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The Daily Collegian

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STAFF THIS ISSUE: Business and editorial staffs, The Daily Collegian.

The Job—Just Begun

Today is the day to pat ourselves on the back, sit back and look at our accomplishments as a University, and be as smug and self-satisfied as we like. All this is justified—today. We have progressed far enough to justify pride and loyal boasts of our achievements.

Tomorrow we must discard smugness and self-satisfaction.

Because although we have reached a landmark in our history as a University, we must join the many universities of the country in a long march toward justifying ourselves. In short we must find the most ethical, and at the same time realistic way to return the universities to their students.

To look forward, we must first look back and determine at just what point American institutions have forgotten their students. This point was the transition from the small, personalized colleges to the enormous, often called "factory" schools that are so predominant.

To bring higher education to the masses, our universities have had to make physical provisions for the masses. This is obvious in the physical expansion of our own school. And while such advances are necessary and desirable, they must not be allowed to become a stumbling block to the student.

The physical advances must do no more than supplement the search for education. They should no more be the end result of enrollment in college than they should be a handicap to teaching and learning.

Classic education is fast being pushed from today's universities. Technical training is taking its place. Whether or not this is good can be answered only by saying that society is now demanding college graduates with technical training. It is the role of a university to prepare its students for what is expected of them.

However, this cannot be interpreted to mean that colleges should close their eyes to all others. They must be able to offer what students want, as well as what society as a whole is demanding.

We would not wish to return to an era when college educated men were in the minority. A maximum of education is the essence of our ideals as a nation.

But meeting the physical aspects of mass education falls short of our purpose unless we adjust to the academic demands as well.

Imagine the University as a sphere. The outside line of the sphere represents the physical properties of the school—the dormitories, classrooms, auditoriums, and playgrounds. This line is packed tight.

Our job now is to fill up the inside of the sphere, so that it, too, is solid and no particle can fall out of perspective and rattle around in confusion.

This inside portion is the nucleus of the entire University. It is the educational process: the student, the communication, and the teacher.

There will always be students. But as the number of students has increased, so the universities must increase the number of teachers and take stock of their means of communication. They must learn to distinguish between artificial devices of communication and the sincere attempts at mental rapport.

The latter can come only through the mind; we must have a maximum of mental wisdom here—minds that know both the wisdom and the means of transferring this wisdom to students. Such a nucleus alone is the only real justification for a university's existence.

Tomorrow we must begin to fill this nucleus. Today, let's celebrate! Happy Birthday!

—Peggy McClain

Chapel vs. Reactor

Today the Pennsylvania State University pauses after 100 years and rededicates herself in preparation for her second 100 years. But to what is she rededicating herself, life or doom?

This is a question that has troubled many of the Penn State family because of two of the events which will take place today as part of the birthday observance; the ground breaking for the All-Faith Chapel and the dedication of the nuclear reactor. The timing has caused many a feeling of irony about building on one hand "a symbol of faith" and on the other "a symbol of destruction."

Not agreeing that atomic energy is the "symbol of destruction," the University last night held a symposium on "The Responsible Uses of Power." There an eminent scientist and a leading religious philosopher tried to find the answer to this embarrassing question.

We, however, like to think the reactor is not dedicated to destruction, but rather to creation, as is the entire University. And, being dedicated to creation, it becomes as much a symbol of faith in what the future may bring as the All-Faith Chapel.

Much of the confusion seems to result from what the public visualizes when the word "nuclear" is heard. It has become a bad word that carries little but evil connotations and so must usually be whispered. It joins the class of communism, facism, isolationism, abolitionism in having a fearful legend built around it.

The cause of this fearful legend is based on man's associations with the word "nuclear." Upon hearing the term, he does not think of the dictionary definition of the word or its scientific evaluations but immediately of what the bulk of the newspaper headlines have told him about this awful thing. He thinks of bombs, artillery, submarines, explosions, fires, radiation burns, air-bourne dust particles, destruction, death.

This dreadful definition calls for a re-education of the public. A lesson of the potential good of the nuclear reaction must be taught and the best way is by deeds. The world must bring the constructive uses of nuclear reaction to a par with the destructive uses and show the power need not be locked up in the motors of submarines or the brass casses of shells and bombs.

However, in this day of military preparedness, anyone finds it difficult to put the word "nuclear" in civilian garb and toss out the emphasis that has been placed on the military aspect. It is here, then, that a second factor must lend a hand to re-education, the factor being faith. People must have faith that the word "nuclear" can have a meaning other than destruction.

