

Unfunny Proposal

Undergraduate Student Government President Jeff Long, speaking on a local radio station near the end of Fall Term, disclosed that an investigation of Froth, the campus humor magazine, might well be one of the projects USG tackles this term.

The reason an investigation might be considered? According to Long, the feeling is adrift that Froth is not living up to its charter-stated purpose of being a humor magazine.

In other words, the USG executive thinks Froth isn't funny and that USG should do something about it. (He suggested that if Froth wanted to be funny it should try its hand at spoofing student government at Penn State.)

It's not surprising that anyone should question whether Froth is funny. Froth's humor or lack of it has been the subject of countless discussions ever since the magazine began publishing.

What is surprising are the suggestion's implications that USG should be the watchdog of Froth and, presumably other campus publications, and that it considers itself qualified to judge just how many giggles, smirks and guffaws the magazine must elicit from its readers before it can justly be termed a humor magazine.

Whether Froth is funny is not a question to be decided by any governing body.

Whether Froth is funny is a question for its readers, and its readers alone, to decide. Their deci-

sions, expressed through the time-honored method of the voice of the dollar, should be enough to let the Froth staffers know whether Froth is living up to its role as a humor magazine.

If USG does indeed launch an investigation of Froth (thereby establishing a precedent for USG investigations of all campus publications) campus publications will be faced with a most demoralizing result: the threat of control imposed by groups outside the publication's organization.

Most publications on this campus must answer to a faculty adviser. Many are also responsible to a board of directors composed, at least partially, of adult members.

And the trend continues towards complete staff authority and responsibility in student publications.

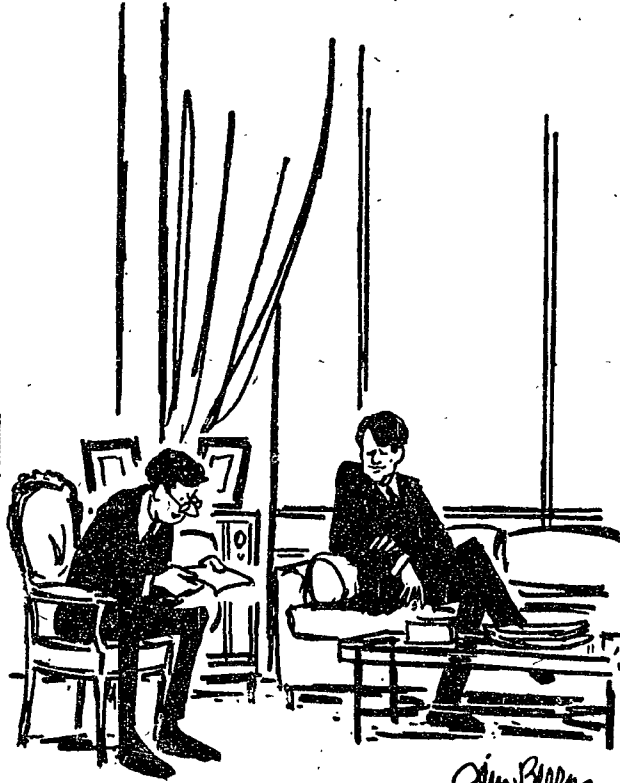
Across the nation student publications are moving off campus in increasing numbers in order to escape the limitations inevitably imposed by residence on a college campus.

But it seems that here at Penn State student publications may be in line for more, not less, outside supervision.

The entrance of USG into the affairs of Froth or any campus publication would be both a giant step backwards for the fate of publications at Penn State, and a giant step backwards for USG in its campaign for more student rights and responsibilities.

We hope this is a project USG won't tackle this winter, or at all.

BERRY'S WORLD



© 1968 by NEA, Inc. Jim Berry
"Your biggest problem this year could be a 'charisma backlash'!"

Mike Serrill

Pollard: Suppression Of Disruption

By MIKE SERRILL
Collegian News Editor

Ernest C. Pollard, professor and head of the department of biophysics, yesterday called for suspension of demonstrators who "disrupt the operation of the University" on the grounds that such action endangers "academic freedom."

He addressed his remarks to the University Senate. The Senators applauded Dr. Pollard's speech loudly, but icy silence reigned when he called for a voice vote in support of his controversial proposal. Earlier one Senator had protested that "we shouldn't tie ourselves to a policy of suspension" because such policy would in some instances necessitate suspending large numbers of students and would also split the faculty.

