

Editorial Opinion

Another Powerful Voice

Another powerful voice has been added to those asking for open meetings of the University's Board of Trustees.

Gov-Elect David L. Lawrence, who is a member of the board of trustees of the University of Pittsburgh, said Thursday he sees no reason why the Penn State board should not open its meetings to the public.

"I think there particularly, there ought to be a full degree of publicity," he said, noting that the institution is known as "THE State University."

Lawrence will become an ex-officio member of the University's Board of Trustees when he is inaugurated as governor on Jan. 20.

And his backing open board meetings is consistent with the policy he intends to follow in state government. He also told reporters on Thursday that he believes among executive boards and agencies, "anywhere where official action is taken should be open."

Certainly this line of reasoning extends to the University. Although technically a private institution, as "THE State University" it numbers state officials among its trustees. And the University receives financial support from every man, woman and child in the Commonwealth, through state aid.

The administration hopes to increase that support by at least 50 per cent within the year. But increased financial support must be preceded by increased awareness of the University's needs and increased confidence in its ability to meet those needs.

What better way to build public awareness and confidence than to throw open to public scrutiny the meetings of the University's highest policy-making body?

The Board of Trustees has operated for many years behind a wall of semi-secrecy.

Against the opposition of men like David L. Lawrence, the most influential individual in Pennsylvania, how long can that wall stand?

Just One More Hour

It looks as though students won't get the 1-hour extension of library hours during finals, as requested by All-University Cabinet.

Ralph W. McComb, University librarian, said yesterday the normal 10 o'clock deadline probably will not be extended, and that the service isn't really essential since it would accommodate only about 250 students. He said that personnel is one of the big problems in extending the hours, and that there are only a few people who might help.

But the extra hour hardly seems an unfair request, since the period would extend for less than two weeks. The library is one of the best places on campus to study; witness the overflow crowds which always fill it during finals.

This, plus the factor of the many students who need last-minute information that can be found only at the library, seems to demand a little more consideration during finals than the ten o'clock deadline provides.

Would personnel be such a problem? We think not, since only the first floor would be open during the proposed extension period.

McComb said the extended hours had not definitely been ruled out; before he makes the final decision, he should consider the obligations of the library to the students at the most critical time of the semester.

Fifty-four Years of Student Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

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Washington

There've Been Some Changes In Six Years

By ARTHUR EDSON

WASHINGTON (AP)—You stand there, high up in the House press gallery, waiting for the great moment.

That will come when William N. (Fishbait) Miller, the House doorkeeper, bustles into the chamber and shouts, "Mr. Speaker! The President of the United States!"

Your mind goes back six years, when an exciting new figure was to come through those doors, Dwight D. Eisenhower.

He was to get a tremendous reception.

Now the door swings open, and here comes Fishbait Miller on his important mission. Even before he announces the honored guest, you can spot the familiar grin and familiar bald head.

This time the applause is more restrained. After all, Eisenhower and Congress now know each other quite well. And besides there aren't nearly as many Republicans to make much of a clatter.

But there are other changes.

Then, Sen. Robert A. Taft (R.-Ohio) was the most-watched figure on the floor. Then, the first applause was led by Sen. Herman Welker (R.-Idaho). Both are dead.

Then, the presiding officer was Speaker Joseph W. Martin Jr. Now he's no longer a GOP bigwig, but plain Rep. Joe Martin of Massachusetts, sitting in the back row inconspicuously that you have trouble locating him.

Nor was the No. 1 item of that Feb. 2, 1953, speech mentioned this time. Then, Eisenhower said, he had ordered the U.S. Navy to stop protecting Red China from Chiang Kai-shek's forces on Formosa.

Well, Eisenhower talked on. Once he went 10 minutes without applause, but as State of the Union messages go, this one was fairly well received.

And you couldn't help thinking that the strangest part of all this ritual was well summed up years ago by the English observer, Lord Bryce.

"The president's wishes conveyed in a message have not necessarily any more effect on Congress than an article in a prominent party newspaper, and, in fact, the suggestions which he makes, year after year, are usually neglected," Bryce said.

