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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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STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night Editor, Barb Budnick; Copy Editors, Ron Leik, Ed Dubbs; Assistants, Bob Franklin, Pat Evans, Pat O'Neill, Lil Junas, John McArthur.

Cabinet's Ol' Piano Roll Blues

Our All-University Cabinet added a new sideline to its usual legislative powers last week when it decided to enter the piano purchasing field.

It agreed with the report of the Inter-Class Finance Board that a new piano was certainly needed, and would greatly enhance the listening aspects of Recreation Hall.

So, after due consideration, Cabinet voted to allocate \$2359.70 for an ebony colored Steinway model L, five foot ten-and-one-half inch-long grand piano, complete with bench.

Now, we are informed, this is a real bargain. We can purchase this piano at a figure far below the actual list price through the University purchasing office. And, after all, we were told, with all the events that take place in Rec Hall, a new piano is certainly needed to take the place of the beat up old one over there now.

Cabinet should have looked into the matter more thoroughly before it foolishly decided to present the University with a new piano for Rec Hall.

Why is a piano needed so badly in Rec Hall anyway? From September 1, 1955 to the end of the present school year, the piano that is in Rec Hall now was and will be used eight times. This is certainly not enough to warrant the purchase of a new piano.

The University is at present the owner of 94 pianos. There seems to be little cause to buy another one. If Cabinet feels so wrought up over the situation, it could suggest to the University that a better piano be carted over to Recreation Hall each time one is needed. And in view of the fact that half the times a piano was used in Rec Hall this year for some event, the organization that sponsored the affair paid rent to the University for the use of the hall, University officials would probably be glad to provide a better piano for the affair.

The experts in the music department agree that any piano is affected by changes in temperature and humidity. And certainly the fluctuations in temperature and humidity in barn-like Rec Hall—would be of little advantage to a piano permanently stationed there, especially a \$2359.70 Steinway.

And, to top it all off, we are informed by the Director of Special Events in Rec Hall that there is no room to construct a new receptacle to hold the piano. Therefore, if the new piano will not fit the box used for the present piano, it will remain unprotected, a fact which the piano committee neglected to check upon completely.

Cabinet's offer to purchase a gift for the University is certainly a good idea. But a piano for Rec Hall should by no means stand at the top of the list of gifts. The piano suggestion shows a lack of research and study into the matter, and appears as if the outgoing Cabinet just wanted to get rid of the extra money it had on hand without any thought into the matter. If Cabinet searches a bit more, it will find there are hundreds of better uses for the money than the one suggested.

—Roger Alexander

Singing in the Dark?

The Greek Week committee made an unwise decision when it requested that the names of the winners of the Interfraternity Council-Panhellenic Council sing be held back so that they could be announced at the Greek Week banquet.

In past years the names of the sing winners have been announced at the finals. Overwhelming enthusiasm from the audience would certainly indicate that this method of announcing the winners does not need to be changed.

The large audience that ventured to Schwab on Sunday night to hear the finalists—and to hear the winners announced—were duped by the sing committee.

An interested audience was disappointed so that the names of the sing winners could become one of a list of surprises to be announced at the Greek Week Banquet tonight.

The reason does not warrant the suspense which is unfair to both the audience and to the fraternity and sorority members who competed in the finals. They are the students who are most interested in the results.

Although it would seem that the information is being withheld to lure more interest in the banquet, this is unnecessary. An event which can create as much interest on its own as the sing has created, should not have its winners added to a list of names.

The banquet will have as its attractions the announcement of the winners of the Outstanding Fraternity Award, the Sigma Chi scholarship for scholastic improvement, the outstanding sorority scholastic award, the trophy for the Greek Week contest winner, and the Kent Forster Scholarship for a foreign student. This list represents enough surprises for one evening.

Competitors in the sing weren't singing for the supper of those who will attend the banquet.

—Sue Conklin

Is Nothing Sacred?

The hand that feeds is about to be bitten. Froth, that Penn State fraud, is coming out against sex today.

That's something. That's comparable to monkeys coming out against bananas, Horatio Alger opposing success, the Secretary of the Air Force denouncing the sky, or beer distributors decrying students.

Where, we ask, would Froth be today, if it weren't for its pair of scissors, its gluepot, and the traveling salesman who knocked on the farmer's door? What would Froth do without the "she" of the infamous he-she jokes?

We used to think Froth was for the birds. We were wrong. Froth is not for the birds. It is not for the bees either.

—The Editor

*Example:

She: I'm going out with a General these days.
He: Major General?
She: No, but give me time.

Safety Valve

Get the Facts First

TO THE EDITOR: Once again, the all-knowing editor has come forth with his highly unqualified opinion. This time, it concerns the death of six Marine recruits.

Before all the facts are gathered and the evidence weighed, he has declared the drill instructor guilty of murder and condemned our whole military training program as outmoded.

While this tragic incident should not be taken lightly, it is absurd to conclude that boot camps are run by a bunch of sadistic barbarians, or that discipline is something no longer needed in an effective military organization.

Before the editor attempts any more journalistic undertakings outside his very limited scope, I suggest he be more familiar with his subject matter.

—Don Farnbaugh

Discipline or Sadism?

TO THE EDITOR: I certainly hope that the opinions on the Parris Island death march, expressed in Saturday's Safety Valve, are not taken to be those of every veteran. I have seen too many cases of sadistic yearnings being satisfied under the disguise of discipline to believe that this unauthorized night march was conducted purely to teach discipline. I have seen too often, men seeking positions of control over other men so they could dominate them, not teach them how to fight for and defend our country.

