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The Daily Collegian

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Yes, There's a Supreme Court—Somewhere

It appears very likely that the Supreme Court revision will not be ready for Cabinet this week. Thus, the issue will wait until after vacation for further action.

The Supreme Court has been hanging fire for nigh onto a semester now and, as everyone knows, and to the great chagrin of some, not very much progress has been made. In fact, no progress has been made.

The only good things which might possibly have come out of the extended tangle are: 1. Some student leaders improved their debating techniques. 2. Political parties had something to crow about in the usually dead fall elections. 3. Student councils had something to vote on. 4. Student leaders of next year will have plenty of mistakes to profit by.

These are a few of the suggested benefits of the months and months of haggling and stumbling. Of a greater importance, however, are the disadvantages caused by the prolonged delay.

All year the argument has centered on topics which, at the time were important, but which now take on a shallow aspect in face of a greater one.

First, the student leaders didn't know whether or not to have a Supreme Court. This was perhaps the most worthwhile argument they had all year. After they decided to have one (groan) it was cat and dog as to who should compose the court, and how many courts we should have, and who should appoint the members, and might not things be unfair to this group and to that one, and before Cabinet knew it it was Christmas vacation time and everyone was tired of the subject of Supreme Court.

All the while it seems that one thing is being overlooked. This Supreme Court is allegedly set up to benefit the students. If not, why have it? And, if it is to benefit the students, then

let's get it set up so the students can take advantage of it. Nearly half the year is gone and there is not one court which will take grievances. Can you imagine?

The whole thing has definitely settled into the realm of the ridiculous. Perhaps, Cabinet is looking, not to this year, but to a fine up-standing Supreme Court for next year. They should be able to agree on one for next fall, I think. But in the meantime, what of the discontented of this year. Will they not be clamoring? Perhaps they will rise up against their tormentors and demand a Supreme Court?

It is funny to hint that the student body might get angry because their Supreme Court is being denied them. But, it is funnier still to think that someone wanted a lower court to take the work burden off the Supreme Court. This court may be set up to serve the student body but it certainly would not do this. It would only be an addition to the never-ending list of activities which come and go.

We have gone through nearly a semester now and no one has had a case which they wanted appealed over the head of Cabinet. This doesn't mean that no one will have these protests but it is certainly an indication of what good the Supreme Court really is. It is foolish to establish a lot of nonsensical lower courts and an elaborate appeal system if no one is going to make use of it. It is even foolish to establish a Supreme Court. We have been saying this for a semester now.

However, the "let's not combine legislative and judicial powers in one body" camp will have their way and will set up a Supreme Court.

But, if they keep battling over trifles, perhaps we can sneak through the semester without one anyway.

—The Editor

Will Hungarian Christmas Be Happy?

On Tuesday in displaced persons camps in West Germany and Austria, more than 100,000 Hungarian citizens will celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ.

They will gather in large assembly halls at these camps. There will be no exchange of gifts. Some will pray; some will sing—all will cry. They have lost something that men fight for, dream about, regret leaving—their homes.

Their prayers will concern mostly their future and the future of the loved ones they left behind in their ravaged homeland. They will pray with hope that what is happening to them will never again happen to men on earth. Will their prayers be in vain?

Their songs will be the Christmas carols that have been sung for generations in Hungary. But somehow the merry songs will not be so merry, and the sad songs will be sadder. They will sing their national anthem. Hungarian patriots, many of them relatives of these people, died from Russian gunfire for the right to sing this anthem. These people will sing with the hope, the dream that someday they will sing it

again in Hungary, without fear. Will that day ever come?

There will be tears. Some will be bitter, some will be sorrowful—none will be hopeless. They are looking for a new life devoid of oppression. They are seeking that peace and goodwill on earth that is mentioned in the Christmas story. Will they find it?

We Americans cannot promise these people that their prayers will be answered, that they will return to Hungary—not even that there will be peace on earth. We promised them aid to free themselves from their captors, yet in their darkest hour aid did not come to them. We cannot promise them anything.

Can we, as Americans living in a land of plenty, enjoying a Christmas that is festive and full of good cheer, at least dedicate ourselves to the ideal that men must be free? Can we believe that this is true not only for ourselves, but also for Hungarians, Czechs, Slavs and all the other captive peoples of the earth?