For a president may ask and ask, a Congress may applaud and applaud—but it doesn't have to give.

Gazette

TODAY

- Book Exchange, 1 p.m., 217 HUB
Gym Meet against Temple, 2 p.m., Rec Hall
Social Recreation Committee, 11 a.m., 218 HUB
Student Movies, 7 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall
"The Reluctant Debutant," 8 p.m., Center Stage
Wrestling Match against Lehigh, 8 p.m., Rec Hall; freshman against Lehigh, 6 p.m., Rec Hall

TOMORROW

- "Bull Session," 12:30 p.m., WFBG-TV, Channel 10
Chapel Service, 10:55 a.m., Schwab
Entre Nous Choir, 2 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall
Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, 1:45 p.m., 212 HUB
Newman Club, 7 p.m., 214-15-16 HUB
Protestant Service, 9 a.m., Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel
Radio WDFM, 2 p.m., 218 HUB
Roman Catholic Mass, 9 a.m., Schwab
Spring Week Float Parade Committee, 2 p.m., 217 HUB
Swedborjan, 10:30 a.m., 212 HUB
University Symphony Orchestra, Theodore Karhan Conducting, 3 p.m., Schwab

MONDAY

- Alpha Phi Omega, 7 p.m., 212 HUB; 8 p.m., 214-15-16 HUB
American Statistical Association, 5 p.m., 201 Willard
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
Education and Administration Section, 9 p.m., 212 HUB
Engineering Mechanics Seminar, 4:15 p.m., 203 Engineering A
Faculty Luncheon Club, noon, dining room A HUB
Greek Week Committee, 8 p.m., 217 HUB
IFC, 7:30 p.m., HUB Assembly Hall
Model Railroad Club, 7 p.m., 218 HUB
Mozart Concert Opera Group, open rehearsal, 8:30 p.m., Schwab

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

- Elizabeth Anderson, Sarah Baker, Alexis Barron, Bonnie Bartash, Susan Chapman, Remo Frangiosa, Joan Glassman, Eleanor Hansen, Ila Hayes, Linda Kelly, Martin Lane, Thomas Little, Thomas Meloro, John Reimer, Hugh Walsh, Patricia Zuman

Little Man on Campus by Dick Sibler



"Here's your new office—just a stone's throw from the boys dorm."

Behind the News

It Must Have Been A Meatgrinder

By Bob Franklin

In a closet in the basement of Carnegie Building, there exists a poor, battered apparatus that looks something like a typewriter without keys.

This is an Associated Press teletype monitor machine, and every day it pours out its heart in a torrent of words, a very few of which you read in Collegian.

The words come from all over the world, but eventually they find their way to Philadelphia or Pittsburgh, then on to Altoona, from whence they prepare for "The Big Jump."

Many of the words don't make "The Jump." Sometimes their electrons are sucked out of the wires before they get even to Tyrone. Or they are battered to bits in a storm on Skytop.

Many of the words get thoroughly mangled in the machine itself. We suspect that in a former life it must have been a happy meatgrinder—or at least a pressure-cooker.

Consider this item that arrived last night:

"WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower told Congress Friday he will soon ask for new legislation, toooooootmmomom5

"BUST THIS" We have no sympathy for the

AP's instructions to "bust this"—the machine obviously is in pretty bad shape already.

But to digress a moment, we wonder whether Congress will grant the President's request.

We wouldn't be a bit surprised. After all, Congress has authorized some pretty weird things in the past—like building a million-dollar bridge over dry Kansas land, stockpiling enough loose-leaf notebooks in one department to last 99 years and—so the story is told—starting a study on how to avoid having policemen referred to as "the beat generation."

Well, what ever happens, at the sound of "Thank you, Mr. President," or "I have no comment to make at this time," reporters will break for the telephones.

Typewriters will clackety-clack out the message, copy pencils will scratch and the news will come thundering over the wire service desks.

And someday, somehow, the electrons will keep pulsing, and far away in the little town of State College, the lucky words will survive.