When those boys, who had everything to live for in this land of opportunity, breathed their lungs full of the muddy waters of Parris Island, they could no longer serve their country.

Blackjacks, Yes; Guns, No

TO THE EDITOR: Regardless of the union dispute involved, this is a good time to decided whether or not it is good practice for Campus Patrolmen to carry pistols.

Let us suppose that the patrolman who was involved in the Beaver Field episode had been armed. Certainly when he was assaulted by the students involved, he would have resorted to the use of his service pistol. The results of this action might have been injury or even death for the students. The patrolman would have been justified, yes, but would the overall result achieved be any better than the way it actually turned out. In addition to the injury or loss of life that might have been caused, a large amount of bad publicity for the school would have resulted.

In my four years at Penn State this is the only instance I can recall when a patrolman has had to face this type of danger. I think that the kind of offender expected to be encountered should dictate the type of weapon carried by the patrol. Blackjacks or nightsticks would seem to be sufficient weapons to control student offenders who would certainly not have guns themselves.

—Stuart A. Horn

Little Man on Campus

By Bibler



Purdue Prof Says

Tragedy Reflects Man's Ultimate Fate

By BOB FRANKLIN

The spirit of tragedy reflects the dignity of man in his ability to rise above his ultimate fate by accepting it, Dr. Herbert J. Muller, professor of English at Purdue University, told an audience of approximately 300 last week.

Dr. Muller was the first speaker in the tenth annual Simmons series of lectures, sponsored by the Department of German in memory of its former head. "The Spirit of Tragedy" is also the title of Dr. Muller's latest book, to be published this year.

The tragic sense of life has been confined to four historical eras, all of which belong to Western civilization, he said.

Dr. Muller divided his lecture into three parts: a definition of the tragic sense of life; why it has been restricted to Western civilization; and the importance of a spirit of tragedy.

He defined tragedy as "a work seriously concerned with man's fate." Authors writing on timely subjects in order to bring about political or social action will not produce tragedy, Dr. Muller said, for tragedy must bring out "the age-old story of man's inhumanity to man."

Tragedy, he maintained, puts the problems of man "in a universal aspect"; the tragic sense of life is essentially humanistic; and it is an affirmation of the positive values of good and evil while disputing the powers that be who set themselves up in opposition to these values.

Only the ancient Greeks, the Elizabethans, the classical French, and some Moderns have successfully written tragedy, Dr. Muller said. The rest of the world and the Western world between these four periods has been unadaptable to the tragic sense of life, either because of religion, mores, or prevailing political conditions. "Tragedy can be created only by free men with minds and wills of their own," he pointed out.

Dr. Muller said such modern writers as Ernest Hemingway have shown a knowledge of the tragic sense of life. He feels that, although the majority of American people today perhaps do not want to receive it, the tragic sense of life is "basically humane (and) all men may profit from it."

The tragic spirit, he pointed out, is different from the religious spirit, and both are the antitheses of the "business spirit."

"Tragedy," he said, "delivers us from all the petty, nagging, humiliating cares" of life. Dr. Muller received his Ph.D. from Cornell University, where he began his teaching career. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, national scholastic honorary society, and a onetime Guggenheim Fellow, his books include "Modern Fiction," "Science and Criticism," "Thomas Wolfe," and "The Uses of the Past."

Gazette

Today

- DAILY COLLEGIAN Circulation Staff
- Sophomore Board, 6:30 p.m., Collegian Office
- LUTHERAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION, Matins Service and Breakfast, 6:45 a.m.
- LUTHERAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION Evangelism Service, 8 p.m.
- NEWMAN CLUB Choir Practice, 7 p.m., Church
- PHI MU ALPHA Sin fonia, 9 p.m., 117 Carnegie
- PLAYERS Advertising Workshop, 7 p.m., Schwab loft
- ROD AND COCCUS CLUB, 7 p.m., 209 Hetzel Union

Student Employment

The following camps will interview at the Student Employment Service, 112 Old Main. Sign up in advance for an appointment.
April 18-19—Camp Conrad Weiser, Pennsylvania
April 19-20—Camp Sinking Creek, Pennsylvania
April 21—Trail Blazer Camps, New Jersey
April 27-28—Indian Lake Camp, Pennsylvania

University Hospital

Edward Alkins, Barbara Bohl, Robert Brandl, Richard Forry, David Friedenberg, Donald Gordon, Melvin Hertzler, Irvin Hill, Gordon Krieger, Gary Kurtz, Philip Lear, Jay Livzey, Erwin Maxson, Joseph Markalonis, Richard Mortimer, William Murray, Michael Ott, John Rowland, Louis Savadove, Jerome Schieb, James Sponsler, William Swaney, Ramasuba Venkitapathy, Betty Louise Williams, and Samuel Feinstein.

WRA Aquacade Tickets Available at White Hall

Free tickets for the Women Recreation Association Swimming Club's annual aquacade will be issued from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today, tomorrow, and Friday in the main office at White Hall.

The aquacade will be held at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the White Hall pool.

Players' Ad Workshop

Players' advertising workshop will be held at 7 tonight in the Schwab loft. The meeting is for crew heads and persons interested in working on the advertising for the Schwab production of "An Inspector Calls."

Tonight on WDFM

- 9:11 MEGACYCLES
- 6:45 Sign On
- 6:50 News, Sports
- 7:00 Telephone Requests
- 7:45 Pennsylvania News, Sports
- 8:00 Marquee Memories
- 8:30 Open to the Question
- 9:00 Music of the People
- 9:30 BBC Weekly
- 9:45 News, Weather
- 10:00 Virtuoso
- 11:00 Sign Off