

Editorial Opinion

A Thorough NSA Study

A bill proposing that the Undergraduate Student Government join the National Student Association is on the agenda for tonight's USG meeting. Murray Winderman, co-sponsor of the bill, said last night that soon after the bill is presented a motion will be made to postpone action until the next meeting.

The one week delay has been allowed so that Congressmen will have a chance to study thoroughly affiliation with NSA.

In line with this period of study, Winderman plans to distribute copies of the national and regional constitutions and by-laws of the organization to each Congressman.

At the present time, up-to-date information on NSA is scarce on this campus. Many student opinions are being based on old brochures which are left over from the late 1940's and early 1950's when the University was a member of NSA.

Organizations such as NSA change constantly and widely distributed current information is necessary for a valid judgment of worth.

Traditionally, strong opinions for and against NSA have existed and they now exist in the USG Congress. Because of the controversial nature of the organization, the mixed feelings of individual Congressmen and the complex and largely unknown structure of NSA, we feel that a concentrated study of both the pros and the cons should be undertaken by USG.

We propose that the USG Congress set up a committee composed of several Congressmen who do not yet have strong feelings either for or against affiliation with NSA.

We urge that this Congressional committee hold informal hearings at which students with studied opinions for and against NSA could present their views.

This investigating committee should submit to the Congress a report and recommendation made after carefully weighing both sides of the issue.

At the same time as the committee report is heard by Congress, separate reports for and against NSA could be presented.

By studying the NSA issue in this manner, all Congressmen would be confronted with one reasonably unbiased recommendation, one strong argument for and one strong argument against affiliation with NSA.

We believe committee action will enable Congress to process the bill more smoothly, save precious time at their weekly meetings and most important, obtain thorough and many-sided information on NSA which will help each Congressman to make an informed and intelligent decision on the proposal.

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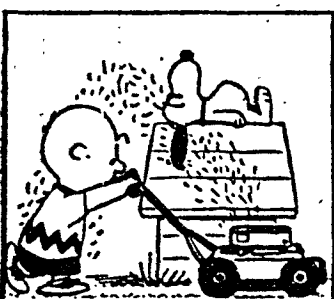
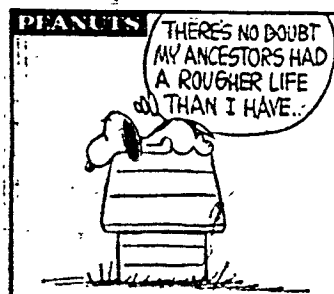
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Letters

USG Called Student Lobbyist

TO THE EDITOR: In reference to Burt Kaplan's letter of April 26: True—the United States government is sovereign and the USG is not. The USG is similar to a union for students or a lobby which may or may not be effective in influencing the government which is sovereign over it, that being the administration.

Our student union—the USG—will continue to lobby the administration, but its effectiveness is based on four factors: the specific issue being lobbied for, the quality of lobbying done, the receptiveness of the administration to the issue, and also the amount of student interest in the task of the USG, that is, the percentage of students who openly show lack of apathy.

So, Burt, I question your demanding Ann Palmer to strike "at the heart of the problem." If you and other students do not care enough about student government to vote, then why should the administration care about the student government? If the administration is unresponsive to student government, why should it be receptive to Ann whom you are attempting to launch on a one-woman reform ticket?

Voting in the election is important. The quality of lobbying and the issues which will be lobbied for will be determined by whom is elected. The amount of voting will indicate the amount of student backing and interest.

Do me a favor, Burt. Read Carol Kunkleman's "What? Me Worry" column in the April 26 issue of the Collegian, especially where she tells the apathetic and defeatist student to "keep your mouth shut and don't criticize, question, or evaluate what your fellow students are trying to do for you. You haven't used the intelligence that got you into this place, or the inquiring mind that marks an educated person... if all you can make is generalizations."

—Ellen Messick '64
USG Congresswoman

Bomb Testing Opposed

TO THE EDITOR: Regarding the letter of McCann, Sherman, and Brubaker, in the April 26 issue of the Collegian, there are a few points to clear up on why we (those who demonstrated on April 25 against nuclear testing) wish to stop testing.

- Testing will hinder present disarmament talks.
- Testing increases the radioactivity in the atmosphere which, in turn, falls to earth on food we eat.
- Testing warheads on rockets, might end up with one of our bombs landing in another country with nuclear war as a result.

We have already had two near accidents. First, when the wiring in a (ready-to-go) nuclear rocket caught fire, and secondly, when something was sighted by radar over Alaska, but the cautious commander was level-headed enough not to push the panic button (new name: "oblivion-button"). Perhaps, other close calls have not been reported.

