

Editorial Opinion

Other Views

To Fraternity Rushees: Why a Hell Week?

"Do you have a Hell Week?" This question is one which every rushee should ask during his upcoming visits to fraternities. This tradition is now passed off as "Help Week" but in most cases only the name has been changed to protect the guilty.

A trend is leading away from the harsh treatment, of previous years, but the many ridiculous, sadistic practices remaining, continue to make Hell Week one of the major sore spots in fraternity life today.

The more important trend today is the stress on excellence in education. A student is being pressured to spend more time on his studies in order to remain in school.

But how does this trend jibe with the continuing Hell Weeks? Ridiculous harrassing by brothers, three or four hours of sleep a night if lucky and the depressing attitude which Hell Weeks produce are definitely against any concept of attaining an education.

Some fraternities require pledges to study three to four hours every night during this period. But how can anyone stay awake, let alone study, under such conditions.

But why do Hell Weeks continue? What is the fraternity man's justification for this practice?

Too many take the attitude: "I went through it and survived, so I don't see why they shouldn't." Others say that is is a good way to get unity among the pledgeclass, making them work together. However, if a fraternity must resort to obscene games, drinking obnoxious potions and eating raw onions and meat to obtain this desired unity, it hardly seems worth it. The Lafayette student newspaper aptly states: "Perhaps a study on the effect of onions on maturity is called for."

Fraternities must take a more positive attitude toward pledge training, and discontinue those practices which produce mental anguish and, too often, physical injury. Fraternities are not the sole providers of the fraternalistic spirit. And unless they gear their programs to more positive and worthwhile activities than Hell Weeks, they may become a thing of the past.

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West Eyes K's Middle East Visit

By J. M. ROBERTS Associated Press News Analyst

Western students of Communist tactics, much interested these days in relations between Moscow and Peiping, may get some clues on that point from Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's visit to India, Burma and Indonesia beginning this week. For a long time, Red China seemed to ignore -- at times seemed to actively counteract -- Khrushchev's 1959 peace offensive. Peiping's aggression against Tibet and India, and her quarrel with Indonesia over the rights of dual-citizenship Chinese there, ignored the general "peace-loving" Communist line.

More recently, the Chinese Reds have issued some statements, promising peaceful settlements, even with regard to Formosa. They made a border deal

with Burma, but it was one which gave them much of what they wanted and only gave away what they didn't want.

But the question remains, how meaningful is the apparently jealous competition to see whether Soviet communism or Chinese communism shall be paramount in Asia?

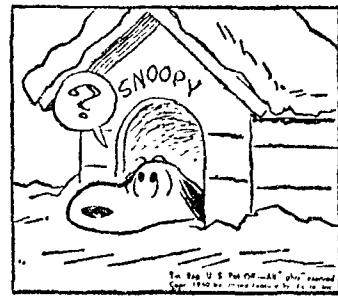
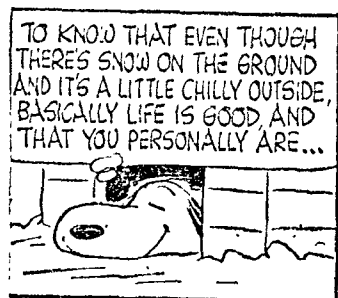
Is Khrushchev seeking to take advantage of Peiping's loss of prestige in Asia because of her aggressive attitude during the past two years?

Or is he trying to offset it for the benefit of Communism in general?

Or is it merely collaboration in the old Communist tactic of applying threats and physical pressure, then cooling things off by protestations of peaceful intent?

There are many other factors which will go into ultimate evaluation of the Khrushchev visit.

Since he last went to India there has been a gradual Amer-



Gazette

TODAY American Society for Metals, Malcolm F. Jenkins, "Ceramics and Ceramics Their High Temperature and Nuclear Applications," 7:30 p.m., Mineral Industries Auditorium. Angel Flight business meeting, no drill, 6:45 p.m., Alimony. Delta Sigma Pi, professional meeting, 7 p.m., Phi Sigma Kappa. Economics Faculty Seminar, Dr. Lawrence L. Werboff, "Federal Reserve Act of 1913 Revisited," noon, HUB Dining Room. Penn State Engineer, 7 p.m., 104 Boucke. Philosophy Colloquium, Dr. Adrian Van Klee, "Existential Anthropological Psychology," 1:15 p.m., 203 HUB. Schubplattler, 7:30 p.m., 3 White. Theta Sigma Phi, 1 p.m., Collegian office.

HOSPITAL Khalout Aljadani, Mary Ann Bellini, Charles Best, Richard Breen, John Buchart, Victor Chaney, Lawrence Dugan, Marilyn Faust, Janice Henderson, Arionetta Inghil, Hilbert Levitz, Kristen Love, Jane Lundquist, Martin Newman, David O'Neill, Franklin Plosser, Augustus Schroeder, Mary Sitson, Elaine Roth, Sandra Tanner, Carol Ann Taylor, Hall Weaver, Harriet Wheeler, Louis Papp, Claude Pallister.

