

Editorials

That Book Store Question

The idea (a dream to some students) of a University-operated book store has been kicked around by student government for many years—and without much success.

All-University Cabinet last night decided to have a committee investigate "this problem and go on record one way or another to the Board of Trustees." The committee will be appointed by All-University President Robert Steele with the approval of Cabinet.

The new book needs of students have long been served by private business concerns in State College.

Several reasons were given in favor of a University-operated book store, which was recommended to Cabinet by the Student Encampment Student Enterprises Workshop.

They are:

- It would lower the cost of education by saving students money.
- It would enable students to get books more promptly.
- It would guarantee a larger resale value of books.
- It would increase book store facilities.
- It would provide part-time jobs for students.

There is no doubt that a University-run book store would be able to sell books cheaper than State College merchants if it were non-profit. However, since society accepts the principle of free enterprise, this reason alone will hold little water. However, if the University feels that the pricing policy of downtown merchants is unfair to the students, then the University will be justified in entering the book business.

Another book store would undoubtedly offer students quicker service. However, this could be accomplished by another privately-run book store or by the present stores increasing their facilities. The question here is whether private enterprise can provide the service adequately as University enrollment grows.

The third reason is that it would guarantee a larger resale value on books. If the University-operated book store were non-profit, it probably could do this. However, again the question of going against the society-accepted free enterprise system arises. Again, too, is the question of whether the privately-run book stores are fair to the students in this line.

Book store facilities could be increased by another privately-run book store or by the present stores expanding their facilities just as easily as the University going into the book business. The question here is whether private enterprise will meet the challenge of increased enrollments. If not, the University has some justification for entering the book business.

Another privately-run book store or enlarged facilities for present stores could provide more student jobs just as a University-run book store could.

As we see it, the need for a University-operated book store depends largely on the job private enterprise in State College can do.

The basic question then is: Is private enterprise providing (and will it be able to provide in the future) adequate service with fair pricing policies?

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Safety Valve

Reader Favors Rotation Plan

TO THE EDITOR: I am surprised and a little annoyed at the reasons advanced in your paper Tuesday morning for disposing of the indie-fraternity rotation system for Cabinet offices.

The joint statement issued by the political party clique chairmen listed seven such reasons, only one of which, in my opinion, is valid.

"A free election would give the students the widest possible choice in picking their leaders."

This just is not so. The students would still choose between two people. The leaders of the political parties would have an easier time picking candidates, but this advantage would not accrue to the students.

"It would enable the students to pick the most qualified person to head All-University Cabinet."

The same arguments hold. At best, it would enable the party leaders to pick the most qualified candidates, though it certainly would not guarantee this.

"A free election would greatly reduce apathy . . ."

I strongly disagree. It is well known that fraternity men are generally gung-ho activities. With their organization, they can easily control the political parties, and through these manipulate most, if not all, political offices. This, it seems to me, would increase, rather than decrease, apathy at Penn State.

There is one hope. Fraternity dominance might become so great that the indies would form their own party, with the result that the fraternities would be ousted from any positions of power. Either result will lead to increase in tension between Greeks and indies.

"It would eliminate an un-

wieldy and unrealistic system . . ."

This, again, is the opinion of the party clique chairmen. I will admit that there's more work for the party in finding qualified indies who are willing to run. But why should the system therefore be termed unwieldy and unrealistic? Is there anything more than just an opinion behind this?

"A free election would create a greater awareness of student government."

How could elimination of the present system create awareness? Only student government itself can create awareness. I can see no foundation for such a hope, unless Cabinet has a big fight about the recommendation. This would create awareness of a sort.

"It would serve as a sound basis for good citizenship . . ."

The present compromise system is just as good a basis. Our national government and the state governments are based to a very considerable degree on compromise. The United States Constitution can be called a bundle of compromises. Compromise is about the only way governments can accomplish anything.

"It would deny no student the right to be considered . . ."

This is the heart of the matter. This is the only sound reason advanced for scrapping the rotation system. But scrapping the present system would mean that the independent would not be considered to the extent he is now.

It would reduce rather than increase consideration for the major part of the student body in general. It was on this account that the rotation system was devised in the first place, just a couple of years ago.

The great inherent danger in open selection of candidates is that it would greatly intensify the indie-fraternity rivalry. We've been on pretty good terms in the past; let's keep it that way.

—Raymond B. David
Class of '58

ROTC 'Noise' Bothers Reader

TO THE EDITOR: The disturbance of classroom instruction by the various units of ROTC is disgraceful. Even the insignificant fact of allowing these units to "tear up the campus" is intolerable.

