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# The Daily Collegian

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## Impersonality: A Necessary Evil

This matter of the 'impersonality' of instruction at large universities is one which has probably troubled many people at one time or another.

We have often thought about this situation; especially when we first entered the University, and now again when our college career is drawing to a close.

This University is a very large place and is growing larger by the year. It is presently 10th in size in the country and shows definite signs of moving up among the top ten in future years. Naturally, the University asks for a larger appropriation each biennium. We say that this is natural because of rising costs and because there are more students—thus, more faculty and staff—here every two years.

A Philadelphia newspaperman, Duke Kaminski, of the Philadelphia Bulletin, asked Governor George M. Leader on Tuesday where the University's money was going, since classes were not being presented on a more personal basis.

The expansion of the television program, considered to be quite progressive by most authorities, prompted Kaminski to query the Governor.

This presentation of classes by television is certainly taking instruction at the University away from the realm of being 'personal.' No one can dispute this. Despite the fact that polls of student opinion have shown that students like television on the whole, there seems to be quite a great deal of discontent with the new system.

Many students have been heard to complain about the fact that it is very difficult to pay strict attention to a TV set. This would seem to be the fault of the complaining student but we must admit from personal experience

that the complaint has some justification.

We are thinking that perhaps the people in charge of the TV experiment who read the accounts of Leader's press conference in yesterday's Collegian are taking the story as a slap at the job being done by the television courses.

This is not the case. The television experiment is being handled very well indeed. The question at hand, however, is whether or not the University is justified in demanding more money from the state every biennium while at the same time the instruction gets less and less personal.

We believe that the University cannot be reprimanded in any way for their practices in this situation. In fact, they are making well of a bad situation.

These crowded conditions exist in practically every college and university in the country. Unfortunately, some universities cannot have as much money as others to further the cause of higher education. This means that the less fortunate ones must make the best of it with what they have. In order to offer college educations to as many of the multitude as possible some schools have to use methods like television courses to lighten the load.

So the critics who harp on impersonality must realize that as the University grows larger the small personal classes and personal attention from professors must be dispensed with for the most part. If this was not true, many potential college students would be turned away from the doors of the colleges.

If we are to handle the swelling number of young people seeking college educations then we must bear with things like the television experiment.

—The Editor

## Christmas Too Commercial

Christmas is getting to be mainly a buying and selling, commercial proposition. The commercial aspect has been carried to such a point that there is seldom time or opportunity to think about the deeper meaning of Christmas.

We find it more than annoying, almost repulsive, that the towns throughout many parts of the United States should have Christmas decorations up for Thanksgiving. The later holiday at this rate will soon lose its identity and become a pre-Christmas holiday. When decorations are put up this early their facination has worn off by Christmas.

Soon fraternities and sororities will be having Christmas parties for many of the small children in the area. We saw last year that the program, supposedly for underprivileged children, turned into a farce. In the first place the children were mostly not underprivileged. In the second place it was just a competition between many of the children to see who could attend the greatest number of parties. Fraternities are also in competition for children. We found that several of the children proceeded to compare one party to another.

Is such activity truly in the spirit of Christmas? We feel that it is not. The fraternities and sororities who wish to make needy people have a more pleasant Christmas could do it more effectively in several other ways. They could send money, for instance, to the starving Hungarians. Or, they could send money to the poor in many other foreign countries. Or, if they wish to keep their work within the nation, there

are many slum areas in cities where the children are really underprivileged.

We realize that these ideas would not enable them to hold a party with some sorority, but would they not in the long run really add more to someone's Christmas. We believe some action along one of these lines would be far more expressive of the Christmas spirit.

We understand that one fraternity did a somewhat extensive search for some underprivileged children in the area. They were hard to find, but they finally did find a small group. We commend this group for taking a step out of the groove the rest of the fraternities have made. We consider this step to be in the right direction.

What is Christmas? To many it is the celebration of the birth of Christ, although this seems to slip the minds of many people. To others it is merely a time to think of others and to give and take in this spirit.

Whatever one may consider Christmas, we hope that people will not become puppets of the commercial tycoons. When students buy gifts we hope they will think of the meaning behind and how the gift will represent it. We hope even more that this will be foremost in their minds when they receive gifts.

It is only natural that business men should try to take advantage of Christmas buying. They make money on it. It is up to the buyers, the mass, to show that they do not want the commercialization of Christmas. We hope Penn State students will do this.

