

Editorial Opinion

ROTC—Who's Right?

The Senate Committee on Educational Policy has recommended the retention of compulsory ROTC on the grounds that "the military services regard the program as essential to the national military establishment."

However, the Defense Department does not support compulsory ROTC because to do so would mean it felt such a policy was necessary because of a military need—a need which does not, in fact, exist.

Now, who is right, Penn State's Senate Committee on Educational Policy or the Defense Department? The Defense Department makes mistakes but . . .

Compulsory basic ROTC is not needed to meet quality standards in the military services nor is it needed to produce the required number of officers, according to the Defense Department statement.

John Schanz, chairman of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy, told Liberal Arts Faculty members yesterday that if they wished to do away with compulsory ROTC, they would have to show just cause.

We do not think the Liberal Arts faculty and the other anti-ROTC'ers (The problem is hardly limited to LA faculty men) have to prove their case because the Defense Department did it for them last March with its policy statement.

The University Senate must realize that compulsory ROTC for many students is just a waste of valuable time which might be spent in academic pursuits. This is a University not an extension of a military base.

The last two years of ROTC are voluntary. It really can not be argued that the country is getting more or better trained officers through a compulsory program since the men who do become officers do so voluntarily.

The only thing really accomplished by a compulsory two-year system is the assurance that all men get a taste of military training. But, even the Army realizes that all men may not be potentially good soldiers and rejects them. Military training just does not benefit some people who in turn do not benefit the armed forces.

Potentially able military men might

also be discouraged by this compulsory program. Some become antagonistic to the program and antagonistic or uninterested students drag down the whole class.

If the Defense Department did not have to deal with so many men in ROTC, it might be able to provide better training for those who are truly interested.

Many instructors in the ROTC program have never had any teaching experience and facing antagonistic students is not the easiest thing to do.

Any men who do not go on to the advanced program have to take their basic training again anyway if they go into the service.

Perhaps the policy committee feels the military services will not do a proper job and the University ought to give all college graduates the chance to get some real training under its jurisdiction. We have heard, however, that the military services alone do the job a little better.

The importance of sheer manpower is rapidly declining in modern defense. Could it be that this University and the other 60 land grant institutions with compulsory ROTC are behind the times?

Compulsory ROTC benefits neither the students nor the United State's defense program. It seems to us that those favoring compulsory ROTC have yet to prove or show their "just cause."

Get the Habit

Today all Penn State students, whether over the "legal" age of 21 or not, get a chance to make known their choice for the next President of the United States.

Polls will be open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. for the University's first mock national election.

Mock elections are popular on college campuses because they stimulate interest in the political campaigns and cause students who will soon be voting citizens to become aware of election issues and get into the habit of voting.

We hope the students show a better voting record in the mock national election than they do in student elections. Otherwise its purpose will not be accomplished.

Ike Can't Prevent A Kennedy Victory

Snowed

by joel myers

Richard Nixon's White House Special rounded a bend in the tracks a few weeks ago and the Vice President suddenly realized that a huge object, Sen. John F. Kennedy's growing personal appeal, was blocking the train's projected path.

His only hope was to persuade the vastly popular Republican President to again clear the way so that his route to the White House would be re-opened.

Nixon went to see Eisenhower last week and convinced the President that his all-out support was needed if the Republicans were to maintain control of the government's executive branch. Ike consented.

But it appears as if Eisenhower entered the campaign too late to save the Vice President from defeat at the polls a little more than 100 hours from now.



The Nixon-Lodge ticket is bucking a strong Kennedy tide, which seems to indicate a decisive electoral victory for the Massachusetts senator in the making. Recent polls and surveys in such populous and crucial states as New York, New Jersey, Ohio and California show

that Kennedy's strength is increasing day by day.

This is the prime reason why Eisenhower was urged to take a more active part in the final week of the campaign. The GOP felt that there was little chance of victory without Ike's help, but with him they hoped the tide might be reversed in the few days before election.

This is unlikely because of several reasons:

First, most voters have already made their decision between the two candidates and any last minute politicking will have little influence on them.

Second, the tide seems to be running in favor of Kennedy and so the most Ike will be able to do in the short time that remains before the election will be to neutralize this trend.

Third, Eisenhower's popularity is, for the most part, non-transferable. This was demonstrated conclusively in the past three Congressional elections. In 1954, 1956 and 1958 Ike urged the nation to elect a Republican Congress and yet in each succeeding election the Democratic majority increased.

Letters

Liberal Party Backed

TO THE EDITOR: I have been setting back for the past few weeks and reading and hearing the pros and cons about the Liberal Party. Mr. Zuckerman's recent letter was too much for me.

