

Editorial Opinion

Governor Candidates Viewed: Scranton Supported

Tomorrow mock state elections will be staged on this campus by the Undergraduate Student Government, the Young Democrats and the Young Republicans. Polls will be open from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Hetzel Union Building.

One week from today qualified state voters will go to the polls to elect, among others, the next governor of Pennsylvania.

In the past weeks students of this University have had ample opportunity to see and hear both candidates for governor—Democrat Richardson Dilworth and Republican William Scranton.

Newspapers and magazines throughout the state and some out of state have been carrying accounts of both candidates' campaigns.

The Daily Collegian has presented their stands, our questions and news accounts of their appearances in the vicinity.

Tomorrow every student who is interested in the welfare of this University and who realizes the major role which the governor of Pennsylvania plays in the operation of this University can show this interest by voting in the mock election.

We, of The Daily Collegian, have watched the campaign with reflection and growing interest. We have considered the stands and differences of opinion and support William Scranton, Republican candidate, for the governorship of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Below we present some of the major campaign issues, the stands held by Scranton and Dilworth and our opinions of these stands:

UNEMPLOYMENT

Dilworth has pledged his administration to a "massive" hunting of industry and jobs. He has consistently stressed the importance of drawing the modern growth industries (aircraft, electronics and chemicals) into the state.

Scranton, as has Dilworth, has placed this problem on the top of his priority list of urgent undertakings. He advocates drawing business and industry into the state by insuring stable taxes, realization of the problems faced by business and industry and by providing a good climate in which employees can live.

We feel that Dilworth's emphasis on bringing the modern growth industries into the state has merit but that this will not serve the immediate need to reduce chronic unemployment which in this state largely involves unskilled or semi-skilled workers. We feel that an effective retraining program can and should be used to alleviate the unemployment problem, but that unskilled and semi-skilled men cannot be retrained to work in industries which require a high degree of technical skill. We feel the unemployment problems which now exist must first be solved by luring industries to the state which can use retrained unemployed. Only when this is done should the prime objective be to build the industries of the future.

TAXATION

Dilworth feels that some of the financial burden on the state will be alleviated by an upturn of the economy. He has said for additional funds he would turn to a general sales tax with proper exemptions in place of the selective sales tax enforced today. When asked to list what he considers to be "proper exemptions," Dilworth has answered that while he felt it impossible to name them all, he would include clothing, take-home food and articles used directly in manufacture.

Scranton has come out against a tax hike unless all alternative measures fail. He would conduct a department by department analysis of government expenditures and cut expenses wherever possible without reducing services. He feels that the current state payroll involving 82,000 persons could be cut considerably. He feels the major expense cut would be made by finding and eliminating inefficiency where it exists. He also feels that state revenues could be increased by enforcing a better method of tax collection. If the above measures prove insufficient, Scranton would raise sales and/or excise taxes.

While we would not condemn a tax increase if it were found to be necessary, we approve of Scranton's intention to investigate the governmental setup for inefficiency before resorting to this move. The state payroll has indeed grown in leaps and bounds since World War II. We believe

a review of the efficiencies and inefficiencies of the 82,000 state employees should be carefully carried out before an additional tax burden is imposed on the people of the state.

As for Dilworth's general sales tax, we feel that this would lead to a barrage of power plays and constant reconsideration by the legislature to determine the exemptions which Dilworth himself says are almost impossible to list in toto.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

Both candidates agree that constitutional revision is necessary. They have both expressed the feeling that the current constitution, effective Jan. 1, 1874, is so specific as to hamper thorough treatment of modern problems.

Dilworth feels that the Commonwealth needs a brand new constitution. He uses as a basis for this judgment his service on the last Committee for Constitutional Revision. Dilworth feels that an effort should be made in the next two years to educate the people of Pennsylvania on the need for a new constitution. Then, he says, the legislature should pass legislation calling a constitutional convention. This body would draft a new constitution which would then be submitted to the electorate for approval.

