

Editorial Opinion

Forget the Negative; Get True Student Views

The SGA Assembly displayed a typical, but rather unfair, tendency among Americans Thursday night while it was considering support for a Student Lobby Club.

Assemblymen balked at the use of the word "lobby" in the club's name. One assemblyman said he was worried because it gave the connotation of influence. Indeed, the word not only has this connotation, but also has this actual meaning. But is this bad?

SGA members have continually referred to the national government organization. Lobbying is one of the integral parts of the Washington scene.

Mention the word "communist," and the typical American cringes, immediately formulating in his mind an image of a terrible, huge bear-like creature bent on conquering the world. This happens because of past experience with communist actions.

Likewise, Americans cringe at the words "lobby" and "influence." But as happens in so many cases, bad news travels fast and only the "bad" side of lobbying and influencing are heard.

But the idea of a well-informed group of students expressing opinions on state, national and international topics is certainly favorable lobbying. Voicing of opinions reached after a thorough discussion on these issues is sadly lacking, especially on college campuses.

Regardless of any efforts to the contrary, opinions of the Student Lobby Club will reflect somewhat on the University. To the outsider, it would appear as student opinion in general. But again, is this bad?

It would almost be precedent-setting for a group of college students to take the time to sit down and discuss national issues and voice their opinions. Theoretically, we are much better informed on such affairs than the average citizen.

The dissenting SGA assemblymen and other doubting students should throw out their fears of taking a stand on national issues. Instead they should support the Lobby Club, join in the discussions, and thus make sure that the opinions voiced will be a reasonable measure of the University student opinion.

Interpreting

Better Health Adds Problems To Middle East

By J. M. ROBERTS
Associated Press News Analyst

If President Eisenhower could really find some means of conducting a successful "noble war" against hunger, he would become a more important man to India and all Asia than Lord Clive or any other Western developers.

For centuries an overwhelming proportion of Asian people has endured a constant state of undernourishment to the point where general physical apathy is itself a major bar to improvement.

Introduction of Western sanitation and health methods has merely served to heighten the food problem by increasing the birth rate and extending age averages.

Indeed, the earth itself has been debilitated by the vast numbers of people seeking sustenance from it, and one of India's most urgent needs is fertilizer and fertilizer factories.

India has under way a systematic birth control campaign and is seeking Western establishment of contraceptive factories.

Several years ago Fairfield Osborn estimated in "The Limits of the Earth" that 75,000 people were being born every day. Since then there has been a jump in birth rates nearly everywhere. Some say the figure is now more than 100,000, with more than half of this in Red China alone. It is estimated that India will soon have half a billion people, and China 800 million.

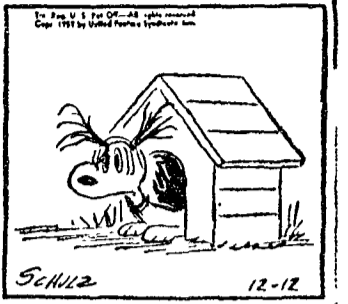
The problem is the same in Southeast Asia, where the newly independent countries, with the exception of standoffish Indonesia, are particular responsibilities of the West.

One of the most immediate problems is to find a way by which undernourished populations can be reached with surpluses produced in such countries as the United States.

Food, like money, cannot just be given away, or sold cut rate, without affecting the world market and damaging someone else's trade. Prices and established patterns must make slow adjustments.

The Communists, although they have never done it nor shown any signs of really wanting to, as witness the developing caste system in the Soviet Union, claim to be able to give equal shares to everyone of what is available.

This is one of their basic appeals to the hungry nations, where people are willing to grasp at any straw, and see any change as good.



Letters

Alum Sees Library Progress

TO THE EDITOR: A friend at Penn State has been sending me the Collegian and it is interesting to hear of developments back at Penn State. I noticed a recent rather angry letter from Sybil Klein, '60, with which I am basically in agreement. A lot of money is being spent at University Park on physical expansion, probably neglecting the Library.

Nevertheless, let me mention some things that present Penn Staters may not know. A lot of people of the present student body don't realize that State has been big and had growing pains for quite a while. It really isn't much bigger at the main campus than it was in 1951—nearly a decade ago. There were 11,000 there then (with a much smaller library).

