

Letters

Senior, Junior Discuss Existence of 'Thinkers'

TO THE EDITOR: Having read a number of the recent letters to the editor in this paper, we find ourselves nonplused and somewhat distraught as to the creditability of the logic behind the various viewpoints and ideas expressed on a number of issues. Have the recent letters to the editor and indeed the stand of the Collegian itself concerning such issues as Froth and the Cuban blockade been a mere juxtaposition of the type of occurrences which gave rise and still support the trite stereotype that we can leave it to the few empty barrels to make the most noise; or is the light of reason truly sputtering toward extinction to make way for the era of pseudo-intellectualism?

Has it become unfashionable to think? Has the fact that a thing merely sounds good and is therefore accepted by the frivolous masses become the criterion for determining truth? Are we des-

ting ourselves to lull about in a world of fancy where the realization and awareness of stark reality is downtrodden by the plodding feet of whims and imagery?

We personally begin to wonder whether this great gift of speech might not at times be a path to damnation as well as a road to salvation. It seems to us that, precious as it may be, freedom of speech is not an end in itself. We feel that it is only so valuable as the things which one has to say.

When we condone the "right" to circulate filth and when we in effect say that filth no longer exists merely because we've given another name to it; when "God Himself is not so holy that He can't be laughed at"; when we look upon pickets which willfully advocate the bringing about of conditions conducive to the overthrow of this country and its freedom of speech, and say that this is what should be encouraged; it would seem that our cause is

an image and not a truth.

It also seems to us that if the all too prominent, ill-founded reasoning contained in some columns of the recent editions of this paper are an indication of a trend toward retrogression from thinking, we are in dire need of self education and not freedom of speech.

We are not here only to speak. Our freedom does not hinge upon the existence of Froth nor pickets; but rather upon how well we develop a sense of true values and character. Freedom does not exist of itself. In our world, we feel that freedom will only live so long as we are willing and able to fulfill the many responsibilities which make us deserving of it.

As for Froth, by all means let's have one; but when we fight for our right to have a literary magazine let's fight just as strongly for contents indicative of what we are striving to achieve — a sound mind and the intelligence that goes with it. For perhaps if we strive for a better insight on life rather than the "right" to say anything we please, we will be able to find more reasons and occasions for wholesome laughter than were ever encompassed in the sordid pages of Froth as we knew it.

Furthermore, we certainly hope that the administration's sense of responsibility has not ceased at having merely eradicated the old Froth; but will continue by way of encouragement toward new and indeed more literary publications of true worth.

—George J. Bikaunieks '64
—Bob Petras '63

Note to Prexy

TO THE EDITOR: President Walker, have you noticed on the Penn State seal there are three words inscribed, "Virtue, Liberty and Independence?" Or, are you going to change that too?

—Jim Raytek '64
—Chuck Manfradonia '65

Collegian Praised by Sophomore

TO THE EDITOR: In reading Mr. Schneider's comments concerning the worthiness, relevancy and intellect of The Daily Collegian, I tend to find myself in total disagreement with him. The Daily Collegian, as the name implies, is not a newspaper intended to expound on events of national scope and interest. It is rather a paper designed to enlighten the student body of the Penn State campus as to the past and future events of interest particularly to them.

I don't believe the editors of this paper intend it to be the only one read by the student, but rather read as a supplement to a national newspaper. It is analogous to a so called specialist magazine such as The Pennsylvania School Journal which appeals to a certain clique in society and speaks in their jargon as opposed to Time magazine which appeals to the masses and comments on topics of more general interest.

I firmly believe that students are sometimes too critical of the services provided them at this campus. While criticism at times may create a vast improvement, let us be sure that our criticism is constructive and, most important of all, valid.

I wish to praise The Daily Collegian for the fine job they are doing in providing a most valuable service to the students of

Penn State. It must be remembered that much time and effort is put into its production, and all of this, "For a Better Penn State."

—Michael Simmons, '65

Shockey Sees Collegian 'Bonuses'

TO THE EDITOR: I would like to remind Allan Schneider (letter to the editor, Nov. 9) that The Daily Collegian is a campus newspaper, by the Penn State student, about the Penn State student and for the Penn State student. Its main activity is and should be to report on campus activities. Any non-campus news in a campus newspaper is a bonus. Such bonuses are plentiful in the Collegian. For instance, the election results in the Nov. 7 issue and the pre-election campaign coverage.

The students operating the Collegian are amateurs and have neither the time nor the money to compete with the professional reporters of city newspapers in the coverage of national and world news. When you want this kind of news, I suggest you turn on the radio or visit a newsstand or the papers in the library or HUB.

The Daily Collegian best serves us with complete coverage of campus news plus several bonus items on important non-campus news:

—Terry L. Shockey '65

Grad Student Comments on Ads

TO THE EDITOR: Miss Barbara Evans, in her letter published in The Daily Collegian of Nov. 9, has criticized the Collegian for having too many ads and too little news. If she doesn't know it yet, better than 50 per cent of the Collegian's operations is supported by ads and without this support in financial terms, the Collegian could not do the job it is doing today.

Although I am not defending the Collegian on its news coverage, I feel Miss Evans is very unjustified in commenting about ads. Any newspaper, which has any intention of serving a varied and cosmopolitan group, would not and should not discriminate against an ad on the basis of the views put forth in it. I have a

feeling Miss Evans has never seen ads by the Communist Party of the U.S.A. in The New York Times.

The ad by Brotherhood Religion was fully paid for and the Collegian was right to print it. If the ad was written in a bad style and with poor grammar, it is the person or group who financed the ad who should have worried about it—not the Collegian. If it was offensive to a religion, I am not surprised. Almost any religion is offensive to all other religions, and that is why we have so many religions in the world.

On the whole, I might say that Miss Evans' letter was in very poor taste indeed!

—V. Ramadass
Grad student

Society of Automotive Engineers presents "Research and Development of Studebaker AVANTI" Mr. Otis Romine — Studebaker Corp. TUESDAY 7:45 p.m. 105 M.E. Avanti will be on display in M.E. Lab

PRESENTS... HENDRICKS & BAVAN SCHWAB AUD. NOV. 18 8:00 DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 P.M. LAMBERT