

Editorial Opinion

Administrative Immunity Stifles Student Opinion

No one connected with this University makes mistakes—no one except students, of course.

One will seldom catch an administration official admitting that the administration has made a mistake.

This could be called administrative immunity.

We have seen this immunity exercised innumerable times, notably whenever a student or group of students has complained about the way things are run at Penn State.

Take the recent complaints about the lack of telephones in the Nittany area. With one telephone and telephone directory being allotted to each dormitory in that area, the students there naturally found it necessary to voice their complaints.

And immediately, officials had several excuses for not giving those dormitories the same privileges allowed the remaining residence halls.

Not that the University officials have never tried to correct some errors made. They have done this at times when student opinion has reached a peak on some issue.

The University has given no indication of examining the parking and traffic regulations drawn up last summer—regulations that have done more to stir up protests of the students than any issue this year. In the first place, the regulations were made at a time when there was sure to be no violent student opinion. Why? Because most of the student body was not on campus.

Students sit on various Senate subcommittees to bring student opinion to the committees. After presenting these views, the students can sit back silently while members of the committee consider such matters. Why? Simply because they are ex-officio members and cannot vote. After all, they are only students, some few representing the many thousands on campus whom the legislation will affect.

Student government representatives recommended to the administration that a half-holiday be awarded to the student body for the Liberty Bowl game—a holiday without strings.

And when the package came out of the University Senate the strings were visible in the form of the students' having to make up the classes missed on a day set aside to prepare for examinations—a day for which student leaders had been pushing for a long time.

These and many other things have gone above and beyond the power of the students this semester.

Our generation can leave this University thankful for one thing—that we have been playing 'grown-up' for four years, while our 'parents,' the administrative officials, have guided us along the way. They subject our most insignificant actions to their approval or disapproval, and then us the red or green light before we can proceed with any decision-making.

Of course, not everything the students ask for is good. But measures pertaining directly to the students should be considered by men who can step down from their administrative pedestal and put themselves in the student's position.

We want to see this University be a proving ground for student leadership—real leadership, not just make-believe. We want to see students leave this University with a realistic attitude toward solving problems. Not feeling indifferent where they had once believed themselves capable of coming up with good solutions to pressing student problems.

... Until the officialdom adopts the attitude that students, too, can have a good idea of how problems can be solved, we can see only a future race of timid, unresolved defeatists coming out of this University.

Letters

Jr. Renews Blast on Rules About Parking

TO THE EDITOR: Does anyone except the administration know the reason for some of our present parking and traffic regulations? If anyone does possess this knowledge, why not enlighten the student body? I think that we have been kept in the dark long enough.

Why, for instance, are there only four lots open for students parking at night, while the rest of the lots on campus are never more than one third to half full? I wonder how many students have driven around the HUB parking lot for 15 to 20 minutes, looking for a place to park in the evening, while across the street, behind Osmond, there are places galore.

Why aren't centrally located lots opened to students at night? The lot behind Mineral Science has places for several hundred cars, yet I've never seen more than 20 to 30 there during the evening.

It seems that this wasted space could be put to some use besides keeping the Campus Patrol busy writing parking tickets. There certainly seemed to be no parking congestion last year when all lots were open to students after five o'clock. Why the change?

Also, what about the new regulation that prohibits student driving on Pollack Rd.? There was no congestion problem last year when students were allowed to drive on Pollack Rd. after 5 p.m., except possibly between 12 and 1 on Saturday night.

The reasons for these changes are not readily apparent. It certainly is not good policy to take away privileges that have existed for years without some sort of reasonable explanation.

—David Bigelow, '61

Gazette

- TODAY
- Air Force Glee Club, 8:30 p.m., HUB assembly room
 - Belles Lettres Club and English Club joint meeting, 7 p.m., Waring lounge
 - Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 213 HUB
 - CPC, 7 p.m., 216 HUB
 - Ag Council, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
 - Ed Council, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB
 - Froth Circulation Staff, 8:45 p.m., 215 HUB
 - Froth Editorial Staff and Candidates, 8 p.m., Froth office, HUB
 - Froth Executive Board, 7 p.m., Froth office, HUB
 - Junior Class Advisory Board, 8:45 p.m., 217 HUB
 - Newman Club, 7 p.m., 214 HUB
 - Panhellenic Council, 6:30 p.m., 203 HUB
 - Penn State Engineer, 7 p.m., 104 Boucke
 - Psychology Club, 7:30 p.m., 308 Willard
 - Schubplattler German Folk Dance Club, 7:15 p.m., 3 White Hall
 - WDEM Live Broadcast, 8:15 p.m., HUB assembly room
 - WRA Executive Board, 6:30 p.m., 103 White
 - WRA Swim Club Interest Group, 6:30 p.m., White pool
 - WRA Volleyball Intramurals, 8:30 p.m., White gym

Social Facilities--

(Continued from page one)

in the residence halls, seems to be the better use of dining halls. The committee recommended that the dining halls, when not used for meals, "be open for dancing, study, mixers or organized meetings."

