

Editorial Opinion

Parties and Platforms

There is a need for political parties within our student government system the same as there is a need for political parties, or some derivative, in any situation where people have the freedom to think.

Political parties provide the vehicle for showing a difference of opinion—the difference which should exist in any situation in which the people are alive.

Here on the campus a political party should provide a kind of education for the entire student body. An education with respect to the thinking process, an education which requires each student to think about issues which do affect him.

In order to turn out citizens capable of making decisions, of thinking, a university must be a place where students do not find apathy more sophisticated than awareness.

A direct result of this awareness, is the development of a student body which finds it absolutely necessary to voice its opinions about issues directly affecting it. The opinions are reflected in the student government association. The vehicle which carries the opinions and the difference of opinions is the political party.

By now, many have probably asked what this ideal conception of a party has got to do with those excuses for parties which exist on campus now. This ideal conception is the ultimate goal, however unattainable, for which our parties ought to be reaching.

Many students on the campus feel that because the political parties are merely "excuses" they should be thrown out. This is the easy way out! It is the way of the apathetic, the way of people who do not particularly care what happens to them.

The challenge, which must be met, lies in making our present political parties effective instruments of a thinking student body.

* * *

The present SGA will soon have before it a bill which asks that the platforms of political parties be abolished. The passing of such a measure would essentially abolish the political parties. Parties have to be formed on ideas, not personalities.

The proponents of this bill feel that because party platforms have not been carried out it means they should be abolished. However, to us, it means that it is not the platforms but the representatives which ought to be thrown out.

Under the present Student Government Association, the freshmen, sophomores and juniors could hold their representatives responsible for the platforms come re-election time.

Under the old cabinet system, this was not so easy. Cabinet was primarily composed of seniors and was more open to control by single interest groups.

Here, in the cabinet system, began the "tradition" of political parties campaigning on platforms which reflected little or no thought and which could readily be forgotten once the candidates were elected.

This degeneration of the political party and platforms continues to hang over the present SGA and prevent it from reaching the realization of a part of its goal—being a system responsible directly to the students.

If strong political parties can be built, if their platforms can mean something, the students will care about campus politics. What happens at the polls will matter.

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Gazette

TODAY

Alpha Xi Delta, 2 p.m., HUB assembly room
Center Stage, "Romanoff and Juliet," 8 p.m., Center Stage
Delta Pi Epsilon, 10 a.m., 212 HUB
Faculty Art Display, HUB gallery
Las Vegas Night, 8 p.m., HUB ballroom
Pennsylvania Milking Shorthorn Society, 10 a.m., 213 HUB
Penn State Sports Car Club, motor rally, 1 p.m., Lot 50
Sigma Delta Chi Display, HUB ground floor lobby
Soccer, versus Colgate, 10 a.m.
Student Movies, 7:30 p.m., HUB assembly room
Young Democrats, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB ground floor
Young Republicans, 8 a.m.-12 noon, HUB ground floor
Zeta Tau Alpha, 1 p.m., HUB assembly room

TOMORROW

Chapel Service, Dr. Luther Harshbarger, University chaplain, 10:55 a.m., Schwab
Chess Club, 2 p.m., HUB cardroom
Chimes, 1:30 p.m., Alpha Epsilon Phi suite
Christianity in Politics, 7 p.m., Schwab
IPC Sing, 6 p.m., HUB ballroom
Faculty Art Display, HUB gallery
Faculty Art Display Reception, 3 p.m., HUB main lounge
Folk Song Club, 7:30 p.m., 212-213 HUB
Jazz Club, 1 p.m., HUB ballroom
Mt. Nittany Stamp Society, 1:30 p.m., 212 HUB
Penn State Riding Club, annual picnic, 1 p.m., Robert Delafield farm
Protestant Service of Worship, Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel, 9 a.m.
Recital, Raymond Brown, baritone; Barry Brinsmaid, pianist, 4 p.m., Schwab
Roman Catholic Mass, 9 a.m., Schwab Auditorium
Sigma Delta Chi Display, HUB ground floor lobby
Student Movies, 6:30 p.m., HUB assembly room
Swedenborgian, 10:45 a.m., 212-213 HUB
Westminster Foundation, 6:30 p.m., 217 HUB

MONDAY

Agriculture Faculty Reception, 3 p.m., HUB main lounge
Agriculture Economics, 3 p.m., 214-215 HUB
Alpha Phi Omega, 7 p.m., HUB assembly room
Bridge Club, 7 p.m., HUB cardroom
Block 'S' Club, 4:30 p.m., Commercial Printing Co., College Ave.
Botany Club, Dr. Clifford C. Wernham to speak on "Some Impressions of South Africa," refreshments will be served, 7 p.m., 220 Buckhout
Christianity in Politics, 7:30 p.m., HUB assembly room
College of Education, 4:15 p.m., HUB assembly room
Faculty Art Display, HUB gallery
Faculty Luncheon Club, Dr. George Vold, visiting professor of sociology to speak on "National Characteristics of Criminality," 12 noon, HUB dining room A
Hat Societies Council, 7 p.m., 217 HUB
IPC Sing, 6 p.m., HUB ballroom
IV Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
Materials Science Seminar, Dr. E. W. Mueller, research professor of physics to lecture on "Atomic Structure of Refractory Materials," 4:15 p.m., 105 Mech Eng.
Meteorology Seminar, James Giraytys, graduate student in meteorology to speak on "The Tiroso-I Meteorological Satellite," 1:15 p.m., 121 Mineral Industries
Newman Club bowling team, 6:30 p.m., Rec Hall alleys 1 and 2
Riding Club, Horse Show Committee, 8 p.m., 218 HUB
Sigma Delta Chi Display, HUB ground floor
UCA Lecture, 7 p.m., HUB assembly room
Young Democrats, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB ground floor

Letters

Jordan Men Guard Lion

TO THE EDITOR: The proud men of Jordan Hall repudiate the slanderous and unfactual accusations pertaining to our alleged negligence in protecting the Lion.

