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The Daily Collegian

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Editorials represent the viewpoints of the writers, not necessarily the policy of the paper, the student body, or the University.

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Campus Platform: Attention to What?

It happens every spring. Political parties submit to the student body empty platforms, devoid of practical, useful, new ideas. Instead, they substitute some general, uncontroversial—and generally unworkable—promises. It happened again this spring.

Today's editorial comments on the Campus party platform. Tomorrow, the Lion Party platform will be discussed.

Campus party presented nothing to the Elections Committee Wednesday night although it was scheduled to submit its platform.

In lieu of a platform, last year's all-winning group submitted an "open letter" to the student body which followed its winning "open letter" formula of last year almost exactly.

Evidently the Campus party leaders figure that what was good enough to win before will again turn the trick.

But we are not so sure of the merit of this formula. Campus party's "open letter" really is nothing more than a mass of generalities which commit the party candidates to nothing.

There is some merit to the party's argument that political platforms have been none too successful in the past, but this does not preclude the necessity for office seekers to take stands on controversial issues, even if their stand might meet with disfavor in some quarters. We suspect that Campus party is as much motivated by a desire to remain "in good" with all the voters as it is to show its disdain of "meaningless platforms."

Let's examine the "open letter" which Campus party has submitted for inspection:

Campus party is once again faced with the perplexing problem of how to make student government more effective. . . . Campus party realizes that we cannot solve all of these problems affecting us, but we also realize that student government has the potential of solving these problems."

An excellent statement. The problem is perplexing and one group, of course, cannot be expected to provide a panacea. It is expected, of course, that student politicians will realize the potential of student government.

So far, so good. We expected this introductory statement to be followed by at least some tentative solutions to student problems which Campus party candidates would be pledged to fulfill. But instead the party lists various accomplishments made by their standard bearers of last year. Some of these are office hours, advisory boards to class officers, the re-establishment of the National Student Association, and "many other steps to bridge the gap between us and our government."

The Campus party did advocate that All-University and class officers establish office hours and it was a good step, although we doubt that any earthshaking results have been realized.

But the idea of class advisory boards did not originate with the party as is implied. Rather, the party climbed on the bandwagon and urged

its candidates to follow the lead of others. Of course, there is nothing wrong with this as long as credit is not taken where credit is not due.

The implied credit for the re-establishment of NSA is a deliberate misrepresentation. We fail to find any mention of this on the part of Campus party in last year's campaign literature.

We suspect that Campus party is attempting to lull the voters into believing that every measure passed by All-University Cabinet since the last spring elections is directly attributable to the efforts of the party. This is not the case and it would be deceit to contend that it is so.

Political parties in the spring elect only five members to Cabinet, a body of 25. The re-establishment of NSA and the "many other steps" referred to must also be credited to the politically unaffiliated Cabinet members.

Campus party pledges to continue "this effort." It pledges to give "definite attention" to the health service and "additional attention" to the food service in the dormitories.

The "attention" would involve the establishment of a Student Service Commission "to overcome these and other similar problems (by maximizing) the value of these services, and present grievances and suggestions obtained from the student body."

This proposal, the only faintly concrete one advanced by Campus party, is wholly inadequate and, in some respects, silly.

There is no need nor reason to establish such a commission. Cabinet is already empowered to set up committees to investigate and propose solutions to student problems. These committees are entirely capable of handling and solving student problems given interested and able personnel.

Whether or not the Cabinet committees have been successful is not the point. A catchall service commission could not be more successful.

Ultimately, the success of a committee or a commission, call it what you may, depends on the interest, ability, and perseverance of the committee members and those to whom it is subject.

A service commission to handle all student problems would be so bogged down with gripes that it would not have time to do anything well. We can see no advantage in the establishment of such a commission.

The "attention" promised by Campus party to student problems merely represent a neat way to skirt controversial issues by listing them and promising to be concerned with them. The service commission, we suspect, is just an attention-getting device designed to hide the lack of a forthright stand on the part of the party.

The voters have a right to more than mere attentiveness. They have a right to know what the party proposes to do about that to which their attention has been attracted.

