

Editorial Opinion

Student Government Ills; System or Student Faults?

Is the system of student government we now have right for this University? Are the students ready to take on the responsibilities of such a system?

Questions like these have been cropping up often in the past few weeks, and the people who have been asking them are seriously beginning to doubt the wisdom behind the switch from the old Cabinet system to the separation of powers we now have.

This is unfair!

The trouble, as we see it, is not with the system but with the people who use it. A part of the trouble lies with the student on the Mall. He is the first to admit he doesn't know a thing about the way the present system operates. Yet, in the same breath, he says student government never "does anything" and that's why he isn't interested.

This seems to be paradoxical. If the student knows little or nothing about the operation of student government and if he will not take the time to learn, how can he rightly criticize it?

Another part of the trouble rests with the members of student government themselves. They, too, do not seem to understand the system or the responsibility they owe to the student body.

The present system was patterned closely after our national government. But it has been said, and rightly so, that at the moment it is not comparable to that government. This is because the positions of our Cabinet and Assembly with regards to being informed on student issues and having the experience to deal with them are reversed.

This must be remedied! The responsibility for having the background knowledge and the capability to produce good student legislation does not lie with the Cabinet. They are an advisory body only. It is the job of Assembly.

Of course, they are a new group, and part of the necessary experience will come with time. When the present freshmen are seniors it is hoped there will be Assembly members with four years of legislative experience. But the job of becoming informed needs immediate attention. We cannot afford to wait three years!

The system was also set up to make political parties stronger and more responsible to the students. The parties are failing in their platforms and candidate training. They are not coming up with platforms strong enough to interest the average voter. As a result the elections have become personality contests.

The parties are informing their candidates of the present issues, but they are not supplying enough background information on each issue. Therefore candidates do not understand why their parties take the stands they do, and party lines are weakened.

The parties must also keep a constant watch on their Assemblymen to remind them of responsibilities to the people who voted for them. If they find people failing at their jobs, it is the duty of the party not to support them at the next election.

Assemblymen must get out and meet their constituents. They must prod students not directly connected with SGA to voice ideas and opinions. They must find out what led to these opinions, and present bills based on them to Assembly. Assembly must not take a defeatist attitude toward bills that look as though they might be unacceptable under present administration policies.

The Assembly has been hampered this past semester by being constitutionally unable to pass legislation. This was purposely done to give new assemblymen a chance to find out how the system works and to keep them from impulsively using their new powers.

After the coming election, the period of waiting will be over. Assembly will get a chance to prove that we have not been wrong in believing in the system we now have and in its power to better student life on this campus.

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DENNIS MALICK  
Editor

GEORGE McTURK  
Business Manager

Campus Beat

'Cross' Spirit, Bright Moon, Stir Staters

Hello again, Students. After the "post Syracuse slump," I hope everyone has gotten ready for the spirit that's needed for this week's game. After all, we hear that Holy Cross is sixth in defense. Bet we pull them down a peg or two today.

We hear that Leonard Julius is taking a parliamentary procedure course. We hope that it isn't all for naught.

The Collegian editor went out last night and bayed at the beautiful moon. Funny thing was that he was answered by 56 Thompson Hall coeds.

Who was the interior decorator that went bezerk in the new Home Economics building? After looking at the interior walls, we feel that he evidently flunked a course in color harmony.

Anyone see that Volkswagen that has been driving around campus with a giant wind-up key on its rear deck?

The Chi Omegas got a real start last Sunday when they got a serenade complete with a leader who had a coke-bay medium and baton.

Some member of Androcles Hat Society evidently isn't too gung-ho. His hat and rain coat were left in the journalism library for over two weeks.

The Centre Daily Times ran a front page picture of two linemen trying to move the monument in honor of Governor Beaver at the site of the present Beaver Field. What stupidity! How could they possibly move that ten-ton rock with Rip Engle standing in front of it?

Today is the day of reckoning. Notice the small print on the HUB calendar? It states: Mid semester below grades due today.

Seems a shame that those goal posts have stood for the past 50 years. I'll bet that with a little effort on the part of all students present this afternoon that they could come down in quick order. After all, they won't be needed any more.

Prediction: If students are going to vote on the good looking candidates next week, we know who'll win hands down.

We hope that no one had a heart attack trying to dig out of that "two to three inches of snow" that was predicted for yesterday. Don't we wish that all the snow was that easy to shovel.

Well, time for another blue-book. Can't help it. You students can't seem to get along without them.

