

Editorials

Cabinet: Let's Represent

All-University Cabinet two weeks ago almost went against the wishes of the student body.

Cabinet, the official spokesman for the student body, almost refused to request of the administration an extension of the Christmas vacation (so students won't have to return just for Friday and Saturday classes).

The vote was only 14-10 in favor of seeking the extension.

The fight to defeat the motion seeking the vacation extension was led by a tightly-knit group of Cabinet members.

Their reason for opposing the motion was quite ridiculous. Their main reason: They didn't think the extension was possible to maintain.

So the new purpose of student government in the opinion of some Cabinet members, appears to be that student government should ask for only what it knows for sure the administration will accept.

We think student government should represent the students.

So tonight Cabinet will be given another test on whether it wants to represent the student body.

We believe—and the test votes seem to prove we're correct—that the student body would like to see Cabinet say "no" to the question of whether the ROTC program should be compulsory.

And we don't give a gosh darn whether the administration favors it or not. The only way to find this out, for sure, is for Cabinet to put the question to the Board of Trustees.

Cabinet members will have before them 10 pages of evidence that point to only one conclusion—that for the good of ROTC and the good of the student body, the program should not be compulsory.

But also, and just as important, it will have behind it the majority of the student body, which we believe feels ROTC should not be compulsory.

Voluntary ROTC—

(Continued from page one)

inclined to elect the advanced course, since their esprit de corps would not have been injured by the other students who became disgruntled because they were forced into scheduling the course.

Too, the program would cost far, far less. This stands to reason, since the millions of dollars spent on that 91 per cent do not produce officers. And with the White House trying to squeeze out another \$1.5 billion for the defense budget, this saving would come in mighty handy.

The program is wasteful in other ways. Between May 1, 1954, and April 30, 1955, according to the Liberal Arts Student Council report, 13,633 AFROTC advanced cadets were graduated. Since only 9016 of these were needed by the Air Force, the remaining 4647 were deemed "surplus to Air Force needs" and received "certificates of completion in place of commissions."

We cannot escape the fact that this is about a 30 per cent waste, certainly not an insignificant one.

The report also shows that 9 per cent of students taking the basic course become available to the armed services as officers, or 398 men.

We agree with the council's conclusion—that it is "unjust, damaging to the education of the majority, economically wasteful, and unnecessary to apply compulsion to all" in order to acquire this 9 per cent.

As to the effectiveness of voluntary ROTC, the council shows that the non-compulsory program at the University of Minnesota has produced more officers than it did under a compulsory system.

Officers teaching ROTC at that school, according to Vice President Malcolm M. Willey, have attested that "the best motivation for the advanced course comes with the esprit de corps that is the result of voluntary enlistment in the basic course."

What about citizenship education? Only the Air Force includes it in a list of ROTC objectives.

Besides, can anyone really expect ROTC to replace the social sciences and the humanities in the field of citizenship education?

The Department of Defense does not see a need for compulsory ROTC. Should we, then?

As a matter of fact, the Departments of Defense, Navy and Air Force have all shown indifference to whether ROTC programs are compulsory or voluntary.

Let's stop wasting the students' time and the government's money and get something really effective—a voluntary program to produce more enthusiastic officers and better specialists.

Safety Valve

Student Wants Insurance Plan

TO THE EDITOR: After reading of the recent death of a Penn State student and recalling the near fatal accident involving Larry Sharpe, it would seem that some serious thought should be given to the possibilities of implementing a student insurance program at Penn State.

The facilities provided for student health at Penn State are adequate for short-term treatment of minor maladies but for longer treatment, the University assumes no further responsibility, and the student is expected to continue treatment at his own expense. And, as we have seen, there are instances when the illness is critical and the treatment overwhelmingly expensive.

It is at times such as these when student health insurance would be warmly welcomed. But unfortunately, no action has been taken. One of our senior men's honorary societies (Lion's Paw) has considered this problem for a number of years and has consistently failed to get it away from the talking stage...

The thing which is most puzzling of all is that there are several insurance companies eagerly awaiting some opportunity to install this program here at Penn State. The programs are quite reasonable and offer excellent protection — yet those student groups which supposedly carry the banner for a better Penn State are wasting precious time in implementing such a program. I urge that responsible student groups lose no time in putting into use a student health insurance program so that Penn State may be just a bit better. —Edwyn Henrie, '58

