

Editorial Opinion

Politics and Plea For Aid Don't Mix

Students can be a great help in the University's attempt to procure its full appropriation request from the state legislature, but only if their actions are done in a responsible manner.

A letter campaign by the students can help influence our government leaders, if it points out the need that exists at the University for the funds requested.

The whole secret to getting the full appropriation is this. The governor and the legislators must be convinced of the urgency of the need for more support of higher education in this state—so urgent that it must be done even if new taxes have to be introduced.

It is hard to get any public official to vote for taxes—but this is exactly the job that lies ahead.

Our representatives in Harrisburg must be convinced that increased aid to higher education in the state is important enough to warrant an increase in taxes.

Letters written with this objective in mind will have to be tactful, persuasive, logically sound and concentrate on the merits of our cause.

Letters should point out the job the University has been doing in educating the youth of the state. They should remind that unless the full appropriation is forthcoming the University will not be able to continue this job.

It will not be able to maintain the quality of instruction at its present level. It will not be able to increase the number of state students that it enrolls. It will not be able to do research vital to the economy and future of this state.

Students cannot use this letter campaign to make unqualified and unsupported political blasts against state officials as one letter has already done. This only hurts the objective.

Public officials should certainly be criticized when that criticism can be backed up with fact.

But it is hardly tactful to incorporate a plea for money with a political blast. The objective desired must always be kept uppermost in mind.

President Eric A. Walker has already pointed out that if the full appropriation is not received, the financial burden will fall upon the students and their parents in the form of substantial tuition increases.

Students who write letters that antagonize rather than convince are only cutting their own throats. Rather, all letters should point out the merits of our cause and the need for the increased appropriation to the University.

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Letters

Jazz Concept 'Too Narrow'; 'Baffles' Fans

TO THE EDITOR: As president of the Penn State Jazz Club, I am writing in defense of Neil Buckley's letter to the Collegian, Feb. 21 — in defense not of his opinions but of his honest confusion in understanding what happened musically Sunday night at Recreation Hall.

For I myself have known this confusion all too well in the past. This confusion on the part of the jazz fan as well as the non-jazz fan, arises from confining jazz to such a narrow concept as to cause one to reject or be confused by anything which fails to meet this previous concept.

It is for this very reason that the officers of the club decided to bring Ray Charles to Penn State. What we hoped to do by creating this confusion (which we have done) will be discussed on the Club's own radio show, Jazz Panorama, tonight at 8 p.m. over WDFM-FM and WMAJ-AM.

I will not only discuss what the Club hoped to accomplish by creating this controversy and confusion but also all of the other objections to the Club that Mr. Buckley raised.

For this reason of carrying our purpose to completion, the Club has placed an ad for this show elsewhere in the Collegian — not to take unfair advantage over Mr. Buckley's comments for it is very evident that it would not be possible in this letter to treat fully the controversy in question.

—Al Pollon, President,
Penn State Jazz Club

Interpreting

Smaller Nations Pressure Soviets

By J. M. ROBERTS

Associated Press News Analyst

The independence and initiative displayed by the smaller members in the United Nations during the Patrice Lumumba crisis has injected a new factor into Soviet relations with that body and has helped scotch some of the forebodings about the organization's future.

It isn't so much that they have, most of them, gone down the line for Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold as against the disruptive proposals of the Soviet Union.

It isn't so much that they have led the United Nations into a new and positive approach to the Congo situation, and that they have done so in such a fashion as to enlist the cooperation of the United States.

The striking thing is that, on Monday night, after 15 years in which the Soviet Union has been able to cripple the Security Council, their combined pressure forced the Soviets to abstain from use of the veto.

The Soviets had demanded U.N. withdrawal from the Congo. They were beaten on that.

Three smaller members, with approval of the Western powers, proposed instead that the U.N. hand be strengthened by the authorization of use of force. The way was led by Liberia, Ceylon and, significantly enough, the United Arab

Republic which frequently follows the Soviet line. But they were speaking in the council for perhaps 15 other African and Asian states, not to mention the many members whose stand on the issue was never in doubt.

The Soviet Union, having twice used her veto during the evening, abstained. Seldom has the power of world public opinion, as mobilized in the United Nations, been so clearly displayed.

Prominent behind the scenes was India, whose offer to send more soldiers if necessary already had enhanced the rapidly growing influence which she holds among the nations which are committed neither to East nor West.

Significant, too, was the promptness of the United States in accepting the leadership of the smaller nations when they came up with something akin to the proposals she herself had been prepared to submit.

Sanity and wisdom among the small nations beyond what many people had been inclined to expect, and a determination among them to choose a course that is right instead of trying to pick the winner, holds the key to the future of the United Nations.