Since most of the cultural life on campus hinges around the Artist Series programs, the main problem here is deciding where to hold the events. If they are held in Recreation Hall, the report said, "The stage is makeshift and the acoustics are not of the best." "Schwab Auditorium," it continued has a capacity of 1200, is 50 years old, has a poor seating arrangement and lacks modern facilities.

Religious life, which is centered around the Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel, is hindered because the final wing with a capacity of 1700 has not yet been built. A meditation chapel with a capacity of about 140 and a capacity of 12 must serve the 15 religious organizations on campus.

There are 111 clubs or societies for which students are eligible for membership. With these opportunities, twenty-seven per cent of the students still belong to no clubs, while the average is 1.6 club per student.



NATO Cooperation Requested of France

PARIS (AP) — The West Germans lined up behind the United States yesterday in a campaign to get French President Charles de Gaulle to abandon his go-it-alone policy inside the Atlantic Alliance.

This developed as the 15 foreign ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization engaged in the preliminaries of nine days of talks on NATO's military health and a common line for an East-West summit meeting.

President Eisenhower is to arrive here Friday for Western summit talks.

Last week Gen. Nathan F. Twining, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chief of Staff, accused a number of America's allies, particularly France, of dragging their feet in carrying out NATO decisions to integrate armed forces and accept U.S. atomic weapons and stockpiles.

The French reaction was sharp. Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville told U.S. Secretary of State Christian A. Herter at a private meeting yesterday that Twining's remarks were of "an excessive and dramatic character." He expressed "extreme surprise" that Twining's remarks at a secret session had appeared in the press.

Later, it appeared the French were ready to tone down their quarrel with the Americans, at least in public. The public posture seemed to be that the U.S. action was regrettable but that the alliance could rise above such family spats.

Franz Josef Strauss, West German defense minister, in an address to the Foreign Affairs Institute, said those who want the United States to stick to her military pledges in Europe "must not engage in platonic appeals to America or speak of her moral responsibilities."

Pope Urges World Fight Against Hunger

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John XXIII urged yesterday that the world find ways to feed its hungry without resorting to artificial methods of birth control.

The Pope reaffirmed the Roman Catholic Church stand at a secret consistory where he formally announced the elevation of two new American cardinals, Albert Gregory Meyer of Chicago and Alois Muench of Fargo, N.D., along with six from other countries.

His speech to the consistory, as distributed by the Vatican, made no mention of discussion in the United States over the possible use of foreign aid funds for birth control programs.

Instead he approached the question by referring to the problem of feeding the hungry.

"For a great part of humanity the problem of hunger is still grave. In any case, to seek a remedy to this very grave calamity there cannot be any adoption of erroneous doctrines and harmful methods and lethal limitation of offspring," he said.

"Instead, all riches which come from the earth should be put at the disposal of all, according to the order of God and justice.

Farm Policy Outlined By Rockefeller

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (AP) — Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller outlined a 4-point farm policy yesterday based primarily on long-term rentals of farms by the federal government.

"We might as well face the fact as a nation that we have not solved the problem from either the human or economic point of view," he said.

Rockefeller set forth his views in a major speech before the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

In his prepared text, the New York governor said that "after careful study of various proposals," he urged the following steps:

- A large-scale new land use program based on long-term government rentals of farms under which farmers could stay on the land.
- Stabilization supports for better incomes for farm families.
- Energetic market development for farm products.
- A vigorous job opportunity program for farmers who want to shift to other activities.

"I recommend that as a start we double these land rental programs by putting at least 60 million acres of our farm land to such uses as reforestation and conservation," he said.

"Our traditional systems of price supports do not provide the proper assistance and rewards to modern farmers because they do not reflect modern conditions. The parity concept ties the old support systems to obsolete economic relationships," he said.

The governor said, however that the support systems cannot be changed suddenly. To do so, he said will hurt everybody. He advocated a new system of stabilization.

Radio-TV Activities Found Deceptive

WASHINGTON (AP)—Deceptive broadcasting practices apparently flourish throughout the radio-television industry, say congressional investigators.

What started out as an investigation of payola—undercover payoffs to disc jockeys by record makers—they report, is turning up indications of other questionable activities involving the industry from top to bottom.

A summary of their findings released yesterday shows the investigators charge "Top 10" record lists are rigged, program officials take payoffs from child actors and other performers, and network executives use their stations to plug outside commercial activities.

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