

Editorial Opinion

The Finale

Acts II and III of the float parade drama have ended with the finale still unwritten. The controversy over when the float parade will be held, which has implications reaching into the futures of both Greek and Spring Weeks, has been presented to a near capacity audience for almost four weeks.

Tonight, most likely, the finale will be written as the student government decides the date of the float parade.

The major roles in the drama have been played by the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council—both of which are active in Spring Week and the only participants in Greek Week.

Act I of the four-act play took place when Richard Pigossi, past president of IFC, proposed to the Council that the Spring Week carnival be replaced by a Spring Week float parade in the future.

Act II took place Monday night when IFC, without hearing a true presentation of both sides of the issue, voted to support a float parade held on Friday night of Spring Week.

Act III occurred Tuesday night when Panhel, also without hearing a thorough presentation of both sides of the issue, voted to support the parade held in the fall in conjunction with Homecoming Weekend.

Since, in the past, these two groups have been the major parade participants, we believe they should attempt to reach common agreement before USG votes on the issue tonight.

We suggest that a scenario, with Panhel and IFC sharing center stage, be put into the drama before the finale. This could be staged around 6:30 tonight in the HUB before USG meets at 7:30. It would give the members of both councils a chance to hear and debate opposing views and perhaps to conciliate their differences.

Prior to acts II and III, the executive boards of both organizations met and reached a compromise which apparently was not agreeable to the members of both councils.

At 11 last night, the presidents of the organizations involved had not reached a decision on whether or not to meet jointly. We feel this lack of cooperation is a disgraceful detriment to Greek Week, Spring Week and Homecoming Weekend as all three are involved in this issue and planning time for any or all three is limited.

We again present our proposed finale—that a float parade be held during Homecoming Weekend.

Our reasons were stated yesterday.

We urge that the final decision on the float parade be made responsibly and constructively and that IFC and Panhel show enough cooperation to resolve their differences before the final float parade decision is made by USG tonight.

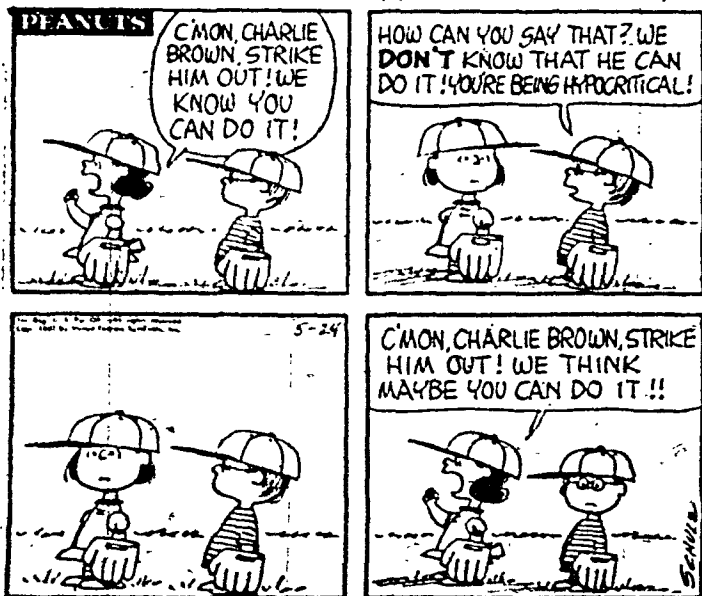
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qui salt?

Student Stalemates

by saralee orton

IFC and Panhel's little disagreement threatens to make Penn State student government look a little like the French Fourth Republic—known for its embarrassing deadlocks.

And like the French it makes us look a little silly in our attempts at reconciling differences and finding solutions acceptable to the majority.

But the French have been hasseling for years over such important problems as the system of government they should have, the place of religion in the country and the disposition of colonial territories, which are admittedly tough nuts to crack. Penn State stu-



MISS ORTON

dent organizations can't even come to an agreement on if and when to have a float parade.

The present situation has left not only the float parade, but Spring Week, Greek Week and IFC-Panhel Music Festival up in the air where they might well remain if some action is not taken quickly. The organizations seem as effectively deadlocked as the French Assembly was over some of its issues.

