

Editorial Opinion

Voting Is a Privilege, Take Advantage of It

Will 3000 students once again decide what legislation will be passed affecting the 15,000 University students in the forthcoming year?

This is a pertinent question to widespread speculation on whether there will be a large voting percentage in the elections today and tomorrow.

Substantial reasoning is behind this speculation. Voting percentages in the past have been far from commendable. Apathy has been the keynote of every election whether it be for student council or for SGA representatives.

And we are sick of apathy!

A rundown on the fall voting percentages in the past five years is: 1955—33 per cent total; 1956—33.4 per cent; 1957—32.7 per cent; 1958—43.7 per cent; and in last spring's elections, a total of 23 per cent voted for SGA officers and Assembly members.

Every year, student leaders, the Collegian, and even some interested students decry the disinterest shown in elections. Why should these few have to act as guardian angels for college students?—students who supposedly have had years of indoctrination on the privilege of voting.

College students are visualized as the future molders of policy whether it be local, state or national. Present apathy is poor encouragement for those who are really interested in having their opinions voiced through their elected leaders.

Maybe we are just being idealistic in thinking that Penn State students recognize the rights that they could and should exercise. It can be assumed from the low percentages that a large majority of students at this University will be content to sit back all their lives and let other people decide for them.

Yes, we are sick and tired of trying to persuade students to vote. There is no valid reason for students to refuse to vote.

The biggest excuse found for not voting is: "student government leaders never do anything so why vote for them?" Have the non-voters considered that student government leaders find it difficult to represent the entire student body when so few members cast their ballot for them.

Three years of research, careful study and planning went into the reorganization plan so that student government would be more representative of the entire student body. Penn State now has an assembly embodied with the power to pass all legislation affecting students. This assembly is elected directly through the classes.

The authors of the plan were not thinking of themselves and their own interests when they drew it up. They were thinking of the students. Thinking that students might like to elect representatives to the highest student legislative body at the University.

Were they wrong? Only the election results will tell. Only the students who vote today and tomorrow will answer this question.

Don't vote! Destroy the privilege of voting. Destroy what people all over the world are giving their lives for. Destroy your voice in a government that can help students realize their aims through its legislation.

But, if you feel that you would like to have your say about who is going to run student government for one whole year, VOTE! It's a democratic University. All it takes is one matriculation card and the best intentions of having a sounding board of student opinion in the SGA Assembly.

A Student-Operated Newspaper
55 Years of 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.

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Letters

Reader Urges 'Joey' Pledges

TO THE EDITOR: During the past two weeks there has been a great controversy over the compensation given to Nittany Council Executive Board and the dormitory presidents of that area.

This past Wednesday evening the Nitany council voted to set up "Project Joey." This project will bring 60 orphans to the Nittany Area on Christmas to celebrate the holiday.

Each dormitory will contribute funds for this worthwhile cause. The majority of the dormitory presidents have pledged their \$10 compensations to this fund. We hope the remainder will follow since this is the ideal method of using their compensation.

Will other living units follow suit? We hope so.

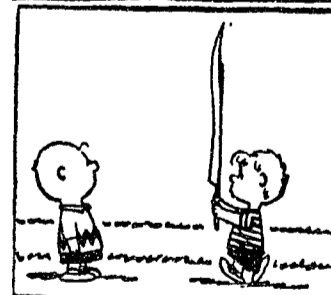
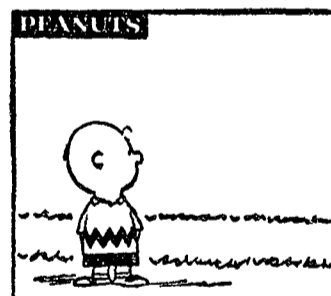
—Robert Fishbein, '63
Salvadore Cardillo, '61
William Rothman, '63

Gazette

- TODAY**
AIM, 7 p.m., 203 HUB
American Meteorological Society, 7:30 p.m., 229 Mineral Industries
ASAE, 7 p.m., 206 Ag Eng
Beta Gamma Sigma, 6:45 p.m., 218 HUB
Chess Club, 7 p.m., 7 Sparks
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
Dancing Class, 6:30 p.m., HUB ballroom
DeMolay, 7:30 p.m., 218 HUB
El Circulo Espanol, 7:15 p.m., Home Economics living center
Fall Elections, 8 a.m.-10 p.m., HUB card-room
Hillel Governing Board, 7 p.m., Hillel
Kappa Phi, 7 p.m., Wesley Foundation
Outing Club, Ski Division, film, 8:30 p.m., Schwab Auditorium
Psychology Club, 7:30 p.m., 203 Willard
Riding Club, 7 p.m., 112 Buckhout
Rod and Cocoon Club, 7 p.m., 206 Patterson
Schubplattler German Folk Dance Club, 8 p.m., 3 White
Sigma Theta Epsilon, 7 p.m., Wesley Foundation chapter room
Slavic Club, film, 8:15, 7:15 p.m., 10 Sparks
Sports Car Club, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Women's Chorus, 8:30 p.m., HUB assembly room
WRA Dance Club, 7 p.m., White dance studio
WRA Volleyball Intramurals, 6:30, 7:30 p.m., White gym
WSGA, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB
Zoology Club, 7 p.m., Frear Lab

