

Editorial Opinion

Time for Decisions

The rumors that the State Legislature might adjourn before dealing with the education appropriations have shaken our confidence in our elected government.

If the rumors are valid—and they must have some foundation for the Associated Press to carry them and for newsmen close to the scene to report them—it indicates that the Legislature is unwilling to face the grave problems that exist in the state's education system.

It would appear that the Legislature, instead of preparing to receive the report of the Governor's Education Committee and enact legislation necessary to give this state a sound education system, is trying to run from the issue and duck the responsibility of its job.

If the members of the Legislature are even considering adjournment before the education crisis in this state is settled, then they are quitting in the midst of one of their most crucial assignments.

The Governor's Education Committee report, which has already been delayed for a month, is now expected to be released within a week.

It is no secret that it delves deeply into a second-rate education system, outdated long before Sputnik, and will recommend sweeping changes that may not be liked in many quarters. It is certain to be unpopular from the fact that it will tell the taxpayer's they have to dig deeper into their pockets to provide their children with a bonafide education.

But popular or not, a completely new attitude toward education must evolve in this state.

And the question that will squarely face the legislators after the report is released is "Do they have the political courage to vote the necessary increased taxation or cut down on spending measures that are less vital to the future of the state than education?"

For three years the state government has been conducting education studies, then closing its eyes and running away from the results. It may be true that the education system is so stagnated it is unbelievable, but hiding from reality won't change it.

The problem is there, and it is becoming more acute each year. How long does the Legislature think it can put off the inevitable?

The time for studies has served its function. It is time to look at the results and make decisions.

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56 Years of Editorial Freedom

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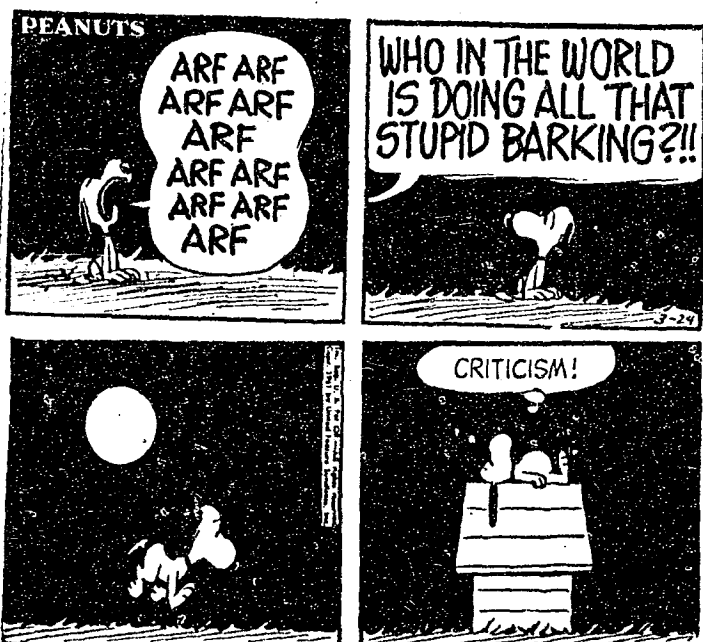
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Letters

Dance Closing Draws More Complaints

TO THE EDITOR: Why was the record hop at Pollock lounge cancelled Friday, March 17? This is what many disturbed Penn State students are asking.

The assistant dean of men, Dean Murphy, notified Pollock area Thursday evening that the Office of the Dean of Men was "withdrawing their approval" for the dance scheduled for the following evening.

His reason for calling off the dance was because he had told Pollock not to have so-called extravagant door prizes on the 17th, but to the knowledge of the Pollock social committee, he never did this.

Representatives from Pollock Halls and West Halls met with Dean Murphy on Friday afternoon to discuss the reasons behind his decision. They were told that Pollock wasn't abiding by the rules he set up for the dances.

The only rule set up, to the knowledge of the Pollock social committee, was against the full page ad in the Collegian. This rule was abided by. It was decided that a vote by the presidents of West, North, Nittany and Pollock Councils would be taken to see if the dance could be held. The majority of the area presidents failed to vote in favor of Pollock, resulting in the closing of the dance.

This seems to us to be an injustice, but I suppose we should excuse Dean Murphy for his actions since this is his first year as Assistant Dean of Men. Last year he was only the Coordinator of West Halls.

—Milton Miner, '63
James E. McMaster, '64
Harold W. Chisholm, '64
Robert K. Thompsan, '64
David T. Greenblatt, '62

Letters

On Pollock Record Hop

TO THE EDITOR: Recently, a great deal of controversy has been stirred up on campus dealing with the problem of discrimination. Seemingly, the administration has backed the attack against this problem.

But recently, a case of discrimination was uncovered at the very core of the Penn State hierarchy—the Dean's office. This grave act occurred on the night of March 17, 1961.

As most students know, Pollock Halls and another residence area have been sponsoring dances that have led to friendly competition for student patronage at their Friday night dances. By direct order from the Assistant Dean of Men in charge of student affairs, (who was last year's coordinator of West Halls), the Pollock Record Hop, better known as the "Leprechaun Leap," as advertised in this paper, was cancelled last Friday night. Why? Let us examine the facts. By a strange twist of fate, the other residence halls were informed not to offer door prizes at their dance, while Pollock Halls received no such warning.

Consequently, Pollock proceeded as usual and offered a door prize. After spending money for well planned advertising and other preparations, Pollock officials were informed Thursday night by the Dean's office that the dance already scheduled for Friday was cancelled. After several attempts by the Pollock officials to prove their innocence, in that they had received no such warning, our friend from the Dean's office advocated the dismissal of the dance.