Letter cut

Gazette

TODAY

- AIM Judicial Board of Review, 7 p.m., 218 HUB
Delta Nu Alpha, 7:30 p.m., 109 Boucke
International Relations Club, 7:30 p.m., Chapel Lounge
Marketing Club, 7:30 p.m., Sigma Phi Epsilon
Neu Bavarian Schuhlplattler, 1 White Newman Club, 7 p.m., 104 Chapel
Nittany Grotto, 7 p.m., 121 MI
Pollock Council, 6:30 p.m., Nittany 20
Riding Club, 7 p.m., 217 Willard
Theta Sigma Phi, 7 p.m., 9 Carnegie
Wesley Foundation, STE chapter, 7 p.m., foundation
Wesley Foundation, Kappa Phi cabinet, 6:30 p.m., foundation
Wesley Foundation, Kappa Phi chapter, 7 p.m., foundation
Zoology Club, 7 p.m., 113 Frear

Job Interviews

- Long Island Lighting Co: Dec 16 BS, MS, PhD in ME, CE, EE
Campbell Soup Co: Dec 16 BS, MS, PhD in Acctg, BusAd, LMR, LA, IE, ME, ChE, AGBioChem
Owens-Corning Fiberglass: Dec 16 BS in Chem, Phys, Cer, Metal, ChE, ME, AeroE; MS in ChE, ME, AeroE; PhD in Min, ChE, ME, AeroE
Metals & Controls Corp: BS, MS, PhD in Metal
The Carborundum Co: Dec 16 BS, MS in Cer, ChE, Chem, EE, IE, Phys, ME, Metal, Min, Prep, Eng; PhD in Cer, ChE, Chem, Phys
Republic Steel Corp: Dec 16 BS, MS, PhD in Cer, ChE, CE, EE, IE, ME Metal, Acctg
Procter & Gamble Co (Manufacturing) will hold a GROUP MEETING December 17 at 7:30 in 208 Willard Hall for June & August Grads in ME, IE, EE, CE, ChE, Chem, Phys, Math. The topic of conversation will be "Factory Management opportunities at Procter & Gamble."
The Cincinnati Sharper Co: Dec 17 BS in CE, EE, IE, ME, Metal; MS in EE, IE, ME
Potomac Electric Power Co: Dec 17 for BS in EE, ME, CE
Wyandotte Chemicals Corp: Dec 17 BS, MS in ChE, Chem; PhD in Chem
Bessemer & Lake Erie Railroad: Dec 17 BS in EE, IE, CE, ME
Combat Operations Research Center: Dec 17 BS in Phys; MS in Phys, Chem; PhD in Econ, Exp, Psych, Phys, Chem
New York Naval Shipyard: Dec 17 BS, MS, PhD in EE, ME, CE, IE
Pittsburgh Grogg Companies (Columbia Gas Systems) Dec 17 for BS in Acctg, CE, PNG, ME, HomeEcon

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Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibles



"Awwww. College ain't so tough—I'da got a straight "A" if it hadn't been for that stupid shop course."

Sand in my Shoes

'Great Hub Collapse'—Never a Dull Moment

By Judy Harkison

The news filtered into the Daily Collegian office a few days ago that the Hetzel Union Building was going to be condemned because a huge limestone cave was discovered under the foundation.

It was said that any day now the HUB might completely collapse into the ground. This was evidenced by a depression in the street in front of the \$3 million building.

Editor Dubbs approached Dr. Walker: "No newspaperman lets any rumor go unchecked regardless of how ridiculous he may think it is. I heard the other day that..."

Walker's reply, needless to say, was expected. It was the first he had heard about it. In fact, he said, if it were true there would be men drilling holes into it now. "The Great HUB collapse" was just another rumor—one of the many that drift into the office of any newspaper. With the vivid imagination of many students, however, it seems that Collegian collects more than its share.



Not too long ago we heard that Jordan and Thompson Halls were connected by a secret attic passageway. After a small battle between several reporters as to who was going to check the story, one illustrious male set out to explore.

He found out two things. First, it was impossible because one attic was higher than the other. Second, the news source recon-

sidered and claimed it was a sub-basement tunnel. The reporter gave up.

All kinds of rumors flourished during the flu epidemic we didn't have. But the best one gained ground right on our own premises.

A reporter was standing in front of the office nosing for news as usual when a friend of his was coming from the infirmary and going toward his fraternity house. The friend was holding a piece of ammonia-soaked cotton under his nose.

The reporter asked him how he was feeling. The student proceeded to explain that he had arrived at the infirmary just in time to faint, so he was sent home with "ammonia."

The reporter, misinterpreting it as "pneumonia," marched into the newsroom with a big story exposing the negligence of the infirmary.

It was checked with Dr. Glenn. Luckily as well as all the rest, it never appeared in the newspaper.

TONIGHT ON WDFM
6:45: Sign on and news; 7:00: Telephone Bandstand; 7:50: State News and National Sports; 8:00: Jazz Panorama; 9:00: Local, National and World News; 9:15: At Your Service; 9:30: Music of the People; 10:00: News; 10:05: Virtuoso; 11:30: News and Sign-off.

