

Editorial Opinion

Temptation Placed

That expensive trip to New York City to give a \$2500 check to Larry Sharp is history. And this is one time history should not be allowed to repeat itself.

The trip was authorized by All-University Secretary-Treasurer Joseph Boehret, George H. Donovan, then director of Associated Student Activities and now acting coordinator of student activities, and All-University President Robert Steele. The authorization was legal under the Student Government Association constitution.

It is in this group of three that the "mistake in judgment" actually started. It started when Boehret, Steele and Donovan decided upon a \$150 expense account for the trip. (Steele asked for \$125 but Donovan said he advised Steele to take an extra \$25 in case of an emergency).

We do not know how this group ever granted the overly-high sum of \$150 for two men to deliver a check in New York City. This is putting temptation to spend the entire or most of the \$150.

It is difficult to understand how Donovan could approve of a \$150 expense account in this situation, especially when he should be aware that the University allows a maximum of only \$15 per day for both meals and lodging for a representative traveling to New York City. But his office wrote out a check for \$150

There also seems to have been laxity by the office in not requiring that the expense account be submitted sooner after the trip. Donovan said it is "not unusual" for expense accounts to be turned into the office late.

Here, within the ASA office which was then under the direction of Donovan, appears to be where the "mistake in judgment" began. Here is where action should be taken to see that this does not happen again.

Cabinet: Take a Cue

All-University Cabinet will probably make a decision tonight on what some members feel is a ticklish subject: whether or not to pass a recommendation asking the Board of Trustees to open its meetings to the public.

And Cabinet would do well to take a cue from a trustee who said early this week the student government body ought to recommend to the trustees they open their meetings to the public—then let the trustees decide.

More than likely, some Cabinet members will send up the cry of "tain't" (they say such a move would imply there is something illegal going on in the meetings). The state legislature approved open meetings and records laws during the last session. And the legislators didn't seem to worry about any unfounded implications that thousands of county commissioners, school board members etc., were doing something illegal.

The University is a private corporation (although a "public instrumentality" too) and therefore does not under law have to open the trustee meetings to the public. But the board and the University would probably gain much prestige if the meetings were opened to the public under these circumstances.

Clearly, Cabinet can make no mistake in simply asking the board to consider the advantages (of increased public confidence and prestige) of open meetings.

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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ED DUNBS, Editor STEVE HIGGINS, Bus Mgr.

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Letters

Steele Needs 'Break' in Trip

TO THE EDITOR: One of the most hard working students at Penn State has made a mistake. Was it an important one?

Bob Steele has worked with all his power to make the top, and he had in most people's minds, until a few weeks ago when he made an admitted mistake and with a group of discriminating remarks, he is now being cut down.

Most of the students on this campus would have made the exact mistake our competent president made. Anyone who was issued a one hundred and fifty dollar expense account and a two day schedule . . . to take the money to Larry Sharp faces a great temptation.

Give Bob Steele a break and let him cover his small unfortunate mistake with some more of his great doings for our campus.

Let the student body speak as a whole, not just a few with access to an editorial column.

—Anthony Fox, '61

'Pro Not Severe Enough' for Steele

TO THE EDITOR: We are frankly amazed at the shocking audacity . . . displayed by Robert Steele in his statement that he has "done absolutely nothing wrong" in flagrantly squandering student funds in his two-day sojourn in New York City.

The apparent objective of the trip is commendable, Steele's selecting a travel companion understandable, but his distorted notions of property rights are frankly unjustifiable . . .

But the ultimate . . . was achieved in Cabinet's approval of Steele's unexcusable activities. That representatives of the student body can be so blind to the contemporary standards of morality . . . simply defies comprehension. A decision to spend an unnecessary day in New York City at student expense cannot be excused as a "mistake of judgment."

It is our opinion that Steele and his companion Yeager should be required to reimburse the student body for a reasonable portion of their superfluous expense.

It is questionable if removal from office or even probation would represent too severe a measure of discipline for such behavior.

—David Scheicher, '59 Dale Schissler, '59 David Houghton, '59

•Letter cut

Gazette

- TODAY Accounting Club, 7 p.m., MI Alpha Lambda Delta, 6:30 p.m., 216 HUB Block and Bridge Club, drawing for Little International, 7:30 p.m., 206 Armaby Campus Party Publicity Committee, 7 p.m., 215 HUB Campus Party Special Effects Committee, 7:30 p.m., 217 HUB Christian Science Organization, 7 p.m., 212 Chapel Dairy Science Club, Edgar Hall on "Behavior of Farm Animals," 7 p.m., 117 Dairy Gamma Theta Upsilon, 7:30 p.m., 218 Mineral Science Hillel Advanced Hebrew, 7 p.m., Foundation Iota Sigma Pi, speaker, 7:30 p.m., 302 Whitmore Newman Club Forum, "Making Marriage a Success", 7 p.m., Chapel Lounge Liberal Arts Research Luncheon, noon, HUB dining room "A"; Dr. Ruth C. Silva on "The Presidential Succession," "Ring Round the Moon," 8 p.m., Little Theatre in Old Main Science Fiction Society, 7 p.m., 217 HUB University Senate, 4:10 p.m., HUB Assembly Room Vesper Service, 4:30 p.m., Chapel W.A.S.S., 7 p.m., Elm Cottage Economics Seminar, Leonid Hurwicz on "Competition and Welfare," 12, HUB dining room "C" UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

