

Calendar Committee Considers Half-Day Christmas Extension

A possible half-day or more extension to the 1957 Christmas vacation is under consideration by the University Senate Calendar Committee.

A 12-day vacation is now scheduled between noon Dec. 21 to noon Jan. 2. The dates of the forthcoming vacation are similar to those of last Christmas, when, after student protest, President Eric A. Walker lengthened the recess to 8 a.m. Jan. 3.

Dr. Roger Saylor, chairman of the Calendar Committee, said that if the committee finds an extra half-day to be feasible, it will recommend an extension to the Senate in either April or May.

Lengthen Recess

The reason for the short vacation, Dr. Saylor said, is to lengthen the recess between semesters so that fall semester books can be closed before spring semester registration.

During the past semester recess, grades had been expected to be tabulated by machine. However, Dr. Saylor said that "forms that were needed failed to arrive, therefore, most grades had to be hand-recorded."

Tabulation by Machine

It was hoped, he continued, that the tabulation of this semester's grades would be an experiment in order to judge the time required next year. "Now we have to guess," he said, "since the tabulation could not be used."

The objective is to have the transcripts ready for registration, he said, so if time is needed at the semester vacation, Christmas is the only time when extra days may be cut. "There is no selfish motive of the faculty," he added.

Faster Recording

If a transcript is completed and it is found necessary for a student to be dropped from the University, Dr. Saylor said, he can be notified before he returns for the next semester. "The earlier this decision can be known by the student, the better off we are," he explained.

The 1957 Christmas vacation, as stated in the catalogue from noon Dec. 21 to noon Jan. 2, was the result of a revision in October when Senate cut four days from an originally scheduled vacation period—Dec. 21 to Jan. 6.

Walker to Get Law Degree From Temple

President Eric A. Walker will receive an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Temple University at the midyear commencement program tomorrow morning.

The degrees will be awarded by Dr. Robert L. Johnson, president of Temple University.

In addition to the degrees, a citation will be made to Dr. Walker by Ray S. Tannehill, '23 graduate of Penn State and vice president of the Bell Telephone Co. 550 Will Graduate

The commencement program, for 550 graduates, will take place at the Baptist Temple, Broad and Berks Street, Philadelphia.

Dr. Walker became the 12th president of the University Oct. 1, after being dean of the college of engineering and architecture for five years.

Educated at Harvard

He was born in Long Eaton, England, and earned his bachelor, master, and doctor of science degrees at Harvard University.

Dr. Walker first came to the University in 1945 from the Harvard Underwater Sound Laboratory at Cambridge, Mass.

Collegian Candidates to Meet

Candidates for the editorial staff of The Daily Collegian will meet at 7 tonight in 9 Carnegie. No previous experience is necessary.

Grad Student Injured In Laboratory Fire

By DAVE FINEMAN

An explosion shortly after 7 p.m. yesterday in Walker Laboratories sent a graduate student to the University Hospital with serious burns and possible respiratory poisoning.

The victim, Ira Starer, graduate student in chemistry from Brooklyn, N.Y., was working in a third floor laboratory when his work exploded, showering him with burning liquids and spewing out toxic fumes.

The explosion was described by Robert M. Etter, graduate student in chemistry from Chambersburg, as an "ether fire."

Etter, the only other person in the laboratory, heard the explosion and rushed to the scene to help. He said that a billow of smoke followed the noise.

Clothing on Fire

Starer, his clothing on fire from the waist down, intercepted Etter, frantically throwing his arms about his neck.

Etter loosened himself and proceeded to swat out the flames on Starer's clothing. He then called the hospital and an ambulance was sent to pick up Starer.

Etter stayed to put out the fire with the aid of two chemical fire extinguishers.

At the hospital, Starer was treated by the two nurses on duty.

In 'Bad' Condition

One of the nurses on duty said that Starer had burns over his entire body and is in "very bad" condition.

In addition to the burns, Starer is suffering from what appears to the nurse to be a toxic condition from the fumes he inhaled in the laboratory explosion.

Etter Taken to Hospital

Etter was also taken to the hospital shortly afterwards for overnight observation. Possible toxicity is suspected, since he too was in the laboratory when the fumes were spewing from the fire.

Etter suffered no burns from the accident.

Starer will be kept in the hospital, Mrs. Bell said, and will be fed intravenously for some time. He will be administered antibiotics to remedy any possible respiratory poisoning.

Dent Questions Dean Drawing Two Salaries

Sen. John Dent, Democratic floor leader, said tonight he would not have voted to confirm Dr. Merritt A. Williamson as a Pennsylvania Turnpike commissioner had he known the educator was going to receive two salaries.

Dent made the statement in reporting to the Senate that Dr. Williamson receives \$13,000 a year as a turnpike commissioner and another \$2000 a year as dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture at the University, according to the Associated Press.

Questions Pay Status

Sen. Mahany, Republican floor leader, asked Dent yesterday to find out "exactly what Williamson's pay status is."

(According to a University spokesman, Dr. Williamson is still technically on the University payroll because he has not as yet received a salary from the Turnpike Commission.)

Dr. Williamson will not draw a full University salary once he is placed on the Turnpike Commission payroll but he will continue to give a day and a half to the University where he will be paid accordingly, the spokesman said.)

'On Two Pay Rolls'

"I would say he is on two pay-rolls," Dent answered.

"Is that in line with your understanding when you voted to confirm him last month?" Mahany asked.

Dent replied that it was not and added that he would not have voted for Dr. Williamson's con-

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Picture on page five

The Interfraternity Council Board of Control last night recommended that Sigma Alpha Mu and Kappa Sigma be placed on five weeks social probation for violating the freshman minor drinking ban.

