

The end?

Bicycles on sidewalks hitting pedestrians. Bicycles on streets being hit by cars. Bicycles chained to trees because there are no racks. When will it all end?

It could end soon. The Student Environment Counseling Organization (SECO) has given State College Borough Council its final report on bicycle problems in State College. SECO recommends such changes for State College as creating bikeways along parts of Allen Street, Route 322 and Route 26 and providing clustered bicycle parking facilities several places downtown.

Borough Council wants to know

what you think of SECO's report. It wants to know:

—if you think the bikeways in the places SECO recommends are unnecessary — or unquestionably needed.

—if you think some routes for bikeways SECO did not mention are very much needed.

—where you think bicycle racks should be placed.

—if you think the SECO plan is too expensive to be worthwhile for State College.

—how you feel about bicycles in general—should they be outlawed or should bicycle travel be encouraged in State College?

—what you think is needed to make bicycle travel safe in State College.

Borough Council is giving you a chance to have a voice in the future of cyclists in State College by holding a public hearing on the SECO report 7:30 tonight at the State College Municipal Building.

Council must know what you think before it passes ordinances that would encourage or discourage bicycling in State College.

Don't miss this meeting. It may help end the local war between cyclists and non-cyclists.

England: culture shock

Editor's note: The author recently completed an eight-week stay in England as part of Penn State's "Mass Media in Great Britain" study abroad program.

By JEFF DeBRAY
of the Collegian Staff

Be prepared to experience a certain amount of "culture shock" if you are planning to visit England soon, or hope to some day.

Sure, there are many similarities between England and the United States, so that in many ways England cannot really be considered a foreign country. But be forewarned: there are enough differences, too, that most Americans may not realize.

For starters, there is the language, which can be a barrier if you are unfamiliar with certain common English terms. If you are offered a "fag" by an Englishman, don't be alarmed — he's only offering you a cigarette. And don't ask anyone where the subway is — they call it the "underground" or "Tube." And when someone there says he is going to get "pissed" he only means he's going to get drunk.

There are a host of other English terms different from ours, including certain regional terminology, but, in time, most of it is relatively easy to pick up.

When you go into a restaurant, don't be surprised or offended if you're not immediately given a glass of ice water over which to deliberate your choice of meals. If you want water you'll have to ask for it — and consider yourself extremely lucky if you get ice in it.

The English tend to drink things much warmer than most Americans are accustomed to. So either get used to warm (soda, pop), mixed drinks and water, or else bring your own ice along. It would probably just be easier for you to get used to it, though.

This is mainly because many English don't have refrigerators (or showers, for that matter) in their flats. Their flat is more or less the equivalent of our apartment, but without certain things we usually take for granted — like central heating. Instead, there are often small plug-in heaters or, worse yet for Americans, heaters which require you to insert a shilling (five new pence, or about 12 cents) in order to get heat, light and sometimes hot water.

If you're used to having cable television and your choice of about 10 different channels, you'll have to settle for a mere three in Great Britain. There's the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) one and two, which are funded by the government. There is also an independent television (ITV) station with 13 regional branches. Only on ITV are commercials allowed, and then there are usually less frequent program interruptions, with maybe a group of five or six minutes of commercials at a time.

And of course if you are used to looking left, then right before crossing the street, you better do the reverse in "merry olde England," because the English drive on the opposite side of the street.

Of course there are other differences, too, such as the telephone system (just be sure to have enough two pence pieces), the radio stations, and drinking and eating habits, to name a few. But instead of spoiling all the fun you'll have in making adjustments to them, just find out for yourself. It will be an experience you'll never forget.

Awaiting the inevitable

By JAMES CORY
10th-history

The almost simultaneous resignations of German Chancellor Willy Brandt and Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau establish the fact that almost all major governments in the capitalist world, the notable exceptions being Japan and the United States, have fallen within the last three months.

The underlying reason is not all that difficult to explicate. The nightmare of bourgeois political economists, unemployment combined with skyrocketing inflation, is the stark and

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potentially hideous reality. Each and every capitalist government is faced with the horror of an immediately impending national and international Weimar. Consequently Bonapartist, strong-arm regimes are installed in some countries, while in others the offensive of the working classes (England and Portugal) has created the death-trap of the 1930's, the Popular Front.

The possibility of a political general strike against a minority labor government in Britain, was averted on May 8 when the industrialists delivered \$156,000 to the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, is revolutionary in all of its implications. And, although postponed for the moment through the combined efforts of the British bourgeoisie, Harold Wilson and Jack Jones, the very possibility of a Soviet Britain is now immediately distinct.

The right and the military, of course, are hardly oblivious. The London police have been armed, all of the left parties have been heavily infiltrated and the fascist group, National Front, openly calls for the dismemberment of the Trades Union Congress and grows by leaps and bounds. Needless to say, the American Central Intelligence Agency is also quite active in Britain, according to allegations published in The New York Times.

The coup which recently toppled the fascist Caelano regime in Portugal was, in certain terms, an acknowledgement on the part of the Portuguese capitalist class and its military of the tremendous strength of the Portuguese proletariat and the guerilla movements in the colonies of Mozambique, Angola and the now virtually independent Guiana-Bissau. However, Antonio Spinoza, with whom the Socialist and Communist Parties of Portugal are so eager to form a government, has a rather anti-democratic background, to say the least. Spinoza lead a detachment of Portuguese volunteers to fight with the fascist Franco during the Spanish Civil War. Spinoza also headed a group of Portuguese soldiers who participated in the Nazi army's seige of Leningrad in 1942.

For these parties to call on the Portuguese workers to do anything other than seize this man and his entourage and shoot them all is criminal. To form a government with this cutthroat at the helm is to consciously create the conditions for a fascist coup perhaps even bloodier than the Chilean coup of September 1973. Have Soares and Cunhal, the leaders of the Portuguese Socialist and Communist Parties,

simultaneously taken leave of their senses or is this simply another act of Stalinist treachery? I tend to assume that the latter is the case.

In the United States, a wage offensive on the part of the labor movement is imminent. Also, the possibility of a national general strike, directed against the Nixon government, is a real possibility. And neither are the right and the military at home oblivious to the situation.

The transcripts reveal not simply, as Senator Scott would have it, Nixon's "shabby and disgusting" methods of rule. The conversations, recorded on tape and printed (and thoroughly edited, I might add) reveal a broad, sinister and on-going attempt to eliminate democratic rights which are supposedly guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. These transcripts lay bare the fact that dictatorial methods of rule are planned for the working class in the United States!

Behind the drawn-out facade of the impeachment proceedings lurks the ugly military, ready, willing and able to declare martial law in order to preserve "national security" (sound familiar?), suspend the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and begin to systematically round up leftists and trade unionists.

New presidential elections must immediately be called and a new political party, based on the unions and pledged to socialist policies must be formed to enter candidates and fight for worker's power. There is absolutely no other just solution to the crisis of American bourgeois society. Put an end to it!

the Collegian

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