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The Daily Collegian

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The Problem of Platforms Is Back

"No one knows how far student government can go in making recommendations and in taking action." This was one of the more indicative statements made in the Student Encampment workshop reports. Particularly, it came from the workshop on political parties in reference to the jurisdiction of the All-University Elections Committee over party platforms.

The statement is indicative of the frequent wordy and meaningless phrases surrounding many of the suggestions in the reports. Whether anyone knows how far student government can go in making recommendations has little relevance to the present situation as far as political platforms are concerned. The Elections Committee has complete jurisdiction over platforms. The All-University Cabinet has jurisdiction over the Elections Committee.

The Elections Committee decides whether platforms may be run in accordance with its feeling toward the validity of the meaning and purpose of the planks. If the committee doesn't like one part of a plank, or feels that it will give an unfair approach to the students, it may suggest to the political party that it be changed or deleted. On the other hand, the committee also has the power to refuse an entire plank.

Once refused, a plank, or section of it, cannot be used in the campaign by the party, and a serious penalty may result if this regulation is disobeyed.

Therefore this introductory statement seems to have little bearing on the present problem of party platforms. However, consequent to the statement, according to the report, three opinions were expressed in the workshop. An additional one was given in the plenary session of Encampment.

One of the suggestions is that the political party faculty advisors have the final word on the use of, or the changes in platforms. This suggestion could stand a great deal of thought, in fact, it would be best to dispense with it entirely. The political party advisors have done virtually nothing during the past several years to help or hinder the parties. Although they may have been present at the party meetings,

they have taken no part in the meeting, and have shown less interest in them. They, quite frequently, are selected as faculty advisor and maintain this dubious honor for several years. This certainly does not stimulate the faculty advisor's interest as the position becomes a drag and a bore rather than a temporary responsibility.

Therefore, we could well do without this suggestion.

Another recommendation was that the parties be allowed to stand or fall on the platforms which they present without any approving agency. This recommendation competes with the former for first place on the poor-idea slate. The main purpose of the Elections Committee's review of the platform is to protect the students from platforms which would be unfeasible or impractical. The political parties, not being an impartial group, could not be expected to perform this function on their own.

This is only one reason why we feel this recommendation would also be best forgotten.

One of the students in the plenary session suggested that platforms be eliminated entirely. The contention was that they have little or no effect on who is elected anyway so why bother with all the controversy over platforms? Although we would agree that they are hardly the deciding factor in the elections, they add color and interest to the elections, and their elimination would not raise the voting percentage. It may be true that elections are won mainly on personality and achievements of the candidates, but elections, we feel, are at least affected by the platforms.

Therefore, it would also be wise to leave this recommendation in the report and let it go no further.

The remaining suggestion, which we strongly back, is to leave things as they now stand with the Elections Committee reviewing platforms.

We would like to see Cabinet show foresight and wisdom in handling this problem when it comes up tomorrow. We feel that to do this they could only agree with us.

—Sue Conklin

World Series: Saga of a Fan

This afternoon in New York City two baseball teams, well familiar to one another, will commence one of the country's classic sporting events.

The American baseball fan, through 154 games patient hopeful and toward the end of September somewhat frantic, now settles down to root along league lines. Frustrated Indian, Whitesox, Braves and Redlegs fans presumably join forces behind their respective league champions and thus begins a week, a solid baseball week where every grounder, bunt and stolen base means more blue chips to the victor.

This week Suez retires to the rear and the World Series blossoms forth as the number one news event in the minds of Americans who gather under the blanket title, "baseball fan."

This week gone from the minds of these hardy folk are the names of Eisenhower and Stevenson and to the fore come the magic names of Snider and Mantle.

Students will rush breathlessly from their afternoon classes to radios and television sets to tune in on the proceedings. Some may even rush from the ball game to the classes, depending on their academic integrity.

Since its beginning way back in April, base-

ball has been in and out of the national spotlight but this week it will go out in a tremendous blaze of glory.

Can one imagine such an unreasonable employer as one who would ask his men to work when Mantle faces Maglie. How can one possibly work out a geometric theorem when the Bums are pulling off a fast double play at that very moment?

Those who can get to radios or television sets to view this splendid spectacle will be indeed fortunate. Those who will jam their way into Ebbets Field and Yankee Stadium to watch it will be the kings of the earth for a week. The diets of these people will be hot dogs and their bibles will be the familiar "scoreboard lineup" (without which you cannot tell the players.)