—Mike Miller

Gazette

- Today
- ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING SOCIETY, 7 p.m., 219 Electrical Engineering
 - GERMAN CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 105 Willard
 - INTERLANDIA FOLK DANCE, 7:45 p.m., 3 White Hall
 - INTER-VARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, 7:30 p.m., 405 Old Main
 - LUTHERAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION Discussion, 7 p.m., Student Association
 - NEWMAN CLUB, 7:30 p.m., Church hall
 - NEWMAN CLUB Party, 8 p.m., Student Center
 - NEWMAN Club, Stations of the Cross, 11:20 a.m.-7 p.m., Church
- Student Employment
The following campus will interview at the Student

- Employment Service, 112 Old Main. Sign up in advance for an appointment.
- CAMP WOODLANDS, Maine—March 10
 - CAMP LAKELAND, New York—March 10
 - CAMP GRADLE BEACH, New York—March 10
 - QUINIBECK CAMP, Vermont—March 13
 - CAMP CONRAD WEISER, Pennsylvania—March 14-15
 - CAMP MENATOMA, Maine—March 14-15
 - CAMP CARONDOWANNA, Pennsylvania—March 21
- University Hospital
- David Bennie, Richard Christian, Barbara Cyganowski, Alan Field, Nancy Fluck, Robert Forrest, Sharon Gallagher, Clayton Hakes, Nancy Himmelreich, Allen Hower, Lawrence Kramer, Marilyn Kriebel, Joseph Krufka, Richard McKnight, Henry Mago, Imerio Matos-Prieto, John Pursell, James Sarver, Sally Schellenberg, James Stern, Diane Warner, Bruce Weiner, Richard Winn, and Edward Drapcho.

Grad Student to Direct High School Class Play

Kenneth Cooper, graduate student in dramatics, will direct the State College High School Senior Class play, "Girl Crazy."

The three act comedy will be presented at 8 p.m. tonight in the school auditorium. The story centers around Danny Churchill, New York playboy, who is exiled to run a ranch in Arizona.

AIM-Leonides Choir

Members of the AIM-Leonides Choir will meet at 7 p.m. Monday in room 200 Carnegie.

Almquist Will Attend Breeding Conference

Dr. John O. Almquist, head of the dairy breeding research center, has been invited to spend 10 days inspecting the operation of the artificial breeding program in Puerto Rico.

The invitation was extended by the Puerto Rican agriculture and commerce department.

Dr. Almquist aided in establishing the program at the University in 1951 and has made several trips to the island to assist in developing it.

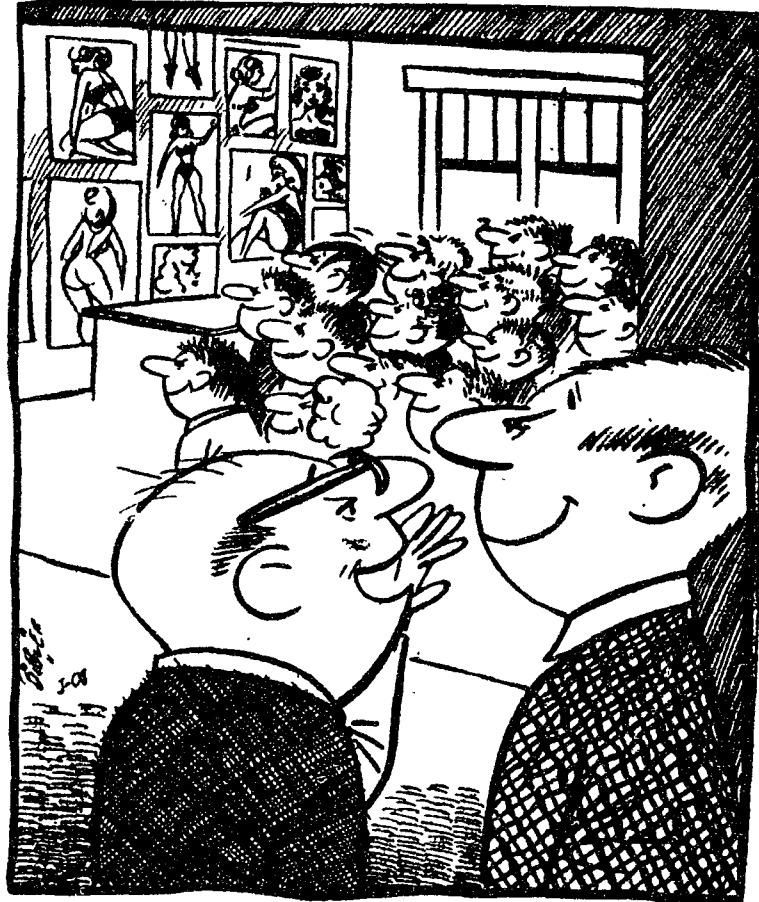
University Gets Award For Highway Safety

The Allstate Insurance Co. has presented the Allstate Insurance Co. certificate to the University for its contributions to highway traffic safety and to driver education programs.

