

Editorial Opinion

# University Park: Boom Town 1962

Freshmen of the future may find the University's campus even more bewildering as buildings continue to spread far and away from Old Main's tranquil setting on Pollock Road.

Plans have been made for vast new facilities to aid programs and projects in several of the University's colleges. Research, which receives boosts almost daily from new or extended grants, will be properly housed for the first time in many cases.

While campus atmosphere may be converted into that of a boom town at its height, we cannot but welcome these additions which will enable the University to better serve its state, a Commonwealth which incidentally seems reluctant to claim its educated step-child.

If our suggestions are heard anywhere that it matters, we would like to offer some reservations, however. We realize that beggars—even rich beggars—can't be choosers but we are willing to give it a whirl.

●Point 1: A University the size of Penn State needs proper swimming facilities on campus to give the necessary water safety instruction. These will not cause the University to revert to its "country club" status. We do hope, however, that provision has been made for equivalent space for the University Flower Garden in some quarter of the campus.

The large garden has proven a mecca for many apartment-bound citizens in years past and provides touches of color to enhance a campus bursting its seams. In addition, East Hills residents have to possess some advantage in addition to Beaver Stadium's location for living almost off-campus.

●Point 2: Suggestions have been made repeatedly to preserve other traditional spots and buildings. (Hort Woods we DO consider in this category, incidentally.)

One of these questions concerned converting the Armory into a museum for Penn State lore. Surely in coming years the old Armory may be marked for destruction and should not be allowed to meet this fate. The distinctive building might prove a popular location for the material now stored in the Penn State Room on the Pattee Library's fourth floor.

University students should be proud of this storehouse of information, but all too few of us even know of its existence. In addition, we often have difficulty mustering the energy to use this collection. Remember this thought should the Armory be a possible victim of the construction boom.

●Point 3: We are indeed proud of the new buildings rising rapidly around us but again ask the feasibility of an addition to the library or construction of a new auditorium worthy of this University. Many a smaller school boasts an arena with much greater seating capacity.

And Point 4: What about some degree of architectural continuity? The addition to Sackett Building serves as a prime example for this point. Take a look today.

We hope these suggestions will be viewed in the light we intend—to provide a skeleton of ideas for reflection in the midst of rapid-paced expansion.

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# Flashback—Brave Old State

by herb witmer

And we think we have it rough! Check these excerpts from the 1923 edition of the Student's Hand Book of the Pennsylvania State College.

**ON TEMPERANCE:** "There are two temperance societies on the campus which are working together. Wonder of wonders! They are interested in 'all new men who have temperance work at heart'."



WITMER

And the Skellar's wails came tumbling down.

**ON STUDENT GOVERNMENT:** "The entire plan of student government has been carefully revised during the past year..." Sound familiar? "... Every student should familiarize himself with the organization and operation of this college democracy..." Good luck!

**ON FRESHMAN CUSTOMS:** "Every student shall salute the President." As if the ROTC drill field isn't enough. Besides, you can't salute what you can't see.

"Freshmen shall not be permitted to enter pool rooms."

Or play the "nasty" pin ball machines in the HUB.

"Freshmen shall not be permitted to use tobacco in any form in public." Spittoons, however, will be supplied in the dormitory.

"The privilege of adorning their faces with hair growths shall be limited to members of the three upper classes." Hallelujah! And why not extend the limitation to the three upper classes, too. But, alas, the "rushing" program of the intellectuals would be ruined.

"The ringing of Old Main bell shall be restricted to sanctioned occasions." Reinstate this rule. It gets a bit tiring with "sanctioned occasions" occurring every fifteen minutes.

**ON THE INFIRMARY:** "The College Health Service was established in January, 1915, for the preservation of the health of the students..." Chuckle.

**ON FRATERNITIES:** "There are many things to be gained by joining a fraternity but do not make your decision too suddenly." Sober up first. Incidentally, there were 32 social fraternities at that time.

**ON SCRAPS:** To add a touch of spice to college life, class scraps were held. The freshman class was pitted against the sophomore class. These scraps ranged from a gentle

"Tug-O-War" to the "Tie-Up-Scrap" in which the opponents attempted to tie the hands and feet of their adversary with a rope. Injuries were not uncommon, either. Rodeo, anyone?

**ON FIRE COMPANIES:** "The protection of the borough and College from fire is in the hands of a student volunteer company." God bless you. Alpha Fire Company and heaven forbid a Saturday night fire in the old days.

**ON PUBLICATIONS:** "The Penn State Collegian is the most important of the student publications..." A revelation! The editor of the '23 Hand Book and the editor of Collegian MUST have been one and the same.

