

Editorial Opinion

Crippling Precedent

A gaping hole in what were previously thought to be airtight regulations for the operation of the USG Congress was discovered at Thursday night's meeting of the Congress.

The constitutional by-laws of the Congress state "if any member of Congress shall fail to attend two regular meetings without reasonable excuse, he may be impeached by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the Congress. Conviction by two-thirds vote of Congress shall result in removal from office."

The word "may" in the above quoted paragraph became the key which permitted Congressman Thomas Paton, fraternity area, to remain in office although he was absent from two regular meetings of the Congress without valid excuses.

Judgement on the validity of excuses is solely in the Rules Committee. The committee decided at a special meeting early Thursday night that Paton's excuses did not fit into any of the by-laws categories defining a valid excuse.

Paton said his first absence occurred because he had to study for two bluebooks which he had the day after the Congress meeting and his second absence was caused by a conflicting meeting.

The operating by-laws of the Congress state specifically that the only valid excuses are a simultaneous examination, illness or a serious personal incident.

By voting against the impeachment of Paton, the Congress has established a precedent which could cripple the work of the Congress. The by-law definition of a valid excuse is now worthless since the Congress seems willing to accept as valid excuses other than those stated in the by-laws. The door now seems open for all Congressmen to miss meetings presenting only the slightest excuse with little risk of impeachment.

Since the Congress meets only once a week, and thus is forced to consider a large number of proposals in a short time, we feel that each Congressman must attend all meetings.

The Congress cannot operate as a truly representative student governing body until it takes itself out of the realm of "just another student activity" and places itself on a higher plane as the supreme student governing body on this campus. This cannot be accomplished with many of the representatives absent.

The present form of student government was set up because many students believed the old system was just another activity. One of the main arguments against the old system was that the representatives did not take their duties seriously and failed to attend many meetings.

If this government is to represent an improvement over the previous one, it must realize the importance of attendance and make every effort possible to insure 100 per cent attendance of the Congressmen at each meeting.

We believe the Congress must take immediate action to plug this hole by establishing definite provisions for the impeachment of Congressmen. While we believe that mitigating circumstances can be present, we fail to see why the Rules Committee should not be the judge of these circumstances.

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 3, 1879. Mail Subscription Price: \$6.00 a year. Mailing Address - Box 281, State College, Pa.

Member of The Associated Press

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the AP

The Press-Wit and Wisdom

by ann palmer

Yesterday I attended the first workshop of the Pennsylvania Society of Newspaper Editors conference being held this weekend in the Nittany Lion Inn.

Several thought-provoking comments came from the brief talks given by editors from newspapers throughout the state.

Ted Gress, city editor for the Lebanon Daily News, spoke to the group on "What Makes a Good Reporter?" To illustrate his conception of the ideal newspaper reporter, Gress asked members of his staff to write a paragraph or two on the "precious jewel" which every editor hopes to find.

One staff member of the Lebanon Daily News said the best prospects for a good reporter are those persons who have experience. He compared experience to a college education and said that while the latter is important, experience makes the man. How true!

It is indeed unfortunate that most college students don't realize that most jobs will not depend on a three-inch list of degrees after their names. Certainly many employers seek this type of academic prowess. However, more and more companies, whether they specialize in frozen food or automobile sales, are seeking the well-rounded person - the person with intelligence, initiative, common sense, level-headedness and enthusiasm.

College offers an academic education. That is its primary concern. But college can offer vast experience if one takes the time to find it. College is the place where the student can learn practical and social values which will prepare him to handle a job after graduation, a job in which he isn't required to wear his horn-rimmed glasses.

All these statements lead to the same point. Students must take advantage of the "experience" side of college life. They must get out and do things. They must realize the value of actively pursuing their interests whether they be dramatics, newspaper work, student government, literary clubs, political

discussions, service projects, politics, engineering projects, athletic teams, writing, sewing, drawing, acting, planning.

Students who feel they are getting the most out of their college careers by staying cooped up with their books day in and day out, in my estimation, are way off base. If they can't face or don't care to face the world at this, the most invigorating and active time of their lives, they will not be able to face it capably in one, two or three years when they graduate from the University.

A second choice comment which came from the PSNE conference was made by Duke Kaminski, Harrisburg correspondent for the Philadelphia Bulletin.

Kaminski greeted the audience with a remark made to him on his departure from the capital yesterday morning as he prepared to leave for the University. He was told to "say hello to the management and all those poor, misguided college students up there in State College."