Instead of stumbling along in chaos, maybe our student organizations can find a government more worthy of emulation than the French. My candidate for a model is the British, noted for its peaceful, efficient ways of solving factional problems.

The British cabinet, made up of the ministers of various government departments, does an effective job of presenting pro-

posals to Parliament. Because these proposals are usually carefully-considered and well-drawn, it provides a firm basis for legislative action.

I'm not suggesting that Penn State organize a cabinet on an official basis, but it seems to me that the British ideal would be an effective way of preventing sticky situations such as the present one.

Obviously individual groups have different points of view and different things to consider in adopting any proposal. There should be some effort made to hear all the views before a proposal is presented to individual groups.

If the presidents could meet to hear the first presentation of important suggestions involving their groups, they could discuss it with their group's interest in mind and reach an agreement on what would be most beneficial to the student body.

After this, the presidents could return to their respective organizations with a carefully-drawn proposal which considers all aspects and consequences of an action and is at least tentatively acceptable to all concerned. On the basis of this, the organizations could make decisions in a more intelligent manner than they have in the past.

To be sure, all decisions neither could nor should be dictated by the agreement of the "cabinet" but they would be made in full knowledge of a great many more facts than are now presented.

Neither could all this be accomplished in one meeting of either the cabinet or the organizations, so plans should be made far enough in advance so that the end of the term doesn't arrive with issues still unresolved.

In all fairness, attempts have been made at coordinating the groups involved in the float parade issue. Joint executive meetings have been held and the proposal was presented to all groups, but these efforts were not carefully enough thought out to be effective.

The fact that the cabinet system helps keep the British government calm and efficient does not necessarily mean that it will work at Penn State. However, some effort must be made or like the French, we'll need a deGaulle to step in and save us all.

Interpreting

Chinese Exodus Causes Problems

By J. M. ROBERTS

Associated Press News Analyst
The long-expected mass flight from the results of Chinese communism appears to have begun, and like the long-hoped-for unification of Europe, is presenting serious problems.

One reason is that the Peiping regime, having stumbled badly over industrial inexperience in its "great leap forward," decided to shift back to the country the workers who have been concentrated in the cities. This is at a time when crop failures already had the countryside on next to starvation rations.

The British are meeting the problem temporarily by turning back as many refugees as they can at the Hong Kong border.

But one thing seems to be sure.

If the West proves unable to provide sanctuary and food for men who flee their homes in search of food and freedom, then it will have failed its traditions and its pretensions to superiority over the Communist sphere in both economic and political ability.

One of the problems faced by those who seek a solution is that few of the refugees express willingness to go far from the bits of land and the

relatives they have left behind. Knowing little of either politics or economics, they flee from hunger and nurse hopes of return based on they know not what.

The Chinese Nationalists on Formosa are under pressure to do more, and will. The already crowded island can use a good many farmers. But they are hesitant of being accused by fellow Chinese of kidnaping people who speak only Cantonese, not understood in Formosa, and who fear any sort of overseas trip.

The refugees are not people who could be resettled in most Western countries in the usual sense of that word, since their productivity would never reach self support.

Aside from moving in and returning China to her people, the problem seems to be almost insoluble.

Nevertheless, there is a thought inscribed on a famous statue standing over the Port of New York which the whole Western world can ill afford to forget:

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free. The wretched refuse of your teeming shore."

Letters

Royal Letter Challenged

TO THE EDITOR: In reply to the letter of Mr. Royal in Tuesday's Collegian: I regret that you dismiss concern about nuclear destruction of the world as merely "noble and humanitarian," inferring that this concern is naive and ill-founded. It may be that the pacifist philosophy is not a complete and realistic one. But, in the same token, we can't dismiss nuclear destruction as only a secondary threat in the world situation today.

But my main criticism of your letter is directed at the assumption upon which your whole argument is based; that "we are faced with two choices; submission or resistance." This oversimplification of the nature of international conflicts is a grave handicap that must be overcome before we can progress toward solutions of the various problems.

Indeed, if all were as simple as you suggest, there would be little cause for frustration and neurosis in the world—and indeed little challenge in living. —Joseph Bosworth '65

Little Man on Campus

by Dick Bibler

