

Editorial Opinion

An Open Letter To the Vice President

Dear Lyndon B. Johnson,

We of the Daily Collegian would like to apologize for the short-sightedness of some of our fellow students at the University.

We are pleased with your appearance at Penn State and wish we all could have the opportunity to hear and see you speak in person.

The dean of the College of Physical Education consented to make Recreation Hall, a building that can seat about 6,000 persons, available for your speech. The Undergraduate Student Government volunteered to stand the expense of moving the speech from Schwab to Recreation Hall.

This offer was not accepted by the Business Administration Career Day Committee, which has felt there were too many problems to make the move.

We are deeply indebted to the Business Administration Student Council and the hard-working chairman and members of their Career Day Committee for arranging your appearance at our University. It was quite a feat for them to get such a commitment from one of the most important political figures of the day.

But we sincerely regret that the committee decided not to share their accomplishment with students of the other eight colleges of the University by giving them an equal opportunity to see our Vice President in person. Rather they ignored a strong student demand to have the location of your speech switched to a building that can accommodate thousands more who wished to personally see and hear you.

Because of the limited seating capacity of Schwab Auditorium, your speech will be attended by only 1,200 students from a student body that numbers more than 16,000.

You will address an overflow crowd in an auditorium that can accommodate only eight per cent of the student body.

We are sorry most of us won't be able to see and hear you in person. Perhaps your next visit to this University will be more appreciated.

We hope you enjoy your stay at Penn State.

Sincerely,

The Board of Editors, Daily Collegian

A Student-Operated Newspaper 57 Years of Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

Published Tuesday through Saturday morning during the University year. The Daily Collegian is a student-operated newspaper. Entered as second-class matter July 6, 1934 at the State College, Pa. Post Office under the act of March 2, 1879.

Mail Subscription Price: \$6.00 a year. Mailing Address - Box 261 State College, Pa.

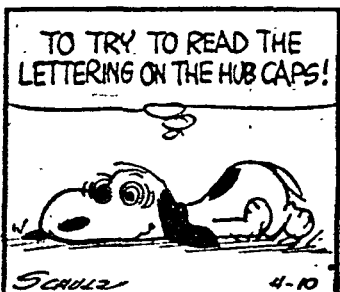
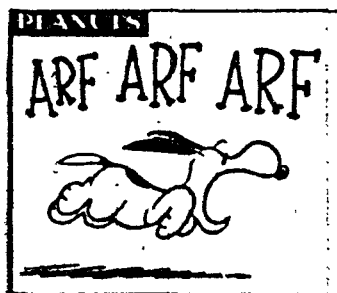
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Interpreting

Blackmail Discussed

By J. M. ROBERTS

Associated Press News Analyst

How much will \$62 million help Prime Minister Fidel Castro to hold on in Cuba? And if 1,179 of his prisoners are freed now, how much longer will 6 million others have to remain in prison as a result?

Those are just two of dozens of questions that arise in any consideration of his blackmail demands—his fixing of a price on so-called justice in Cuba.

Castro undoubtedly is in trouble.

So-called land reforms have not paid off for the Cuban farmers, from whom Castro drew most of his original support, and many of them are in clandestine revolt.

He could have shipped his sugar a few hundred miles to market and retained the benefits of American business investments, but he chose to ship his sugar 5,000 miles and do business with the Communist bloc.

The Soviet Union has been pressing all of her trade partners to keep their accounts straight—pay up, that is, and there is no reason to believe Castro is escaping the pressure.

His efforts to foment armed rebellion in other Latin-American countries have served so far only to mobilize resistance against him and against Cuba.

The handwriting of a dim future is clearly visible on Castro's wall. Either his fellow Communists or his dreaded capitalists are going to get him. Will the money only serve to stave off his demise?

Another question, then, is which of his enemies he will pick as the probable winner.

One expert tells me \$62 million won't mean much in a Castro effort to stave off unrest among the Cuban people, that the deterioration in the Cuban economy has gone far beyond the need for such a small amount.

Does he hope, then, to reinforce his position as a hero among the people, or among the Communists who virtually have taken him over, by a demonstration of a continuing ability to twist the tiger's tail?

Regardless of whether the money is paid by private Americans or Cuban refugees with American help, many will consider any payment of the ransom an American abnegation.

Some experts have professed to see a Castro desire to soften his isolation in the Americas. He may hope some people will look at the prices placed on the heads of the prisoners as fines in lieu of the death sentence—and therefore more civilized—instead of as ransom.