The social probation, which will be followed by three weeks Board of Control probation, will go into effect Friday night.

The board also recommended that rushing privileges for the two freshmen involved in the violation be suspended for one year. Board Chairman Richard Shillinger said the case would also be referred to the Association of Independent Men Judicial Board of Review.

Incident Occurs Saturday

Shillinger said the violation occurred Saturday night when IFC checkers found the freshmen drinking at a joint party held at Sigma Alpha Mu. He described the infraction as one of negligence rather than a deliberate breaking of the code.

For this reason, he said, the board gave a lesser penalty than the eight weeks social probation which it indicated would be the likely minimum penalty when the drinking ban was approved by IFC last Sept. 18.

Mitigating Factors

Shillinger said the pledges on door duty failed to rubber stamp the hand of one of the freshmen, and that alcoholic beverages were out on a table where they were easily accessible. He also indicated that spot checks on freshmen made by the fraternity members were mitigating factors in the Board of Control's decision.

Both of the freshmen told the board they were aware of the ban and of the consequences to themselves and the fraternities.

During social probation, the fraternity may hold no social functions whatsoever. This penalty must be approved by the subcommittee on discipline of the Senate Committee on Student Affairs before it goes into effect.

Strict Surveillance

Board of Control probation involves a strict surveillance of the fraternity by members of the board during the time of its duration.

The ban prohibits the drinking of alcoholic beverages at fraternity social functions by any freshman under the age of 21. The ban was adopted as a part of the IFC Rushing Code to put more teeth into University and state regulations governing drinking by minors.

At the time, the opinion was expressed that fraternities had more trouble over drinking by freshmen than by all other undergraduates.

UBA to Return Money

The Used Book Agency will return money and unsold books beginning Monday.

Books and money will not be returned after March 10.

Bill Outlines Insurance For Athletes

A bill requiring the state to pay up to \$10,000 accident insurance for University and state teachers college athletes was introduced in the House yesterday.

The bill, proposed by Allegheny County Representatives Vaughan and Stuart, probably stems from the publicity given to the Dick Kadis accident.

Kadis, a Geneva College football player, was seriously injured Sept. 29 during a football game with Waynesburg and has been in a coma for the past four months in a Cleveland hospital. Geneva has no insurance covering athletes.

McCoy in Dark

Ernest B. McCoy, director of athletics and dean of the college of physical education, said he knew nothing about the bill.

"We have no insurance covering athletes," McCoy said, "because we have found it cheaper to take care of our boys ourselves." He said it costs the University approximately \$2500 to \$3000 a year for athletic injuries.

NCAA Too Costly

McCoy added that the National Collegiate Athletic Association had interested a group of insurance companies to insure athletes but that the money it cost to pay these companies was far over the \$2500 to \$3000 amount that the University usually spends.

Asked if the University would pay medical bills over \$10,000, as is the case in the Kadis incident, (Continued on page eight)

Lion Reported Roaming Hills

The snow fell around the Nittany Lion's den this morning, but the Lion was not there to complain about it.

Friends of the King of Beasts were generally baffled. One of them said that he had been seen early this morning plodding toward the mountain in his snowshoes. A few members of the crowd around the den admitted that the Lion had spoken recently of a rustic tavern located high in the mountains around Centre County, operated by a boisterous, party-loving black bear.

The weather promised to improve for the Lion's trip. Skies should clear after the snow flurries of this morning. Today's high is predicted between 35 and 40, with a low tonight of 30 to 35.

Ex-Student Pleads Guilty to Forgery

A former University student, George H. Kohlweiler, Jr., of Walingford, pleaded guilty to a forgery charge and was given a suspended sentence by Judge A. H. Lipez presiding over the Centre County Grand Jury in Bellefonte Monday.

Kohlweiler was fined \$300 by the county and placed on probation for one year.

He was a sophomore in business administration until he left school last semester for academic reasons.

Longshoremen Order 45,000 to Strike

NEW YORK, Feb. 12 (AP) — The International Longshoremen's Assn. (Ind) tonight ordered an Atlantic Coast strike of 45,000 dockers from Maine to Virginia. Scores of ships were caught in the tieup.

However, the negotiations continued with the union reported very close to an agreement with shippers. A quick settlement would nip almost in the bud the renewal of last November's government-interrupted strike.

Picketing May Appear

The big ports of Hampton Roads, Va., Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York responded all-out to the strike call. Picketing was arranged for the luxury line piers in New York where the big liners dock.

However, the New England

ports of Boston, Portland, Maine, and Providence hung back for the time being. ILA leaders there apparently wanted to confirm for themselves the formality of the strike call.

Secretary of Labor Mitchell, in New York for a speech, issued a statement through his Washington office. It said:

Close to Agreement

"The parties . . . are close to an agreement. It is reasonable to expect that if the parties continue discussions a contract will be successfully negotiated. The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service will continue to assist the parties in their discussions. The federal government plans no further steps at this time."

A similar statement was issued at President Eisenhower's vacation headquarters in Thomasville, Ga., by press secretary James C. Hagerty.

Hagerty said Eisenhower had received a report from Mitchell during the afternoon.

The union let a 5 p.m. strike deadline pass without formally calling out its dockers. But ILA President William Bradley said the strike was automatic with the second deadline—6:10 p.m.

Six thousand longshoremen in Philadelphia walked out on the original deadline.

90 Per Cent Agreed

ILA attorney Louis Waldman said the union and New York shippers were agreed on 90 to 93 per cent of the issues that have stalled them since last summer. The New York contract usually sets the pattern for other Northeast and Middle Atlantic ports.

The strike originally was set for 5 p.m., expiration time of an 80-day Taft-Hartley law injunction that interrupted last November's waterfront strike.

