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The Daily Collegian

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Pro and Con's on Food Service

In talking about food service we could say that we haven't cared for the menus lately, that they don't seem to have much color, and that we wish we could find our food under the extra garnishes and sauce, but in saying these things we would only be stating our own opinions when others might rave about the things we dislike. Food service does have a problem pleasing everyone in its choice of menus, but its standards of service should remain constant and be beyond reproach. So far this semester we feel that some of the service has fallen below the standards that ought to be maintained.

In the morning when students are more rushed than at any other time during the day they like to be able to get their breakfast promptly. In both Atherton and McAllister Halls we are told that lines move slowly in the morning. We told Mildred A. Baker, director of food service that we had heard these complaints repeatedly and asked her what could be the cause of slowness in the lines.

Miss Baker said that at the beginning of the year both old and new students had to get back into the routine of handing trays quickly and efficiently and that these adjustments took time. She also said that particularly during the fall semester students often moved more slowly through the cafeteria lines because their attention was distracted by the sight of friends they had not seen since last semester and they spent time renewing these friendships.

Miss Baker also said that the food service had made studies of cafeteria lines and found that some meals were served more slowly than others. As an example she cited the days that soup is served at the noon meals, and said that students are cautious about lifting a soup bowl from the counter to their trays and slow down the line in their care. While Miss Baker may have some points to her argument we wondered if in the case of McAllister Hall particularly the use of two lines at the breakfast meal wouldn't be the answer to the students getting their breakfast more quickly.

Investigation of supply versus demand for waiter jobs in the dining halls did show that there were more jobs than there were waiters to fill them. John J. Huber, assistant in the University Placement Service, said that more fraternities have applied for waiters through the employment office this year than ever have in the past. This would seem to indicate that the waiter supply is particularly limited this year. Huber also said that many students found that they had to leave waiter jobs because their academic load was too great to allow them to give so much time to a job. Discarding this idea we thought of one other suggestion that might help to speed the line in McAllister Hall.

We have noticed that the waiters fill each beverage order individually, and wondered why they couldn't keep filling cups of coffee, tea, and cocoa as quickly as possible and placing them on the counter as long as the cafeteria line was solid. We realize that they may have been told that students like to have their drinks served hot and were probably taking extra care to see that everyone was satisfied, but we feel

that the beverages would be hot if the line was continuous. The other system would be more adaptable if there were long breaks in the line. Miss Baker said that anyone who picked up a cold cup of coffee, tea, and cocoa had the right to ask for a warm one in place of it.

We have also received reports that the dining hall in Atherton opens late in the mornings. We asked Miss Baker about this and she said that all of the dining halls operate on radio time, and it was possible that students had set their wristwatches and clocks by Old Main's chimes making their conception of time different from that of dining commons. Some students seem to feel that dormitory and dining hall clocks should be governed by Old Main time, but we understand that atmospheric conditions make the towers time variable and that such a system would require rather frequent changing of the electric clocks in the dormitories.

When we asked Miss Baker why dinner service in McAllister Hall had been slow particularly on Friday nights she said that she was not aware of this and would do everything possible to see that students were not further inconvenienced in this way. When the service has been late it seems to be because the supply of prepared food runs out after approximately half the dining hall is served.

The dietician seems to know approximately how many students to expect as just about the right number of tables have been closed, therefore it seems strange to us that the estimation of the right amount of food has not come closer to the amount required. One evening when the food supply did run out, the scalloped potatoes and scallops were noticeably undercooked when they finally did reach the students. We appreciate the fact that the kitchen staff was probably trying to hurry the food to waiting students, but we also believe that these students would like to wait a few moments longer to feel that their wait had at last reaped them some reward.

We also feel that when special food such as pancakes or french toast is a part of the breakfast menu on weekends it should be prepared in sufficient quantity to last from 7:20 until 9:00 or 9:30 rather than for only the first 20 minutes that the dining halls are open. So few students eat breakfast on Saturday and Sunday that we feel the foods budget could stand the slight added expense. If sufficient facts and figures can be presented to show that the budget will not stand this expense we feel that food service should definitely pinpoint and publicize the time limit in which these foods will be served as this has never been very clear and is subject to vary from one dining hall to another.

Miss Baker and her large staff have a complicated task to perform; they have more student contacts per day than practically any other organization; Miss Baker said that food service wants these contacts to be pleasant; and we can assure her that the students share her desires. Therefore, we hope that the students understand Miss Baker's problems and that she will be willing to listen to the problems of the students. Carole Gibson

Safety Valve

ceived last year from the administration. With such a show of good faith on Dr. Walker's part the way is now paved for effective action on the part of All-University Cabinet to implement his suggestion.

