

Editorial Opinion

Apathy, Apathy, Apathy

Apathy, apathy, apathy! The annual war cry of the student government apologists and political organizers once more has become a by-word of the spring elections campaigns.

For some unknown reason, almost every year the leaders of student government and their would-be successors feel a burning need to prove the value of their major activity.

Perhaps this is because less than half the student body gives tangible support to student government at the polls. Perhaps it is because student government often appears to give little of tangible value to the students.

A complete turnover in the organization of student government has further muddied the waters this year. The new system needs only the approval of a majority voting students to replace the decrepit ideal which has "governed" us for 20 years.

But student government—old or new—can fall into the same "apathy" trap if student leaders of the future persist in linking the word to every failure of students to actively support their existence.

There is in fact no such thing as apathy on this campus.

Students will continue to vote as they are affected by a personal interest or a personal ideal in each campaign—be this good or bad.

But the student body as a whole will continue to give overwhelming support to student government every time its members attend a Spring Week carnival, an Artists Series program, a Lecture Series speech, sit at a home football game, go to a class dance, read the Student Handbook—or simply walk into the Hetzel Union Building.

Money, Money, Money

A lot will be at stake today when President Eric A. Walker goes before the Senate Budget Committee to ask for the University requested \$43.9 million biennial state appropriation instead of the \$34.2 million recommended by Gov. David L. Lawrence.

There are two sides to the state budget story—how to raise the money and how to spend it. During the past week, the state has been facing primarily the more painful side of finding means to raise money.

Lawrence, in a press conference yesterday, said no department heads are satisfied with what they were allocated. He said further that what the state needs is support from all groups that hope to get funds through lobbying.

Lawrence's statement is a true one in that the state must look to all possible methods of raising the funds it needs to carry out necessary programs.

But the state should consider its educational problem and the necessity for improving its institutions of higher learning and secondary schools. So far it has not given the public higher education needs enough emphasis within the proposed budget.

The educational crisis has been cited both nationally and state-wide in the last few years as being of primary importance. The University as the official state university of Pennsylvania has an obligation to admit as many eligible high school graduates as possible in order to alleviate the crisis in this state. Increased enrollment cannot be realized until sufficient funds are granted for expansion.

The state government must be willing to grant necessary funds and the citizens of the state must be willing to pay higher taxes to allow educational institutions to open their doors to many more young men and women.

A Student-Operated Newspaper

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

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Letters

Gift Chairman Blasts Officials

TO THE EDITOR: Your articles concerning the recent controversy over the fate of the 1958 senior class gift have been most distressing.

There seems to be an element in the administration at the University that has successfully nurtured a confusing paternal attitude that attempts to mold the students' thinking into "good copy" rather than develop students under those goals with which the University was originally founded.

If you gave a token of deep appreciation to a dear friend you would feel the sentiment lost indeed if the friend was to ask for something else instead.

The University has seen fit to alter our token and accept it only on its terms. I'm afraid that in the alteration the officials responsible have managed to kill the spirit in which the token was given.

It's very sad that when so many people are involved in matters such as these at Penn State, the spirit which should be underlying the activity is lost completely.

I am truly grateful the Class of '58 is no longer at State to witness what has been done to this gift. In my four years at State I have witnessed many cruel injustices, but certain officials have acquired the master's touch, indeed, and in a very short time.

Richard F. Zeller, '58 Co-chairman, Senior Class Gift Committee of the Class of '58

Gazette

- TODAY AIM Board of Governors, 7:30 p.m., 205 HUB AIM Judicial Board of Review, 7 p.m., HUB Alpha Lambda Delta, chapter, 5:15 p.m., 218 HUB; pledges, 5:15, 212 HUB Board of Dramatics, 8:30 p.m., 218 HUB Book Exchange, candidates, 6:30 p.m., HUB assembly room Camera Club, 7:30 p.m., 212, 218 HUB Chess Club, 7 p.m., 7 Sparks Christian Fellowship, 12:30 p.m., 218 HUB Cosmopolitan Club, 7:30 p.m., HUB assembly room Dancing class, 6:30 p.m., ballroom Delta Sigma Pi officers, 9 p.m., Alpha Sigma Pi DOC Student Council, 7 p.m., 215 Willard Penn State Grange, 7:30 p.m., 112 Buckhout McKee spring week committee, 7 p.m., 218 HUB Pi Lambda Theta, 7 p.m., 214, 215 HUB Priestly Lecture by Dr. Thomas K. Sherwood, 8 p.m., 119 Osmond Sophomore Advisory Board, 8:15 p.m., 217 HUB WSGA, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB Zoology Club, 7 p.m., 115 Frear

