

# Rights agency blasted

HARRISBURG (AP) — Pennsylvania's enforcement agency against discrimination, the Human Relations Commission, allegedly has been using discriminatory and harassing tactics.

According to reports from the business community, blacks and women allegedly get very favorable treatment by an agency that depends largely on computer printouts of employment statistics and questionable population proportions in leveling job discrimination charges against business.

One large company under investigation by the commission, which refused to

allow its name to be used, said regarding techniques of commission investigators: "Generally they don't know what to look for. A couple have been kind of nasty-throwing their weight around, with the attitude 'we're out to get you.'"

Other companies under investigation spoke of relatively good relations with investigators.

Allegations began to rise following complaints initiated more than a year ago by the commission against 83 firms. The commission said it found race and sex discrimination in hiring, and demanded the companies fill out a lengthy questionnaire so the commission could make specific determinations and remedies.

It was a departure from policy which for most of the time since its creation in 1956 saw the commission acting only on complaints filed by individuals in cases deemed small by comparison with the self-initiative action.

About half the companies

ignored the commission and failed to return the questionnaire.

The case has grown to such proportions as to include a court fight-instituted by U.S. Steel, one of the companies cited and a move by a state senator to abolish the commission for overstepping its authority.

"I want the commission to belong to all the people of Pennsylvania — not just blacks," said Sen. Thomas Nolan prior to opening hearings yesterday of the Senate State Government Committee, of which he is chairman. The Allegheny County Democrat has introduced a bill proposing abolition, but he and others see no real chance for that.

Businessmen and business-oriented organizations said they are reluctant to go on record individually with their views in light of the pending court case. They also expressed some doubt as to what the legislative probe would accomplish.

# Planting season to end delay

# Rock garden completion near

By BEN WELLER  
Collegian Staff Writer

Completion of the Simmons rock garden is pending the arrival of the planting season.

According to Otto Mueller, assistant vice president for housing and food service administration, the reason the rocks still are scattered on the Simmons lawn is because trees cannot be planted in the middle of summer.

Mueller said, "The landscaping division came in and laid out the plans for the garden, brought in equipment to redistribute the rocks and staked out the area. But there is nothing else they can do until planting season arrives."

He said the rock garden had been planned since the area was built in 1960, but lack of funds delayed the project until last spring.

"Even before the completion of Pollock Halls, the area was used as a thoroughfare by students. The turf was gradually worn down and a paved walk was installed in 1957."

"With the completion of Pollock Halls in 1960, the lawn space was used as an incidental play area.

Since the Women's Athletic Field was restricted, there were little play areas other than the lawn for pickup games of touch football or soccer," he said.

Mueller said each year the trampled turf had to be re-seeded and the dust from the turf became a problem.

Students also complained of lack of privacy, and the damage caused by thrown footballs and baseballs became too great to keep replacing, he said.

Mueller said the rock gardens were designed to eliminate the Simmons lawn as a play area.

The rocks were dumped unexpectedly on the Simmons lawn last April.

Mueller said the rocks, taken from the HUB construction site, were of the size and composition for the rock garden.

The contractors made the rock available and immediately trucked them to the lawn, he said.

"To compensate for the loss of the playing area, the Women's Athletic Field on Pollock and Shortridge roads was opened to Pollock and Centre Halls students.

In a letter to the Association of Residence Halls Students, Robert Scannell, dean of the College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, said the field was opened because of requests made by the area dormitory governments.

The field previously was restricted to women's collegiate teams, women's physical education classes and other organized activities.

The field will be open for all sports except archery and softball, Scannell said.


He said there also will be times when parts of the field will be fenced off to protect the turf for organized activities.

Rebe Dublisky, vice president of ARHS, said some of the area residents still are dissatisfied with the situation.

"To many of the people it's not the same as finishing dinner and throwing a football on the way back. Now they have to go back to the dorm and then go out to the field," she said.

Concerning the present state of the rock gardens, Dublisky said, "There's nothing we can do about it. We can't speed up the planting season."

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