

**Editorial Opinion**

**May Be Last Chance**

It is a severe indictment on the Pennsylvania state government that educational institutions should have to enter the dirty game of politics and kowtow to politicians to beg for the money necessary to educate the inhabitants of this state.

But for years the government officials have dodged the imperative needs of education in this state and tried to absolve themselves of responsibility for its sad condition.

**Why? Because they were scared of what they saw. Scared of the horse-and-buggy education system which they saw existing. Scared of the tremendous rebuilding job that lay before them. Scared of the increased financial burden they knew it would bring.**

In the fiscal year 1950-51 the state spent \$125 million on education. In the present fiscal year it is spending \$400 million. The report of the Governor's Committee on Education is expected to designate \$660 million as the necessary annual outlay for education in 1970 plus an additional \$150 million for improvements.

They could see it coming, but each year they shrugged off their responsibility and ran.

They shrugged off their responsibility to a committee which they said was to study the needs of education. Well, studies were made and they led to nothing but more studies, each of which was promptly pigeonholed in its turn.

But with this policy of procrastination they have only run themselves into a corner that narrows each year. Sometime they have got to stop running and face the job that needs to be done on Pennsylvania's education system.

\* \* \*

The state has already indicated the expanded role it expects the University to play in the state's education system.

Governor Lawrence recommended more money in General State Authority funds for buildings on campus than the administration had even requested.

The Governor's Education Committee expects the University to handle 35,000 students by 1970.

**It is totally incomprehensible that the state would expect the University to fulfill this expanded role without giving it the necessary appropriation increases.**

Yet the present situation finds the University's request for \$23 million tucked away in House and Senate committees; the Governor's Committee's special education report delayed from Jan. 15 to Mar. 15 to Mar. 25 to April 1 to April 15; and rumors circulating that the state legislature is going to try to adjourn before the report comes out or before any action is taken on appropriations.

If the full appropriation is not granted, it will not be the University that will suffer as much as the students. Whatever money the University does not get from appropriations it has already said it would get from tuition. It is the students' pocketbooks that will feel the pinch.

**Easter vacation will be the students' best chance—and it may be their last chance—to do something about a tuition raise.**

The state legislature is in recess till April 4. The senators and representatives should be at home in their respective areas.

Each student during the Easter vacation should pay a personal visit to his state senator and representative and take his parents along. The parents will carry more weight than the students.

If a personal visit is impossible he should at least write letters and encourage his parents to do the same, pointing out the needs of the University for the full appropriation request.

**Interpreting**

**'Edge' Taken Off Laos Crisis**

By J. M. ROBERTS  
Associated Press News Analyst

Reports from all quarters yesterday tended to take the cutting edge off the Laos crisis, suggesting that the Soviet Union has been pursuing her old familiar tactic of pushing until it proves too dangerous and then withdrawing.

The crisis is by no means over. Indeed, it is quite possible that the Communists provided a lull only to give rebels in Laos time to obviate a peace conference before it can get started.

But taking it by the book, the Communists will now zig-zag. They are faced

by what is perhaps the firmest anti-Communist political front which the free world has been able to throw up since the Berlin blockade was defied.

Certainly it is the firmest political front ever established by a consortium of Western and Asian nations in considerable number.

In the case of Communist aggression against South Korea, the United States cast the die and the United Nations front which developed was a military one, and thin.

The SEATO front against Communist absorption of Laos, on the other hand, is a political front with military overtones. And it has behind it the hopes of a vast proportion of the world's neutrals and the emerging states whose only hope of development lies in a period of peace.

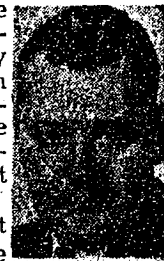
It is hardly likely that the Kremlin ever intended to push the Laos affair beyond what could be accomplished without outside intervention. Why the

Soviet Union carried the ball, instead of Red China, is still unclear, unless China didn't have the planes for an airlift or was too busy helping the Viet Cong campaign against South Viet Nam.

The lull in the rebel offensive in Laos and Soviet press reports on the Kremlin attitude are not necessarily direct results of the last few days of Western diplomacy. The build-up of Western firmness has been visible for some time.

Expression of Soviet policy through the press is usually a slow and cumbersome process, entailing delays to which the West is unaccustomed. This makes it difficult to follow moves and countermoves in a clear pattern to a clear result.

Nevertheless, the Soviet Union now seems to be doing what it should be doing in its own interests — backing away from a military clash in order to go into negotiations where the USSR can promote objectives at less risk.



ROBERTS

**Letters**

**Serenade's Interruption Protested**

**TO THE EDITOR:** Last night during an orderly fraternity serenade, the alert campus patrol boys carried out their protective duties and abruptly interrupted the singers by stating that "gentlemen are not allowed in the courtyard."

