

Editorial Opinion

It Ought to Be More Than A Social Center

For years undergraduates, graduates and faculty members have been complaining about the inadequate library facilities at Penn State.

Now, thanks to members of the Liberal Arts faculty, all these complaints have been compiled and taken a new form in constructive suggestions.

Why at a University, which is literally isolated in the middle of Pennsylvania, should the library rank so low in comparison to other major universities? In financial grants, the Pattee Library ranks 102 out of 106 major universities, getting only 1.8 per cent of the total University funds.

Library improvement is going to cost money as do many other things the University needs. This time the administrators cannot sit back and plead that money is just not available. Money must be made available. The library should take precedence over many other matters.

In the hustle and bustle of putting up new residence halls, a new football stadium and signs to tell visitors the names of buildings, the library—the point around which much of academic activity should revolve—has been forgotten.

Why bring more students to this isolated spot when the academic facilities cannot accommodate them? If the University is existing only to provide housing and entertainment, then it is not a university. Housing (even Nittany) and entertainment should be secondary to the University's primary function—that of providing a stimulus for intellectual growth.

We are told libraries provide a big part of this stimulus and anyone who has spent time just exploring in libraries realizes they do provide stimulus.

The library's inadequacies cannot be blamed entirely on inefficient operation, although this is certainly part of the problem. Anyone who has run back and forth between the stacks and the periodical room hunting for a magazine which each department says the other has will be able to see this.

However, the main problem is not that it is too hard to find reference material because the material is all too often not there to begin with. The main problem is money. Great libraries are not built on dreams. A documented dream may become part of a library but it still costs money.

Students could also help the situation. THEY COULD STOP STEALING BOOKS AND MAGAZINES. Any comments we could make about this little habit would be mere restatements of the obvious. However, to those book stealers who make things more difficult for their fellow students, we hope the next time they need a book, of which the library has only one edition, someone else has gotten there first.

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55 Years of Editorial Freedom

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Gazette

TODAY
Art Ed Registration, 2 p.m., HUB first floor
Art Ed, 3 p.m., HUB assembly room
All Campus Speech, 2 p.m., 212 HUB
Bridge Club, 7 p.m., HUB cardroom
Campus Tour, 11 a.m., HUB assembly room
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
Fluid Mechanics Seminar, 4:15 p.m., 211 M.E.

Hat Society Council, 7 p.m., May 16,
218 HUB
Interlandia, 7:30 p.m., 3 White Hall
HOSPITAL
Richard Anderson, Loretta Gowan,
Mary Ann Krans, Joseph Kerenick,
Betty Kohudic, Gerald Lorah, Elizabeth
Lott, David Marshall, Roger Nesti,
Richard Nichols, Carol Proper, Helen
Purner, Marile Rounds, Terrence
Schmoyer, Helen Shulz, Donald Zana
Lini.

Letters

Frosh Finds Nittany 'Not Fit for Pigs'

TO THE EDITOR: Over the past weekend, I was a visitor in Nittany 29. Having read so much about the conditions of the dorms in the Nittany Area, I was elated to have this opportunity to view the situation. Never, in my wildest dreams, did I envision the shambles which the administration refers to as a dorm.

The rooms are so small that I do not see how roommates are kept from constantly running into each other. The filth which surrounds the entire area can hardly be conducive to good study habits. The furniture which is battered and worn should have been abandoned long ago.

Is it justice to inflict such disgusting surroundings on men merely because they lack the additional funds for the newer dorms? The University is now spending thousands of dollars on improvements, but, however, I do not see why they are wasting money to improve dorms which aren't fit for pigs.

From what I have read, the administration readily admits that the size of closet facilities, as well as room space cannot be increased. Thus, what is the purpose of all the "new alterations?" A new coat of paint may be helpful, but it cannot serve to correct the pathetic conditions which already exist.

Since I believe that man is, in part, "A product of his environment," the conditions under which he lives are also important. Isn't there enough apathy toward intellectual achievement on this campus without creating new and unnecessary problems?

Why are students so indifferent to "learning for the sake of learning?" What happened to the intellectual, to the student who has interests other than himself?

If the students at PSU would rid themselves of the complacent attitude which surrounds them, this school might lose the reputation of being nothing more than a country club.

