

Editorial Opinion

The New Red Plan

The ponderous Draft Program of the Soviet Communist Party issued Saturday in Moscow is the first international doctrinal work by the Communists in more than 40 years. But when studied closely the 50,000 word document proves to be of little political or philosophical significance.

The draft attempts to set up a series of specifics which would prove to be a blueprint for a Communist society in 1980. But instead of providing for a plan of the future, the work does a far better job of pointing out the inadequacies of present day Russia.

The Communist peoples are promised that sometime during the 1970's every family—even newlyweds—will have an apartment of their own. Most Westerners would find it amazing, this promise of apartments for everyone.

This part of the document can only be understood by realizing the present housing situation in Russia. A majority of Russian families still share apartments and even rooms.

The program also promises free education, free school lunches, free homes for the aged and free medical care.

But again, you would have to realize that Russia does not live up to its reputation of being a social welfare state. Russian people must pay for the books their children use—even in elementary school. They must also pay for medicine and hospital treatment and rooms.

Another point that brings attention to a shortcoming in Russia is the phrase: "Women must be given considerably lighter . . . jobs." Only tourists who have seen Russian women laying bricks, paving roads and digging ditches can appreciate this.

There are many points in the program that point out the not-so-good life in present day Russia. By examining what the Communists intend to do, it is easy to see what they have failed to do.

Paradoxical Resolution

The Commonwealth Campus Directors' resolution for a change in University policy seems somewhat paradoxical when compared to their everpresent efforts to acquire an equal standing with this campus.

How could it be said that we are one university divided into 14 campuses if one of these campuses (this one) has higher academic standards than some of the others?

At present the University cannot afford to give its campuses academic autonomy. Some of the larger campuses have possibilities of becoming four year community State colleges, but right now they are working as part of THE University.

And as part of the University, their policies should be as consistent as possible with what is termed "University Policy."

A Student-Operated Newspaper

Summer Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

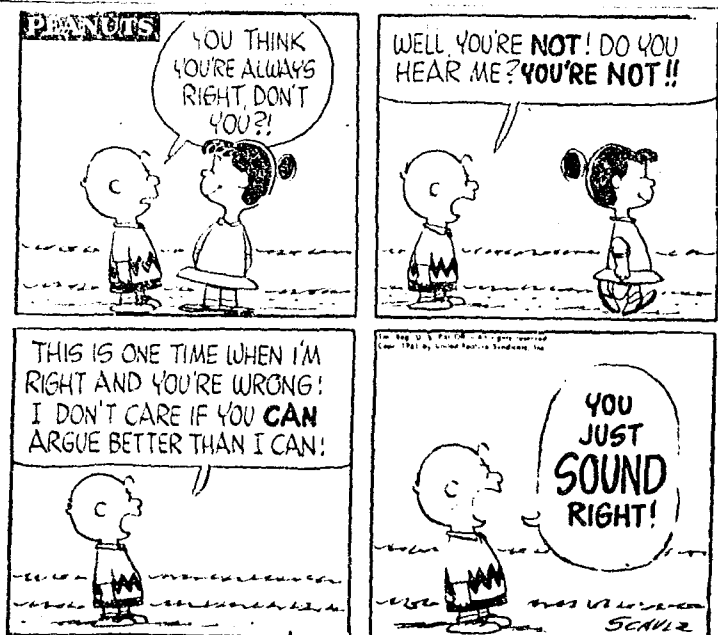
Published Tuesday, June 13 and every Thursday thereafter from June 22 through August 17. The Summer Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second class matter July 5, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 3, 1879.

Mail Subscription Price: Fifty cents for 10 issues

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accents

M-I-C-K-E-Y M-A-U-S

by dick leighton

A bit of "Ironic Curtain" humor has been added to the touchy Berlin issue. Earlier this week Mickey Mouse was labeled by the Communists as being an American spy.

He was denounced as an agent of the West, helping to persuade East Germans to flee from behind the Curtain. Children at a Communist organized forum in the East German city of Halle were told a fairy tale titled "The Head Hunters and Mickey Mouse."

The moral of the tale was stop reading Mickey Mouse books and stop joining the

Mickey Mouse club which has headquarters in West Germany. "These books have the purpose of getting the addresses of your parents," the newspaper Freiheit told children.

It makes interesting speculation, trying to peer into Communist logic on this new cold war issue. Perhaps this is an example of the Pavlovian conditioning theory — a mixture of terror (Berlin threats) with a sudden change to ludicrousness (Herr Mouse) will soon reduce the sniveling westerners to a confused horde with predictable reactions.

Or, it could be a belated sulky response to Premier Khrushchev's exclusion from Mickey's home in Disneyland.

