

Editorial Opinion

The United Nations— A Vital Political Force

Special meetings, hastily called conferences and scurrying delegates have typified the United Nations during its entire 17-year history.

Although this event does not generate the fervor that the Fourth of July does for citizens of this country, or that May Day does for citizens of the USSR, or that the 14th of July does for the French or that the 26th of July does for the Cubans, we believe that at one time it may have an importance as great as any of these other holidays mentioned.

We believe that the United Nations will emerge as a more and more necessary and effective power in the future of this planet.

It already, in just 17 years, has taken a strong and vital place in the world political situation as attested to by the subjects on the agenda for this fall's General Assembly meetings.

Berlin, the Congo, Cuba, Red China and many other world problems will be considered by the United Nations this fall. We believe that this organization, if only by providing a place to sit down and discuss these problems, is making a vital contribution to the continued existence of the world.

It provides day to day contact between today's two great armed camps—the U.S. and the USSR. This, in itself, is a great step forward in attempting to solve the world's problems by means other than war.

With the increased importance of the United Nations, we believe all people of this country and indeed the world, especially students, should make every attempt to increase their knowledge of the world organization.

This week will be one of lectures and discussions on the U.N. We urge as many students as possible to attend these lectures and to participate in these discussions—formal or informal.

Also, this week applications for participation in a model U.N. to be held on campus in February are being accepted. We urge all students and groups who feel they should get better acquainted with the United Nations to participate in this model U.N. It will be a valuable part of our college education.

It Just Makes Sense

Indignant and supposedly patriotic students have expressed displeasure concerning picketing members of SENSE who carried placards in State College Tuesday. The picketers were protesting President Kennedy's decision to impose a quarantine on offensive military weapons entering Cuba.

SENSE, Students for Peace, has every right to picket peacefully. It is a right guaranteed every citizen of our democratic system to express his disagreement with prevailing viewpoints.

The critics who believe demonstrations such as the one Tuesday should be stopped, ought to start using some common sense and realize that without expression of any sort our country cannot hope to retain the freedom it zealously clings to under the Constitution.

A Student-Operated Newspaper 58 Years of Editorial Freedom

The Daily Collegian

Successor to The Free Lance, est. 1887

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view finder

What If?

by tom browne

What if a large national magazine printed articles which displeased the United States government and the government took it into its hands to remedy the situation by issuing vague warnings to the magazine that certain persons in the government disapprove of the articles appearing in your publications?

Possibly some of the articles were in bad taste and maybe some were libelous. But the government did not attack these articles specifically. It just let it be known that it disapproved of some of the magazine's articles. No specific charges were made. No explicit indication was given of who in the federal government was displeased with the magazine's actions.

What if the magazine continued to operate in the same manner as before, realizing that a magazine of its nature might from time to time displease the people in Washington. Maybe as time went on the articles appearing in the mag-

azine became even more objectionable in the eyes of the government and even the public began to criticize the publication for the bad taste displayed in some of its articles. But still no specific charges were leveled against the magazine.

What if suddenly the federal government stopped the publication's presses and called a hearing to determine whether or not the magazine's right to publish should be revoked?

What if no formal charges were made before the hearing, only a verbal charge that the magazine was prejudicial to the good name of the country?

What if, at the hearing, there were still no specific charges made? The terms salacious and libelous appeared in the government's charges, but no attempt was made to charge the paper with, or prove, actual cases of libel. It was charged that certain of the magazine's articles were offensive to the majority of the people. The government took over the role of deciding what was proper reading material for its citizens.

What if, after giving the publi-

cation a week to try to prepare a defense against the nebulous charges leveled against it, the government disregarded the magazine's attempts to defend itself and even ignored its plans to remedy certain of its faults which were now apparent to its editors, and went ahead and revoked the magazine's charter? The government did not try to stop the printing of certain articles which it disapproved of, and which had quite possibly gone beyond the bounds set by existing laws of the country. Instead, it did away with this magazine which had displeased certain of its members for several years.

What if the United States government said it encouraged the publication of another magazine to take the place of the banished publication but only if the new magazine agreed to abide by certain criteria established by the government to cover that type of magazine—permanently reducing the freedom of the press?

What if our country's government operated in the same manner as our University's administration?