No, gentlemen, we are not trying to dictate to the majority, but instead, doing what our conscience dictates and yet remain within the laws (the First Amendment allows one to peacefully assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances.)

About "informing the de-luted" in Moscow, this past summer, approximately 20 of our representatives walked to Moscow to do just that.

No one can "solve right here" all problems but we can try to bring considerations to the public which those in power have not stressed.

Arthur Ravitz, '62

Soph Proposes Changes In USG Election Procedures

TO THE EDITOR: In the past week several arguments have appeared in the Collegian for and against student government. First it was called to our attention that the University is the training ground for tomorrow's leaders and if the present apathy on campus is any indication of

how our population will adapt itself to the future, woe behold our nation.

Then in a forceful rebuttal it was cited that the college student cannot be classified as the rest of the population. He is not the "mean" individual. At Penn State a mass society has developed, accompanied by such a constant state of rapid change that the student has little time to formulate an informed consensus on USG happenings. And in another argument it was brought out that student government has little jurisdiction over anything.

It seems evident that everyone is not equally qualified to vote in an election which is a personality poll or mud-slinging campaign or over issues of a purely esoteric nature. Our national government's founding fathers realized this in relation to the election of the most important office of the land, the presidency, and they initiated the electoral college.

Certainly, our population doesn't decide the basic scientific consensus which researchers use as the blueprint for development. Why should it decide the basic political consensus?

In response to this challenge

our federal government is becoming a highly trained bureaucracy with increasing "quasi" legislative and judicial powers. If the college student is to be the future's leader, he must champion the progressive and not defend the reactionary. He must inaugurate the system of a bureaucratic student government.

Why not have a panel of trained candidates? Instead of a popularity poll for elections, let's have voting for the qualifications of students X, Y, and Z (not disclosing the candidates names).

More able individuals could be brought into office without fanfare and pretentious political campaigning. These could work effectively with a faculty advisory group. If there was any other student opinion the press could provide the means of expression.

Certainly this system is not infallible. But at least it provides a solution to the present pathetic predicament of campus politics and might well deprive the ridiculous but unfortunately vociferous "apathy hunters" of the opportunity of making fools of themselves.

—Michael Milgrim '64

World at a Glance

Kennedy, AMA Reaffirm Views On Medical Bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Kennedy and the American Medical Association restated their opposing positions on medical care for the aged at a White House conference yesterday.

No agreement is in sight. Afterward, Dr. Leonard Larson, AMA president, told reporters there was no switch of views, no compromise suggested and no evidence of possible accommodation.

Larson, six other AMA executives and Secretary of Welfare Abraham A. Ribicoff met with Kennedy less than an hour, the meeting, Ribicoff said, was called on the initiative of the President.

Larson said the discussion touched on numerous national health issues.

But the main issue was the administration's medical care plan under Social Security, now awaiting action in Congress.

Ribicoff, summing up results of the meeting, said, "There is no question that the President did not change the AMA's mind, or that the AMA changed the President's mind."

Showdown Seen On Literacy Bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senate leaders announced yesterday they will move Monday to force a showdown on the Kennedy administration's literacy test bill.

Under the timetable announced by Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana a vote would come next Wednesday on a petition to end debate and put members on record for or against the measure.

Present indications are that the leaders do not have the necessary two-thirds majority of those voting to cut off debate.

If that should prove to be the case, Mansfield said he will seek an expression of sentiment on the merits of the measure before deciding whether to drop the fight.

Students Riot On May Day

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leftist, snake-dancing students and police fought in Tokyo, and East and West battered each others' eardrums with loudspeakers across Berlin's Communist wall yesterday in the annual observance of May Day.

Moscow's Red Square has for decades been the center of the stage on the international labor day observed in nearly all industrial nations except the United States and Canada. Yesterday the city was swept by heavy rain that dulled the usual glitter of the parade.

May Day in Tokyo started calmly in Meiji Park where 200,000 Japanese massed under the eyes of 16,000 police and heard Communist, socialist and labor union speeches containing fewer anti-American jibes than usual.

But a column of 3,000 left-wing Zengakuren students tired of the tame performance and began a dog-trot snake dance shouting, "Stop the nuclear tests!"

The battle of the loudspeakers broke out along Berlin's wall when the Communists attempted to drown out Gen. Lucius D. Clay and other speakers at a rally of 700,000 West Berliners about 300 yards from the Red wall.

Taft-Hartley Revisions Recommended to JFK

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Kennedy's labor-management advisory committee recommended yesterday broad revision of the Taft-Hartley Act procedures for handling emergency strikes, including powers to recommend settlement terms.

The report of the industry, labor and public members composing the committee, was nearly unanimous. Henry Ford II, head of the Ford Motors, objected to most of the proposed changes, saying, "The present national emergency provisions have had remarkable success in fulfilling their intended purpose."