-Prof Wayne

Gazette

- TODAY
Campus Party, 9 p.m., 214 HUB
Simultaneous Chess Exhibition, 7 p.m., Warnock Lounge
Hillel Freshman Council, "Autumn Holiday" Dance, 9 p.m., to midnight, Hillel Foundation
TIM Dance, 9 p.m. to midnight, HUB ballroom
WRA Open House, 7 to 9 p.m., White Hall
TOMORROW
AIM, 7 p.m., 202 HUB
Bible Fellowship, 2 p.m., 214 HUB
Chess Club, 2 p.m., HUB Cardroom
Chimes, 6:30 p.m., Simmons second floor lounge
CPIC, 8:15 p.m., 218 HUB; 2 p.m., 212 HUB
Elections Committee, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB
Emerson Society, 6:30 p.m., 303 Boucks
Grad Student Bridge, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Judicial Interviews, 6 p.m., 214 HUB
Junior Advisory Board, 8:15 p.m., 217 HUB
Mt. Nittany Philatelic Club, 2 p.m., 218 HUB
Newman Club, 7 p.m., 218 HUB
SGA Committee of Center Integration, 5 p.m., 217 HUB
Swedish Service, 10:30 a.m., 212 HUB
Zoology Club, 9:15 p.m., HUB main lounge

- MONDAY
Aphio, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 7 p.m., 218 HUB
CPIC, 6:30 p.m., 216 HUB
Jr. IFC, 7 p.m., HUB assembly room
Leonides, 6:30 p.m., 203 HUB
Penn State Lumber Jills, 7:30 p.m., Living Center, HomeEc Building
SGA Fireside, Dr. Robert Green "Denominational Labels, What's Behind Them?" 6:30 p.m., McKee lounge
WRA Bowling Club, 8:30 p.m., Bowling Alleys, White Hall
WRA Volleyball Intramurals, 6:30, 7:30 p.m.

Little Man on Campus

by Dick Bibler



"FOSSY CALLED OFF THEIR MARRIAGE AND WRECKED HIS ENTIRE FUTURE—SHE WAS GOING TO GET A JOB AND PAY FOR HIS NEXT 3 YEARS OF COLLEGE!!"

Letters

PhysEd Major Disappointed

TO THE EDITOR: I was sorry to read in recent issues of the Collegian what an immature outlook the veterans have towards the physical education program at the University. As a physical education major, I would like to clarify the value of its program.

The very term "physical education" provokes a chain of misunderstanding due, in part, to the traditional dualism of the words "physical" and "mental." Physical education is a phase of total education and contributes to all of the objectives of education—not just to the physical aspect.

Veterans must realize that physical education develops one's intellectual, spiritual, emotional, and social qualities which have a direct bearing on his future life. The program is designed so that success and acclaim are more dominant than frustration and anonymity. This program has been rooted in the same soil as the best in all of education.

I realize that veterans could possibly be in the best of physical condition, but life is a constant process of action and interaction one simply cannot stop the wheels while one takes exercise to strengthen a part. What physical education does must be judged in its total values—not physical alone, but also in terms of personal behavior, psychological function, recreational purpose, and learning.

If leisure is on the increase, physical education moves to meet the need for its constructive use. Physical education tries to equip its students with worthwhile interesting activities which can contribute to enjoyment of leisure.

Physical education stands upon its own feet as a profession, solidly within the scientific and social culture of the race, beholden to no other group, but ready to work cooperatively with other professions for human betterment.

-Jack Dellastatious, '60

Spirit Stirs North Halls Men

TO THE EDITOR: We, the men of North Halls, feel highly insulted by the fact that every time school spirit is mentioned, the North Halls are left out.

At the same time the boys from Nittany and the West Halls were being praised for their valiant effort in guarding the Lion, there was no mention of the men from the North Halls. Who do you think relieved the boys from Nittany and West Halls in the early hours of the morning?

They guarded the Lion in the early evening when all who passed could see and admire these brave men guarding "the symbol of our best." It was in the early hours of the morning, when the rest of the

campus was sleeping, that the men of North Halls did their duty.

Also, when the Collegian gave a report of the bonfire- pep meeting before the Syracuse game, it was mentioned that a dummy, which hung in front of Waring Lounge, was burned.

We would like to point out the fact that the dummy that was burned at the pep meeting was the same dummy whose picture appeared on the front page of the Collegian that same Friday morning. At that time it was correctly identified as the property of Montgomery House of the North Halls.

You may criticize us for (Continued on page eight)