How big do you suppose the Pattee Library was in 1948? My LaVie says (if I remember correctly) 225,000! It has passed the 500,000 mark long ago and is probably approximately 700,000 today. Looking at my Library Journal I notice that State is acquiring 40,000 volumes a year, and triple what journals it did in my day. This places it high up among many state universities. Not enough, perhaps, but a darn sight better than in 1951.

The people of Pennsylvania had neglected Penn State for most of the history of their state university, true, but things are improving. It is a good university. All you have to do is to attach yourself to a real thinker; sit at a great professor's feet. Read.

Are there great professors at

Penn State? How good is the place any way?

Ever hear of Professor Harris or Professor Dickson? What about the thinkers in the MI College? Do you know how outstanding they all are? Go listen to Professor Forster. Can you top the recent champions which Penn State produced at the International Stock Show, Chicago (and for years past)?

Of course, I've been away from State for quite a spell. Haven't been East in three years. However, I am not "too close" to University Park. Perhaps I am able to see the forest in spite of the trees.

It is good to go to other parts of the country. I've been in the Rocky Mountains, on the Great Plains, on the West Coast. Not just walking but visiting colleges, looking, and studying.

The Eastern universities ignore the western. Los Angeles is a big birth town which is awe-struck by the Easterners who might be teaching at UCLA or Southern Cal.

Maybe I'm a fool but I think I got a good start at Penn State. My statues and lithographs are placed in museums and art galleries alongside those of graduates from the Art Institute of Chicago, or the Yale School of Fine Arts.

Go to the Library and read the many beautiful first editions by poet E. E. Cummings. Take a look at Zola's "Germinal." See if you can't find something good in the fine Mineral Science Industries Library.

—Robert P. Johnston, '48
Assistant professor of art, Hastings College

•Letter cut

A Student-Operated Newspaper
55 Years of Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

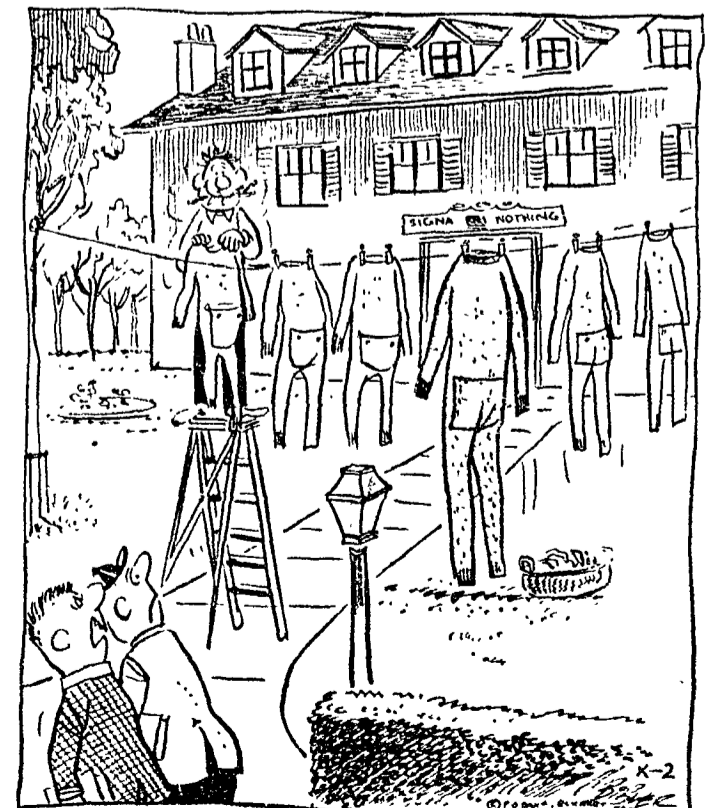
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Little Man on Campus by Dick Bibler



"I SEE TH' SIGNA PHI NOTHINGS ARE MAKIN' QUITE A THING OUT OF 'PLEDGIN' THAT BASKETBALL PLAYER."

