:30 Scott Unabridged
- 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 Thought For the Day (Sign Off)

MARGARET'S Shop . . .
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