

Froth's Charter Withdrawn

(An Editorial)

We feel that yesterday's banning of the Penn State Froth from this campus was a most unfortunate, unwise and unfounded decision by the Committee on Student Organizations.

The Committee based its reasons for charter revocation on Froth's past. Indeed, the committee even dragged out of the closet reprimands written in 1951 about Froth. These reprimands were addressed to Froth advisors, a student government president and two of the Froth staff. Three of these five letters were presented as evidence only in closed executive session and were never shown to the accused. This tactic in itself is extremely unjust.

The defense prepared by Robert M. Pockrass, Froth literary advisor, answered charges presented by the deans of men and women. But the hub of conversation during the hearing between Froth

and the committee members revolved around the future of the magazine as well as the set of proposals which Froth had prepared to revamp their organization.

Froth's recommendations for improvement, which in themselves greatly restricted the magazine's freedom, were scoffed at by the committee in its decisive statement.

The committee brushed off Froth's proposals, saying that because Froth failed in explicitly adhering to their constitution in the past year, there is "no assurance that revision will result in increased responsibility."

In its decision, the committee completely overstepped its bounds as a rational, decision-making group by using a statement, which Froth representatives made in the hearing, out of context and to the direct advantage of Froth's opposition.

In the hearing, co-editor Ed Urie stated that Froth had been operating under an "image" for the past 53 years, and because little or no student opinion or direct complaints had been levied at the magazine, Froth was not aware of dissatisfaction. He added that this long-standing image would be hard to erase but that a change would be made in view of student dissatisfaction.

The committee, in one of the most elemental fallacies of good logic, stated that: "During the hearing, Froth representatives stated that they had been operating under the 'image of Froth' created over a period of years and that it would be difficult to change this image. The Committee agrees."

We think this is the height of insult to a fair and just hearing. It reveals twisting of facts or opinions stated in context to the point where they

(Continued on page four)

Five Reasons Presented In Committee's Statement For Charter Revocation

By WINNIE BOYLE and AL BUTKUS

The Penn State Froth was banned from campus yesterday.

After nearly seven hours of deliberation, the Committee on Student Organizations released a three-page statement which officially halted the magazine's publication.

In the committee's report, it was explained that "this action should not be construed to mean that the University intends to ban student criticism of and comment on any aspect of the University."

The committee also expressed a recognition of a "place for a responsible humor magazine at The Pennsylvania State University."

The report listed five specific reasons for the suspension of the magazine's charter. They were as follows:

• Froth has almost exclusively concerned itself with a limited aspect of humor which relies on shock appeal. This indicates an "underdeveloped sense of responsibility."

• Over the last ten years, five official, written warnings had no effect on Froth's editorial policy and the magazine's editors did not take advantage of these warnings to "clean its own house."

• The image of Froth created over a period of years would be difficult to change.

• The approved constitution of Froth stated that the Board of Directors is to meet four times during the academic year. This has not been followed.

• Froth's failure to follow the 1961 constitution gave no assurance that a revised constitution would result in increased responsibility.

At the hearing yesterday morning, Froth's representatives were asked to give their side in answer to charges brought against the magazine by Dorothy J. Lipp,

dean of women, and Frank J. Simes, dean of men.

Robert M. Pockrass, faculty advisor, presented a seven-page prepared statement of defense.

In his statement, he conceded that Dean Lipp and Dean Simes had legitimate reason for criticizing the September issue of Froth.

THE STATEMENT questioned, however, "whether or not the publication of material offensive to members of the University staff is sufficient reason for denying students the right to continue to publish a humor magazine under any conditions."

By Pockrass' own description, the most serious charge made against the magazine was that it contained material that was "obscene and/or salacious."

In defense, the statement said that the one clear-cut federal law on obscenity states that obscene material can not be sent through the U.S. mail. Froth has never been denied mailing privileges.

NO DECISION has been made by the faculty advisor and the co-editors of the magazine as to whether or not they will appeal the decision of the Committee on Student Organizations.

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FOR A BETTER PENN STATE

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Soviet Forces Ordered Into Combat Readiness

MOSCOW (AP) — Denouncing the U.S. arms quarantine against Cuba as a step toward world thermonuclear war, the Soviet Union yesterday ordered its armed forces into a state of combat readiness.

Forces of the Warsaw Pact—Communist counterpart of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization—followed suit.

THE ORDERS for military preparedness came after the Soviet government issued "a warning" over the action ordered by President Kennedy against Cuba.

The Soviet Defense Ministry halted discharges of servicemen of the senior age groups in the strategic rocket forces, anti-aircraft defense units and the submarine fleet. It ordered all military leaves canceled.

A government statement said it "resolutely rejected" President Kennedy's announcement that

American naval forces now patrolling the Caribbean would stop and search ships, including Soviet bound for Cuba. It did not say clearly, however, that the Soviet Union would continue sending ships to Cuba.

To President Kennedy's charge that the Soviets had started an offensive buildup in Cuba, the Soviet government statement replied that its shipments of arms to Cuba were only for defensive purposes.

It made no clearcut denial, however, that missile bases capable of launching rockets were being installed in Cuba.

THE SOVIET UNION puts its own brand on the American decision to stop and search ships to prevent a further arms buildup in Cuba.

"The people of all countries must be clearly aware," the statement said, "that undertaking

such a gamble, the United States of America is taking a step along the road of unleashing a thermonuclear world war.

"Cynically flouting international standards of conduct of states and the principles of the charter of the United Nations, the United States usurped the right, and announced this, to attack ships of other states on the high seas, i.e., to engage in piracy."