Last year this same suggestion of peripheral parking lots was rejected by All-University Cabinet as a result of certain private concerns in campus politics. Now, however, these political considerations need no longer bind Cabinet or our All-University president. The way is clear for student government to begin work along the lines suggested by Dr. Walker and contribute to the solution of a really important problem at Penn State.

—Thomas Dye

Gazette

Today
GERMAN CLUB, INTERLANDIA DANCE CLUB, 7:30 p.m., HUB Ballroom
SABBATH EVE SERVICES, 8:00 p.m., Hillel
ALL-UNIVERSITY ELECTIONS COMMITTEE, 5:30 p.m., 9 Carnegie

Guest Pastor to Speak At Campus Fellowship

Dr. Frank Torrey, pastor of the Calvary Independent Church, Lancaster, will speak at a meeting of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship at 7:30 tonight in 405 Old Main.

His topic will be "Greatness of Christ."

Dr. Torrey is an alumni of the University and interested in missionary work.

Women's Building Room Available to Commuters

The room in Women's Building for women commuters is now available for use at any time. The room is situated in the west wing of the ground floor.

TIM Executive Board

The Town Independent Men executive board will meet at 9 p.m. Monday in 203 Hetzel Union.

Finch to Speak at Hillel On Jewish Philosophy

Dr. Henry A. Finch, associate professor of philosophy, will speak on "Duties of the Heart: A Jewish Philosophical Theme" at 8 tonight in the Hillel Foundation.

Services will be conducted by Rabbi Benjamin M. Kahn, director of the foundation. Members of Sigma Delta Tau sorority will participate.

"You Keep Out Of This!"



Herblock's opinions are not necessarily those of this newspaper, the student body, or the University.

Interpreting the News

New Issue Emerges In H-Bomb Subject

By J. M. ROBERTS

Associated Press News Analyst

One thing about Adlai Stevenson and the H-bomb, he has made the Republicans accept a campaign issue where none grew before.

Just how much impact the dispute is having on voters, none can tell. But where the American public had appeared to be the world's least interested people, at least a few letters

to the editors are beginning to appear over the country.

Stevenson's statement of his ideas on the subject are still open to dual interpretation. Either he is proposing to stop American bomb tests and ask others to join, or he is proposing to initiate negotiations looking toward an agreement for simultaneous stoppage.

In either case, Stevenson would rely on scientific detective methods to preserve America's safety in the case of a resumption of tests by others.

A lot of people who know little or nothing about it are arguing over whether this would be safe. Some of the facts may be cleared up by an official government statement next week. However, in view of the traditional secrecy—much of it necessary—about nuclear matters, perhaps it is doubtful whether the public will be given enough information to form an intelligent opinion.

Stevenson has said that if elected he would seek an agreement with Russia to ban the tests. An agreement might be reached quickly—provided Russia sticks to her public statements that she is ready to enter such a pact.

The question would then revolve around the efficacy of American safeguards against Russian violation. Russia is not noted for keeping her political contracts. Her ideology teaches her to make or break them as her self-interest dictates.

If, as some contend—though why they should know is not clear—all explosions may not be detected, any slackening in America's drive to retain superiority would be a precarious thing.

And if Moscow did not keep its word, the agreement might prove to have been precarious—if it had encouraged a feeling among the Western peoples that they could rest on their defensive oars.

There is a degree of this feeling already, causing worry among the authorities responsible for maintaining Western defenses. Concern about it has been expressed at this week's NATO meeting.

Relief from the fear of fall-out would be a great thing for people everywhere. For America to take the initiative would enhance her

political standing among the neutral nations.

But the experts of both the British and American governments have decided that it is impossible at this stage of the game. The British arrived at their decision independently, and under far greater pressure from public opinion than the Washington administration has ever faced.

Since everybody wishes the tests could be stopped, it is very difficult for the lay mind to go behind these decisions.

Prof Predicts Business Boom Will Decline

Strong undercurrents are developing today indicating that the present rate of business momentum cannot be sustained very far into 1957, according to David H. McKinley, professor of banking and assistant dean of the College of Business Administration.

McKinley, in making this forecast, was pessimistic about prospects for the third and fourth quarters of next year, and emphasized that his prediction was without reference to the presidential election.

"Boom Is Longest" "The present boom," he said, "is the longest in American history, extending over a period since 1940. It continued in 1956 with population rising and vast capital expansion."

McKinley explained the twin dangers threatening this boom are over-expansion of credit and inflation. "Wholesale and consumer prices are breaking away from the indirect pressures placed on them by the Federal Reserve and Treasury authorities," he said.

McKinley Warns Bankers Noting that the vast expansion of credit has resulted in the liquidation by banks of government securities, McKinley warned bankers that such tactics lead inevitably to a deterioration in the quality of bank assets. Every possible safeguard should be trotted out and put stubbornly to work," he said.