Gazette

TODAY
Arnold Air Society, 2 p.m., 203 HUB

TOMORROW
AIM, 7 p.m., 203 HUB
Artists Series, 8 p.m., Schwab
Block S Club, 5:30 p.m., 215 HUB
Chess Club, 2 p.m., HUB cardroom
Emerson Society Christmas Party, 6:30 p.m., Stock Pavilion
Graduate Student Bridge, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Newman Club, 7 p.m., 217 HUB
Penn State Bible Fellowship, 2 p.m., 214 HUB
Rockview Christmas Program, 8:30 p.m., Schwab
Senior Class Advisory Board, 2 p.m., 215 HUB
SGA Committee on Center Integration, 5 p.m., 218 HUB
Swedenborgian Service, 10 p.m., 212 HUB
Thespians, 8 p.m., 214 HUB

MONDAY
A Phi O, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
Christian Fellowship, 12:15 p.m., 7 p.m., 218 HUB
Engineering Mechanics Seminar, 4:15 p.m., 203 Engineering "A"
English Colloquium, 7:30 p.m., Chapel lounge
Faculty Luncheon Club, 12 Noon, HUB dining room "A"
IFC, 7 p.m., HUB assembly room
Spring Week Committee, 8 p.m., 216 HUB
SGA Cabinet, 8 p.m., 217 HUB
State College Color Slide Club, 7:30 p.m., Mineral Industries auditorium
WSGA Elections Committee, 7:30 p.m., 215 HUB

HOSPITAL
Veronica Antrim, Charles Collins, Diane Derickson, Lee Dudeck, Donald Hearne, Louis Helfrich, Madeline Hunsicker, Edward Kutchi, Paul Krieger, William Leary, Edgar Leedy, Stephen Lenhardt, Althea Lealle, Daniel McLaughlin, Richard Nicholls, Patricia Packer, John Polko, Lois Rothenberg, Michael Sakman, William Snauffer, Dean Stiles, George Vlachos, Robert Waldo, Liselotte Weible, Edward Scherlis, Kevin Crowe, Lois Devroude.

Men Attack Housing Policy

TO THE EDITOR: Housing Department's Mr. Mueller seems to be another of that happy throng of administrators who delight in acting first and thinking up reasons later—the action, in this case, being the denial of extra phones to Nittany men. Having lived in or visited friends in Nittany at one time or another ourselves, and realizing that housing surely isn't using all the Nittany board fees to pay off the original cost of the Nittany units, we offer our most sincere sympathies.

Mueller's stand on Nittany telephones seems to us just another proof that housing has no sympathy for or desire to serve the student; it just wants to make money. Other examples are multitudinous. Housing utilizes, for example, the charming practice of billing every one of several dozen persons in a dormitory unit for damage done in a limited area of the dorm by one or a few persons.

If students protest, housing gets out its handy bludgeon: it threatens to block their registration, prevent their attending class or withhold their diplomas, all with the complacency of the dean of men. No arguments are accepted.

Gross overcharging is another favorite device. Right now we're being asked collectively to pay over \$50.00 for \$8 or \$10 damages which occurred

on another floor and in which none of us were even remotely involved. Unless we pay up, housing promises to do all sorts of nasty things to us.

(And, by Mr. Mueller's own figures, we're being overcharged some \$48 for each phone in the dormitory, since each of 8 individuals who uses a single phone in the North Halls pays \$10 for its use, or \$80 total, while housing pays the telephone company only \$32 per semester per phone.)

Not only does housing hold us collectively responsible for any damage occurring anywhere in our dormitory "house"—housing also absolves itself from any damages it or its representatives may do to our property. Some of us recently had several items of clothing completely ruined in a clothes-dryer mistakenly adjusted to roasting heat by housing. They promised to think about the damage. Of course we haven't heard from them since.

We'd like to go on listing the double-dealings of housing, but we're running out of paper. Instead we'll just sit here and contemplate the glories of housing's beautiful sister, Food Service.

—Richard Snyder, '61; Alan Elms, '60; Paul Krow, Frank Hugus, Bruce Harp, Anthony Lombardo, Bruce Smith, Ronald Chidlow, all of '63