We wonder if it was entirely necessary for the solemnity of this occasion to have been so rudely disrupted. A telephone call to the campus patrol revealed that such serenades must first be cleared by the hostesses with the patrol.

Although admittedly there was a misunderstanding on this point, it certainly seems to us that the patrolmen could have used more discretion.

—Second Floor West Atherton  
•Letter cut

**TO THE EDITOR:** Tonight (Sunday, March 26) a girl in Atherton Hall was serenaded by a Penn State fraternity. This is one of the few sentimentalities remaining on this large, impersonal, growing campus.

Now it is about these campus patrolmen who disregard this tradition of the serenading of pinmates! We realize that several incidents have occurred recently to keep the campus patrolmen "on their toes" where coeds are concerned.

But interrupting a serenade to inform the fraternity men that men are not allowed in our courtyard is a bit disrespectful. Serenades have been taking place in this same courtyard for years without endangering the Atherton coeds.

Why now, in the middle of one serenade, do the campus patrolmen decide to change their policy?

—Franci Johns '61  
—Beverly Shaffer '61  
—Merrill Frost '62  
—Ellen Hildreth '62  
—Bobbi Abrams '63

**TO THE EDITOR:** Last Sunday evening, the members of our fraternity were in the midst of a serenade in the courtyard of Atherton Hall. Prior to our last song, we were rudely interrupted by two tactless campus patrolmen.

They flashed their trusty lights around and informed us that we were not allowed in the courtyard. We feel we have a just complaint since we were never told that the territory was "out of bounds" by the campus patrol office; also, the housemother of Atherton Hall was previously informed.

Perhaps a definite policy on serenades by the campus patrol office is necessary so that other fraternities are not subjected to the same un-diplomatic treatment. Needless to say, the sentimental value of the serenade was ruined.

—Phi Sigma Kappa

**Letters**

**DARE Activities Supported**

**TO THE EDITOR:** The tragedy of the "discriminatory clause" is not that it prevents "likeable" people of certain racial or religious backgrounds from becoming part of the social whirl with likeable people from other racial and religious backgrounds; the real and pitiful tragedy is the effect that the acceptance of these "clauses," whether it be a real or complacent one, has on the member of the excluding group.

When the member goes through four years of participation in peaceful exclusion he believes that nothing is wrong or immoral with such practices — "it's part of our American way of life, why buck the system."

And even if by chance he does experience temporary moments of guilt, he never does anything about it because no one else is doing anything and why should he not conform.

Herein lies the fundamental tragedy of this predicament. These people are the future businessmen, the executives of our society. After finishing college many of them move into

business circles which practice the same "clauses" that they experienced in college only this time it's not a written clause, "it's illegal now," but to him it's socially acceptable — after all "everything went so smoothly back in school with these clauses."

That is why I sympathize with DARE when the SGA Committee on Inter-Racial Relations said that DARE was making a "mountain out of a molehill."

Perhaps some of these fraternity and sorority members need a little extra pushing to bring their better moral potentials to the surface and to create a little unconformity in the society they're about to run.

I realize that the present members did not create these "clauses" which perpetuate an ultra-pluralistic society but they must share the blame for running past them with their eyes closed for four years.

We all know that most of us do not have the courage to change the status quo, but why should the SGA rebuff an organization (DARE) that does?

—Gilbert J. Brenner

**Soph Discusses 'Education'**

**TO THE EDITOR:** Why am I at Penn State? This is a question that I've often asked myself in these past two years. Everyone said that it is the thing of the ages to go on to college in order to know a little more about something than the ordinary high school graduate. But, what have I learned at Penn State?

I've learned that to be classified as anything other than a "square" a person has to drink, smoke, and twist. I've learned to "fix" my lab problems.

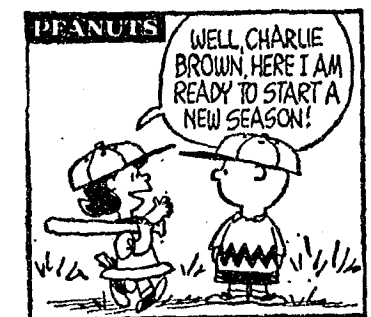
I've learned that in order to get my grades above average I may have to resort to cheating like a great number of my

classmates. And today I learned that a person can't leave anything that isn't under lock and key.

During my Friday morning gym class I was relieved of \$21.00 while I took a shower. Since it took me approximately 25 hours of wiping garbage off plates to earn this money I should kick myself for inviting such an incident.

Instead I think I shall congratulate this person on the success of his profession and hope that someday he shall graduate from the State Penn—a better man. He has picked a good place to practice and to further his education!

—Paul Higby '63



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