Froth depicts "the humorous side of college life by original and distinctive bits of humor..." If you've read Froth lately, you know it "just ain't like the old days."

**IN CONCLUSION:** If anyone wishes to explore further into the almost ancient traditions of Penn State, let me encourage you to do so. The Penn State Room on the fourth floor of the library is at your disposal.

And a note of thanks to Don Storm, whose '23 Hand Book made possible this flashback to the state of State 39 years ago and today.

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# Kennedy's Political Hay

by joel myers

In discussing the state of the economy before the American people Monday evening, President Kennedy made subtle but very effective political hay for his administration and the Democratic Party.

He began by showing how his administration has started the nation on the long uphill journey toward complete recovery from the two Republican recessions of the past five years.

He ended up by promising the voters a tax cut in January, 1963. It will undoubtedly be pointed out to the voters later in the autumn Congressional campaign that such a tax cut could only pass a Congress that looked with favor upon the New Frontier.

In between "the pat on the back" and election promise, Kennedy maneuvered a vary unorganized Congress into a rather uncomfortable corner by telling the American public that this Congress looks with

favor on much of his legislation and favorable action is likely on many of his bills before adjournment.

Now, of course, if Congress doesn't pass the bills Kennedy lists as "most important," he can go to the voters and tell them the "boys on the Hill" let him down.

Perhaps the wisest move of the entire election campaign was Kennedy's decision to not ask for a tax cut now but to promise the voters one next year.

By telling the nation the economy is not unhealthy now, confidence is kept from sinking.

By promising business and housewives a tax cut next year, they can start planning now on how they'll spend that extra money. Some may even begin spending it before the cut takes effect. The net effect will be increased confidence in the economy and a brightening outlook for the future.

In an effort to squelch Republican charges of fiscal irresponsibility Kennedy pointed to relative reductions in the budget deficit and the national debt and promised "sharp review" of all government agencies and spending plans.

He also took time to deride the special interest groups that

oppose his progressive legislation. Without naming the American Medical Association specifically, he put those who oppose medical care for the elderly in a category with those who were once against Social Security, the minimum wage and a ban on child labor.

"We would still be in the dark ages economically if we permitted these opponents of progress and defenders of special privileges and interests to veto every forward move," he told his nationwide radio and television audience.

In referring to medicare in this speech that was mainly centered on the nation's economy, Kennedy kept one of his prime campaign issues for the coming election before the American public.

Medicare under social security has widespread appeal among millions of citizens — both the persons past 65 who cannot meet their own medical bills and the younger people who are burdened by doctor, hospital or nursing home charges for their ailing parents.

Although Kennedy's speech was supposed to be an economic report to the people, it seemed to dwell on issues that are politically favorable to the Democrats.



MYERS

### Letters

## Mehan's Column Called Unjust By Student Recognition Head

TO THE EDITOR: (Attention: Miss Joan Mehan)

In the Summer Collegian of August 9, 1962, you had a column discussing your views on the U.S.G. Student Recognition Committee. I feel that it was very unjust in a few ways. To begin with, why print an article about something which you know so little about. You should wait to hear all plans and ideas from the committee (which is only beginning to be organized) before stating your remarks. Your apparent attack on Mr. Dean Wharton was completely unnecessary, especially since it was not his "horrible" idea.

Your sarcasm was excellent. Since I would recognize members of Collegian's Senior

Board as student leaders, your suggestion for sandwich signs, autograph parties, and arrangement of class times for them means that you are interested in having such activities to make yourself known.

Miss Mehan—if the Collegian is so opposed to honor societies (both hat and otherwise), why did you accept Mortar Board and two journalism honoraries.

Thank you.  
Lynn Richman  
Chairman, Student Recognition Committee

P.S. Please make every effort to see that this goes in the Collegian.

(Editor's Note: Miss Mehan is a member of Mortar Board. However, she is a member of only one journalism society, and that one a professional and not honorary group.)

## Nigerian Youth Asks Pen Pal

TO THE EDITOR: I am very happy to write these few lines to you. I wish you would publish my name and address into your newspaper, The Summer Collegian, as a Nigerian boy seeking a pen pal. May God almighty be with you always.

I am a Nigerian boy age 18 years old. I am 5 feet, 5 inches tall with brown eyes. My hobbies are football, swimming, running, table tennis, fishing and jumping.

We might exchange some Nigerian products such as ebony carvings, wall plaques, handbags made of snake skins, ivory carvings, African drums, bow and arrows or slippers for ladies and gentlemen.

I shall be very happy if my humble letter is favorably considered.

Isiaka Adio  
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●Letter cut