Because humanity is involved, no entirely objective appraisal of the offer is possible.

There is a reluctance among Americans to see the continued imprisonment of men they consider patriots. There also is reluctance to see any bending of the knee to the agent of a foreign power with which America is involved in a type of war.

the clicking shutter Battle Ahead For Dilworth

by John Beauge

To the surprise of no one, Richardson Dilworth, former mayor of Philadelphia, should win the Democratic nomination for governor in the May 15 primary election.

Unlike the Republican party, the winner of the Democratic nomination is cut and dried. The GOP has Congressman William Scranton and J. Collins McSparran, state grange master, fighting it out.

The selection of Dilworth as the Democratic candidate was not an easy one, though. His long-time foe in Philadelphia, William Green, had repeatedly said that Dilworth could not win if nominated. Finally, however, Green, in the interest of party unity, decided not to press his views.

This is not the first time that the Marine Corps veteran has sought the governorship. In 1950 he was defeated by Republican John S. Fine.

The rest of his political career has been mostly in Philadelphia government. He has been city treasurer, district attorney and mayor.

His running mate in most of these elections has been Joseph S. Clark, who is now seeking re-election to the U.S. Senate.

Although his nomination seems assured in May, the November election could be a different story.

The recent intra-party battle between himself and Green has not helped his cause. Although Green has agreed to support Dilworth, some of the wounds inflicted in the early battles may not heal.

Support for him in the rural parts of the state is at a low ebb. When he was mayor he said that the central part of the state contained nothing but birds and bears and that it was foolish to spend money to build the Keystone Shortway.

This struck a sour note in areas that would be served by the Shortway and it has been difficult for Democratic leaders in these counties to overcome it. Dilworth did say in a later speech that he was for the road, but the damage may have already been done.

The other incident which could cause him to lose votes would be the scandals which rocked Philadelphia. Although Dilworth was out of the country at the time and cleaned up the situation when he returned, he received much of the blame, being head of the government.

These factors and the growing popularity of Scranton, probable GOP nominee, could mean that Dilworth will fail in his second attempt to win the state's highest office.

There will be a fight to the finish in November and the outcome is a toss-up right now. However, Dilworth will have to do some fast fence-patching if he expects to be the third consecutive Democratic governor.

Things will be even more difficult for him because, for the first time he may not be able to ride the coat tails of Clark like he has been doing in the past. Clark will have his hands full getting by Congressman James Van Zandt in the Senate race.



DILWORTH

Letters

Myers' Column Commended; Civil Liberties Discussed

TO THE EDITOR: I would like to commend Joel Myers for his article, "Colleges Undermine Democracy." It is an important critique.

However, any meaningful analysis of the state of American civil liberties must include a discussion of the McCarran Act of 1950. Unfortunately, most Americans are unaware of its true meaning, let alone its existence, in terms of civil liberties for all Americans.

The McCarran Act required the registration of any organization arbitrarily deemed communist-directed, communist-dominated, or communist-infiltrated, by the Subversive Activities Control Board. The latter defines a communist as anyone who has, at any time, in any manner, and on any issue, taken a position similar to that of the Communist party.

The terms of registration, to numerous to mention here, make it impossible for any or-

ganization to comply and still maintain its existence. Penalties for not registering include five years imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine for each day of non-compliance.

The act provides for the use of "detention" camps, two of which have already been built, one in Pennsylvania and one in Arizona.

The law is based on the unproven assumption that American communists are foreign agents, conspiring the violent overthrow of the government. After extensive investigation of this charge in 1950, Attorney General Tom Clark, now a Supreme Court justice, told Sen. McCarthy that there was no evidence that communists were foreign agents, nor that they engaged in sabotage and espionage and that in the absence of such evidence, the Department of Justice could not seek convictions in court.

Are we reverting to medieval (Continued on page eight)

An Apology

A letter to the editor carried by the Daily Collegian on April 4 contained serious reflections on the professional qualifications of a member of the staff of the Ritenour Health Center. The editors of this newspaper regret very much that the letter was printed.

The letter, written by a student, complained that the health center dentist extracted a tooth in such a way that it became badly infected and claimed that he had removed the wrong tooth.

Because the name of the dentist was not mentioned, the editors did not realize that this constituted a charge of malpractice against the dentist.

The Daily Collegian regrets very much that its editorial procedures, because of a changeover in the staff at the start of the spring term, did not prevent such an unverified charge from being printed. It apologizes to Dr. Daniel M. Lonberger, Ritenour Health Center dentist.