Indeed, if we adhered to Dr. Pollard's rather broad definition of "disruption," nearly anyone who opened his mouth in opposition to the Vietnam war would be eligible for suspension. Dr. Pollard should remember that demonstrations, by definition, are meant to cause disruption. They are organized for that purpose. He might have a better case if he called for suspension of students who cause destruction. But then, there are already rules which cover that offense.

Apparently, Pollard's distaste for unruly demonstrations grows out of his support for the Johnson Administration's ever-escalating course in Vietnam, his general distrust and lack of respect for student demonstrators and their supporters, and a misunderstanding of the protest movement as a whole.

On Vietnam, Dr. Pollard asserted in an interview yesterday that he "by and large supports the position of the Administration's position in Vietnam." Though he is a strong advocate of majority rule, the polls reveal that he is in the minority on that issue. He is convinced that peace will come only if the combatants do not let "emotion" seep into their negotiations.

Dr. Pollard has a unique opinion of the typical anti-war demonstrator. He is either a student "with a revolutionary point of view . . . determined to overthrow the government," or a student "who does not want to be drafted," or a pacifist, against all war on principle. In truth, most of the students in the protest movement are neither conspirators nor pacifists.

They merely recognize the fact that we have, in a moment of anticommunist fervor, interfered in someone else's civil war. They recognized that to fight a land war in Asia serves no purpose but to antagonize the Chinese and thus bring the world closer to thermonuclear war. They recognize that the war is not in our national interest; that it is draining our economy and has alienated us from all but a small part of the rest of the world. Rational debate and appeals for more peace, even at the risk of losing some national prestige, have gone unheeded by the Johnson Administration.

"There is a feeling that there is something noble and worthy about such disruption," Dr. Pollard told the Senate yesterday. If disruption on a small scale, such as the recent demonstration at Harvard, which forced a short postponement of classes, serves to stimulate debate and eventually lead us off the path of self-destruction which we now seem to be pursuing, then it is indeed "noble and worthy."

Dr. Ernest Pollard is an eminent nuclear physicist, as his long list of awards, commendations and published books reveals. General Earle Wheeler is a superb military man, as his long string of medals reveals. But neither has ever received recognition for his political acumen, and both should therefore stay out of politics.

Letters To The Editor

My County Right or Wrong?

TO THE EDITOR: Having served with a Marine Battalion in Vietnam, I am deeply concerned, intellectually and emotionally, with the questions surrounding the war and its protesters. (I attended, incidentally, the demonstration referred to by Mr. Dewar.)

President Eisenhower has recently made a statement to the effect that he will oppose any Republican presidential candidate who is against the war because such a candidate would be trying to take the meaning out of the supreme sacrifice offered honorably by 16,000 American young men.

The meaning of their sacrifice must derive from the honorable motives of each individual soldier who has given his life. This significance can never be taken away from him or his family. Winning or losing the war in Vietnam has little to do with the honor or integrity of those serving there.

The ex-President's statement presumes that simple duration in Vietnam, until the subjugation of the National Liberation Front and the Army of the North is accomplished, will give morality and honor to the over-all American effort there. The cause for which we fight in Vietnam must first be explained, examined and judged moral or immoral, honorable or dishonorable, before value can be attached to its espousal and defense. Only if this war is judged a moral one can further honor be attached to those who willingly served and died. If it is judged not so, can or should the integrity of those who participated in it, through invincible ignorance or sincere commitment, be debated?

Certainly not. The question of honor that should and must be discussed is that of this nation. A nation that can accept President Eisenhower's logic, ignore the question of morality, and continue to commit its youth in a cause which is largely unexplained and unexamined, is a nation whose honor is in question. Future victory in a war which is determined to be an immoral one, can bring no honor to those who have died, but further sacrifice of American lives will certainly impugn the integrity and honor of us all.
Capt. J. L. Reilly, USMCR

Veterans Do Protest

TO THE EDITOR: I hate to shatter Mr. Dewar's illusions but there are indeed veterans who oppose the war in Vietnam. To my knowledge there are at least two separate organizations composed of veterans working against the war. One is called Veterans for Peace in Vietnam, the other is simply Veterans Against the War.

