

Editorial Opinion

Fraternity Prejudice: No Right to Be Wrong

There is still a major segment of American education which is making little or no effort to conform to the spirit of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1954 decision on intergration or to the American ideal of racial and religious equality.

That segment consists of the many fraternities and sororities which maintain national discrimination rules.

Speaking on an Interfraternity Council Workshops panel last night, three men prominent in national fraternity affairs spoke vigorously in favor of such rules.

Glen T. Nygreen, dean of men at Kent State University and educational adviser to the National Interfraternity Conference, used the old argument that fraternities should have the right to choose their own members.

Nygreen is right! The active undergraduate members of every chapter should have the right to initiate any type of student they please.

If every active chapter of every fraternity and sorority could do this, it does not necessarily mean that there would be sweeping changes in their makeups. Every chapter would have the power to reject, as well as accept, individuals as its members would choose.

But it is wrong for national fraternities and sororities to hamstring their local organizations with regulations prohibiting them from choosing their own members as they see fit.

"Fraternities have the right to be wrong," however, said Richard Fletcher, national executive secretary of Sigma Nu.

This simply is not true. In another workshop speech, Nygreen said fraternities present the greatest potential tool and at the same time the greatest threat to obtaining the ideals of education.

If this is the case, Greek national organizations cannot afford to make mistakes. For if they refuse to use their potential for the highest advancement of education, if they hinder moral and intellectual growth, the colleges and universities of this country will not—and should not—tolerate them.

This has already been shown by a number of colleges and universities which have ordered fraternities with discrimination clauses to change their policies within a certain period or to leave the campus.

However, Robert Miller, national executive secretary of Phi Delta Theta, who also strongly supported the discriminatory rules, urged fraternities to accept and support their national constitutions and by-laws, including discrimination clauses.

But they cannot do this if college and university administrations prohibit parts of the constitution. Often such an attitude by the school does little toward solving the problem and merely penalizes the local chapter. A more realistic way of getting rid of discrimination clauses must be found.

Many fraternities and sororities have no discrimination rules, and these Greek organizations serve as a credit to the fraternity and sorority systems in this respect.

But the national fraternity officials who speak about each fraternity's right to choose its own members should practice what they preach. They should insist that every fraternity man, every sorority woman be able to choose members not for wealth, rank or honor; not for race, color or creed; but for personal worth and character.

Washington

White House Is Heli-Port

By ARTHUR EDSON

WASHINGTON (AP) — He does not know it, but every time President Eisenhower takes off by helicopter, he has an enthusiastic cheering section only a couple of blocks away.

For the Helicopter Council has its headquarters within easy listening distance. As Eisenhower whirs into the air, its members note with satisfaction that here is one more public reminder of how safe and handy a helicopter can be.

The council's latest brochure has a picture of the White House back yard proudly captioned, "The Nation's Most Famous Heliport."

Probably most of us don't spend much time thinking about the helicopter. When we do, we only dredge up a picture of a thing that looks like a monstrous, ungainly beetle.

Congress, which often offers teasing hints on the shape of things to come, took several looks at the helicopter and its problems during the last session.

One of the most interesting bills was introduced by Rep. Peter Mack (D-Ill.), a jet pilot when he isn't buzzing around Congress. His bill called for a look at the chances of building a heliport right on Capitol Hill.

Mack's air-minded point: Now that both the White House and Pentagon have this service, why not Congress? His bill got nowhere, but pioneers rarely score on their first try.

Gazette

TODAY

- Cosmopolitan Club, square dance and party, 8 p.m., 2 White Hall
Cross Country, versus Michigan State, 1 p.m.
Football, versus Syracuse University, 1:30 p.m.
Student Movies, 8 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall.

TOMORROW

- Artists Series, Robert Iglesias Ballet Espanol, 8 p.m., Rec Hall
Bryan Green Convocation, 4 p.m., HUB Ballroom
Cabinet Committee on Parents' Association, 4 p.m., 217 HUB
Campus Party, steering committee, 2 p.m., 217 HUB; clique meeting, 7 p.m., 121 Sparks
Education Student Council screening board, 2-9 p.m., 213 HUB
Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, 1:45 p.m., 212 HUB
Newman Club, 7 p.m., 215 HUB
Senior Class Advisory Board, 1:45 p.m., 214 HUB
Swedbordjan, 10:30 a.m., 212 HUB
Student Movies, 6:30 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall

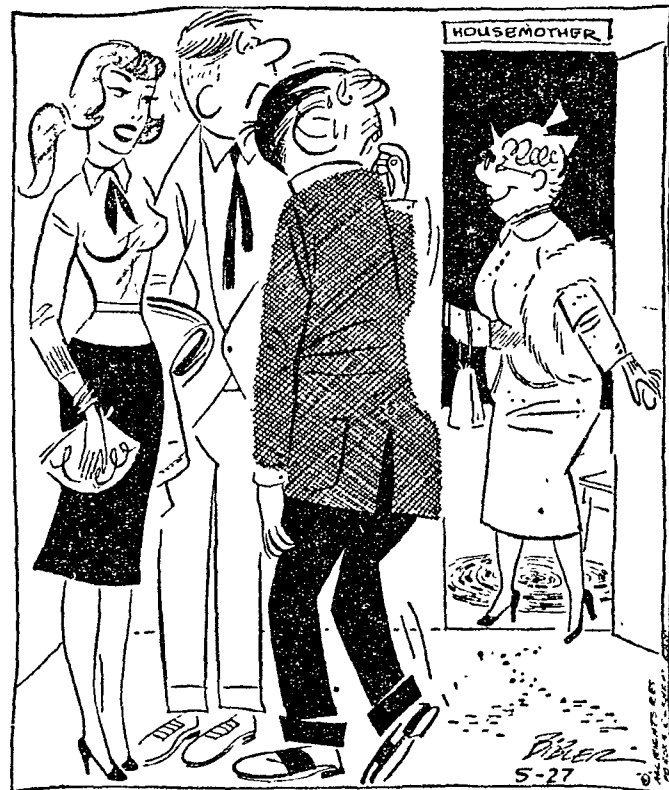
MONDAY

- AIM Bridge Party, 7 p.m., HUB Cardroom
Cabinet Committee on HUB Expansion, 7 p.m., 214 HUB
Alpha Phi Omega, 8 p.m., 214-215-216 HUB; 7-8 p.m., 212-213 HUB
College of Physical Education and Athletics faculty, 7 p.m., 241 Recreation Building
Dancing Class, 6:30 p.m., HUB Ballroom
Economics Faculty Seminar, "The Pure Theory of Conflict," noon, Dining Hall B and C HUB
Engineering Mechanics Seminar, 4:15 p.m., 203 Engineering "A"
Faculty Luncheon Club, "The Coming Election," noon, Dining Room A HUB
Interfraternity Council, 7:30 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall
Leonides Council, 6:30 p.m., 216 HUB
Model Railroad Club, 7 p.m., 215 HUB
Rufus Jones Lecture, 7:30 p.m., 121 Sparks
University Park Aero Club, 7:30 p.m., 10 Sparks

Tiny Tarpon Taken By Amazed Angler

BROWNSVILLE, Tex. (AP)—Most fishermen brag about fish they catch, but Hal Roche believes he has caught the world's smallest tarpon. The fish was 4 1/2 inches long and weighed three ounces. Local fishermen said they could not remember a tarpon that small being caught on a line before. Most are measured in feet.

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"I finally got a blind date for your friend here—we can even stay out past closing hours."

et cetera

Power for Peace: Someone's Kidding

by Dave Fineman

A friend of mine is a political science major and he's especially interested in international relations.

"International understanding," he always says, "is the key to world peace."

"If people understand each other—their languages, problems, dreams—then they have no reason to fight each other."

Well, I guess he's quite an idealist. It's too bad, too, for it was quite a shock for him yesterday when he went to view the United Nations Day ceremonies on the lawn in front of Old Main.

He had gone to see the ceremonies on Thursday and, quite pleased with the sincere words of understanding and peace, went yesterday at noon to watch the raising of the world's flags.

But flabbergasted and shocked, he stopped—I mean dead in his tracks—when he saw the straight rows of uniforms.

"Soldiers," he cried. "No. They're only ROTC guys," a bystander said.

"But it's military. It's incongruous. It's blasphemy. It's ridiculous."

These were my friend's words.

Fortunately, he recovered a little by last night. But, the poor guy, it will probably make a deep impression on his whole life.

It reminded me of my own experience of about three years ago while stationed over in Germany. There we stood, (CENSORED) strong, our backs straight and our fronts in a perfect line. Mighty jet

planes roared overhead and tanks thundered up the parade field, kicking the dust high into the air.

There were all kinds of displays on the field. Nikes, atomic cannon, exploding and screaming phosphorous grenades, huge flame throwers and other weapons just this side of the "ultimate" variety.

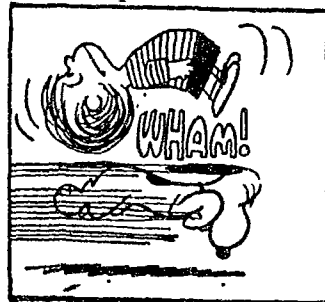
And then two great, clattering tanks came down the long run of the parade field, a large, white banner suspended from a pole hung between them.

And on the banner, in big red letters, was written the theme of the celebration: "Power for Peace!"

Ike Will Decide On Space Issue

WASHINGTON (AP)—Donald Quarles, acting secretary of defense, said yesterday President Eisenhower will decide whether the new civilian space administration will take over key men and facilities from the Army.

Quarles said that the issue will be put before the President's Advisory Space Council at a meeting next Wednesday.



A Student-Operated Newspaper

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday mornings during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 6, 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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