Nothing is gained by cadence counting and everything is lost. It is impossible to concentrate on the part of the students and even more discouraging to the faculty.

Why should so few individuals be allowed to practice such obnoxious procedures on the grounds of an institution of higher learning when it does nothing but disrupt the educational system? It is high time that the military leaders of ROTC units realize that this is not West Point.

Anyone attending classes in Willard, Mineral Industries, or Electrical Engineering will agree that we obtain nothing in the way of education when such conditions are tolerated.

If it is necessary for certain individuals to "play soldier" then I suggest they ask for a transfer. If they wish to conduct training classes in basic military procedures in a manner compatible to that expected at a university, then I would think they would consider the other 14,000 students.

Last year we breathed a sigh of relief when all military bands were removed from practicing on the campus. Now let's get the shouting of numbers off also.

Being a land grant university, we are forced by law to have these units present, but we are not required to have them dominate our classrooms with their noise.

—Charles B. Carey
Class of '58

Gazette

TODAY

Hubzapoppin, 5 p.m., HUB Assembly Room.
Interlandia Folk Dancing, 7:30 p.m., MUB Ballroom.
Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, 7:30 p.m., 111 Boucke.
Newman Club Game Night, 7:30 p.m., Student Center.
Ordinance Research Laboratory Colloquium, 4:10 p.m., 110 Electrical Engineering.
Sabbath Eve Services, 8 p.m., Hillel Foundation.
Square Dance, 7:30 p.m., Lutheran Student Center.
Square Dance, 7:30 p.m., United Student Fellowship Foundation.

PLACEMENT INTERVIEWS

Esso Research & Engineering Co.: Oct. 24, 25 BS in ChE, CE, EE, ME; MS in ChE, CE, EE, ME; PHD in Chem, ChE, FT.
Babcock & Wilcox: Oct. 24 BS in ChE, CE, EE, Eng Sci, FT, IE, ME, Metal, Phys; MS in ChE, FT, IE, ME, Metal, Phys; PhD in FT, IE, ME, Metal.
Ohio Power: Oct. 25 BS in EE, ME; Robertshaw Research Center: Oct. 25 BS in ME, EE.
O. Hommel Co.: Oct. 25 BS in Cer, ChE, Chem; MS in Cer, ChE, Chem.
Sun Oil Co.: Oct. 25 MS & PHD in Chem, ChE.
Glenn L. Martin: Oct. 25 BS in ME, EE, CE, AeroE, EngSci; MS & PHD in ME, EE, CE, AeroE, EngSci.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

James Zexer, Newton Ruffing, Harry Van Brunt, Eugene Grumer, Glenn Berryman, John Fleus, Nancy Siftar, Grace Ewing, Rochelle Laderman, Carole Ebling, Marilyn Dumm, Jane Pollins, Diana Millholland, Virginia Trott, Gertrude Hoffman, Judith Kleese, Mary Harvey, Janice Anderson, Kenneth Busby, Charles Beecham, Andrew Jordan.

Donald Block, James Cowan, Jerome Klink, George Chappel, Robert Kowalczyk, Ross Stedman, Lawrence Clifford, William Martz, Richard Price, Albert Giannelli, Donald Rudolph, Robert Farber, Warren Ringler, William Daers, Vincent Cerroni, William McDonnell, Geoffrey Boardman, James Pecora, Dennis Malick, Robert Baravich, Gary Rigg.

Douglas Chidlow, John Giagola, Thomas Clark, Edwin Smith, Arthur Park, Dennis Rose, Hugh Bolen, Daniel Rodill, Albert Marcus, Peter Glick, Richard Soxman, William Bilo, Arthur Schneider, Allan Gordon, James Thompson, Jeffrey Parsons, Douglas Polkosky, James Bayer, Marion Hill, Robert Greer, Paul Seltzer, Joseph Kopkik.

Donald Wermlinger, Herbert Swartzweider, Donald DeMaid, Ronald Luther, William Alcorn, Paul Josephs, Flavian Sattavice, Joseph Bass, Lowell Salmon, Anthony Begenwald, Kenneth Myers, Richard Davis, John Steiner.

TONIGHT ON WDFM

6:45: Sign on and News; 7:00 "A" Train; 7:50: State News and National Sports; 8:00: Hubzapoppin'; 8:30: Friday Night News Round-up; 9:00: Just For Two; 10:00: News; 10:05: Light Classical Jukebox; 11:30: News and Sign-off.

Lantern Articles

Students who contributed manuscripts to Lantern magazine last spring may pick them up at the Hetzel Union desk.

Students should ask for the Lantern envelope bearing their name.



Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler

