

Editorial Opinion

It's Not 'All in the Game'

The Pennsylvania Motor Federation, which represents 600,000 automobile club members in the state, has announced its opposition to legalizing radar devices for trapping speeders.

But Governor-elect David L. Lawrence has come out in favor of an act legalizing use of radar, as did Gov. George M. Leader. Leader's radar proposal was defeated in 1957 by Senate Republicans.

The PMF, which made its stand part of its 1959 legislative program, said it would oppose any radar bill:

1) Until the state highways department has adopted "realistic" speed limits, and

2) Unless such a bill provides for daily inspection of equipment, restricts its use to trained personnel in the state police and warns motorists of its use by roadside signs and identification equipment.

It appears that some of the motor federation's reasons for opposing radar-legalizing legislation are indeed valid.

There is no doubt that speed limits on many portions of the 41,000-mile state highways system—the largest in the country—are in dire need of revision. Most students, from eastern parts of the state, for instance, are familiar with the 35-mile-an-hour limit on Route 322, a 4-lane divided highway, at Dauphin, just north of Harrisburg. And almost everyone can cite instances of 50-mile-an-hour limits where traveling at such a speed would be dangerous.

Some speed limit revisions have been made within the last two years, but not nearly enough. And certainly, as the PMF also advocates, radar equipment should be in good mechanical condition and handled only by trained operators.

But there is no reason why radar patrols should not now operate on roads where the speed limit is 50 miles-an-hour or above, including the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

Nor is there any reason for labelling a radar patrol. Highway safety is not a game where speeders have the right to be warned that their actions are being observed by police. It is a deadly serious business and all reasonable speed limits demand all practical methods of enforcement—be they "ghost" cars, radar or other electric devices.

The 1959 session of the General Assembly will be negligent in its duty to preserve the public safety if it does not provide for radar enforcement by trained state police on high-speed roads.

Remarkable Stamina

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt was on campus Wednesday. Today she is back in New York preparing for another talk. She left Lewistown yesterday at 1:30 a.m.

No matter what your politics, you have to admire her. She is a woman of remarkable stamina. She was in North Carolina early this week, left New York for State College at 10 a.m. Wednesday, and then returned early the following morning—all by train.

In her brief stay, Mrs. Roosevelt managed to:

- ... meet reporters at the railroad station for 15 minutes
... change clothes twice
... hold a half-hour press conference
... eat supper
... give an hour and a half lecture in Schwab Auditorium
... attend a reception in her honor for campus leaders in the HUB.

She traveled alone for the entire trip. A remarkably full schedule for a woman 74 years old.

Fifty-four Years of Student Editorial Freedom

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 5, 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.

ROBERT FRANKLIN Editor

ROBERT PICCONE Business Manager

City Editor, David Fineman; Managing Editor, Richard Drayne; Sports Editor, Lou Prato; Associate Sports Editor, Matt Mathews; Personnel and Public Relations Director, Patricia Evans; Copy Editor, Lynn Ward; Assistant Copy Editor, Dick Fisher; Photography Editor, Robert Thompson.

STAFF THIS ISSUE: Night Editor, Sandy Padwe; Copy Editor, Lolli Neubarth; Wire Editor, Linda Secar; Assistants, Elaine Miele, Susie Linkroum, Bill Barber, Bill Mausteller, Brenda Pezner, Phyllis Pack, Gretchen Harrison, Alice O'Donnell.

Washington

Senate Starts In Typical Unhurried Style

By ARTHUR EDSON

WASHINGTON (AP)—Here it is the second day of a new Congress, and already the Senate has shown midseason form.

As you know, the Senate has the problem of deciding what its ground rules are to be. Shall it continue filibuster unlimited, or shall it try some form of limited debate?

To give this question the time it deserves, Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex.), who calls the signals for his party, had the Senate convene two hours early Thursday, at 10 a.m.

Many senators feel deeply on this question, and you might expect a full and eager attendance. But at 10:03, immediately after the opening prayer, Johnson said he didn't think a quorum was present. And he was so right. A reporter counted 19 senators.

Senators huddled here and there and finally a bench conference was held with Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

The conference, by the way, may show one problem facing the self-styled liberals in the Senate: Too many quarterbacks, and not enough linemen.

The conference finally broke up, and at 10:40, Nixon announced that a quorum was now present.

But apparently something still was wrong. Johnson asked for another quorum call, and he made a motion with his hand to show the clerk that this time it was to be a quick one.

At 10:43 Sen. Mike Monroney (D-Okla.) got the floor, and we were off. Or were we?

Monroney apparently didn't have a long speech, but he scarcely had begun before he was besieged with requests. Would he yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

This went on and on, until shortly after noon Johnson broke in to say he hoped for a vote "early tonight."

This brought the new Republican leader, Sen. Everett M. Dirksen (Ill.), to his feet to say that many senators had made previous commitments, and it would be embarrassing to the senators if we ran to an unseemly hour.

Meaning: Many of us have planned to go to parties, and this would louse it up terribly.

Johnson remained calm. "I hope," he said, "it will not last so long as to inconvenience senators who have important responsibilities elsewhere." Meaning: We'll try to wind it up before the goodies run out.

No matter what, the Senate won't be hurried.

Gazette

TODAY Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, 7:30 p.m., 214 Boucke Hubz-a-poppin, 7:30 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall Wesley Foundation, Open House, 8 p.m., Wesley Foundation.

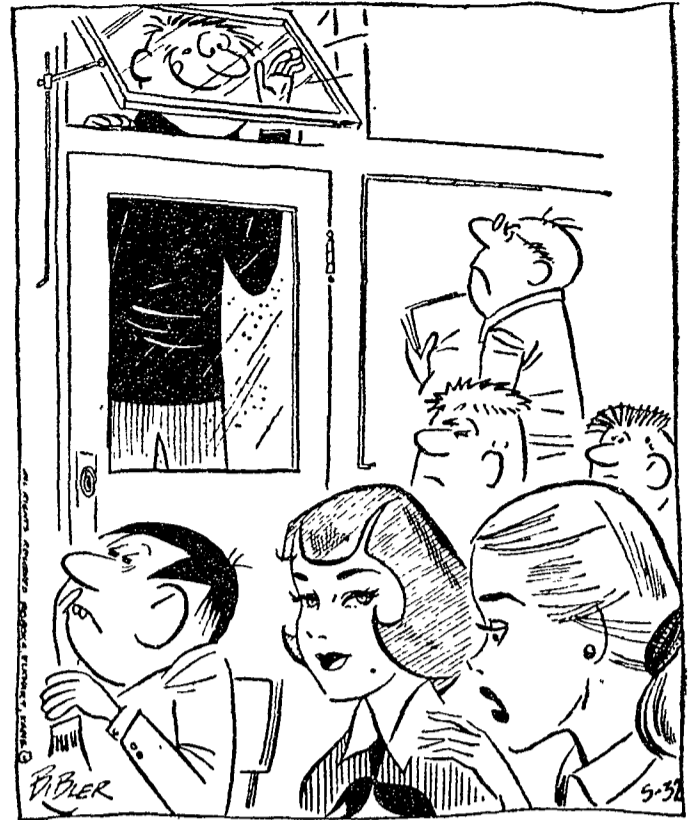
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Elizabeth Anderson, Gary Anderson, Sarah Baker, Alexis Barron, Bonnie Bar-tash, Theodora Bucholz, Susan Chapman, Thomas Cullen, Frederick Franklin, Eleanor Hansen, Ila Hayes, James Inman, Linda Kelly, Robert Kopff, Victor Leopold, Judith Morando, Ralph Neidig, Nancy Osborne, Adam Peiperl, Erland Stevens, Richard Tennyson, Frederic Tietz.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Grid of crossword puzzle answers: SPAR, GREED, ICEL, HOHO, RENTE, ROPE, ARMAGEDDON, ELIE, NEEDLES, NIBLICK, MATED, MEAN, RICER, AIM, INKER, ELANET, VAT, DELA, PIN, SEVERAL, LIZ, LADE, AIR, RIALTO, IDEST, ASS, BUYER, STAR, ETHER, MACADAM, RELEASE, ABET, SOMERSAULT, TONE, PHEWS, TRUE, HUTS, ERASE, EARS

Little Man on Campus by Dick Biber



"Say, Phyllis, is that your basketball player you've been telling me about?"

Take It or Leave It

Death Penalties Legalized Murder

by Pat Evans

The nation's newspapers recently carried articles describing a proposed new medical experiment—condemned prisoners, before being put to death, should be allowed to volunteer for painless medical experiment under anesthesia.

Eventually, death would be induced by an overdose of the anesthetic agents. The interests of scientific progress would be served, and no real harm would result (since, after all, the condemned must be killed.)

If the proposed experiments are approved, no doubt they will be looked upon favorably by those who consider capital punishment a necessary evil of our society.

Others may oppose the experiments on the grounds that "dropping off to death" is too nice a way to have the death sentence fulfilled. (And a criminal, of course, doesn't deserve to be treated in a humane manner.)

There probably will be a few voices raised in opposition not to medical experimentation with condemned prisoners, but to the fact that our judicial system creates men whose lives are soon to be taken, and who therefore can serve as guinea pigs without harm being done.

We add our voice to those who protest that capital punishment is a barbarous example of the culture lag which afflicts our society. It is an archaic means of vengeance which should have been abolished long ago.

Capital punishment was fathered by a penal system completely different from the pre-

sent one. It made the criminal pay his "debt to society." Modern penology emphasizes rehabilitation instead of retribution, and the death penalty is completely out of line with this newer theory.

Yet, the extreme punishment is far from dying out—42 of our 49 states permit it. Why?

First, the proponents of capital punishment maintain that it is the only effective deterrent to serious crimes as murder.

But, the death penalty is so severe that juries don't like to impose it. Between 1930 and 1950 the average number of annual executions in the United States was 143. Since then the number has dropped to only 79. The chances of a person convicted of intentional homicide ever entering the death chamber are 100 to one.

With these odds, what potential criminal will be frightened off by the fear of being put to death if he is caught?

If any penalty is to be an effective deterrent, it must be moderate and administered in every instance.

A second argument offered in favor of retaining the death penalty is that its elimination would lead to an increase in

(Continued on page eight)

