

Editorials

Panhel: Inconsistent Again

Panhellenic Council showed its usual inconsistency this week when it unanimously favored eliminating the fraternity-independent rotation system for campus elections.

Panhel should wash its own dirty linen before it frowns upon other systems of electing officers. For the council's system of electing officers is the most limited and mechanical of any in existence.

If the number of Panhellenic members would remain at 24, as it is now, each sorority would be represented in the top office once every 24 years.

In 1953 this system was termed as "old-fashioned as the succession of monarchs to the throne" by a former president of the Liberal Arts Student Council when he was suggesting improvements for campus activities.

Last January the council voted 19-1 in favor of retaining the system; however it altered it in that the president is elected by all sorority women from three candidates proposed by the sorority-of-the-year and a screening board.

The council member in charge of the election last year explained that the system was not eliminated because it was felt that every sorority has a woman qualified for the office of president. If this is not accepted, she said, the sorority system is defeated.

This is the crux of the matter and it is the same story as the fraternity-independent rotation system. Maybe there is a qualified woman in every sorority but that is loosely using the word "qualified."

Many women could sit in the Panhel president's chair and putt-putt along in some haphazard way. But why risk the chance of weak leadership when there is a wealth of individual leadership among sorority women?

The president of Panhel is an individual—representing only herself in this capacity and not her sorority. She does not carry an obligation to her sorority any more than does the IFC president to his fraternity.

As a result, the sorority affiliation should make little or no difference in the selection of a president. The president should be the most qualified, ("qualified" isn't enough) woman among the Panhel groups.

If the system is to be changed, this is the year to do it. For the vice president this year, and consequently president next year, is a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma, the last well-established sorority on campus.

Although Trion and Pyrose have been admitted to Panhel, they are non-voting members. The schism here is one that is perfect for burying the system without cheating a sorority out of its turn.

If Panhel knew what it was doing when it unanimously voted out the fraternity-independent rotation system, it should have neither trouble nor opposition to throwing out its own.

If a new system were incorporated, the president should be elected directly at the end of the woman's junior year instead of serving as vice president and elected as a sophomore.

Many women when they are sophomores have not fully developed leadership potential. Also Panhel's structure and business is simple and the president does not need a year of apprenticeship.

Panhel should make the change now. For if this break in the cycle is not taken advantage of, the system will continue on and on and end up where Panhel often is—in circles.

Editorials are written by the editors and staff members of The Daily Collegian and do not necessarily represent the views of the University or of the student body.

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Safety Valve

Reader Decries Phone Service

TO THE EDITOR: We, of the off-campus dwellers, who desire to converse with those in the on-campus dwellings, are at the mercy of the girls and women who supposedly give communications "service with a smile"—the telephone operators for the dormitory telephones.

The diligence and care with which they attend their duty is truly amazing. Anytime one desires to contact someone in the dormitories, all one has to do is go to the residence hall of the person one is seeking, ask someone there to find the person, and to tell them someone is awaiting them in the lobby.

Obviously conditions relating to communications have not improved perceptibly over these in early American history.

In earlier times, those interested in communicating with someone had only to send a courier through a dense forest, with hostile savages seeking to put an end to the courier and his message. Today, at the University, unfortunately there are no couriers; indeed they would undoubtedly be arrested for trespassing, disturbing the peace, and interfering with a labor group's "right to work."

The telephone operators not only have achieved a powerful hold on the University communications, but are grossly rude and insulting, as evidenced by one operator's comment to a caller that "You make me sick." That other such rude mannerisms may be brought to mind by others I have no doubt.

I suggest, as a remedy to the obviously and generally recognized intolerable situation, that the problem be officially recognized by the University administration. This may be accomplished by the formation of a committee consisting of both administration and students concerned, with the powers necessary to draw up and present a report to the proper officials and see that all necessary procedures and channels concerned are contacted, investigated, and the situation resolved.

I urge all students who suffer the indignities of the present system to speak to the organizations governing them, TIM, AIM, etc., and bring the issue to a head.

Let us not be subjected to inefficiency any longer! Strike for what is rightfully yours. Let us get the committee established and make an end to the disgraceful conditions of the University telephone system.

—Bert Heffner, Class of 1958

(Editor's Note: In plain words, you're dissatisfied with the telephone service and want a committee to study it.—eh?)