I think we "misguided students" have made definite progress when the Harrisburg crew realizes we are poor!

aimless

That Wonderful Season?

by sandy yaggi

Oh, to be at the beach, sitting on the sand, watching the waves roll in, or to be in the mountains just relaxing beside a cool stream with not a care in the world.

Just tell me Mr. "Snowed" Myers, why must the thermometer be so inconsistent with University life. How can I be expected to concentrate on French revolution, the problems of Laos, the theories of Socrates or Kant, or the economic theories of Keynes, when Mr. Myers' mercury reads 93, a record high for May.

As I look out my window, I see the girls from the dorm sunning themselves on the lawn, but yet as I listen to the sounds, intermingled with the shouts of the frisbee players, and the motorscooters "scooting" by, I can also hear the frantic clicking of busy typewriters, hastening to turn out that term paper that was due last week.

Given the opportunity, I pile into a car with others who are trying to escape not only the heat but also the cares of University life and head toward Whipples, the Fort Lauderdale of Centre County. Never have I seen so many people with (supposedly) not a care in the world, well no cares about University work, any way.

Somehow this so-called "heat wave" seems to have become a "disaster wave" for the academic aspects of the University. It seems impossible to come to grips with the fact that the University will not close its doors on learning (for this "round" at least) until June 8. How will I bear it!

But, wait! June 8 (Panic) Three weeks away. It can't be. A term paper here, a theme there, a bluebook here, and heaven forbid, FINALS! How will I ever get all the work done.

But Mr. Myers, you have made it difficult for me to concentrate.

"Who's going to Whipples?"

Surely this wonderful sunshine, the fragrance of the trees, the sound of lawnmowers, the voice shouting from a convertible that goes speeding by cannot be an academic environment. Surely I must be at some resort nestled at the foot of the Nittany Mountain in picturesque Central Pennsylvania.

(Ring) "Good afternoon, Daily Collegian, may I help you?" "Sandy, Line one."

"Okay, thanks." (Thanks for what?) There it goes again—always someone or something keeps calling me back to the University family, either as a whole or in part.

Well, there's one consolation, I guess. At this time next year, I can join the ranks of the senior set at Whipples, who with graduation only three weeks away, and their contributions made to the University family, can afford to enjoy the expensive resort facilities and be just plain—Aimless.

2 cents worth

Name Changing: The Thing to Do

by dave runkel

It's time for a name change.

The trend today seems to be to change the name of a common object when a tainted connotation becomes connected with it.

Just recently, for example, the bowling enthusiasts have changed the name of bowling alleys to bowling lanes and the gutters to poodles in an attempt to disassociate the sport from its not so clean background.

It must be admitted that alley and gutter do have certain unappealing connotations with them.

The sport of pool has also been attempting to improve itself by increasing the use of the title billiards in place of pool. And scuba diving has replaced skin diving.

In other areas changes have been made to increase sales and to delete the harsh sounds of some words.

The smaller automobiles undoubtedly have sold much better since they were called compact instead of just "smaller cars."

In addition, the term highway death is passing from use since newspapers and the National Safety Council have switched to using the more

gentle term traffic fatality.

Name changing has only gotten started on this campus. The name dormitories and, especially, the abbreviated dorms has been replaced with the title residence halls.

But, there is a long way to go before all of the tainted titles are eliminated on campus. Perhaps ROTC would be more appealing if it was called something like Tactical Training in Preparation for Strategic Advancement (this also would be in line with the trend towards long, confusing titles) instead of Rot-see.

Eating in Waring Dining Hall might be much more pleasant if the name was changed to the Eutaw House or Duffy's Tavern. Of course, there is another problem connected with having a name such as the last one for a dining hall on campus.

But, perhaps the three most tainted words here are those used to denote rank on campus—the student body, the administration or faculty members.

How many times has the administration been accused of doing this, or the student body been attacked for doing that or the faculty deciding to take this action.

Student-administration, student-faculty and faculty-administration relations could markedly improve if these names were discarded and replaced with something like puppets for students, craftsmen for faculty members and puppeteers for administrators.



MISS PALMER



MISS YAGGI



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WDFM Schedule

- SATURDAY
2:00 Sign-On
2:30 Metropolitan Opera
5:00 Saturday at State
6:55 Weatherscope
7:00 H-FI Open House
7:30 Offbeat
1:00 MTCOOPS
5:15 King's Korner