Mr. Zuckerman says, "Any bill passed by SGA is for the good of the entire student body, bar none." What is this SGA? It would seem from the aforementioned letter that it is an infallible body, bordering upon a deity.

This is utterly ridiculous! When the SGA does get a quorum, and holds a meeting, the bills passed are rarely passed by unanimous vote.

This seems to indicate that someone, even a member of that never-failing body, doesn't think that the bills are for the good of the entire student body—bar none. We all make mistakes.

Even the Congress of the

U.S. passes bills that are declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

Why doesn't the SGA admit it is wrong and repeal the bill which takes \$700 of student funds and allocates them for use of a small faction? Certainly, because of the diversity of people and ideas on this campus, the parties can't benefit all.

It's about time someone came along and stood for the good of the large majority of students—the independents.

Not only does the Liberal Party have great ideas, but also it looks as if they are doing something about them. I say the Liberal Party is a party of deeds, not just words. We don't find anyone else circulating petitions or coming right out and taking stands on what they feel is right.

—H. Edward Govan, '63

Letters

Young Republicans State Their Case

TO THE EDITOR: The Young Republicans of Penn State comment on the letter to the editor, Nov. 3, concerning "New Republicanism."

William S. Livingood, former Pennsylvania Secretary of Internal Affairs, spoke before the Young Republican meeting on Nov. 1. Mr. Livingood was unavoidably detained and therefore, compelled to speak to the members after the meeting had adjourned.

Eight dismal years? Those "DOOMACRATS" who make such statements must have forgotten the ending of the Korean War; the launching of the Eisenhower atoms-for-peace through the United Nations; the snuffing out of threats to peace in Formosa, Quemoy, Matsu, Lebanon, Iran and Jordan; the establishing of the overall U.S. defense power to a peace time high.

The sponsoring of the first Civil Rights Act in 82 years; the extension of Social Security to 12 million additional persons, increased benefits for all; the construction of 501,800 school classrooms, almost twice the number built in 1935-

1952; the initiation of a vast new 41,000-mile inter-state super highway system; the raising of the U.S. standard of living to the highest ever, to mention a few. And all this without tax increase.

The Republican administration has fully supported the objectives of the United Nations through SEATO, ANZUS, CENTO and other agencies for the betterment of the free world including health programs, technical cooperation, cultural exchange and economic development.

The "typical Republican attitude" toward advancement and research has brought during the Republican administration the following "firsts" in U.S. space: first to find and measure the Van Allen radiation belts; first to photograph the earth from 300 miles out in space; first to recover an object intact from outer space; first to discover the pear shape of the arith; first to orbit a communications satellite.

Richard Nixon said, "We are ahead in color T.V." Well, we are. We are ahead of Russia by billions of dollars of assets. In fact, if we wanted to be equal to Russia we would

have to scrap nearly one-half of our steel industry to get down to the Soviet steel capacity.

We would have to wreck two-thirds of American hydro-electric power production, burn off 90 per cent of our natural gas, rip up 14 of every 15 miles of highway and two out of every three miles of railroad trackage, sink eight out of every nine merchant ships, scrap 19 of every 20 automobiles, and destroy 80 per cent of American housing.

If this is what these "Doomacrats" want, we would rather be Republicans and right.

—THE YOUNG REPUBLICANS OF PENN STATE
•Letter Cut

Hospital

Geoffrey Boardman, Beverly Britt, Thomas E. Brown, LeRoy Brubaker, Patricia Chavis, Anthony De Angelo, Cynthia De Palma, Robert Dockstader, Sonia Flowers, Sandra Fosselman, Rena Goldman, Robert Hausmann, Robert Judd, Marjorie Kapelsohn, Francis Karl, Richard Kline, Lorna MacIntyre, Ora McLaughlin, Jo Ann Meech, Susan Mong, Mark Nyström, Donald Palm, Martin Bhayre, George Renshaw, Marian Shoemaker, Laurel Shupp, Ronald Stauffer, Elliot Stein, Earle Stinebiser, Daniel Storror, Susan Stultz, Cynthia Vicander.

Gazette

TODAY
American Society of Agricultural Engineers, registration, 10 a.m.-12 noon, HUB main lobby, 1-5 p.m., HUB assembly room
Debate Club, 8 p.m., HUB assembly room
Interlandia folk dance, 7:30 p.m., HUB ballroom
IV Christian Fellowship, -12:45 p.m., 218 HUB; 7:30 p.m., 111 Boucke
Liberal Party, 6:15 p.m., 218 HUB
Mock Election Committee, 6 p.m., 217-218 HUB
Newman Club record hop, 8:30-11:30 p.m., basement of Our Lady of Victory Church
Young Democrats, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB ground floor; 7 p.m., 212 HUB

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56 Years of Editorial Freedom

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