Scranton feels that civic groups and community leaders should undertake educating the people on the need for constitutional revision but that a referendum should be called to determine whether or not the people of the Commonwealth want a constitutional convention to be called.

Although five attempts to call a constitutional convention through referendum have failed in Pennsylvania since 1874, we feel that the proposal to call a convention should be submitted to the people before the drafting of a new constitution is begun. Such a plan would require intensive educational efforts around the state.

We feel that a program of constitutional education would be much more valuable before the drafting of a new constitution because the subsequent convention would then have some idea of revisions which would and would not be accepted by the people when approval of a new document was called for.

SCHOOL REORGANIZATION

Dilworth supports the school reorganization act strongly and entirely.

Scranton supports this school reorganization act with reservations and calls for amendments before he will be fully satisfied with the measure. He says the act is deficient in providing for maintenance of teacher tenure, transfer of assets and liabilities, debt rearrangement, election of school directors and transportation subsidies for second class districts. He feels more attention should be given to exceptions of pupil population criteria. More basically, he feels that education should no longer remain directly under the state administration and advocates shifting the Department of Public Instruction from administrative control to supervision by a State Board of Education which would include a Council of Higher Education and a Council of Public Education.

We see merit in Scranton's criticisms of the act. We feel he has just reasons to ask that a closer look be given to areas where pupil population exceptions have created major controversies.

We also feel that education in this state would be benefited were it not under the direct control of the state administration as it is now. By placing educational responsibility in the hands of a State Board of Education, some of the political pressures which have been brought to bear on education in the past would be removed. Also, a full time education department severed from direct administrative control should build up a team of enthusiastic educators dedicated to raising the state's level of education rather than to politics.

EDUCATION

Dilworth has outlined a seven-point plan for higher education which has as its ultimate aim putting "quality higher education within the reach of every qualified student." This plan includes: state-wide system of community colleges, expansion and improvement of this University and its Commonwealth campuses, improvement of the state's 14 state colleges, increasing state aid to private colleges and universities which are already receiving state aid, helping to instill scholarship, research and building programs throughout the state, providing a state system of scholarships and loans and building research centers in the state by pooling university and college resources.

Scranton points out that Pennsylvania has fallen behind in the provision of educational facilities and that a system of community colleges and expansion of universities and their graduate programs is imperative to rebuilding the state in this area. With this he presents his education program directed by a State Board of Education apart from the State Administration.

We feel that both of these programs have merit. Dilworth's seven-point plan is very similar to the "master plan" for higher education outlined last year by the Department of Public Instruction under superintendent Charles E. Boehm. He specifically mentions this Univers-

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Letters

Block 'S' Issues Pen Plea

TO THE EDITOR: Attention: "borrower" of the red Parker pen which was being used by the Block "S" to collect signatures for the Monster Rally Contest.

The removal of this pen has greatly hindered our effort to collect 10,000 signatures needed to win a Monster Pep Rally Kit. Block "S" has called an emergency meeting and has arrived at two alternatives:

The "borrower" may return the pen to the HUB desk.

Better yet, if the new owner of our pen would like to help us, he may collect one-third of the 10,000 signatures (he has one-third of our writing equipment) and return the list to the HUB desk. He may keep the pen and all will be forgiven.

We hope to hear from you soon (the contest ends on November 9.)

—THE BLOCK "S" CLUB

Frosh Hits Mail Service

TO THE EDITOR: For many of the Penn State students the U.S. postal system is the only liason between State College and the great, wide world beyond. For many a daily letter means a sweet word to a steady, a plea to a confidant, or a desperate cry for financial aid to a parent.

In such cases, time is of the essence. However, our beaux, Abigail Van Burens, and shylocks must wait, for the mail doesn't get picked up until two p.m. (Unless of course you chose to dash down to College Ave. at six o'clock in the morning.)

Dear Mr. Mailman, can't anything be done?

—Tobey Gordon '68

Cookie-cutters must be in use in local pizzerias now, judging from the size of at least one undernourished-looking pizza which reached McElwain recently.

—Prof Wayne

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