The certificate was presented by Donald B. Baird, claim manager of the Allstate District Service Office in Altoona. It was accepted by Amos E. Neyhart, administrative head of the Institute of Public Safety.

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



"Funny the way they go for those visual aids."

Look Who's Talking . . .

About Animals

By JACKIE HUDGINS

Ordinarily you wouldn't think a state sales tax could cause so much confusion, but we've made a rather exhaustive study and we are prepared to say nothing has baffled us so much since Old Main struck 13 o'clock two weeks ago.

The fact that live dogs will be taxed strikes us as being a bit unfair. Will stuffed dogs be taxed?

An all-inclusive dog taxation, besides being recessive, seems to us to constitute an insult to thoroughbred dogs. Will a pure-bred have to be subjected to the same rate of taxation that a mongrel will? Is there no attention paid to background, no respect paid to breeding? We know, dogs don't have any effective means to complain, but we do and we intend to stand up for the well-bred dog.

Live fish will also be taxed. Dead fish were not mentioned but undoubtedly dead fish are included under "restaurant meals costing more than 50 cents."

Live birds also will have to submit to taxation. This we do not object to because so many of the live birds purchased seem to be of the same general variety—the love bird type, the parrot type, the canary type. Perhaps our value system is way out of line, but to us one bird is pretty much like another bird.

But an aspect of the bird problem that we do intend to analyze thoroughly is the edible fowl angle. Were he alive he would be taxable. Were he dead, cooked, and served over the counter or upon the table he would be taxable. But what if he is dead, uncooked, and lying in a butcher shop? What is his status as far as Harrisburg is concerned? Obviously, he would not be subject to taxation, but is this fair, we ask you?

The plight of the cat is more than confusing. It is degrading. She is taxed if she is alive and dressed. She is, and it makes us

blush, even taxed if she is nude. Assuming, of course, that her coat is made into a fur garment.

Many animals are left to be expounded upon. But it was not our purpose to include them all. You see our point.



WSGA House Plans Drive

Plans for its annual clothing drive were discussed by the Women's Student Government House of Representatives Tuesday.

The drive will begin next Tuesday and continue through the week following Easter vacation.

Boxes will be placed in the offices of dormitory hostesses to receive donations.

The clothing will be sent to the Friends' Church and will be distributed.

In other action, Barbara Kabakjian, junior in music education from Lancaster, was dropped from membership because she does not have the required average to hold office. A 2.5 All-University average is required.

Dean's List Addition

Larry K. King, sophomore in Chemical Engineering from Parker, Pa., has been added to the dean's list of the College of Chemistry and Physics for the fall semester 1955 according to C. I. Noll, assistant dean of the College of Chemistry and Physics. King's average was 3.51.

Tonight on WDFM

91.1 MEGACYCLES

7:15	Sign On
7:20	News
7:25	Sports
7:30	Just for Two
8:30	News Roundup
9:00	Light Classical Jukebox
10:30	Sign Off

EUROPE TOUR
46 days - 7 countries
luxury liner
only \$1001.50

For inform. and advice contact your
American Express Travel Service Agent
276 E. McCormick Ave.
AD 8-6635

CAMP MENATOMA
Kents' Hill, Maine

Staff openings for faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates. Couples considered.

Athletics, waterfront, tennis, nature, archery, riflery, riding, music, dramatics, crafts, campcraft, trips, golf, photography, nurse, secretary, grounds man.

Will interview Wed., March 14 and Thurs., March 15. Sign up in advance at 112 Old Main.

COUNSELLORS

Small resident camp has need for summer counsellors. State age, background, schooling, and experience. Write:

Jewish Community Center
305 West Monument Street
Baltimore 1, Md.