

Editorial Opinion

Home Study Course

In order to capitalize on the eagerness and enthusiasm of incoming freshmen toward their college careers, we propose that the Inter-College Council Board adopt plans to coordinate a "home study course."

Such a course would consist of reading assignments from highly-recommended books in many and varied fields.

These summer assignments would serve as an introduction to college-level material as well as help students in the fields both related and unrelated to the one they choose.

The Daily Collegian suggests that ICCB, working with the individual college councils, prepare a brief booklist covering a wide range of topics and interests to be mailed to accepted freshmen early in the summer before their first term.

Each college council could place one book on the list—making a total list of ten books.

The newly-accepted freshmen would be urged to read some or all of the books during the summer before they enter Penn State and then to participate in discussion groups on the content of each book held during Orientation Week.

The women's orientation committee is currently considering this type of program on a smaller scale. According to tentative plans, the titles of two books would be mailed to women accepted by the University during the summer. Discussion groups on the books would be planned for Orientation Week.

We feel this cultural addition to Orientation Week would be as great a benefit to incoming men as women and that the program should be expanded to be more effective.

We feel ICCB should coordinate these activities with the orientation chairmen so that students would be able to attend more than one of these discussions.

We urge ICCB, the individual councils and the orientation chairmen and committees to give this proposal prompt consideration. Such a program would not only widen the horizons and academic interests of incoming students, but it would add the often-neglected element of academic pursuit to freshmen Orientation Week.

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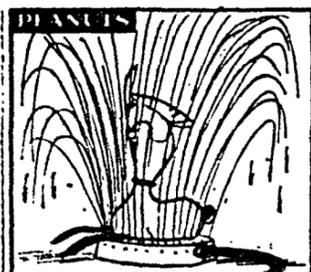
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THIS IS SERIOUS...HOW CAN YOU HELP SOMEONE WHO HAS BECOME A COMPULSIVE "WATER SPRINKLER-HEAD STANDER"?



IT'S VERY SIMPLE...JUST TURN OFF THE WATER!
THANK YOU... SIGH

Steps Toward Quality

Students who have encountered a tightening of academic requirements with the four term plan should realize that the step-up in scholastic activity is not a result of the term system.

The switchover to the four term system merely precipitated an upgrading of academic levels, which had become overdue because of the widening gap between the plateau of instruction and the level of student ability.

Many instructors who had been slow to adjust their course material to the steady increase in the mental aptitude of the student body during the past few years were forced to revise their courses by the changeover to the term system. In doing so, many professors made their courses tougher.

As Dr. Eric A. Walker bluntly told graduating seniors in a

recent address, many 1962 graduates wouldn't have been capable of passing this year's entrance requirements.

A tremendous increase in the number of applications for admission accompanied by a relatively slow rise in state appropriations has allowed the University to become much more selective in its choice of new students.

In 1952, 63 per cent of the students who applied for admission were accepted. In 1955, the percentage fell to 39 per cent, and this year it is about 20 per cent.

A comparison of entrance tests indicates a sharp rise in student quality during the past few years.

Although the four term system has apparently pushed the level of many course requirements upward, the administration still seems somewhat unhappy that many instructors haven't materially changed their course work for many years.

Part of this sluggishness stems from the failure of many professors to realize that the students to which they are lecturing today are much brighter

than the ones they faced four or five years ago.

Another reason why the plateau of learning has remained well below its potential can be traced to the substandard quality of the faculty in certain departments.

In order to assess the weaknesses in each department and prescribe remedies for improvement, the University is conducting an evaluation program.

The administration is also encouraging the hiring of top-rate professors and educators.

To encourage the more ambitious and higher quality instructors the University uses salary as a lever. Of course the extent to which this lever can be applied depends on the money the University has available.

Thus, it can be seen that the term system represents merely one of the many steps being taken to upgrade Penn State's educational levels.

Many less noticeable steps will probably be taken in the years ahead by a quality-conscious administration in an effort to build a top-ranking University.

Letters

Danger Seen In 'Complexes'

TO THE EDITOR: For those, like the Young Americans for Freedom and others, whose attention is directed too particularly against communist aggression a clarification must be made. The massive military-industrial complexes in the several nations are the greatest deprivation of freedom today and will be the greatest potential destroyer of freedom tomorrow.