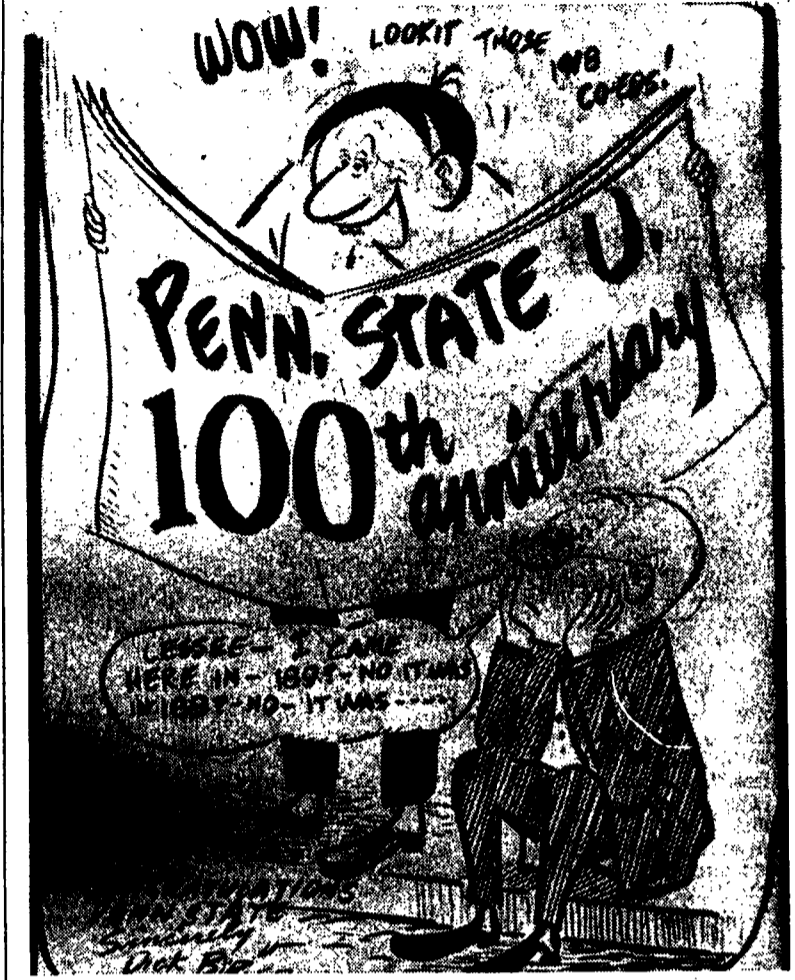
Thus, the dedication of a nuclear reactor and the ground breaking for an All-Faith Chapel at the University on the same day is not ironical. Rather they are the heralds of Penn State's ability to perform two duties, re-educate and supply a symbol of faith.

It can be hoped research conducted at the reactor will result in constructive uses for nuclear energy and through these uses show people a better life. And, coupled with it there will be the chapel whose 10-year, \$3 million plan can rise as a champion of faith. The two can be combined to provide what must be had, a new definition of the word "nuclear."

The University accepts a grave responsibility in dedicating a nuclear reactor and breaking ground for a chapel on the same day; a responsibility to 12,000 students, over 50,000 alumni, and the people of the world. This responsibility must be met so critics 100 years hence will not look back on Feb. 22, 1955 as an ironical day, as some critics today are wont to do.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



Centennial Thanks

There comes a time and a place in every endeavor when those attempting to accomplish the feat must pause to recount a few of their experiences and to give out a few thank you's to the many helping hands. We are no exception as we put our Centennial edition of the Daily Collegian together.

Before we go farther, we must admit we are going to forget to say our thanks to many; and their contributions have probably already passed from memory and only they will be able to find them in this paper. So, we will give a big, blanket thank you right now. Thank you.

When we first started on this issue, shortly after the Christmas vacation, there were two schools of thought as to how many pages there should be; that was before we remembered this racket costs money and the basic size determinant would be the amount of advertising. One group wanted a small compact issue with just the meat of everything shoved into a small paper for easy and quick reading. The others wanted 100 pages, one for each year of existence.

In our search for facts to fill the holes between the ads, we turned most frequently to the Penn State Room, historical repository in the Pattee Library, and to the department of public information in Old Main.

Also in line for special mention are Louis H. Bell, director of public information at the University, and Richard O. Byers, assistant professor of advertising, both

Daily Collegian advisers. A special Centennial adviser and writer of many of the University's Centennial Year news releases was Charles H. Brown, associate professor of journalism.

We are grateful to business concerns who subscribed to our advertising campaign personally and by mail. It was really the local merchants who put it over the top, however.

One of the biggest headaches of publishing an issue of this type is accuracy. It is surprising how foggy facts become after they have lain dead for 50 or 75 years, and we are holding our breath as the issue comes out today. We had an agreement with Mary L. Mairs, director of the Penn State Room, to have her red pencil all the errors so they won't be repeated in the Bi-Centennial issue.

The pleasantest surprise in doing research on historical facts and figures about the University is the almost unlimited supply of material. This issue can easily be only the beginning; we know we did not get all we would have liked to in these 48 pages. But it looks like a good crop of Centennial Year feature stories.

SALLY'S
Wishes
Penn State
University
a Happy
Birthday!

SERVING PENN STATE
FOR
TWENTY YEARS

Stepping out of the
screen for a change
to wish Penn State

A MIGHTY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
Just a reminder though:
"It's patriotic to have a shaggy beard"
—But not a shaggy top.

DAVIDSON'S
TV Barber Shop

Rustic, Old-Fashioned
Kind of Place --

We love being host
to those who enjoy
Fine, Quality Food

EUTAW HOUSE

Best Wishes on Your
100th Anniversary