Is the Collegian aware that the capable men from Jordan, and Jordan alone, have faithfully kept watch over the shrine for the past two nights from 11 p.m. until dawn?

Our question is: where have the other halls been, playing intramural hankey-panky with McKee?

Since we volunteered for the "graveyard" shift, we are highly exasperated that scorn is our only recognition. We do not feel that we should be held responsible for a lack of de-

fense more than two hours before our watch.

Particularly, do you feel that we should be crucified for a prank obviously executed by another Penn State student?

Even to the untrained eye it was evidently a plan by which one of our own students tried to arouse school spirit and to use up his left over kindergarten water colors. It should be evident to all that the virtue of our Lion hasn't been adulterated.

All Penn State students may sleep with a true sense of security tonight since the knights of Jordan are keeping vigilant watch over the Lion.

The Paladins of Jordan
"Have Orange, Will Squeeze"

Frosh Objects to 'Riots'

TO THE EDITOR: The University recognizes, as most Penn Staters do, that riots are very dangerous. Why, then, are near-riots scheduled regularly? I am referring to the Thursday night pep riots and the post game victory riots which occur weekly.

The Collegian reported (Oct. 11) that two freshman girls were injured in the victory riot following the Army game. No wonder that an article of this nature frequently accompanies the report of the game which usually includes phrases like, "Cars packed with 20, '30, even 40 screaming students." Granted that some Univer-

sity rules may be broken on special occasions. However, how can any rules be respected when basic dorm regulations such as quiet hours, which are essential for study, are constantly broken? There must be a few studious Staters left.

Certainly I don't suggest that we should let our quasi-amateur athletes risk their necks without knowing that we are all for them.

But why can't merry-makers hoot and holler and burn the opponent (live or symbolic) in effigy on Wagner field instead of blowing their horns all over campus.

Joel C. Edelstein '64

World at a Glance

U.S. Slams Castro As Liar, Tyrant

U.S. Attempts To End Crisis Fails-Phouma

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP)—The United States yesterday denounced Prime Minister Fidel Castro before the United Nations as a liar and tyrant openly welcoming Communist intervention in Cuba's affairs.

Publication of a blistering 9000-word indictment of Castro coincided with the defection of a woman member of Cuba's UN delegation who accused Castro of transforming her country into a terror-ridden police state.

Miss Teresa Casuso, who holds the rank of ambassador and alternate representative to the United Nations for Cuba, described Castro as a "man of war" and said if free elections were held in Cuba he would be defeated.

She told reporters she sent a 15-page letter of resignation to Castro, whom she described as imbued with great personal hatred of the United States.

The United States labeled Castro's speech as a mixture of "unfounded accusations, half-truths, malicious innuendoes, and distortions of history—all aimed against the historic friendship between Cuba and the United States, a friendship which he seems anxious to destroy."

Campaigns Continue Amid Crowds

LOS ANGELES (AP)— After a welcome in downtown Los Angeles, Vice President Richard M. Nixon yesterday announced a 3-point "all-out offensive for peace and freedom."

In what was billed as a major foreign policy talk, Nixon declared: "There is to be no new Munich."

He outlined three specific proposals he said would implement a peace-freedom offensive if he is elected.

They consist of three conferences with: 1. The nation's defense leaders. 2. Men and women representing a cross-section of American life. 3. Leaders of the heads of governments of free nations.

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP)— Premier Prince Souvanna Phouma said in effect yesterday U.S. attempts to solve the Laotian crisis have failed.

J. Graham Parsons, the U.S. government top Far East expert, gave the impression, by declining to answer questions about the situation, that this is true.

The Laotian premier told the United States earlier he would not change his policy of neutrality and, if the United States does not like it, he will have to seek assistance elsewhere—obviously having the Soviet Union in mind.

Parsons said in effect that if Souvanna wants to be neutral with the Communists he can go ahead and try but that's not the way the Communists play the game.

Khrushchev Leaves UN As Cold-War Heightens

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP)—The United Nations relaxed yesterday after Soviet Premier Khrushchev's stormy 25-day visit. But the General Assembly heard a warning that his cold-war tactics had increased the danger of a shooting war.

Eric H. Louw, South African foreign minister, told the 99-nation assembly this danger would continue unless "Britain, France, the Soviet Union and the United States settled things at a new summit conference."

MICHIGAN (AP)— In an old-fashioned whistle-stop tour through lower Michigan, Sen. John F. Kennedy said yesterday America needs to get moving to keep aloft the banner of freedom and growth in a changing world.

The Democratic presidential candidate asked the support of all those who want "to strengthen the United States, to move it forward, to have it stand once again as an inspiration to all those who wish to be free."

The choice of the voters, he said, is between "a candidate who runs on a slogan, 'You never had it so good,' and one who says we've got to do better."