Letters

1960 Froth Editor Advocates Honest Discussion of Faults

TO THE EDITOR—The editors and staff members of FROTH are not stupid, not uncultured and presumably not uneducated—they have at least attended Penn State for several years. Why, then, do they choose to print material which is so obnoxious, repulsive and "prejudicial to the good name of the University" that the administration takes steps to suspend the magazine? Why do several thousand students buy and read such trash? Are all these fine young leaders of tomorrow simply perverse juvenile delinquents? Or is there some real truth in Froth's supposed humor—and, thus, some real humor in the truths it satirically revealed?

History is full of ugly stories about men who, believing themselves perfect, attempted to silence their critics. The most surprising thing about the story of the "Emperor's New Clothes" is that the child didn't get his head chopped off for slander and treason. Instead, the Emperor found a real solution for his embarrassing situation: he put on some clothes. The Penn State administration apparently prefers to walk around naked to criticism, as long as everyone keeps his mouth shut and doesn't actually SAY anything.

Satire may sell even when its literary quality is low. But it will not sell if it does not ring true. The administration should be genuinely concerned when Froth is critical. But its concern shouldn't be, "Heavens-to-betsy, let's get rid of this magazine before it puts evil thoughts into all

our fine young students." Its concern should be, "Several thousand of our fine young students actually agree with this nasty magazine—maybe we'd better do some hard thinking about what they say is wrong with the University and try to correct it."

If the administration actually thinks its reign is perfect, but that Froth and everybody else misunderstands it, it should heed Thomas Jefferson's words: "If we think them (the people) not enlightened enough to exercise their control with wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them but to inform their discretion with education."

That education should not be facile public-relations propaganda, designed to counteract Froth's assertions. It should be honest discussion and interaction between students, faculty and the administration, designed to lead to understanding and consideration. A prerequisite for such efforts must be the unimpeded publication of Froth and The Daily Collegian, and complete freedom of the entire student body to discuss Penn State's shortcomings, as well as its strengths.

—Alan C. Elms, Froth Editor, '60

WDFM Schedule THURSDAY

- 5:00 Dinner Date
5:30 News Analysis
6:15 Weathercast
6:20 Concert Hall
7:00 News
7:35 Highlights
7:45 The Alard String Quartet
8:00 This is the Subject
8:35 Sports News
9:00 Harlequin
9:15 Mostly Music
9:30 News
9:35 Mostly Music
10:00 Symphonic Notebook
12:00 Sign Off

Ex-Froth Manager Sees Revoke as No Answer

TO THE EDITOR: I have just returned from a visit to State and was quite dismayed to find Froth in trouble. I read the issue and agree wholeheartedly with you that something must be done. But I feel that a university the size and stature of Penn State with its very capable officials would look rather silly in the public eye if its only answer to an incompetent editorial staff and advisor was to revoke the charter of Froth.

Froth is only an instrument in the hands of its staff—good or bad. To revoke the charter will solve nothing. That is the easy way out. But to find a competent staff and produce a humor magazine worthy of Penn State, "This is a challenge."

I know that when the committee meets, it will deal with the problem in a fair and just manner.

—Michael R. Enelow, Business Manager Froth, '64 Oct. 22, 1962

Sigma Pi Protests SENSE Picketing On Cuban Situation

TO THE EDITOR: The brothers and pledges of Sigma Pi fraternity are very disturbed concerning the demonstration which occurred Tuesday on College Ave. We observed students displaying picket signs and distributing certain literature to passing people. Obviously, their object was to convince somebody to develop a passive attitude toward the Cuban situation.

These demonstrators are angered because the United States has blockaded Cuba for protective purposes. They claim the result of this action could be war. They also claim war is unnecessary and senseless in any situation. Their signs and literature gave the impression that they would not care if the Communists gained complete control of the United States as long as we could remain alive and unharmed.

We should like to tell these demonstrators that they should place their signs and handbills on a statue of Nathan Hale or Patrick Henry and make complete fools of themselves. Democracy is a desirable way of life and thousands of Americans have died to preserve it. The freedom of our prosperity is dependent upon our actions at the present time and it is our duty to insure it. People who campaign against democracy must be either Communists, traitors or just plain cowards.

Our society allows every minority group to express its opinion and we should like to state that if our country is threatened there will be brave Americans to defend our liberty at any cost and we shall be proudly amongst them.

—Larry W. Garlock, '63