Such a dedication of ourselves would indeed be a project worthy of Christmas 1956. Is it too much to ask for those who have so little?

—Bill Kling

Why Steal a Christmas Tree?

(This editorial is re-printed, in part, from the Chambersburg Public Opinion. It was written by W. W. Ward, resident director of the University's School of Forestry at Mont Alto.)

"Why me? I wouldn't steal anything." Many apparently honest individuals would react instantly in this manner, orally that is, but a few weeks later go into the countryside and appropriate a tree. For some reason this action is not considered to be illegal by some persons; yet the same individuals would abhor the thought of removing goods from a store or money from a bank.

Perhaps this habit dates back to a tradition established by fathers who, each year, made a ceremony of appropriating a tree from the "wild lands." Actually there are no such lands and this can be verified through the tax laws.

If the landowner has paid his taxes and protected his forest land from fires, he may, after

natural seeding, own some young coniferous trees that could be cut and sold for Christmas trees.

Each year many small conifers disappear, and even more discouraging, a number of large trees are felled and only the top eight or ten feet taken from 25 or 30-foot trees.

Cutting a tree from the lands of another ought to be termed armed robbery. After all, a deadly weapon (saw or axe) is used. Or should it be called assault with a deadly weapon?

The Pennsylvania Tree Growers Association, a bonafide business association, says that more trees are grown in this state for Christmas tree use than in any other state. These trees are grown from selected stock and are sheared to increase their beauty in form and density; yet they are not expensive.

Why steal, of all things, a Christmas tree? Why not buy one from a legal grower?

Science Society Initiates Fifteen

The University chapter of Sigma Gamma Epsilon, earth sciences society, has initiated 15 students.

They are James Benford, James Caldwell, Albert Hoffmann, Roger Levin, Hugh Montgomery, Sidney Nelson, Emil Onuschak, Joseph Proske, Joseph Pugliese, Edward Scott, Carl Skooglund, James Stratton, Roy Willie, William Winterburn and Robert Yeager.

The next chapter activity will be a trip through the reactor.

Petroleum Society Elects President

Albert Ely, senior in petroleum and natural gas engineering from Lancaster, has been elected president of Pi Epsilon Tau, petroleum engineering society.

Barron Cashdollar, senior from Indiana, is the secretary-treasurer.

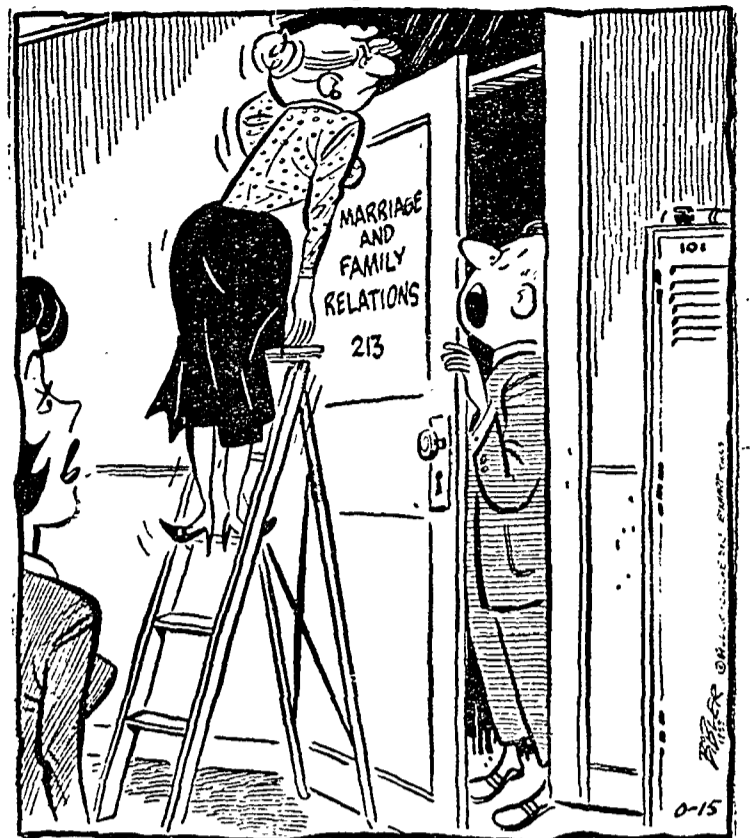
New members of the society, all petroleum and natural gas engineering students, are Robert Beamer, Ronald Beamer, Donald Crago, Joseph Shea and Ragtort Soenjotoningprodjo.

