

Editorials

Adults Who Can't Drink

Amid all the campus furor about self-responsibility and treating students as adults, the University is tightly clenching a most undemocratic regulation—that of not allowing women 21 years of age to drink.

This regulation is included in the one set by the Women's Student Government Association stating that no women, regardless of age, may drink. It is completely incongruous with the state laws.

WSGA last spring approached the Senate committee on student affairs seeking a change in the regulation, but it was denied because it was thought that the women's drinking rule was not enforced strictly enough, according to Suzanne Smith, WSGA president.

WSGA was told, Miss Smith said, that if all coeds were obeying the regulation, the ban might be lifted for women over 21.

So WSGA put on its thinking cap and came up with the honor code as a possible solution. It was tried, but so far WSGA has had a difficult time gathering coeds into the fold.

Wednesday night WSGA decided to launch a general clampdown campaign on all drinking. Suzanne Smith, president of WSGA, said that a survey will be made to find out whether women would uphold the present drinking-rule if they were permitted to drink when they became 21.

Affirmative results, she continued, would not necessarily mean the proposal would be put into effect. If it were adopted, however, women over 21 would be permitted to drink, with control over excessive drinking remaining.

Women students over 21 should be allowed to drink. Whether the regulation is now obeyed by minors should make no difference whatsoever in the Senate committee's decision.

The state law draws the line at 21. And it does not tell Pennsylvania citizens "this law will be revoked if we catch you minors drinking."

The question is merely one of democratic principle. Since the University is a state institution, its regulations regarding non-University activities should without doubt be consistent with those laid down by the state.

It sounds silly to imagine someone saying: "Yes, you may drink when you are 21, providing, however, that you are not a student. Because citizens are divided into two categories—students and non-students."

When a person is 21 he is 21 everywhere—at home, in his job, or attending college. Regardless of his other loyalties he is considered an adult citizen and, since the state allows 21-year-olds to drink, this regulation should be respected.

From all appearances WSGA would gladly change the regulation, since it made such an attempt last spring. Its passage, however, is being blocked by higher University authorities.

The Senate Committee on Student Affairs should not ask for proof of the enforcement of the coed drinking rule. This is a separate problem, if it can be considered a problem, and should have nothing to do with adjusting a University regulation to comply with a state law.

If good men were only better, would the wicked be so bad?—John White Chadwick

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

Coed Supports A CD Program

TO THE EDITOR: I wish to state my views on the matter of civil defense courses for women at Penn State. I would like to see a civil defense course incorporated in the health program as much would be gained by adding this vital material to the subject matter normally covered.

As far as time consumption is concerned, what is more precious than the protection of lives? We cover subjects ranging from the human body and mind, to industry and science. If we can't save or know how to protect these things, what good would all the knowledge in the world do us?

Second, I believe there is the matter of women's responsibility to their fellow man and nation. Men protect us either through actual physical combat or science. We demand all the rights—to vote, etc., yet is it our special privilege as women to play defenseless, frail creatures and run from the tide of disaster?

There are coeds at this University from almost every town in the state, plus many outside of the Commonwealth. What a wonderful thing it would be if just one coed could go to a community to assist in the civil defense program; what a need it would fill. It would indeed be little enough thanks to the taxpayers who make our education possible.

Third, civil defense isn't used just in war time, but comes into practice during natural disasters, too. How many of us know where to get our hands on emergency rations and equipment in our own homes in time of danger?

I feel civil defense has a job to do at a place of learning. This knowledge of self-protection as well as aid to others is a definite must. With the pace of our present scientific achievements and self-destruction, it is imperative that something be done and fast about offering this material to the student body.

If we profess to desire culture and study the humanities, what good is all this if we don't protect it? Here's our chance.

—Val Sigelen, '59

Student 'Apathy' Is Showing Again?

TO THE EDITOR: Wednesday night Penn Staters had the opportunity to hear Congressman Walter H. Judd speak in Schwab Auditorium on foreign policy and the foreign aid program of the United States. But the auditorium was only half filled. And half of those who attended were obviously townspeople or faculty members. Thus, at the most, only 300 students were present.

We have some 14,000 students on campus. What happened? Were they sick, or don't they read the bulletin boards and the Collegian? Don't they want to know what goes on in the world? Do 98% of them live in shells?