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

- Gail Beam, Albert Blackhurst, Clark Cable, Janet Cohen, Walter Culbrith, Lee Cunningham, Jane Eisenbrey, Josephine Errigo, Ann Fife, Miriam Franklin, James Gilbert, Karen Hafer, Bertram Herman, Henrietta Hertzog, Jane Hess, Henrietta Howard, Mary Kahle, Allen Kelsar, Alvin Kuosman, Roberta MacFarland, Carol Mapel, Thomas McMullin, Jack Parks, Agnes Rollins, Linda Roaner, Raymond Schoch, Nancy Senior, Mary Signorino, Lawrence Smith, Carole Steinberg, Keith Straley, Justin Synnestrad, Elizabeth Taylor, Carl Tice.

Job Interviews

- APRIL 23 Potomac Electric & Power Company: BS: EE, ME. Ortho Pharmaceutical Company: BS: BACT, ACCTG, MKTG, MED TECH, PHD: CHEM. City of Philadelphia: BS: CE, ME, SAN E, DAIRY SCI, ED, PHYS ED, REO ED, PSYCH, LA, ACCTG. Griffis Air Force Base: BS & GRADS: IE, EE, PHYS. APRIL 23 Federal Pacific Electric Company: BS: EE, ME. Tung-Sol Electric, Inc.: BS: CER TECH, EE, PHYS. Vitro Laboratories: BS: EE, ME. Great Lakes Carbon Corporation: BS: CER TECH, CH E, CHEM, OE, EE, IE, ME, ALSO, JRS: ME, IE, EE, CE, CHEM, CH E, CER TECH. (Summer Employment) Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation: BS: AERO E, CE, EE, ME. APRIL 24 Tele-Dynamics Inc.: BS & MS: EE. New York Naval Shipyard: BS: CE, EE, ME, METAL. Campbell Soup Company: BS & GRADS: BUS ADM, CH E, IE, LA, ME. Rockwell Manufacturing Company: BS: ME, BUS ADM, IND PSYCH. Sprague Electric Company: BS: CH E, EE, ENG, SCI, ME, METAL, PHYS. BS: CH E, CHEM, EE, ME, METAL, PHYS. PHD: CHEM, PHYS.

WDFM

- WEDNESDAY NIGHT 8:55 Sign-On & News 7:00 Telephone Bandstand 7:55 Pennsylvania News 8:00 Greek Quiz 8:30 Music And Then Some 8:55 Sports News 9:00 Jazz Panorama 9:55 Campus News 10:00 Background 10:05 Virtuoso 11:30 Sign-Off

Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"Ya mean it was an open book test?—an' all this time I thought I was cheating!"

top of the mall

Produce A New Society

by Lynn Ward

Penn State faculty members are a prototype of social-status seeking university personnel in America.

This conclusion is one of many which Vance Packard makes in this week's issue of Look magazine in an article on the prosperous American's pursuit of status.

He says: "In college towns, faculty members—for all their presumed broadmindedness—are as careful about observing rank in social matters as the most anxious corporate executive trainee. Some time ago, while visiting Pennsylvania State University, I was escorted to a party by a dean. I mentioned to him that I had heard at the University of Michigan that deans were expected to arrive last and leave first. He laughed and said they didn't believe in that sort of fancy protocol at Penn State.



"When we arrived, the party was in full progress. I noted that no guest arrived after we did. We had been at the party for what seemed a short time when the dean said he was ready to leave any time I was. There were about 60 people present. We were the first to go."

Packard also points to the homes, cars, "friends" and street addresses we recognize and seek as prestige symbols. He maintains that suburbs and towns having military bases, universities and industry are the breeding places of our social stratification.

The problem which Packard defines is not one of trying

to rid society of status symbols. He advocates the production of a society which can live within this framework.

One way, he says, "is to widen the gates of opportunity. If we are going to make education the main basis for deciding who should be considered for high-status positions, we should assure access to higher education for all with unusual potentialities."

He asserts that these people with potential fail to go to college because 1) the costs are too high, 2) but more important, society has not provided the motivation for getting a college education.

We take issue with his second point. Certainly the desire for status, as empty a motivation as it may be, is yet a motivation for a college education. Throughout his article, Packard suggests that the successful man gains the status we hunger for. We associate the successful man with the educated man—bachelor degree or higher is necessary for this status.

The dean mentioned above gained his social status from the position he held as dean—a job made possible by his college education.

Hence, we believe the desire for status is a motivation for education, but will our present quality of education produce the people Packard sees necessary to live in this status stratified framework?

