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The Daily Collegian

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Vacation Extension: Not Long Enough?

Apparently we were wrong when we stated recently that the battle over the Christmas vacation is over at last.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the issue we thought was dead is still very much alive. The hassle to get the vacation extended was a long, hard one which involved much work on the part of student government. Its labor was rewarded and the administration granted a half day at the end of the vacation.

However, if the sticker campaigns and general talk around campus is any indication, the issue is still in the limelight.

Apparently many persons aren't satisfied with the half day. We admit that "a half day" doesn't sound like much but when we think of the struggle it took to get that much extension, we shudder to think of trying to get more.

We are firmly convinced that the administration doesn't take such a dim view of the half-day extension. Since they have been crying about not having enough time to process their tremendous quota of grades it would seem that the administration thinks that they have made as great a sacrifice as they are able to make.

However, the popular and intriguing sticker campaigns continue heckling the administration on the point that there is no time for shopping and on other not-too-strong points.

Another argument which is quite popular among the discontented is that Penn State's vacations do not correspond with any other colleges and universities. However, as a literature professor said last week, they are talking only on

hearsay and are not producing many college catalogues showing proof that these other institutions are getting longer vacations.

The safety angle, which was the big thing in getting the present half day, has now been exhausted and there are not many other, real valid arguments left to wangle any more time.

As it stands now the long vacation still will be between semesters and the Christmas vacation, despite the extra half day, will be quite short.

Students protest that they would rather be home at Christmas than between semesters when their friends are already back at school. This is a very good reason to extend the vacation but we fear that it will not look very strong to the administration.

The real problem lies back with the calendar committee when it set up the University calendar. That action created the whole problem and no extensions, by the administration, student agitation, or student government work is going to correct it entirely.

If the administration granted another day to the vacation we are sure that there would be many people who would continue to complain about shopping and other inconveniences. The administration cannot keep on extending the vacation indefinitely. This would make them look slightly foolish.

A realistic approach by the calendar committee and an alert student government the next time the University calendar is set up is the real solution to this problem.

—The Editor

Let's Open the Eyes of the Students

Newspapers are still practically unavailable in the Hetzel Union Building.

Several weeks ago we suggested that the Student News Agency be allowed to sell newspapers in the HUB as well as in Waring Hall.

We were told that it is unnecessary because a small number of papers are available at the HUB desk for students to read. These are free of charge.

We were also given the results of a recent poll taken at the HUB desk. The results show that 67 students on the average ask for a paper each day. It was pointed out to us that this figure is higher than it would ordinarily be because the poll was taken during the week when the Suez crisis was of particular interest.

Although the number of students asking for papers at the desk is somewhat small we feel that more students would buy the papers if they were available. A great many students don't like to read the papers in the HUB; they prefer to take them to their room where they

can read them at their own convenience.

We feel that allowing newspapers in the HUB would be of little inconvenience. Protests have been raised that newspapers would present a fire hazard and would mess up the lounges.

Papers are sold every day in Waring Hall. The fire hazard does not seem to be extreme in this area. We doubt if it would be any worse in the HUB. Also, we have noticed little or no mess has been created in the Waring lounges.

Even at the slight inconvenience we feel that the advantages of offering more newspapers to students far outweigh the disadvantages. The University is in a secluded spot and completely away from national and international events. Anything that can be offered to the students as easily as newspapers would certainly help their knowledge of world affairs.

The knowledge and perception of Penn State students is poor at best. We hope newspapers will be offered for sale in the HUB in an attempt to rectify the situation somewhat.

—Sue Conklin

Gazette

Today
ACCOUNTING CLUB, 7 p.m., Sigma Phi Epsilon
CHANUKAH CANDLE LIGHTING, 5 p.m., Hillel
INQUIRER'S CLASS, 7 p.m., Lutheran Student Center
LEADERSHIP TRAINING COURSE, 6:30 p.m., 119 Osmond
NIFTY-NY GROTTO, 7 p.m., 121 Mineral Industries
PENN STATE CHESS CLUB, 7 p.m., 7 Sparks

PHI MU ALPHA SINFONIA, 9 p.m., 117 Carnegie
THETA SIGMA PHI, 8:30 p.m., 216 HUB
University Hospital

Gary Bankes, Joseph Bellworn, Roland Dauber, Gabriel DePietro, Daniel George, Philip Hazen, Alfred Lester, Marie Moran, Robert Sommer, Jo Ann Vetrovsky, Joseph Weader, Allan Weitzen, John Yang.

'New' Task in Sight for UN

By J. M. ROBERTS
Associated Press News Analyst

The United Nations, having assumed responsibility for stopping the shooting in the Middle East, now faces the infinitely more difficult task of making peace there.

The UN has stopped some wars, but it has never made a peace. It was expected when it was formed that the big powers would make peace, and the UN would keep it.

One way of keeping it was to be through a standing "police force" of troops provided by member nations.

The East-West cold war prevented realization of this concept.

But the UN has now established, in a devious and fragmentary sort of way, the precedent for a police force, and its intervention in Egypt is de facto

assumption of responsibility for reaching permanent settlements there.

This responsibility has been a moral one if not a formal one ever since the creation of Israel. That was a specific act needing a specific follow-through which has never been really attempted.