So the scene is set and the contestants ready. The proud, mighty Yankees anxious for revenge. The scrappy Dodgers out of breath but hopeful of a repeat win.

Since an editorial page is full of nothing but opinion it is fully proper to sound off right now a cry which will be echoed from wall to wall in Ebbets Field today:

"C'mon yez Bums!"

—The Editor

That's Culture for You!

Last Spring a culture committee composed of members from every sorority, fraternity, and dormitory unit was set up to bring art exhibitions, concerts, and lectures to campus. These members vote on programs which they think will be of interest to the student.

This committee working with the State College Concert Association has planned a series of three concerts—the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Westminster Choir, and Eileen Farrell, soprano with the San Francisco Opera Association. If the campaign for membership is a success one or two additional concerts will be booked.

This alone would seem to guarantee student support. However, last year the number of students buying memberships amounted to a meagre 2% of the total sales. The overwhelming majority of memberships have been held by the townspeople. A student at the concert was a rarity. This clearly indicates lack of student interest in cultural programs.

At first glance the cost of \$7 may seem prohibitive but when one considers that a mem-

bership in a similar association in New York City would cost more than double the amount, he should realize that he is getting a bargain.

However, in past years there have been excuses for such disinterest. Students complained that they were buying memberships blindly because there was no guarantee to the number or names of concerts. In addition, the concerts were always planned on the same night of the week and if the student had a heavy schedule on the following day attendance at the concerts would be inconvenient.

The former argument has previously been answered and in regard to the second, the cultural committee has planned for each concert to be held on different nights.

This concert is the first of the programs planned by the cultural committee, and the percentage of student subscriptions will indicate to them whether it is worth planning other programs of this type.

In a University of this size and calibre, interest in the cultural aspects of life should be much more in evidence than is presently the case.

—Ginny Philips

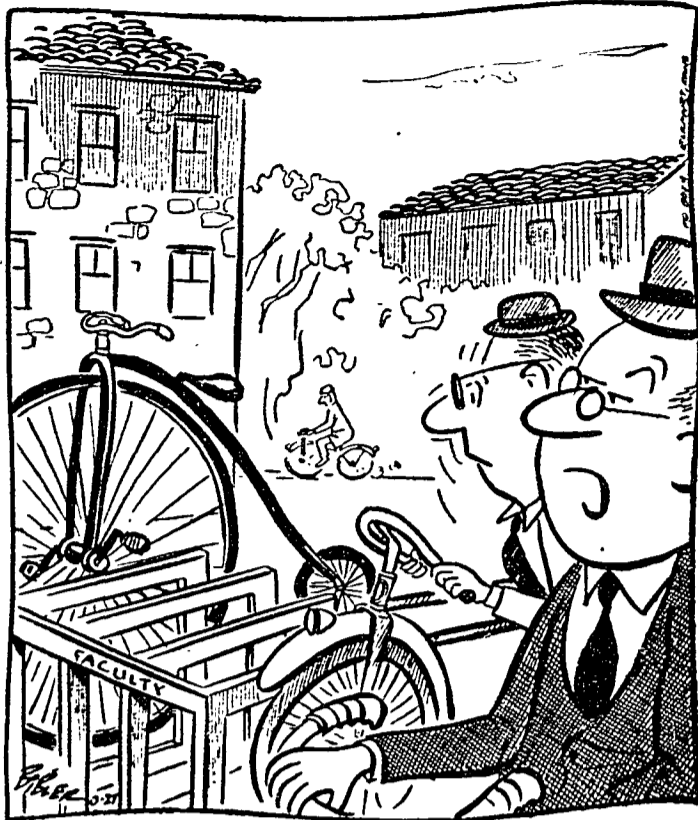
Gazette

ADVERTISING WORKSHOP, 7:00 p.m., Schwab.
ASSOCIATION for CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, 7:00 p.m., Atherton Lounge.
BIZ AD BULLETIN CANDIDATES and STAFF, 7:30 p.m., 11 Sparks.
EL CIRCULO ESPANOL, 7:30 p.m., 9 Carnegie.
MAKE-UP WORKSHOP, 7:00 p.m., Schwab basement.
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE, 8:10 a.m., Helen Eskin Eisenhower Meditation Chapel, conducted by the University Christian Association Student Cabinet.
NEU BAVARIAN SCHUHLPLATTERS, 7:30 p.m., 405 Old Main.
PENN STATE CHESS CLUB, 7:30 p.m., 7 Sparks.
PENN STATE SCIENCE FICTION SOCIETY, 7:00 p.m., 208 Willard.

