

Editorial Opinion

Clever and Discouraging

Russia yesterday imposed a halt to its tests of "all forms of nuclear weapons." And if the United States, Britain and other nuclear powers fail to take a similar step, the Soviet Union said it "naturally" would have to reconsider the action in "the interests of its security."

This imposed halt to tests comes on top of a series of Siberian explosions, which should have produced enough data for the Russians to continue technical operations for some time without further tests.

In the meantime, Russia cashes in on the propaganda, showing the world once again that it—not the West—wants peace in the cold war.

Since it appears the United States will not stray from its demands for some type of inspection before banning tests, the propaganda effects will probably be increased.

And by the time the Soviet Union needs more tests, the United States and the other Western nuclear powers will have exploded H-bombs, giving Russia an excuse to resume her own testing.

All this adds up to a clever bit of propaganda.

The United States was ready with its reply that if the Kremlin wants a disarmament agreement, concrete measures await implementation through the United Nations.

The West also was ready to note that a summit conference is a possibility if Russia intended to do more than make it a propaganda forum.

But even with these replies, the hollow gesture put forward yesterday undoubtedly will do some propaganda good for Russia.

But more discouraging, it is another blow to the hopes that some honest sign of a real conciliation will come from Moscow.

Why Hurry?

Driving conditions, according to all reports available last night, should be good for the students' spring trek home.

This certainly has been a long stretch between semester recess and this upcoming vacation. And students, quite naturally, are anxious to get home.

Although good driving conditions will make traveling less hazardous, this is no reason for students to keep from being extra careful. Statistics prove that carelessness causes most accidents.

And hurrying home could prove costly—not only in dollars and cents but in human lives.

Thanking the Thankless

Ray V. Watkins, the man who once told us he wouldn't wish his job as University scheduling officer on his worst enemy, is retiring from that job, effective July 1.

Watkins will leave the University after nearly 34 years of service and more than two decades as scheduling officer.

Many people around here think Watkins has had one of the toughest and most thankless jobs on campus. He must constantly find enough rooms of the right size at the right time and at the right place to satisfy both students and faculty members. And finding enough rooms, to begin with, has been quite a problem with the ever-expanding enrollment.

Watkins gets our thanks for serving the University well.

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

A Student-Operated Newspaper

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance est 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday morning during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 4 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879. Mail Subscription Price: \$3.00 per semester - \$5.00 per year

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Letters

More Write on 'Slipsticks'

TO THE EDITOR: The recent letters of Mr. Pressman and Mr. Niehoff display a lack of objectivity which seems to be prevalent at Penn State and probably at other universities throughout the country.

This lack of objectivity lies in a failure to view university life as what it actually represents: a heretofore generous mixture of students from all aspects of life—students who differ in economic background, race, religious creed, and even in nationality—who are also pursuing the study of a wide variety of curriculums.

One of these curriculums is engineering, and the now-controversial slide rule is merely an instrument for working out many of the problems in that field. The instruments of any of the fields in the nine colleges of study here at Penn State may be treated with contempt or respect, as was the slide rule in the recent letters.

Pride in one's field of study or later vocation is important for progress and individual satisfaction, but an excess of this pride makes us fail to comprehend and to appreciate the value of other fields which, together with ours, make up the American system of freedom of choice.

If the objectives and courses of study of the nine colleges here at Penn State were examined individually, we would find that each of these fields influences, either directly or indirectly, our daily way of life. The importance of agricultural and scientific advances to each of us is obvious, as are the education of our future children, the efficient utilization of our mineral resources and numerous other fields.

All of these fields work together for the betterment of mankind, whether they may be the technological development of a device to add to the comforts of living, the development of better coordination among business leaders, or the education of the people themselves by which these people gain the capacity to reason and solve the many problems of our present-day life.

—John B. Weltz, '60

2 Rewards Seen For Guilty Person

TO THE EDITOR: Wednesday evening while a group was gathered together at the Wesley Foundation for a special Lenten service and dinner, someone slipped away with six wallets including the many personal and valuable belonging tucked within their folds.

Speaking for the other coeds as well as for myself, we, like most college students, must count the pennies and unless returned, we will have to pay a price to replace many of those belongings besides paying the price of having our wallets stolen.

If someone feels as if they need the money more than we do, please spend it wisely, but it would mean so much to each of us as individuals if by some means—maybe the handiest mailbox—the personal contents would be returned to us at Wesley Foundation, 256 E. College Avenue. The person will not only receive our reward but the reward of someone greater than you and I.

—Lynn Reidenbaugh '60

Who Ruins the Grass: Students or Trucks?

TO THE EDITOR: It seems to me that the man responsible for the placing of the little wooden posts and wire around on campus in an attempt to keep the students from stepping on the grass might instead turn his attention to keeping the trucks off the lawns.