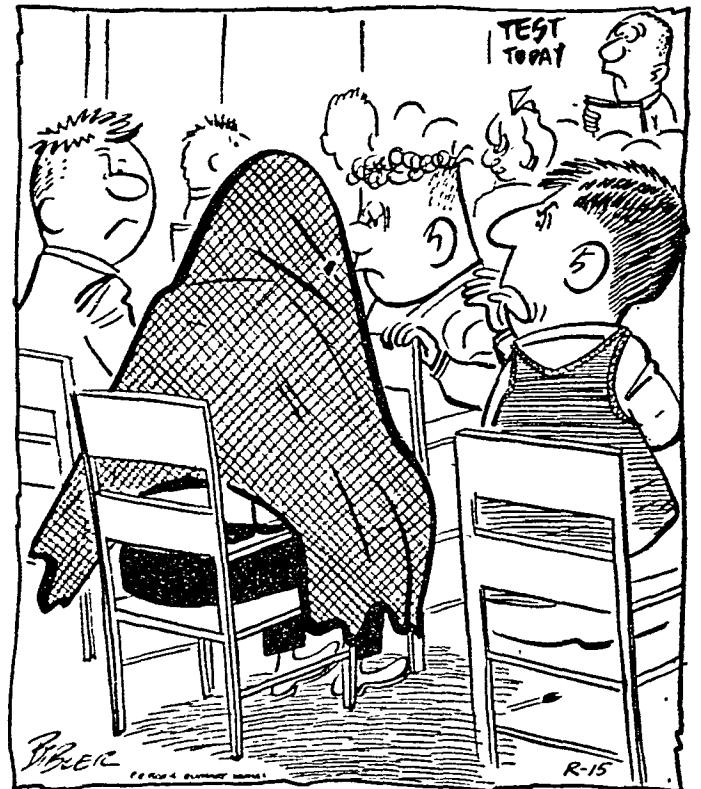
Roger Clisby, Logan Dowler, Reuben Dworsky, Myra Faulx, Sandra Goldman, Ann Guffey, Charles Guinn, Lucinda Hart, Henrietta Hertzog, Arthur Kinsley, Barbara Levin, Lucretia McNitt, James Naugle, Mary Peters, Louis Plants, Basri Seter, Fred Spethner, Robert Welch, Gerald Goldberg.

Job Interviews

- Kroger (Processed Foods Div): Mar 20; BS & MS in Bact, Ag-BioChem, Chem, DSci, PH, ChE, CE, Metal, IE, ME, EE, SanE, EngSci. Equitable Gas Co: Mar 20; PNG, BusAdm. Ortho Pharmaceutical: Mar 20; BS in Bact, Acctg, Chem, Sci, PreMed, Med Tech; MS in Bact, Chem. Babcock & Wilcox: Mar 20; BS & MS in ChE, EE, IE, ME, Metal, Phys; also Jr in same fields for summer employment. Esso Standard Oil Co: Mar 20-21; BusAdm, LA for sales. Connecticut Mutual Life Ins Co: Mar 20

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Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"—an' just WHO was looking around for help on that Western Civ. test?"

Washington Beat

Some Days You Just Can't Win

By Arthur Edson

WASHINGTON, March 5 (AP)—As the questions at President Eisenhower's news conference today wandered all over the world, and then took off for outer space, this thought kept bobbing up:

What a difficult town this is in which to keep well-informed.

It's an age of intricate problems with tremendous implications. And they whiz by so fast it seems that to know what's really going on would require every moment for reading, with no time left in which to do a lick of work.

For a president, the job is particularly difficult. And Eisenhower's critics repeatedly have said he doesn't keep up with the news.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, for instance, said in a recent magazine article that she doesn't think Eisenhower spends enough time reading newspapers.

"As I understand it," she said, "he prefers to have the news digested for him or to be briefed orally on the news."

In a way, Eisenhower has himself to blame for this type of criticism. In his third news conference, on March 5, 1953, he used this answer, "It hasn't been brought to my attention," leaving the impression that if anything is to claim his attention it has to be fetched.

He's used similar expressions repeatedly since.

Moving along to Jan. 20, 1956, we come to a celebrated magazine article in which Secretary of State John Foster Dulles was quoted as saying the Eisenhower administration had "walked to the brink" of war three times.

The whole capital—or at least the political part of it—

was talking. How about that, Mr. President?

Eisenhower: "First of all, I am not—I have not read that article." He then strongly defended Dulles "the best secretary of state I have ever known."

Or, dashing on down to the present, take his Feb. 26, 1958, conference. In connection with the congressional investigation of the regulatory agencies, Eisenhower was asked about a letter his assistant, Sherman Adams, had written to the acting chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board on a matter before the CAB.

Eisenhower: "Well, again you are bringing up a thing I have not heard of."

Whether Eisenhower keeps himself sufficiently informed—or whether any president can in this complex world—is something for the historians to argue over.

Today, at any rate, Eisenhower seemed to act like a man who has done his home work and knows it.

He quoted the Constitution. He referred to an article in the current Wall Street Journal. He fielded both the pop flies and the hard hit grounders.

Finally someone asked him about a news conference Tuesday in which, the reporter

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