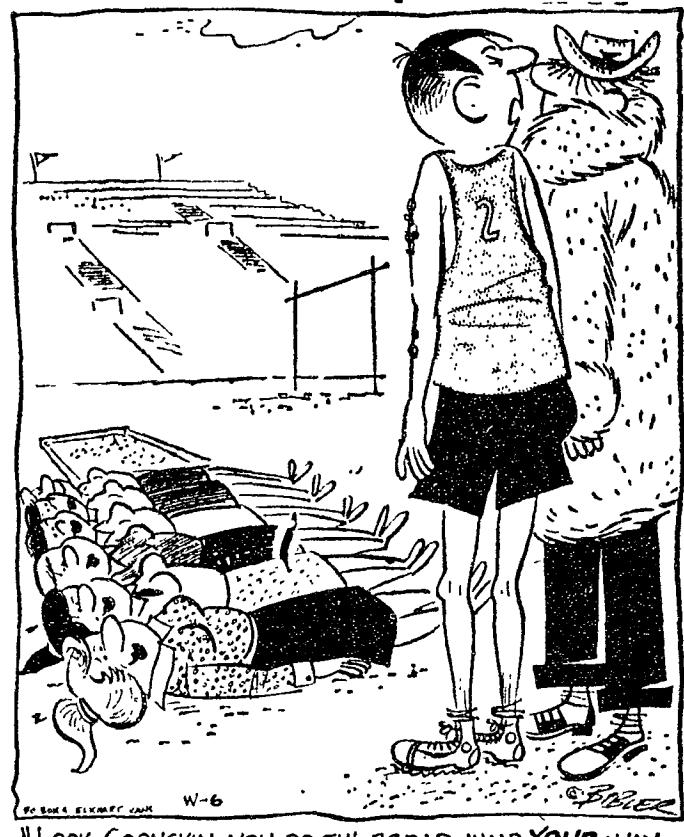
We have good teachers; we have good courses. However, why does the average student lack ambition and initiative? This is a question which has puzzled me—perhaps, you know the answer.

—Regina Vassalotti, '63



Little Man on Campus

by Dick Bibler



World At A Glance

U.S. Rejects Soviet Charge

'K' Ike Have Optimism For Summit Meeting

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States rejected yesterday the Soviet Union's charge that American spy flights over Soviet territory are deliberate hostile acts.

The State Department, acting with unusual speed, gave this formal reply in a note just two days after Moscow officially protested the flights.

The Soviet government had demanded an immediate halt to all such aerial intelligence gathering and threatened what it called "retaliatory measures" if it continued.

A State Department spokesman, in reporting that the U.S. reply was delivered in Moscow yesterday, said the text would be made public later.

Informants reported the reply politely but firmly upheld the U.S. view that spy flights are needed unless the Soviet Union agrees to open its borders to international inspection against surprise attacks.

President Eisenhower was described as determined to go ahead with a scheduled visit to the Soviet Union, unless Premier Nikita Khrushchev personally suggests he stay home.

Senator Asks Ike For Info On Bomb

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) called on President Eisenhower yesterday to tell the American people what he knows about a neutron bomb which Dodd said would emit a kind of death ray.

"I consider all this hush-hush that surrounds the neutron bomb to be a glaring instance of the official abuse of secrecy," Dodd said.

"To keep the facts of life on the nuclear age from the American people is foolish, and potentially dangerous."

An Army specialist on nuclear weapons said a neutron bomb is possible in theory. The Atomic Energy Commission declined comment.

Dodd raised the question of a neutron bomb in a speech declaring the fate of the free world may hinge on early resumption of nuclear testing by the United States.

Plane Flight Injures 12

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — A dozen persons, including two stewardesses, were injured yesterday when a Delta Air Lines jet plane flying nonstop from Chicago, ran into turbulence 30 miles out of Miami.

The plane, Flight 803, landed safely at Miami International Airport.

He would have been 49 in June. His sports car and a light sedan crashed together on a highway at Suresnes as he was returning from an afternoon at the Longchamps race track.

With him were the French model Bettina, a constant companion on his European visits, and his chauffeur, who was riding as a passenger while Aly drove.

Neither Bettina nor the chauffeur was reported seriously hurt.

Prince Aly had turned to sober-sided diplomacy as Pakistan's ambassador to the United Nations in recent years, but he still played a lower-keyed role as a fancier of women and horses.