These lectures are every bit as much a part of a well-rounded college life as classes and study. It is incomprehensible to me, that when a speaker of such high stature and great knowledge of his subject as Congressman Judd comes as far as Penn State to talk to us about something as vital to our very survival as world relations, and all for free, that there should be such obvious and overwhelming student apathy.

The Graduate School does Penn Staters a fine service by sponsoring such a distinguished lecturer. Those who were not in attendance missed a real treat—a sincere, interesting, factual and extremely inspiring talk.

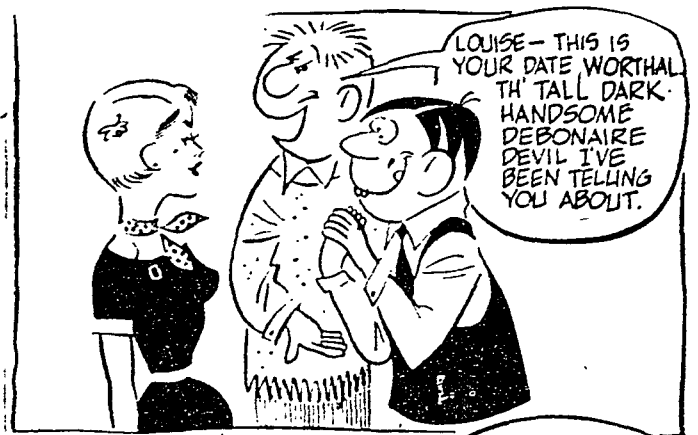
—William W. Bickham Jr., '60

WDFM Will Broadcast Jam Session from HUB

Hubzapoppin, to be broadcast from 8 to 8:30 tonight in the Hetzel Union assembly room by Station WDFM, will feature the Mid-nights combo with Wayne Radcliff, tenor sax, and Jack Laffy, singer.

The WDFM program is open to the public.

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



It All Boils Down To an Old Problem

By J. M. ROBERTS Associated Press News Analyst

The Eisenhower administration has launched a coordinated campaign to forestall any congressional tendency to take money out of the foreign aid program for the expanding national defense effort.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Vice President Richard M. Nixon and Secretary John Foster Dulles all made the point

Wednesday, a day replete with notice to the American people of the magnitude of the burden of keeping up with Russia's military advances.

The President stressed the "distasteful task" of Congress to find the money through elimination of domestic services.

Administration spokesmen steered clear of the possibility of higher taxes to maintain a balanced budget, leaving the implication that whatever is not taken care of through savings in other fields will force an increase in the public debt limit.

But the President said that over the long term it was recognized that a balanced budget was indispensable to the economy and therefore to security.

Former President Harry S. Truman was more blunt. What way is there to do it, he asked, except to increase taxes.

The administration was reported cool toward suggestions that Congress should enact stand-by wage, price and production controls at the next session, so that the President could not put the country on a virtual wartime basis if needed.

With regard to foreign aid, Congress has displayed a tendency to preserve domestic spending programs at its expense. The admin-

istration lost a big fight over it last summer, and the program was sharply reduced.

Now it is to be defended on both the economic and military fronts.

In all this the West is faced with the same old cold war problem—to keep ahead of Russia militarily as a deterrent, at the same time preserving a strong economy to prevent the Communists from proving to the underdeveloped countries that their's is the best organizational system.

Gazette

TODAY AYI Colloquium, 3:10 p.m., 131 Temporary "Carnival of Thieves," 8:00 p.m., Center Stage Central Pennsylvania Section, American Chemical Society, 7:30 p.m., 119 Osmond Fluid Mechanics Seminar, 4:10 p.m., 1 Sackett Harvest Ball, Round and Square Dancing, 8:30-12:00 p.m., Coliseum Roller Rink Hillel, Sabbath Services, 8 p.m., Foundation, Phi Sigma Delta, Hosts Hillel, Israeli Folk Dancing at Phi Sigma Delta following services Mineral Industries Colloquium, 4:15 p.m., Mineral Sciences Auditorium Newman Club, Surprise Party, 8 p.m., Student Center Physics Colloquium, 4:10 p.m., 117 Osmond Ray N. Envall, Westinghouse, lecture, 4:10 p.m., 103 Sackett 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 Juke-box; 11:30: News and Sign-off.