Heretofore there has not been enough unity in the UN to encourage any attempt on its part to impose its will on recalcitrant members of the community. Its quick success in halting Britain and France in Egypt tends to give the organization greater weight than it has ever had before.

And oddly enough, this increase in stature is being demonstrated at a time when there are deeper splits than ever among its most important members.

This creates an opportunity for

the Assembly to wade into the Middle Eastern problem.

For one thing, the United States, so far, is demonstrating no intention to attempt direct intervention. She may eventually produce some ideas about settlements, but is expected to lay them before the Assembly, not before the principals in the disputes.

Heretofore the UN has offered suggestions and appointed commissions in efforts to get the principals in a dispute to negotiate their differences.

Inssofar as the Middle East is concerned, that has been like striking a match in a hurricane.

What is needed next is for the world community to step right up to the principals with specific proposed agreements, forcing them to either sign up or to refuse to do so directly in the face of public opinion.

WRA Swimmers to Meet Tomorrow at White Hall

The Women's Recreation Association Swim Club will meet at 7 p.m. tomorrow in 3 White Hall.

The meeting will take the place of all regularly scheduled group swimming practices. After the meeting the pool will be open to those members who desire individual practice.

Leadership Class Will Meet

The leadership training class will meet at 6:30 tonight in 119 Osmond.

Grads to Sponsor Art Ed Craft Sale

The graduate students in Art Education will hold a pre-Christmas craft sale from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday and from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday in 105 Temporary.

Pottery, jewelry, weaving, prints and sketches will be among the objects offered for purchase. Funds from the sale will be used to purchase exhibit material for the Art Education Department.

The West Dorms site was once an apple orchard.

MI Council to Have LaVie Picture Taken

LaVie pictures of the Mineral Industries Student Council will be taken at 7:20 tonight at the Penn State Photo Shop.

A council meeting will be held afterward in 102 Willard.

Prof to Aid in Book

Dr. Kenneth R. Beittel, associate professor of art education, has been asked by the Board of Editors of the Encyclopedia of Educational Research to contribute an up-to-date, complete statement for the third edition of the book on "Educational Research in Art."

Little Man on Campus

by Biblel



"Just in time to introduce you to Beam — he teaches a wonderful class I know you'll want to take."

Movie Prices Too High?

by evie onsa

Do you think State College movie prices are too high? I've often heard students say that the 85 cents was hard on the wallet, especially when taking a date.

One housemother once told me that she saw a movie in another town that was also showing in State College and was charged "much less" than the State College theaters were charging. In this instance the price had been raised even higher for the particular movie.

Whether or not the price is too high is debatable. But if you had a choice between seeing a movie or doing something else and your funds were on the low side you'd think twice before spending 85 cents on a movie.

Most students would like to see movie prices lower and would probably go more often if they were. It's only human nature to pay less for something if you can. Certainly no one in the movie audience would advocate paying 85 cents or raising the price on certain films if they thought they would be able to see it for less.

Wondering if anything could be done to lower the movie prices and with the thought in mind that perhaps students could be given discount cards, I went to see the manager of two State College theaters.

The only specific example that I could name where students were admitted at lower rates was at Penn where certain theaters in the Philadelphia area give discounts.

He said that it would be impossible to do this in State College and I had to agree that the city theaters were not in a comparable situation with State College movie houses. City theaters charge more and do not depend as heavily on student patronage.

He listened patiently to my request for reduced rates for students and then reminded me about the high cost of living. He said that since 1946 movie ticket prices have been raised less than 10 per cent — that 5000 theaters have been forced to close in the last eight years — that during the fiscal year 1953-54 60,000 less people went to the movies in State College than the previous year.

Audiences, especially weekly audiences, have been dropping off considerably.

"If we don't do business on Friday and Saturday we don't do it at all," he said. After hearing this, one student suggested that giving discount rates during the week might help boost attendance.

What it all boils down to is that it wouldn't pay State College theaters to lower their

prices or give special rates to students.

Their main income is from students, he said, and pointed out that the Nittany was closed during the summer and Christmas vacation because it didn't pay to keep it open.

He attributed the loss in the weekday audience to the fact that students don't seem to be going to the movies anymore just for something to do. It's necessary to have a top-notch film to pack the house, he said, and there aren't that many around.

"I could play what is called a 'stinker' and not charge admission and no one would come," he said.

People are demanding quality. Quality films cost more and therefore more must be charged to show a profit, he said.

Graduate Society Will Hold Panel

The difference between pure and applied science will be discussed by a panel at the meeting of the Henry Darwin Rogers Society, mineralogy and geology graduate student society, at 7:30 tonight in Schwab Auditorium.

The panel will be composed of Dr. Henry A. Finch, associate professor of philosophy, Dr. John C. Griffiths, professor of petrography, and Dr. Alec J. Slivinske, assistant professor of psychology.

Dr. Harold K. Schilling, dean of the graduate school of chemistry and physics, will act as chairman.

2 Positions Filled For Spring Week

Two Spring Week appointments have been announced by All-University President Robert Bahrenburg.

Robert Krakoff, senior in Business Administration from Pittsburgh, has been named Spring Week chairman and Donald Reid-enbaugh, senior in Aeronautical Engineering from Lititz, business manager.

The Cabinet Personnel Interviewing Committee will select the other Spring Week chairmen before the Christmas vacation.