And, then, again, it could simply be a resentment of Capitalistic rodents. Communist mice aren't allowed to own cars or homes or have dogs as friends. This would tend to destroy the equanimity of the Communistic classless society

where only a few big rats can have these pleasures.

It could also be an aesthetic aversion to having a rassel bande of children gaily galloping around somber East Germany in yo-yo eared hats and singing "M-I-C-K-E-Y MA-U-S, Mickey Maus, Mickey Maus . . ."

It might even be a belated retaliation to "Animal Farm" where some Communist pigs came up with the subtle observation that "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal." That Western pig, Porky, with his capitalistic ways might tend to corrupt the minds of the more collectivized Eastern pigs.

Whatever the reasoning behind this mouse purge, the Communists better watch out. Mickey is extremely popular in all of Germany. If too much pressure is put on making a better mouse trap, the kinder might change their tune to "Niki Raus."



LEIGHTON

Snowed

A Modest Proposal

by joel myers

The chances of Penn State getting the \$23.1 million requested by President Walker are about as good as the Philadelphia Phillies capturing the National League pennant this year.

All the University can hope for is an addition of \$1.5 million to the standstill budget of \$18.5 million proposed by Governor Lawrence.

This will bring the total budget to \$20.0 million, which is \$3.1 million short of President Eric A. Walker's request. In view of Administration announcements and using pre-

vious policy as a guide, a tuition hike of as much as \$40 a term will probably be instituted this fall.

Such a tuition boost will burden many University students, and might cause some students who are operating on stringent budgets to drop out.

Why not allow these financially pressed students to postpone payment of the increased funds until after graduation? Under such a plan, each student who wanted an interest-free loan of \$40 a term, which would become payable within a year or two after graduation, could get one.

All students that can afford to pay the new tuition rate should do so in order that the University can continue to raise its educational level.

However, the University is morally obligated to make some provisions for hard-pressed students enrolled un-

der the present tuition rate because:

- Tuition at the University has increased by 92 percent in the past five years giving Penn State the third highest tuition rate of all state institutions in the nation.

- Strong lobbies supported by Penn, Temple and Pitt channel much of the higher education subsidy provided by the state government into private schools. Ninety per cent of all subsidies to private institutions by state governments in the entire nation come from Harrisburg.

- A general fee will require that each student put up an additional \$25 to \$50 as a deposit to be held until graduation.

If the University makes this proposed allowance for already-enrolled students, I feel that the expressions of appreciation by these students through the Alumni Association in years to come will ultimately benefit Penn State.



MYERS

Letters

Concerning Blum

TO THE EDITOR: I would like to direct my reply to your Master of Assumptions, Stephen R. Blum.

Mr. Blum, you began your article by stating that the President's speech was frightening. I would like to ask TO WHOM?

To most of us, this speech was like an alarm clock rudely awakening us from a too long, too warm, too comfortable sleep.

We, Mr. Blum, are a world leader. In case you have not had the opportunity of taking a U.S. History course, we are advocating DEMOCRACY. This, Mr. Blum, entails not only United States freedom, but world freedom.

The factor which seemed to upset you the most was not that we are willing to fight for Berlin, but that we are preparing to do so. I ask you, how could it be otherwise.

Mr. Blum, were we to forsake Berlin, I would give up my American Citizenship, the proudest possession I own, in search for a country willing to support its principles.

Fortunately, the majority seems to be with me, Mr. Blum.

I will never laugh at anyone who is willing to die for his beliefs; be he Polish, Hungarian, Jewish, American, et. al. I believe this is the greatest height mankind can attain.

—Barbara Frengel

• Letter cut

Concerning Sigman

TO THE EDITOR: In his letter to the editor this past week, David Sigman '61 had the basis for a number of excellent arguments but he approached them in a seemingly ludicrous fashion.

He must admit that his referral to chipmunks while implicating the atrocities of Nazi Germany was rather comical.

After leading his readers off to a good laugh, Mr. Sigman turned to the serious task of defending himself from the "implication" that he is a subversive. I thought this all frightfully unnecessary. Judging his material of this past week, as a sample of his power to influence, I might compliment him solely on his creativity as a humorist.

—Adele Wilson '63

TO THE EDITOR: Where would we be today without the invidious services of the world's greatest pseudo-critic, Herr Sigman? The inspired works of our formidable and audacious rhetorician will provide guidance and direction for all of us humble mortals as we participate in this lunatic's contemplated insurrection.

Exalted by our courageous and intrepid support the eminent "anti-chipmunk" demagogue will undoubtedly secure a coveted position among the ranks of our contemporary heroes—without even hitting sixty homeruns.

—Stephen J. Kurman '62

• Letter cut

—David Sigman, '62