

Editorial Opinion

Behind Closed Doors

That the University's Board of Trustees barred the public and the press from its Jan. 24 and 25 meeting in Harrisburg is indeed unfortunate, to say the least.

Although a law approved at the last session of the state legislature provides for "open meetings" by public bodies, a ruling by the state attorney general's office has exempted the board, along with the boards of trustees of other schools partly supported by public monies, from holding open meetings.

A bill sponsored by State Sen. Jo Hays (D-Centre, Clearfield) which specifically would have opened these meetings was approved by the Senate but buried in the end-of-session logjam of the House.

But the University Board of Trustees has chosen to ignore these indications of public sentiment, as well as Gov. George M. Leader's call for open meetings, and to "not change their procedure," as one University official explained.

But the people of Pennsylvania are subsidizing the University to the tune of \$15 million a year through public funds. Students and their parents are contributing substantially to the expenses of the University. This is a pretty dear price to pay for being told only what board action the University wishes to make known through publicity hand-outs.

Alumni, University societies and the public are all supposedly given a voice on the board through members elected from these groups or appointed by the governor. Yet the board does not permit these voices to be heard in public.

How much is lost to the students, faculty, alumni and people of Pennsylvania because of lack of free, honest and impartial newspaper coverage is not known. But by keeping the public in the dark, the trustees are losing a chance to publicize their good works.

And, in violating the spirit—if not the letter—of the open meetings law they risk serious damage to their reputation as a competent body administering public policy and funds.

The board has not attained a reputation for progress in coping with the University's problems by "not changing its procedure." It certainly cannot hope to progress in gaining increased public confidence by standing pat on its present policy of secret meetings, which to us smacks of a "public-be-damned" philosophy.

Insurance—At Last

Student government has finally been able to obtain University approval for an insurance plan.

Lion's Paw, secret senior society, and student government had "studied" the idea for about five years. But it took an unfortunate accident to a Penn State student to make the idea a reality.

All University Cabinet approved the plan Jan. 23. The administration approved it Jan. 24. Letters were mailed out last week.

This made for a quick ending after a slow start.

The plans offered students are good ones at reasonable prices. However, they probably could have been better (some coverage, we feel, isn't especially needed while some coverage could be increased). But Cabinet wanted to get the plan in effect for this semester, which is commendable.

So, after years and years of waiting, insurance plans are available to students. It is now up to the students to take advantage of them.

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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The Daily Collegian

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Safety Valve

Parole Believed Unjust in Case

TO THE EDITOR: We carefully read the Collegian article of Jan. 9 concerning the disciplinary action taken by local and University officials against a student.

We realize that heavy penalties are the rule in cases of drunken driving. We feel that the suspension of the operator's license, damage assessments, and University probation are reasonable measures. It is our opinion that the \$150 fine and court costs involved are excessive, but even this we can condone. However, we fail to understand the order from Judge R. Paul Campbell that the student obtain a sponsor and report monthly to the county parole officer.

TO US, PAROLE suggests the supervision of a flagrant violator of the law who cannot be trusted in society. Although we do not know the student personally, our belief is that the penalties already imposed together with the bad publicity he has received constitute sufficient punishment for the situation.

The added humiliation of being on parole is not only unnecessary but unjust.

—Richard Austin, '60 Peter Murphy, '60

Other Opinion

Police Behind Blackboards

If the attitude of a Brooklyn grand jury prevails, the policeman will become as much a part of a New York child's school life as the teacher or janitor.

A uniformed patrolman would be assigned to each school in the city "to deter the vicious elements from perpetrating some of their acts of violence and depravity," in the words of Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz, who goes along with the idea. The judge stayed up all night, he said, studying the legal questions involved, but the broader questions got a quick going-over, if any.

WHEN CRIME gets out of hand in the schoolroom—and there have been some pretty raw episodes—keeping a cop in the corridor doesn't seem to be even a passingly practical approach, much less a fundamental one. Presumably, the idea is that to keep order among our tough youngsters in the public schools, the symbol of law enforcement should be embodied in at least one (and why only one?) night-stick swinging, gun-carrying cop.

Does this mean that every public school in the country must follow the precedent that has been set at Central High in Little Rock?

—The Reporter

Yemen to Join New Arab State

CAIRO, Egypt, Feb. 2 (AP)—An Egyptian spokesman said today the kingdom of Yemen is expected to "adhere" immediately to the new united Arab republic of Egypt and Syria.

Whether Yemen would join in the union or merely federate was not clear. By federating, Yemen's king, Iman Ahmed, would retain his throne.

The spokesman said the crown prince of Yemen, Seif el Islam el Badr, was expected in Cairo "in a matter of hours and will announce that Yemen will adhere to the republic," proclaimed only yesterday. The Yemen legation said it had no information on the matter.