2 Profs to Head Fuel Conference

Theodore S. Spicer, professor of fuel technology, and Dr. H. Beecher Charmbury, professor and head of the department of mineral preparation, will serve as general chairman and co-chairman of the 20th annual joint solid fuels conference next fall in Quebec City, Canada.

The meeting is a co-operative effort of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Fuels Division and the American Institute of Mining Engineers Coal.

Little Man on Campus by Bibler



"It's all right Dean Wilson—we're showing a movie."

From Here By Ed Dubbs

The Ratio Blues

Penn State is not the only school with a poor male-female ratio as you probably know, but Vanderbilt University is the only one I know that is bragging about it.

Vanderbilt, like Penn State, now has better than three males to each coed.

While Penn State is trying to do something about the poor ratio (at least that's what Old Main has been saying), a Vanderbilt official is capitalizing on the poor ratio.

The Associated Press has quoted him as saying:

"It won't be long until we can promise every girl who comes to Vanderbilt not only a diploma—but a husband."

To which I say: Why do you think coeds now come to Penn State?



I understand some fraternity men sang a little toast to the members of a Beaver Ave. house Saturday night.

They reportedly stood on the fraternity's front lawn, peering at some evergreen decorations, and sang "Ain't That a Shame."

A friend has asked me to remind a certain fraternity that Christmas is the time of giving—not taking.

After we finish up in the Collegian office nightly, we usually go downtown for a bite to eat.

The other night we were sitting in one of the diners and overheard a student order a hamburger with tomato.

The waitress immediately yelled:

"Burger with to-maw-to!" This, I guess, is just another sparkling example that there is culture at Penn State.

Several persons on my Christmas gift list, published last Friday in this column, have commented on their presents.

Dr. Ruth C. Silva, associate professor of political science, whom I said I would like to give Truman's Memoirs, informed one of her students to tell me she not only has read but owns the memoirs.

I'll just have to give her a used "Adlai and Estes" button.

Dr. Frank J. Sorauf, assistant professor of political science, whom I said I would like to give a used "I Like Ike" button, told one of his classes he will trade a "passing grade (D)" for such a gift.

I have long been aware one

can't please everyone on a Christmas gift list.

THE WORLD'S NOT LOST YET DEPT. — A Philadelphia stand vendor, according to the Associated Press, has had to cut price of "I Love Elvis (Presley) buttons because they weren't selling.

Cut 5 cents in price, they now sell for 10 cents.

"I Hate Elvis" buttons are still going strong for 15 cents.

Sopko Appoints 35 Sophomores To Class Board

John Sopko, sophomore class president, has named 35 students to the Sophomore Class Advisory Board.

They are:

David T. Allison, Chester Zimolzak, Daniel Thalimer, Valentina Kopach, Louis Savadove, Noel DeCavalcante, Arthur Bell, Samuel Moyer, John Yoesock, William Strieder, George Parker, Charles Gettell, John Kovacs, Daniel Shoulberg, Juri Nuler, Edward Hintz, Iris Rees, George Goldstein, Lianne Cordero, Mary Nash, Arthur Pfautz.

Florence Kushner, Barbara Blake, Samuel Githens, Mary Ann Beveridge, Kenneth Todd, Jean Kissick, Robert Muskas, Patricia Reno, Max Perlmutter, Robert Franklin, Alan Lipner, Frederick Taylor, Samuel Parsons, Patricia Evans.

The advisory board will hold its first meeting the week following the Christmas vacation. Board members will be notified of the time, date and place of the meeting.

AIM Board to Discuss Christmas Appropriation

The Association of Independent Men Board of Governors will meet at 7 tonight in 203 Hetzel Union.

The board will vote on a \$25 appropriation for Christmas baskets for retired alumni in the State College area. The motion will be presented by Mack Johnson.

Frank Jaxhiemer will present a report on the Firesides.