With this letter I have enclosed an advertisement which appeared in the Village Voice on November 9, 1967 announcing a peace rally at Union Square on Veteran's Day. The rally was sponsored and the ad paid for by the Veterans for Peace in Vietnam, which should help substantiate their existence in case you don't want to take my word for it.

Dwight S. Russell '68

Vicious Circles

TO THE EDITOR: Tuesday's editorial and column were "outstanding": J. Robert Shore defended, advocated self-deception, and the editor wrote a paean of praise to academic mediocrity, as though the latter were the concomitant of social and political awareness.

One wonders which is cause and which is effect: Does "C+" thinking result in Shore's defense of self-deception or is self-deception behind the defense of mediocrity? Perhaps it is a vicious circle.

Douglass W. Cooper
Graduate

The Ultimate Rationalization

TO THE EDITOR: Regarding Tuesday's editorial comment "Self-Truth Baloney", I can only come to the conclusion that Mr. Shore must think that life is really terrible if he believes we must stop the search for self-honesty and self-truth, and hide from reality behind a screen of lies.

If this is the case, then why doesn't he go one step further and advocate the ultimate rationalization, suicide? By his reasoning, then this would really save us from wasting "all this unnecessary energy!"

Paul Bilzi '71

What About The Rest?

TO THE EDITOR: In one of the last editions of the Daily Collegian for the Fall Term, an article appeared concerning the Douglas Association's request for an Afro-American History course to be taught at the University.

I want to suggest that instead, a course be formulated that will include all the recommendations of the Douglas Association plus the difficulties faced by the Oriental-Americans and the American Indian. It could be entitled "History of Racial Minorities in the United States".

- Such topics included could be:
- activities of American Indians prior to 1492
 - the Indian Wars
 - Teddy Roosevelt and the Oriental Exclusion Act
 - life of an interned Japanese-American during World War II
 - FDR and the institution of relief
 - how to celebrate Chinese New Year
 - life on the reservation today

The White Man in America must not forget that the Negroes are not the only racial minority that he has walked all over during the last 475 years.

Joe Anthony, '69
West Point, Virginia

Ritenour: Health Center?

TO THE EDITOR: Within twenty-four hours I have been involved in two emergency health cases. On each occasion it took the Ritenour ambulance 20 minutes to travel the one block distance to my dorm. Unfortunately, during this 20 minute period the girls involved were suffering greatly; and when the ambulance finally arrived, the boys driving it did not even know how to take the stretcher out of the vehicle.

I feel that it is absolutely unforgivable that a university of this size should have such unorganized and inadequate medical emergency facilities. Also, when students finally are admitted to Ritenour the care they receive seems to be highly lacking in efficiency.

If Penn State can afford to have new swimming pools, a magnificent football stadium, new libraries, etc., they should act immediately and install an equipped and efficient medical emergency staff. After all, what could possibly be more important than one's health!

Judi Weinig

Senior Class Says Thanks

TO THE EDITOR: The officers and members of the Senior Class Advisory Board thank the Athletic Department, the Department of Maintenance and Utilities, sophomore Barry Levin, and all of those people who made our haltime shows possible.

We would also like to thank Dr. Dunlop and the students who made the graves, and carried the coffin in the skies.

Senior Class Advisory Board

TODAY ON CAMPUS

- | | |
|---|--|
| Association of Women Students, 6:30 p.m., 203 Hetzel Union Building | 7:30 p.m., 111 Soucke Ranger Company, 7:30 p.m., Wagner |
| Chess Club, 7 p.m., HUB ballroom | Ranger Staff, 7 p.m., Wagner Science Student Council, 7:30 p.m., 217-218 HUB |
| Penn State Sports Car club, | |



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LETTER POLICY

The Daily Collegian accepts letters to the editor regarding Collegian news coverage or editorial policy and campus or non-campus affairs. Letters must be typewritten, no more than two pages in length, and should be brought to the office of The Daily Collegian in person so that identification of the writer can be checked. If letters are received by mail, The Collegian will contact the writer for verification. The Daily Collegian reserves the right to select which letters

Something to look forward to . . .

The Daily Collegian CANDIDATE SCHOOLS

Business Candidate School
Wednesday, Jan. 17
151 Willard Bldg.
7:00 P.M.

Editorial Candidate School
Tuesday, Jan. 16
151 Willard Bldg.
7:00 P.M.

No previous experience necessary • Students of any major welcome