Gazette

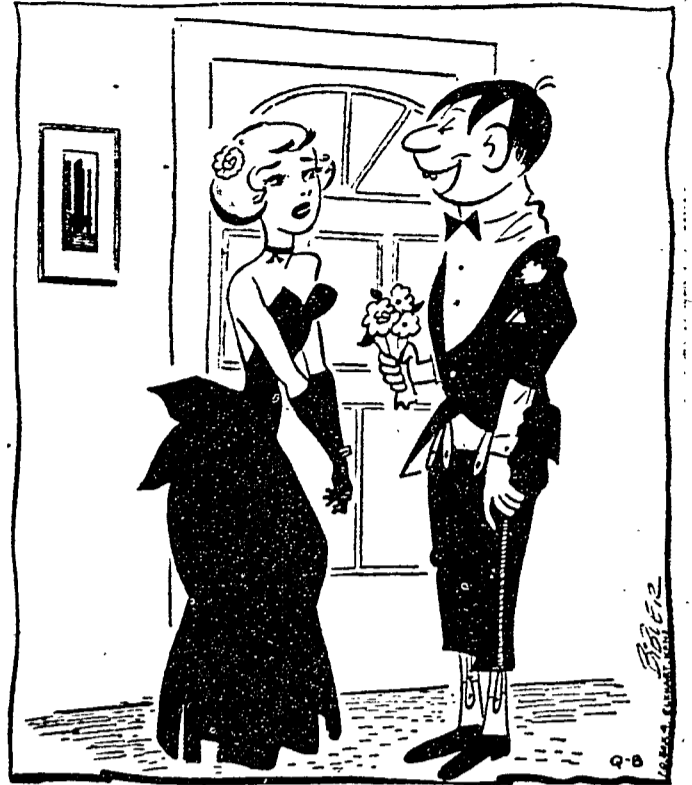
TODAY Academic Year Institute Colloquium, discussion on evaluation by Dr. Benjamin S. Bloom, 3:10 p.m., 131 Temporary Fluid Mechanics Seminar, Dr. Robert C. Dean on "Some Fundamental Aspects of Flow in Centrifugal Turbomachinery," 4:10 p.m., 1 Sackett Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel, A Corporate Service of Worship for all members of the University Christian Association, 12:45 p.m. Lutheran Student Association Game Night, 7:30 p.m., LSA center Mineral Industries Colloquium, Dr. K. E. Bullen on "Seismology and the Earth's Deep Interior," 4:15 p.m., Mineral Sciences Auditorium Newman Club Mass, 6:30 p.m., Schwab Auditorium Newman Club Halloween Dance, 8:00 p.m. Pep Rally, 7:30 p.m., Old Main Players Production "Carnival of Thieves," 8 p.m., Center Stage TONIGHT ON WDFM 6:45: Sun 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 Juke-box; 11:30: News and Sign-off.

Sanitary Eng Prof Given 2d Grant

The U.S. Public Health Service has renewed its support of sewerage treatment research work of R. Rupert Kountz, professor of sanitary engineering, with a 1-year grant of \$14,910.

He previously has held a 2-year grant of \$21,148. Kountz's objective is to develop an improved method of destroying waste materials through the use of self-liquidating bacteria. He has constructed a working model of a sewerage plant that is designed to carry out these principles.

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"Naw, I didn't rent it—I'm just lucky to have a roommate who owns a tux."

It Must Be OK With Confucius

By ARTHUR EDSON

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31 (AP)—Confucius is supposed to have said that one picture is worth a thousand words.

Now some government officials are convinced that one U.S. product on display is worth a thousand pictures. And they also believe that if the Russian people were given a chance they would agree.

These officials are in the International Trade Fair Office, and for four years they have been busy helping American merchants and manufacturers display their wares, from Jakarta, Indonesia, to Izmir, Turkey.

But the big one could come next July, when a 6-week fair tentatively has been scheduled for Moscow.

Congress has put up the money—\$2.2 million—and fair officials have come up with basic plans.

So far, there's only one problem: Although the Russians nodded a couple of times, they still haven't said yes.

"Right now," Harrison T. McClung, director of the fairs, said today, "we're having trouble getting them to say anything."

Still, if they'll but say the word, this country is ready. McClung said the Moscow exhibit would stress consumer products, and would include such items as a self-service laundry and a complete supermarket, a smash hit when it was first shown behind the Iron Curtain, in Yugoslavia.

McClung has been taking in most of the fairs in which this country has participated—last year it was in 14—and he says it's always surprising how eager everyone is for a look at American products.

"You have to be there," he said, "to realize that they have a sense of satisfaction, almost delight."

The verdict of man who spent his life in the advertising business before going in for trade

fairs: "It seems to us that the product of our industry is the best salesman of free enterprise."

Starting in 1954, the United States has shown in 55 fairs in 27 countries, with some 40 million visitors crowding around to see what Uncle Sam had to offer.

Curiously, in Poland and Yugoslavia, both behind the Iron Curtain, the crowds clocked at the American exhibit exceeded the official attendance.

"It's easy to explain why," McClung said. "Around some exhibits the press was so great it was easier to go outside and come in again, this time next to the rail."

Now, back to Confucius. Although he long has been credited with having said that a picture is worth a thousand words, a check with the Library of Congress today showed it really was said by Fred R. Barnard in the magazine "Printers' Ink," March 10, 1927.

The library reports Barnard hoped it would catch on, so he labelled it an old Chinese saying, and in no time at all it had, and Confucius was made the author.

Which probably is all right with Confucius. At least he hasn't sued for libel yet.

Britton Presents Paper

Dr. Joseph H. Britton, associate professor of child development and family relationships, presented a paper this week at a meeting of the National Gerontological Society in Cleveland, Ohio.