Job Interviews

- TODAY**
Square D Co., EC&M Division: Jan BS grads in EE, ME, IE
Avco Research & Development: Jan BS & 1960 MS PhD cand. in EE, ME, Aero E, Metal, Phys, ChE.
Wierton Steel: Jan BS grads in ME EE, IE, Cer Tech, Metal, Acctg.
Continental Oil Company: Jan BS grads in Pet Eng & BS & 1960 MS, PhD cand. in ChE, Pet Eng, Chem for Research & Development.
Penna. Power & Light: Jan BS grads in EE (elect & power option), Eng Sci, ME, & BA in A&L, Math, Adv.



Little Man on Campus

by Dick Bibler



"DON'T DESTROY YOUR WHOLE FUTURE!! YOU MUST STUDY HARD RIGHT UP TO THE THANKSGIVING GAME!"

Letters

Soph 'Comments' on Editorial

TO THE EDITOR: When I got Tuesday's Collegian, I was glad to see an editorial concerning the party platforms in the coming SGA elections. Upon reading this article, however, I was keenly disappointed to find, instead of an honest constructive appraisal of the two party platforms, that they were often completely slandered and misunderstood. I feel that this should be corrected.

This was especially true of the platforms concerning alterations to the new telephone system. The University party proposes "soundproofing" of the new phones installed in the girls dorms, not by installing booths at each phone at high cost, as the editorial states, but by installing plastic soundproofing boards at a much lower cost on each side of the phones in the dorms.

The editorial went on to say that the University party platform concerning the installation of a phone at the HUB desk for free downtown calls is "hardly important." I have consistently heard students complain about not being able to call downtown without going to a pay phone.

Several years ago there was such a phone in the HUB, however the HUB committee removed it because it was costing too much. If SGA funds were made available, such a

phone could easily be installed. The editorial omitted entirely one University party plank which provides for the possible installation of an extra phone at the reception desks of each of the larger girl's dorms.

In speaking of the Campus party's platform concerning the phone problem, it was stated that "a lot of planning went into present phone system so we should give it a chance to prove its worth." It has gotten this chance, and it is obvious to most everyone concerned that improvements should be made.

I think the planks presented by both parties merit close consideration by the student body and that it is too bad that such an important campus publication as the Collegian prints such an uninformed editorial.

—William Stout, '62

(Editor's note: If each telephone soundproofing device cost only \$1 including labor, the expense would probably run over \$1000. This is a pretty high cost. Also, according to Frank Pearson, University Party Clique chairman, the plank providing for installation of an extra phone at reception desks of women's residence halls is not an official party plank and has been presented for approval to Elections Commission. Who's uninformed?)

Vets PhysEd Discussed Again

TO THE EDITOR: To the brainwashed PhysEd major: I was sorry to read of the misunderstanding a senior PhysEd major had on the subject of physical education for veterans.

The program definitely has its values and merits, we do not argue that point. But it also has limitations. It is not as absolute as he would have us believe.

The requirement of compulsory physical education is too rigid for the simple reason that it does not perform its function in regard to veterans.

I would like to clarify this by using what he said as an

example. He is obviously an "outsider looking in." He went to great bother in graciously elaborating the social development aspect of physical education. Heaven only knows that we veterans recognize this momentous contribution to individual development.

If a person can go through the service and still retain the desire to obtain a college education, you can be sure that his "social qualities" have been developed.

However, this physical education major, as a senior, will shortly be realizing the "social aspects" we once experienced.

—Randall Almony, '62

Live Lion Mascot Requested

TO THE EDITOR: LSU has a tiger and Army has a mule. Why not get a real live lion as a mascot for the fighting Blue and White.

Now that Penn State is a nationally ranked team and is in the public view, it is time that we had a lion to add color and spirit to our football efforts.

The costs of maintaining this symbol of our Alma Mater would be quite small in comparison to the spirit and enthusiasm that it would generate among the student body.

So let's all get behind this effort . . . so when the cheerleaders yell "Roar Lion Roar" —a mighty roar by the king of beasts can be heard across the Nittany Valley.

—Bernard Barsky, '61

(Editor's note: How about that? We could transfer all the money from the fund for a new lion suit and collect money at pep rallies and football movies for a lion. Hail! However, it might be rough on the honor line when the lion leads the football team out onto the field before each game.)