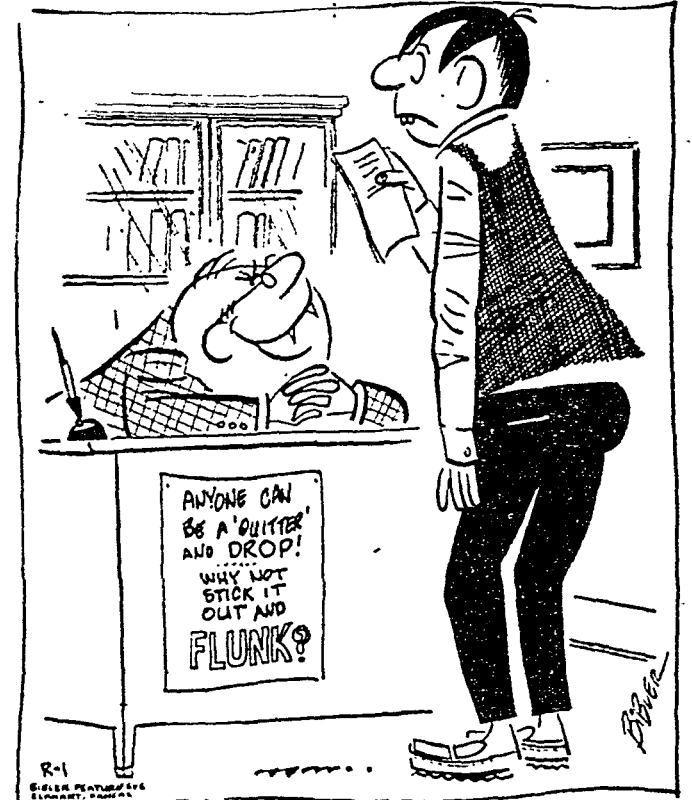
Radio Cairo said tonight the prince will arrive Monday.

It was considered highly unlikely that the Iman, who rules the mountainous kingdom with an iron hand, would relinquish his throne. Yemen is one of the few absolute monarchies left in the world.

TONIGHT ON WDFM

Monday Evening—6:45: Sign on, News and Market Reports; 7:00: The People Act; 7:25: Behind the Lecturn; 7:50: State News and National Sports; 8:00: Sounds in the Night; 8:30: Greek Quiz; 9:00: Campus News and Sports; 9:15: First Freedom; 9:30: Marquee Memories; 10:00: National and International News; 10:05: Symphony Notebook; 11:00: News and Sign-off.

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"To summarize your prepared statement then —you'd like your grade raised to a 'D'?"

Khrushy Emerging In Dictator Role

By WILLIAM L. RYAN AP Foreign News Analyst

Nikita S. Khrushchev appears to be ready to bury "collective leadership" for good.

Recent clues suggest he is about to assert his total mastery over the Soviet government, as well as the Communist party, and emerge as Russia's new dictator.

Items in the Soviet press, along with activities of Soviet censorship indicate collective leadership is just about finished. It remains only for Khrushchev to make this official by combining his party boss authority with direct personal control of the Council of Ministers.

KHRUSHCHEV CAN do this by making a trusted member of his personal machine premier or even by taking the job himself. Nikolai Bulganin, the present premier, can be kicked upstairs to the chairmanship of the Supreme Soviet—parliament—and figure-head president. The incumbent, old Marshal Kliment Voroshilov can be retired.

A glorification campaign for Khrushchev already has begun—slowly and cautiously at first, but now gathering momentum.

Thursday, the most authoritative Communist party publication, the monthly Kommunist, suddenly broke the news that the real architect of victory over the Nazis at Stalingrad was Khrushchev.

Khrushchev did play a part at Stalingrad as a member of the Southwest Front Military Council, emerging as a lieutenant general. But until the dictator died, Stalin got all the credit for the victory which turned the tide of World War II in the East. After Stalin, credit was given collectively to

the Communist party leadership, and the Stalinist "cult of personality" was deplored.

THE MILITARY TOOK its share of the credit. But Khrushchev, after using Marshal Georgi Zhukov's influence to resolve the latest power struggle, had the war hero downgraded and now appears to be busy grabbing all the glory for himself, Stalin style.

The article in Kommunist was by another marshal, Andrei I. Yeremenko. He announced that, "All the noble and delicate work done—at Stalingrad—was accomplished under the direction and with the direct participation of the member of the Military Council for the Stalingrad Front and the Southwest Front, Nikita S. Khrushchev."

Soviet censorship failed to pass the first Associated Press dispatch reporting this, possibly because it contained speculative material on the sudden glorification of Khrushchev.

Gazette

TODAY

Collegian Circulation Staff, 8:30 p.m.; Collegian Office; Faculty Luncheon, Club, noon, HUB dining room "A"; Interlandia, 7:30 p.m., 214 HUB

TOMORROW

Economics Seminar, noon, HUB dining room "A"; speaker, Dr. Robert Strotz, professor of economics at Northwestern University