BUT TWO THINGS which were not in the statement persuaded some official and unofficial observers that the Soviets had taken a moderate line, despite some of the harsh words directed at President Kennedy and the United States.

First, while President Kennedy said the United States would be prepared to defend its position in the Berlin area, the Soviet statement didn't even mention Berlin or Germany.

Second, the Soviet government did not outline any of the possible specific actions it might have ordered in reply to the American proposal to search ships to stop "offensive" types of arms reaching Cuba.

There was no action against the Berlin corridor, nor any indication, as yet, that the Soviet government might convoy its supply ships to Cuba and thus put the American fleet face to face with Soviet warships.

Fourteen hours after President Kennedy's announcement, the Russian nation learned for the first time of the U.S. quarantine against Cuba.

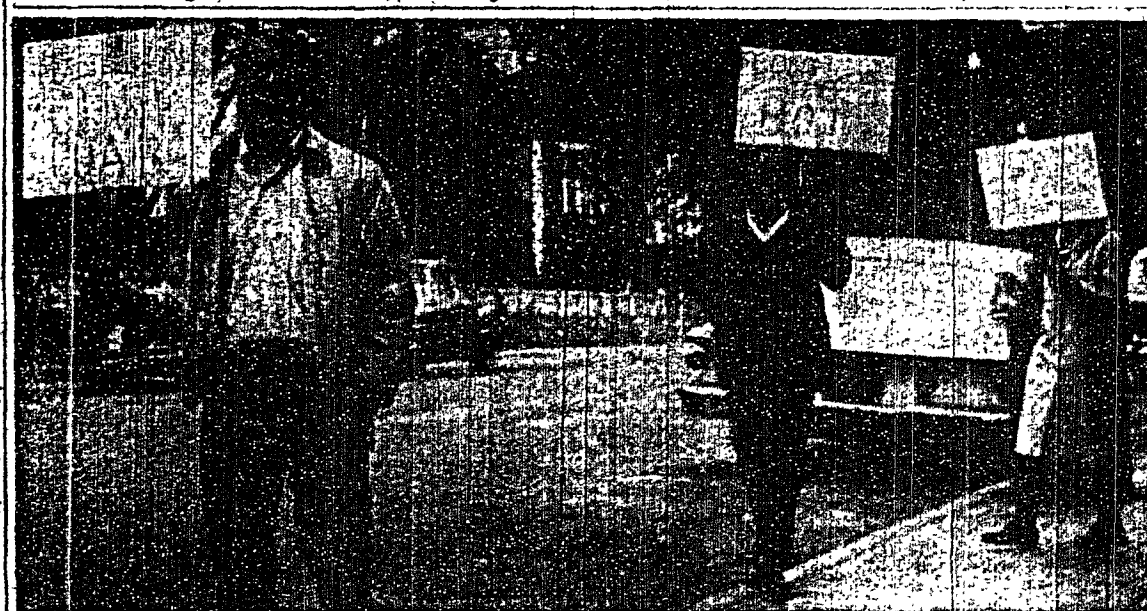
Atwater Sees No Cuban War

The United States and the Soviet Union will not go to war over the Cuban situation, but will play the game of "chicken" until one backs down, Elton Atwater, head of the department of political science, said last night.

"I think that we should look at this situation against the background of American bases around the world. We established them defensively to check Soviet expansion, but never succeeded in persuading the Soviet Union that they were only defensive," Atwater said.

"Now the situation is in the reverse, and whether something is offensive or defensive depends on who is giving the definition."

"At present, it is necessary to challenge the Soviet intentions in Cuba and let them back down in order to strengthen our position in other areas like Berlin and Laos," he said.



STUDENTS PICKET: David Bartram (liberal arts-Philadelphia), left, and Carl Davidson (4th-physics-Alliquippa) picketed on College Avenue yesterday with other members of

SENSE, Students for Peace. The group was protesting President Kennedy's decision to blockade Cuba.

SENSE Pickets Against Blockade

Approximately 20 members of SENSE, Students for Peace, received both ridicule and praise yesterday as they demonstrated against President Kennedy's naval quarantine of Cuba.

The students, who picketed along College Avenue and S. Allen Street from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. carried placards saying, "USSR and USA endanger peace," "We don't want war" and "The Cold War gets hotter."

THE GROUP also distributed circulars explaining its reasons

for the demonstration to both students and non-students. Several persons ridiculed them while others seemed happy to see their efforts, one of the demonstrating students said.

The members of SENSE decided to demonstrate against Kennedy's action after the President delivered his speech to the nation Tuesday night, Richard Helffrich, group spokesman, said.

"YOU MUST justify both Russia's and the United States' actions (in establishing military

bases on foreign soil) or you must justify neither. We (SENSE) justify neither," Helffrich said.

At one point, when 15 people, both students and non-students, were discussing the pickets' views, a State College policeman asked the people to move on because they were blocking traffic, Helffrich said.

Aside from this action, Helffrich said, there were no other disturbances during the demonstration.

USG to Hear Bill on Froth

A bill calling for the Undergraduate Student Government Congress to express "strong disapproval" of the University's action banning Froth magazine will be introduced by Margaret McDowell (Pollock) when the new Congress convenes for the first time at 8 tonight.

Miss McDowell said last night that she will propose the measure because she feels it is the prerogative of the students, rather than the University to take action on Froth.

The new Congress will be sworn in at the meeting, consider five appointments by USG President Dean Wharton and hear two other bills.

Because of an uncertainty concerning the correct number of men living in the town area, only six of the seven men elected last week will be sworn in at this time.