—Sue Conklin

## Gazette

**Today**  
AFROTC Drill Team, 3:10 p.m., Army  
CHANUKAH PROGRAM, 4:30 p.m., Hillel  
COLLEGIAN BUSINESS STAFF SENIOR BOARD, 7:30 p.m., 111 Carnegie  
FROTH AD STAFF DEADLINE, 7 p.m., Froth office  
HILLEL BIBLE CLASS, Concepts of Judaism, 7 p.m., Hillel  
HILLEL BIBLE CLASS, Bible Text and Interpretation, 8 p.m., Hillel  
NEWMAN CLUB DISCUSSION, 7 p.m., 104 Chapel

NEWS AND VIEWS, 6:30 p.m., Home Ec.  
OFFICIALS CLUB, 6:30 p.m., 3 White Hall  
PSYCHOLOGY CLUB, 7 p.m., 217 HUB  
WORLD AGRICULTURAL SERVICE SOCIETY, 7:30 p.m., 101 Agricultural Education  
WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE, 7 p.m., 212 Chapel University Hospital  
Gary Bankes, Joseph Bellwoar, Roland Dauber, Philip Hazen, Helen Isaacman, Sharon Karr, Alfred Lester, Robert McCarron, Denis Milke, Marie Moran, Vincent Stanec, Jo Ann Vetrocky.

## Little Man on Campus by Bible



"That didn't take long — how'd he like your term paper?"

AP Correspondent

## Iraqis to Resist Communist Strikes

By WILLIAM L. RYAN

BAGDAD, Iraq, Nov. 28 (AP)—An Iraqi government spokesman declared today that Premier Nuri Said has no intention of giving way in the face of Communist-inspired strikes and demonstrations.

Information Director Khalil Ibrahim added in an interview the Premier has no intention of stepping down or making changes in his Cabinet "for the time being."

As Nuri's position on "appeals to the streets"—a familiar term in this part of the world meaning call to riot—was being made clear, the Baghdad military governor broadcast an appeal to the people.

He urged the public to be calm and not yield "to subversive elements" which the government says are trying to create trouble by inciting widespread demonstrations.

The intensity of the Syrian propaganda campaign is as much in evidence here as in Lebanon, with similar broadcasts of inflammatory rumors.

In his talk with this correspondent, Ibrahim spiked one such rumor broadcast by the Syrians—that Gen. Tarak Said, commander of the Habbaniya Air Base, has been arrested. Ibrahim declared Tarak Said had an audience with King Faisal today and thanked the monarch for his military honors.

"One of the biggest dangers in the Arab world today is that 'the streets' are tending to lead the governments," Ibrahim said. "Our response to such attempts is to try to calm the streets." Ibrahim asserted the greatest danger in the Middle East springs from open efforts of world communism to attack the stability of Arab countries.

Ibrahim, in his interview, urged the United States to join the Baghdad Pact in a move to strengthen the alliance at a moment when American prestige is apparently rising among Arab nations. Iraq is the only Arab country member of the Baghdad Pact.

Ibrahim added that the greatest Western mistake in recent years was the action of France

and Britain in joining with Israel in an attack on Egypt, which he said lent strength to the antipact propaganda.

As for Syrian-Iraqi relations, Ibrahim expressed wonder at just what Syria and Egypt sought of this country.

## Cigarette Survey To Be Conducted By WSGA House

The House of Representatives of the Women's Student Government Association will conduct a survey in women's dormitories to see how many women students smoke and whether they would be in favor of the installation of cigarette machines in the dorms.

The suggestion was made at a meeting of the housing committee representatives met with Otto E. Mueller, director of housing.

Approval for such a plan is needed from the dean of women's office.

Other suggestions discussed at the meeting include more extractors in the laundry rooms, more tables for writing purposes, better study lights in the lounges, roll-away beds which could be used for the accommodation of guests, hide-a-bed couches in sorority suites, hair dryers in the dorms, and mops and brooms to be placed at the disposal of women students in the hall closets.

## Reverend Will Speak

Rev. Robert Cressy, pastor of The Blue Church, Springfield, will speak at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow in 405 Old Main at a meeting of the University Christian Fellowship Chapter, Intersarsity Christian Fellowship.

For a Really Good Meal or Just a Snack it's THE PENN STATE DINER Try it Mac!

WIMMER'S SUNOCO E. College 1/2 block from Simmons Jack Wimmer says — It is time now to get the old heavy oil out of your car and replace it with winter oil for easier starting, now that cold weather is here. 10-30 oil is your best bet at slightly extra cost.

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