PETROLEUM ENGINEERING SOCIETY, 7:00 p.m., 203 Willard.
PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA, 9:00 p.m., 117 Carnegie.
PHI UPSILON OMICRON, 6:45 p.m., Home Economics Living Room.
PHETA SIGMA PHI, 8:30 p.m., Alpha Chi Omega suite.
UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION CABINET, 7:00 p.m., small lounge, Helen Eskin Eisenhower Chapel.
Tomorrow
KAPPA PHI KAPPA, 7:00 p.m., Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.
PSYCHOLOGY CLUB COFFEE HOUR, 8:00 p.m., 217-218 HUB.
SIGMA ALPHA ETA, 7:15 p.m., Main Lounge, Home Ec building.

Little Man on Campus

by Bibler



"I understand he's up for retirement next year."

Interpreting the News

U.S. Torn Between Independence, Allies

By J. M. ROBERTS
Associated Press News Analyst

Ever since the war the United States has been torn between her traditional interest in independence for colonial states and her need for the European colonial powers as allies.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles appears to believe now that the time has arrived when the allies are sufficiently stable to start speeding up their adjustment to life without

the type of hegemony on which their economies have been so dependent.

For weeks the policy of the United States has been under the concentrated scrutiny of Asia, the Middle East and Africa in connection with the Suez dispute.

The United States had helped Egypt obtain the removal of British troops after a century and a half of European domination, military, political and economic.

Then the ruler of Egypt asserted ownership of the Suez Canal, which is generally accepted as a right. But he went about it in the wrong way.

The United States was in a position where it could not not champion the method by which Egypt was asserting independence, nor yet support the allies in their first reaction, which was to wipe out Nasser and retake the canal willy nilly.

It was a concrete projection of the broad general problem which has been so troublesome in American foreign policy.

This policy, perhaps more through juxtaposition than intent, has now become mixed up with the problem of Europe itself.

The ability of France and Germany to settle the Saar problem between themselves has been seized upon by the European confederations as a great new success for their idea. Chancellor Adenauer of West Germany has even gone so far as to suggest that Britain join in making Europe a great third power in the world, and Dulles has promptly seconded the general idea.

The idea sounds fantastic. But many a fantastic-sounding step toward greater unity has been taken in Europe since the war, especially the creation of the European Coal and Steel Community and of Western European Union, which even now is being expanded into something far more important than a mere military alliance.

1000 to Attend Second Annual Livestock Show

More than 1000 visitors are expected to attend the second annual Livestock Field Day opening at 10 a.m. Saturday in the livestock judging pavilion.

Fifty judging teams, made up of 4-H and Future Farmers of America club members, will judge two classes each of steers, swine, and sheep.

Thirty dollars in cash prizes will be awarded the top three teams and single judges.

Tractor-Driving Contest
The 4-H Club will also hold a tractor-driving contest starting at 9:30 a.m. by the dairy barns.

Dr. William Henning, state secretary of agriculture, and William Haase of the Swift and Company research department, will speak at 1 p.m. in the pavilion.

Contests in identifying varieties of forage, weights of steers, grades of wool, and meat-type hogs will be held for adult contestants.

Exhibits on Display
Eight educational exhibits and University livestock and poultry will be on display.

Visitors will take visitors to the newly opened veterinary research center, where livestock research will be reviewed.

WDFM 'Events' Staff Calls for Candidates

Students interested in joining the special events staff of radio station WDFM will meet at 7 o'clock in 305 Sparks.

The special events staff produces both direct broadcast and tape recorded special feature programs.

Tonight on WDFM

11.1 Megacycles
6:55 Sign On
7:00 Telephone Bandstand
7:50 News
8:00 Jazz Club
8:30 Music of the People
9:00 Invitation to Relax
9:30 The First Freedom
9:45 News
10:00 Virtuoso
11:00 Sign Off

Penn Prof to Speak

Dean Joseph B. Fordham of the University of Pennsylvania law school will address members of Pi Lambda Sigma, national pre-legal society, at 8 p.m. tomorrow in 203 Willard.