Consequently, the Pollock Area suffered a serious setback to their social activities.

Let us review the facts and reasons given by the dean for the cancellation of the dance, as stated in Bruce DeWoolfson's letter to the Daily Col-

legian, which appeared Wednesday, March 22.

"Council was appropriating too much money for the sponsorship of the dance." This is only partly true, because the risk involved in investing the students' money in the dance was prominent for the first dance only.

"They also failed to provide for sufficient deterrents to possible disorderly conduct." In the past, the dances were not bothered with any such conduct, and the crowds attending the dances were not so large as to warrant the presence of "armed" deterring Campus Patrolmen, in the estimation of the social committee and student council.

"... had entered into 'cut-throat competition' with an established function in the same field." We deem it necessary to say that the competition was not "cut-throat," but friendly competition for student patronage.

"... and had failed to comply with a decision to refrain from offering any further door prizes at these record hops." Neither the student council, nor the social committee of Pollock Halls were notified of such a decision, therefore the Dean's basis for such action was not sufficient to warrant such action.

The past week Pollock's friendly competitors had disregarded a policy of the Dean's office on advertising, which was known by both dance officials, and received a mere warning; nothing that would ruin their social functions.

We, the authors of this letter hope you will evaluate the evidence presented here, and you will not lose faith in their scheduled dances and other social activities due to an injustice to them.

—Ray Nycum, '62
—Rich Day, '62
—Carl Maria, '62
—Jerry Robine, '62

Gazette

TODAY
Atherton Judicial, 12 noon, 217 HUB
Bowling Party, 8 p.m., Wesley Foundation, 256 East College Avenue
BX Committee, 6 p.m., 218 HUB
Frosh-More Duo, 9 p.m., HUB ballroom
Interlandia, 7:30 p.m., 301 Engineering
IVCF, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
Placement, 8 a.m., 203 HUB
Sophomore Dance Awards, 9 a.m., HUB ground floor

HOSPITAL

Roberta Abrams, Nancy Alinkoff, Alfred Ando, Carole Anewalt, Stephen Blum, Bruce Branley, Beverly Britt, Wayne Cole, Rose Danko, Cynthia DePalma, Anthony DiAngello, Michael DiPuppo, John Feick, Stanley Godleski, Rosalee Green, Raymond Griffith, Richard Hale, Phyllis Hansen, Madeline Homan, Eleanor Hummer, David Katz, Joyce Leonard, Gaeton Longo, Bruce Miller, Margaret Padiak, Sara Ann Phillips, Thomas Reeves, Bonnie Rettinger, Ronald Rickert, Susan Starbird, Jonathan Stone, Susan Stultz, Elton Vogel, Barkley Wyckoff.

University Bookstore Needed

TO THE EDITOR: Shortly after the semester, I found it necessary to purchase a collateral text for one of my Economics courses. Since it was ordered by my professor rather late, it did not come into the bookstores until about two weeks after classes had begun.

Upon learning that the text was available, I went down to the "A Store" where I purchased it for \$3.75 plus tax. One of my classmates went down to "Metzger's" East College Ave. store and bought the same text for \$4.50 plus tax.

During one of our discus-

sions before class, she told me she had bought the book for \$4.50 and I told her that I was able to purchase the same for \$3.75. The following day she went down to the "A Store" and inquired about the price. When she asked the price of the text, the clerk began to quote \$3.75, but caught himself after \$3.70 and then said, "I mean \$4.50."

The store may very well claim that the lower price was a mistake on their part. Such a "mistake" would not be made by a University bookstore.

—Elaine Bottock

Interpreting

Does Soviet Union Want Test Ban?

By J. M. ROBERTS
Associated Press News Analyst

The rule-or-ruin tactics of the Soviet Union at Geneva, following the pattern so common to East-West negotiations over the years, have raised a question whether the Communists want a nuclear test ban beyond what they have.

After two weary years of negotiations in which nothing vital has been settled, the Soviets are still demanding an agreement which would give them vet power over enforcement.

They now have come up with another argument which the West might have foreseen — that continued tests by France will be for the benefit of the United States and Britain, outside any test

treaty, therefore putting the Soviet Union at a disadvantage.

There is an air but not the body of validity in this. France has said that she would join in any controls agreed upon. And if such controls are to be established they will come before France is ready for any tests in which Britain and the United States, far advanced, would be interested.

France intends, however, to have herself a nuclear force before she ties her hands, not primarily as a deterrent against the Soviet Union, but for use as a lever in trying to maintain equality with her allies.

It's something the Kremlin can use. However, in explaining to the world why it proposed a nuclear ban and now refuses to accept one despite all the concessions the United States and Britain have made.

The list of concessions offered by the West as the conference resumed are reshaping of measures offered before. They are important primarily as propaganda indicat-

ing a positive approach, as against the entirely negative attitude of the Soviet Union so far.

Cooperation in tests for peaceful uses of atomic devices, at the same time studying the technical means of detecting underground tests which might be directed at military uses, is an idea which has been kicked around ever since the discussions started.

The West is making clear, however, that it is prepared to negotiate this time on every phase of the subject. There is no deadline or threat. But behind the scenes the Soviet Union understands that when time has been allowed for discussion at every point without visible approach to agreement, the show will be over.

The negative attitude displayed by the Soviets at the start suggests that negotiation, not agreement, is her real objective. Negotiation has produced an unguaranteed ban. The West is becoming very suspicious of it.