Anyone wishing to submit items for publication in this column should leave them in the box marked Gazette in the Collegian front office. These items must be in by 4 p.m. the day before publication.

Letters to the Editor may also be left in this box or mailed to The Daily Collegian, Carnegie Building. All letters must be signed in order to be published. Names will be withheld at the discretion of the editor.

So What

Frosh, Be Careful During Rushing

by Marty Scherr

Freshmen Beware!

This is the time, if you have made your average, to begin rushing. While rushing you must be careful. There are many questions you'll have in your mind. Don't be afraid to ask them, for you may be sorry later if you don't.

One of the things you will want to know is whether you need fraternity life. Fraternities offer an important social life -- but don't let it grow out of proportion. There are many other things to do here at Penn State. The Indies are coming up in importance and have taken notice of the fact that there isn't enough for the independents to do. As a result AIM and TIM have expanded the scope of their activities.

Check into the difference between what you want to do, what you have been doing and what is actually offered by the fraternity system.

Don't be afraid to feel out a house for the presence of things you may have heard about. "Fraternalism" is a nice word and could mean a lot to some; but it is only a word and could disillusion many. Dissent is present in some houses. The mere fact that a few people pledged together and now wear the same pin doesn't mean they are 'buddies' or the best of friends.

Fraternities have pledge systems and 'help' weeks.

In order to belong to a fraternity you must first pledge. Pledging is a serious thing to consider. It takes a good bit of time until brotherization. The time is spent in learning the



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traditions and history of the fraternity, cleaning up the house, working with other groups and suiting the brothers' fancies -- some of it in pure mental anguish.

There are things called 'help weeks' and line-ups that can demoralize the inner feelings of someone young and not too experienced in the way of fraternity life. The cleaning up is necessary and it might as well be the youngest members of the house who do it, but doing heavy physical exercise while getting very few hours of sleep, and listening to needless yelling about needless things, all in the line of pledge 'training,' are unnecessary.

Money doesn't come too easily today, at least not for most people. This is another thing to be considered by the rushee. He should inquire into the regular house-bill, into the assessments made during the course of the year for special events, into the initiation fees and into any other costs that may be present. Then, he should objectively compare them to what he is now paying in the dorms or to an equivalent life in an apartment.

The living conditions should be inspected carefully, after all, you will have to live there for two or three years. Inquire if the fraternity has an outside annex in which you may have fewer conveniences yet pay the same housebill.

The party room and the living room aren't the only rooms (Continued on page five)

Letters

Grad Blasts Housing Policy

TO THE EDITOR: Recent articles in the Collegian have indicated that in the near future there will be a sizeable increase in the number of residence facilities for both married and unmarried graduate students.

One point has been overlooked. This is restricted graduate housing. It is now University policy that graduate students with children of school age cannot live in residence facilities provided by the school.

By such action the University is discriminating against those students who have families. It appears that certain local groups have brought influence upon the University administration to make this policy.

It is ironic that the students affected are the same ones for which the local area fails to provide adequate housing. Many graduate students spend days looking for decent housing only to be told that because

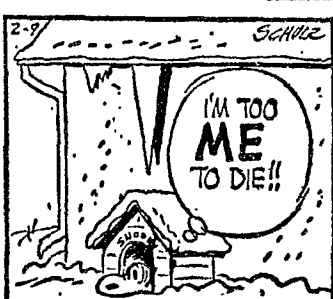
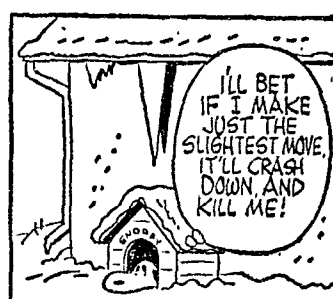
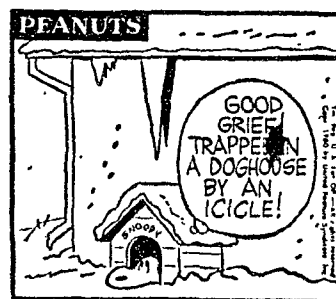
they have children they could not live in the facilities.

As a result, these people have been forced to live in sub-standard housing with their families. The University is now doing the same thing by restricting the housing provided for graduate students.

This is not a type of policy which will draw more qualified graduate students to Penn State. The Graduate Student Council is aware of this problem but when the present policy was put into effect they were told that because it was now policy nothing could be done.

By having the University enforce such a policy as this the community has taken upon itself the obligation to provide housing for graduate students with families. They are not now doing this and do not seem willing to provide adequate facilities for this group of students.

—Everett Edington Graduate Student



(Continued on page five)