

Editorial Opinion

Mock Election Will Add To Voting Preparation

The incoming governor of Pennsylvania will have had a much better opportunity to become well-versed in the needs of this University, this year than in any other election year.

Also students, faculty members and administrators will have had a better opportunity to learn the views of the new governor.

Several groups are responsible for these improved communications.

First, President Walker invited both candidates for governor to speak on campus.

Second, both accepted.

Third, both candidates welcomed a question and answer period in addition to their formal speech.

Fourth, students took advantage of this question and answer period.

And fifth, and the most recent development, student government will conduct a mock state election with a controlled campaign period during which both the Young Republican and Young Democrat Clubs will conduct a rigorous campaign.

We strongly believe that students should take a live interest in all elections and especially in the election of a state governor. In the past few years the importance of the governor in the plans of this University has been made shockingly clear.

This mock election will give students the chance to express their opinion on the state political scene before the election. In the past, student activity in this area has always taken place after a governor has been elected.

Just as we thanked President Walker for having the foresight to invite the candidates to speak on campus, we thank student government for arranging a mock election making the expression of student feelings on state government possible.

Directory Distribution

The distribution of student-faculty directories is scheduled for completion today.

Currently, town directories are suspended by a chain from each residence hall phone. We suggest that the same procedure be used for student-faculty directories.

This year a directory is being provided for every residence hall room. Since four rooms share the use of each telephone in most halls, the quantity of directories needed for residence hall distribution would be quartered.

And, also, since the directory is used chiefly for telephone number references, a directory attached to each telephone would be more convenient.

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58 Years of Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

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Proposal for Armory Use

(Editors' note: Recently the University announced that the Armory on the Mall, one of the oldest campus buildings, is to be torn down and replaced by an extension to Willard in order to provide more classroom space.

While the editors agree that more classrooms are needed, we also feel that the following proposal, submitted to the Collegian by two fifth year students in architecture, merits consideration. We have reprinted their report in its entirety.)

By DAVID MITCHELL and WILSON POLLOCK

"The Armory... a (campus) landmark since its construction in 1889, is scheduled to be razed for an addition to Willard (Building)..." Daily Collegian, Oct. 4, 1962.

Why is Willard to be expanded? One would immediately think that this move is necessary to provide additional administration offices. However, such is not the case. The administration offices are to be moved to a new building, leaving Willard and its new addition entirely classroom space.

Must the building of new classrooms necessitate the razing of the Armory? Has there been any administrative consideration weighing the various costs between demolition of the Armory and the addition to Willard against saving the Armory and building a separate classroom structure elsewhere on campus? A certain cost is involved for the building of classrooms. The demolition of the Armory is an unnecessary expense to that involved with the addition of more classrooms to Penn State.

The Armory is the second oldest unchanged building on campus. Old Main has been remodeled many times since its original construction. The Old Stock Pavilion, designed by the architect who built the Armory, has been completely gutted to allow a functioning space for Center Stage. The older box-like Psychology Lab, across from Schwab Auditorium, is the only older unchanged building at Penn State. The Armory was the scene of Penn State's first dance, when in 1890 the administration lifted its ban on dancing. The large semi-circular windows and their ventilation principle, conceived by George W. Atherton, then President of the college, were amazingly advanced for their time.

The richness of character of the Armory exemplifies the era

of the Civil War and the very beginnings of Penn State. The building is one of the few old "collegiate" structures remaining on the University campus. Most architectural historians agree that the high level quality of brick work in the Romanesque revival style is unmatched anywhere on campus.

Our University should not become careless with its architectural heritage. While it is always important and necessary to grow and build anew, it is equally important to earnestly evaluate the worth of older architecture and not unconsciously throw a building with value away.

A fact about the Armory which may have brought the conclusion that the Armory is useless is that since the building of Rec. Hall, it has been consistently misused. The Armory was designed as a large open space for physical education and other activities requiring such openness. Therefore, small offices and divisions could never have been successful or efficient in the Armory. Now, many might say that the Armory does not have a functional purpose for remaining at Penn State. This is untrue. The potential of this structure as an exposition hall is not realized by most people. Nowhere on campus is there sufficient space for pure display. Exposition has become an important modern means of communication. Large, open space is primary for flexible, efficient, functioning of exposition.

At present, Penn State University has various exhibition spaces, places where works of art and science may be put on display and viewed. Most of these spaces are small and relate to specific departments of the University. The one large space that may be considered as dedicated to the University as a whole, the HUB Gallery, is most inadequate and sadly reflects the University's lack of awareness of exposition as a vital adjunct to learning, as vital and effective as the textbook, visual aid and the professor.