If there is anyone—and I am sure that there will be—that can find fault with the facts provided here, I invite that person to take a trip to the area between the Sackett building and the Agricultural Education building and I am sure that he will agree that it would take many students' steps to make the mess that the trucks have made there.

—Jerry Erskine, '59

Letter Cut

TO THE EDITOR: David Pressman in his March 22 letter may not have been absolutely right about the engineer's beloved slide rule as a status symbol, but certainly Walter Niehoff in his March 25 letter does not become right by virtue of opposing him.

The idea of an engineer proposing to gather technical data now and "cultural data" later is absurd.

Does Mr. Niehoff naively think that George Westinghouse or Henry Ford or Werner von Braun learned the technical part of their education first and "learned about people in later life"?

A sorry few people "are hostile because they could not meet the standards of engineering," Mr. Niehoff. Actually most of them pity the poor guy with the slide rule who doesn't have time in his race for a sheepskin to pause and consider his relation to his fellow man.

—Robert Compton, '59

Praise Is Sought For Chapel Choir

TO THE EDITOR: During this present academic year, there has been much criticism of many things ranging from corruption in student government to stubbornness by the University's Board of Trustees. Let's cut all this for a little while and turn our attention to giving some greatly deserved—and belated—praise to a hard working group of students and those who work with them: The Chapel Choir with Miss Willa Taylor as its director and Mr. George E. Ceiga as University organist.

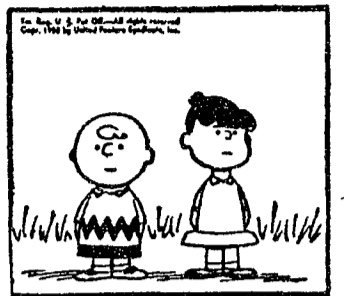
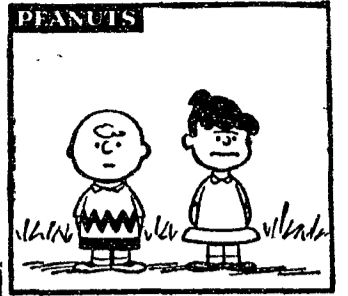
In four years at the University, I have never, to my knowledge, heard anyone give the Chapel Choir and written praise. They certainly should earn some recognition! Every Sunday without fail, they add tremendously to the 10:55 a.m. service by giving their voices to the day's inspiration.

Palm Sunday, just passed and when the Festival of Easter was celebrated, was their crowning day. Under the expert direction of Mrs. Taylor, who deserves more than just special recognition for her work, the Chapel Choir sang Easter music composed by Mr. Ceiga.

To say that it was good or inspiring would be a gross understatement. I think all those who filled every seat in Schwab will agree. It was more than just beautiful, too. It was pretty close to perfect. My congratulations to Mr. Ceiga for composition, Miss Taylor for direction and the Chapel Choir for singing.

—Richard Konstanzer, '58

(Editor's Note: We probably haven't praised Chapel Choir as much as we should have, but it has earned our praise.)



Gazette

- TODAY
Academic Year Institute for Science Teachers, Dr. Charles L. Critchfield in film, "Controlled Thermo-Nuclear Reaction," 7 p.m., HUB Auditorium
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 215 HUB
Economics Faculty Seminar, Dr. James Witt on "A Critique of Income Distribution Models," noon, HUB dining rooms
Emerson Society, 8:30 p.m., Chapel small lounge
Five O'clock Theatre, "Patch Pants," 5 p.m., Little Theatre
New Bayrischer Schuhplattlers, 7:30 p.m., 2 White
Newcomers Bridge, 8 p.m., 209 HUB
WSGA Judicial, 5 p.m., 217 HUB
AIM Judicial, 7 p.m., 218 HUB
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9
Fresh Advisory Board, 7 p.m., 214, 215 HUB
Mount Nittany Philatelic Society, 7 p.m., 209 HUB
Physical Education Council, 8:15 p.m., 212 HUB
WSGA Honor Code, 8 p.m., 217 HUB
WSGA Senate, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
David Ball, Stephen Bock, Clark Cable, Nilda Chanarris, John Detwiler, Lois Henderson, Joseph Hendrickson, Carolyn Johnson, James Mackay, John Merz, Myra Morton, Daphne Parker, John Porter, Joan Reuben, Joan Royer, Adrian Setler, Chesney Smith, William Smith, Stephen Weissburger, Barbara Comber.

- WDFM Programs
Tuesday night: 6:50, Sign on and news; 7, The Individual Coed; 7:30, Sinfonia Time; 7:50, State News and National Sports; 8, Folk Festival; 8:30, Open to Question; 9, News*; 9:15, As You Believe*; 9:30, Cabinet Reports*; 10, News; 10:05, This World of Music. *Also carried on WMAJ.