ROBERTS

Gazette

TODAY

- AIM, 8 p.m., 203 HUB
- American Meteorological Society, 7 p.m., 214 HUB
- AWS Pollock Council, 9:15 p.m., Pollock 4 solarium
- Block S Club, 8:30 p.m., 216 HUB
- Bookstore Committee, 6:30 p.m., 212 HUB
- Chess Club, 7-11 p.m., HUB card room
- Delta Nu Alpha, 7 p.m., 212 HUB
- Fencing Club, 7 p.m., 3 White Hall
- Freshman Advisory Board, 7:45 p.m., 212 HUB
- Gamma Sigma Sigma, 5 p.m., (sisters and pledges), 217 Willard
- Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
- Israeli Folk-Dancing, 7:30 p.m., Hillel Foundation
- LaVie Test, 8:30 p.m., LaVie office
- Lenten Service, 7 a.m., Wesley Foundation, 256 East College Ave.
- Liberal Party, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB ground floor
- Navy Recruiting, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB ground floor lobby
- Pacers, Hot Rod Club, 7 p.m., 106 Walker Lab
- Panhel, 7 a.m.-8 p.m., HUB ground floor lobby
- Placement, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., 203 HUB
- Sociology Club, 7 p.m., 217 HUB
- Sociology Club, Dr. Coutu, 7 p.m., 213 HUB
- Sports Car Club, 8 p.m., 214 Boucke
- Tau Delta Phi, 7 p.m., 216 HUB
- TIM, 6:45 p.m., 203 HUB
- TIM movies, 12:30-1 p.m., HUB assembly hall
- URA, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., HUB card room
- UCA Display, HUB card room
- University Correspondence Committee, 7:15 p.m., 212 HUB
- Women's Chorus, 6:30 p.m., A-11 HUB
- Xi Sigma Pi, 7 p.m., business meeting and selection of candidates for spring initiation, 106 Forestry

Letters

Concert Criticism Contradicted

TO THE EDITOR: Upon reading The Daily Collegian of February 21, my attention was drawn to the letter by one Neil C. Buckley. From the context of this letter, I was surprised at the falsely mature manner under which such absurdity was guised.

It seems that Mr. Buckley was not at all hesitant in criticizing Ray Charles, the student body, and indirectly some of the top jazz reviewers and musicians in the country. The fact that he was not present at the Saturday night concert did not seem to place any reserve in Mr. Buckley's criticism.

Mr. Buckley's comparison of Ray Charles to Elvis Presley, as well as his other analysis of Ray Charles are in contrast to the ideas of Nat Hentoff, and Whitney Balliett, two of the top jazz reviewers.

Hentoff, co-editor of "Jazz Review," has this to say of Charles: "Ray Charles is one of the few jazz singers of late who can convincingly shout the blues and touch the subtle depths of softer stories as well. He has the ability to fuse a band together, write the ar-

rangements, and blend these talents into a jazz performance rarely equaled."

In addition to all this, Mr. Buckley, the author of the letter I am questioning, made an extremely perspicacious observation. He wrote the following: "People who write vulgar statements on bathroom walls, who hide in the dark and make snide remarks, who litter the University grounds with empty beer bottles, who deface library property are not mature individuals."

Need I say more, except what is wrong with providing a place for students to have a good time on a Friday night. I am referring to the West Halls Hop, which Mr. Buckley also feels is an immature activity.

In closing, I would like to suggest something to Mr. Buckley. That is for him to attend these functions, to know the facts concerning them, and the situations surrounding them before being so quick to criticize what he obviously knows little about.

—Jeff Weisberg
●Letter cut

Think

Injustice Becomes Norm

By STEPHEN BLUM

Injustice has many characteristics; if it becomes widespread enough it can be seen that it seems to convert values. Lack of justice, that is dishonesty in a broad sense, becomes accepted as a norm. I am reminded of H. L. Menkin's caustic quip that "we all can stand injustice, we are used to it; it is justice that stings."

The sting of justice was, I thought, felt in the recent indictment of the seven electrical corporation executives. These upstanding gentlemen were sentenced to 30 days and a fine for defrauding the government of this country.

But I was wrong: justice, and the price that must be paid to uphold it, was not fully carried out.

Last week NBC news informed the world that one of

those seven men had requested that the start of his jail term be postponed for the period of one week. His reason: he wanted to attend the engagement party of his daughter. The request was granted by the judge.

The irony of this situation does not become apparent right away; but, after my initial period of shock and indignation had somewhat subsided, I saw this whole incident as travesty. I view this incident as such for the following reasons:

●Embezzlement or price fixing in collusion with others is a crime with double depth: not only are we robbed, but we are robbed through official channels while our back is turned.

●The conviction of such criminals is an admirable step in the right direction; the engage-

ment party fiasco and the light sentences almost serve to cancel out this step and put us right back in the middle of this corporate stealing.

●In whispered tones, at least, the present economic situation of this country is being compared to 1932. We are told to keep our chins up. How do you do that in the face of leaders attempting to worsen the situation?

By attempting to defraud the government these men — and the organizations and ideals that they represent — attempted to defraud the governed. I, as one of those who is governed, can have no feeling other than wrath because, apparently, the criminal now has taken over the right to judge both himself (the engagement party affair) and others (the mass price fixing). I, for one, am enraged.