The exposition as differentiated from the exhibition, utilizes all the media of communication to convey information and to stimulate through exhibits, films, live performances, sound tracks, and communicant participation. The exposition might be likened to a seminar, while the exhibit likened to a textbook.

A few live presentations of works of art have been made at the HUB, but because of in-

adequate facilities, they tend to be mere formalities and "meet the artist" affairs and hardly tap the educational potential of examining other men's thoughts.

If one were to try to show the parallels and inter-relationships of form and mechanics found in nature to that thus far used by man in his art and engineering, and needed to have microphotographs, sound patterns, displays, working models, paintings, sculpture and men to demonstrate and relate this material, where could this be done? Perhaps it could be achieved, a little in Hammond Building, a little in Home Economics, a little in Temporary Building, but physically and perhaps conceptually disconnected.

After much thought and investigation gotten out of giving this problem to a class of interior designers, the conclusion is obvious. The Armory is the place where this more recent concept in education might occur. It has been found ideal not only in space available and large, open, flexible quality of that space, but, all of the little service spaces this kind of building would need are there in the Armory.

On a map of the campus, Pattee Library — the symbol of recorded knowledge, Old Main — the symbol of organized and administered knowledge, and the Armory — possibly the symbol of disseminated knowledge — could begin to form the core of what this University wants to become — not a facility for training, but an instrument for education, expressed by the grouping and interior workings of the buildings that make up the University.

If the publicity for exhibitions were to be handled correctly, Penn State might not only rise in academic and cultural stature within the state, but become a model for other universities.

The Armory is part of the Penn State tradition. It deserves preservation if only for the reason that it is a historical and architectural landmark for Pennsylvania. The razing of the Armory is economically questionable, yet its destruction poses a much deeper question. What does one do with older buildings when they appear to have outlived their original purpose? Should they be thrown away without a second thought, or should they be investigated for their present potential and possibilities?

Letters

Inadequate Rec Facilities

TO THE EDITOR: Nittany area has long been termed "temporary" housing. For the large group of us who are forced to live in Nittany due to the housing shortage, it is certainly far from being temporary. I feel that I am speaking for the majority of Nittany's residents when I state that we are not complaining about our lot; however, we feel that in the area of recreation we have been treated as second class denizens of this campus. We have no TV sets, no ping-pong tables and no other indoor recreational facilities.

We are told that we are to use the facilities of Pollock A. These facilities are overtaxed and Nittany residents frequently have difficulty in gaining access to them. For example, a Nittany man who wishes to view a televised football game finds that there are no empty chairs in the TV lounge. Thus, he is faced with two alternatives: either he must stand at a distance from the set or not see the game at all.

At this point one might be inclined to ask, what is the University's attitude toward recreational facilities for Nittany residents? As usual, the University has shown lack of both foresight and concern for the needs of Nittany men. Take, for example, the old building that was once the

Nittany dining hall. Instead of using it as a recreation center for the area, the University chose to utilize the major portion of the building for a theater production studio.

Perhaps the reader might logically conclude that we Nittany residents desire indoor recreational facilities that would be on par with those of other housing areas. This is not so. We simply desire certain minimal facilities of our own such as a TV set and several ping-pong tables. We do not think that we are asking for too much, since we pay our fees just as do the residents of other areas.

—Dan L. Smichnick '64

Reflections

On Army Game

TO THE EDITOR: Reflections on the 1962 Army game. In the light of the available evidence.

● Penn State has a great football team.

● It would have taken a minor miracle to defeat the Army team under those circumstances.

● Even so, our team did work wonders.

● I believe our team won a moral victory.

● Our team displayed remarkable morale in the face of discouraging happenings.

● Football is a great game primarily because it is a laboratory demonstration of "spirit."

Challenge: What are we doing to inspire (in-spirit) our team?

—Robert Boyer
University Baptist Chaplain

Campus Beat

Scheduling problems on campus seem minor compared to this one at the University of Missouri: Students in a lit course found themselves assigned to Room 11 — the ladies rest room — the first day of class.

According to an Associated Press report, the just-as-surprised professor moved the class to another room with the qualification, "It's a very small ladies room and there are 15 students in the course."

—Prof Wayne

WDFM Schedule WEDNESDAY

5:00	Dinner, Date
6:00	Washington Reports
6:15	Weathercope
6:25	Virtuose
7:30	News
7:35	Highlight
8:00	Pleasures of Music
8:55	Sports News
9:00	Campus and Religion
9:15	Mostly Music
9:30	News
9:35	Mostly Music
10:00	Symphonic Notebook
12:00	Sign Off