These complexes, besides eliminating freedom in the communist bloc, have also, at first, strained and now strangled the rest of mankind, thus making peace a meaningless vision. Of the 100 to 125 billion dollars a year (exact figures are unknown) spent on defense and arms in the world, this nation spends at least a third.

However, the future outlets, from the viewpoint of the United States, for this capital are not likely to be used.

Since consumer wants are generally satisfied here, and the possible investment of capital in war-ruined economies is neither desired nor existent, only several solutions remain.

Private investment in under-developed countries without the well-known side effects is rarely attempted by somewhat justifiably timid businessmen who prefer safer markets.

Public funds for general economic welfare (as everyone at this University realizes) are often made insufficient by those individuals whose desire to increase appropriations would not grow after the signing of a disarmament treaty.

But the most frightful spectacle is the type of tyranny that would arise where a power vacuum existed before the use of an excess of 100 odd billion dollars.

Consequently, those who singly devote themselves to attaining a disarmament treaty with Russia or to increasing the arms race as a means of national defense are leading themselves to mutual destruction.

—Stephen Book, '63

WDFM Schedule

- FRIDAY
5:00 Montly Masie
6:00 News
6:55 Weatherpage
7:00 Spotlight
8:00 Light Classical Jukebox
9:00 Marquee Memories
9:45 News, Weather & Sports
10:00 Ballet Theatre
12:00 Nightstand
2:00 News
2:05 Sign-Off

World At A Glance
Kennedy Pushes For Full Inquiry Into Estes Case

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy said three times yesterday his administration brought the scandalous Billie Sol Estes case to light and that it "is staying right on Mr. Estes' tail"—with 75 FBI agents.

Kennedy said his administration is pushing a complete inquiry into operations of the Texan whose financial dealings have touched Congress and the executive branch.

The President assured a news conference that any federal employes who have committed improprieties — four already have quit or been fired — will be subjected to immediate discipline.

In developments on Capitol Hill, a fullscale Senate investigation has been ordered into Estes' political and financial manipulations.

The probe was voted yesterday at a closed-door session of the Senate's Permanent Investigations Sub-committee headed by Sen. John L. McClellan, D-Ark.

How soon the hearings will start was left undecided. McClellan was reported hoping to get them under way late this month if sufficient groundwork has been prepared.

McClellan reported there was no sign of any partisan discord among the Republican and Democratic members of the subcommittee.

Estes, who piled up a complicated financial empire which collapsed in a welter of scandal and fraud charges, has been subpoenaed.

Kearns Declines Asking Primary Vote Recount

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Carroll D. Kearns, R-Pa., said yesterday he won't ask for a recount of the vote in which he failed to win nomination in Tuesday's primary election. "I wouldn't even bother," Kearns told a reporter. "I'm not interested."

His loss, Kearns said, was a loss to Pennsylvania's 24th district, due to his position as ranking Republican on the House Labor Committee.

"If they're that stupid to throw that seniority away, let them beg," said Kearns. "They'll never get this opportunity again."

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Preparations for astronaut Malcolm Scott Carpenter's orbital flight — marred by a tragic plane crash in Africa — progressed yesterday toward a launching tomorrow as the weather remained a major question mark.

A U.S. Air Force transport plane flying a supply run to a Project Mercury contingency site at Nairobi, Kenya, crashed and burned near that city yesterday, apparently killing all 14 persons aboard.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration maintains 16 such contingency areas around the world in case the astronaut's capsule should land in an unscheduled spot. Manning these rescue control centers are planes, para-rescue men and frogmen ready for instant deployment in an emergency.

All aboard the plane, based at Evreux Air Base, France, and assigned to the 322 Air Division, were Air Force personnel.

NASA said the crash will not delay Carpenter's flight.

House Committee Okays Trade Bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The last controversial provision of President Kennedy's sweeping new trade legislation was okayed by the House Ways and Means Committee yesterday while Cabinet members and others plugged for its enactment.

Kennedy himself arranged to speak last night at a bipartisan conference of about 2,000 persons arranged by backers of the program, which envisions giving the President broad new authority to negotiate tariff reductions.

The Ways and Means Committee, which has been working on the legislation in closed sessions for weeks, approved by a one-vote margin Kennedy's recommendations on benefits for workers who would be affected by the program.

House leaders expect to call the bill up for action early next month. The Senate will consider it later.