

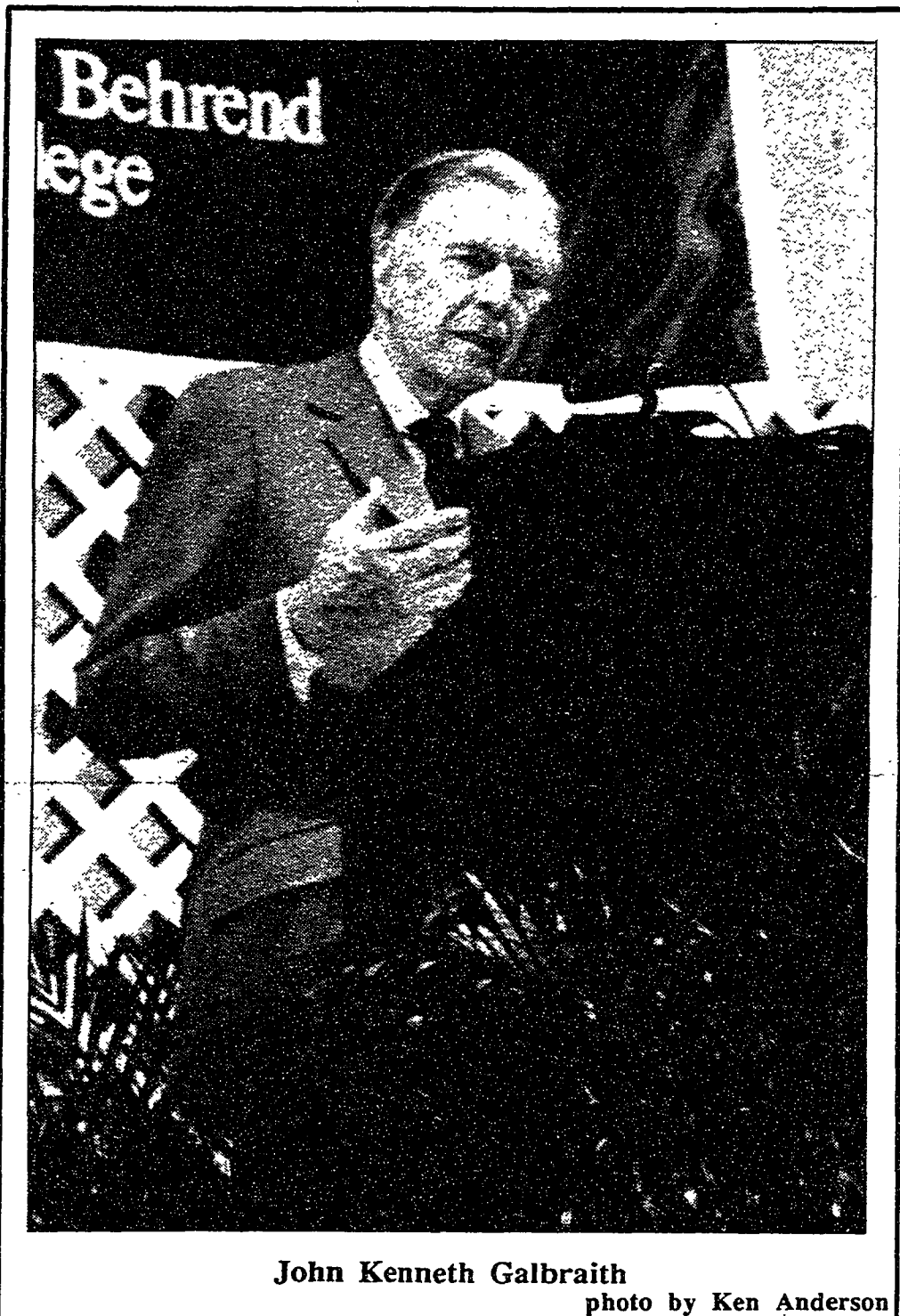
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Dr. John Kenneth Galbraith



John Kenneth Galbraith
photo by Ken Anderson

Economies in Transition

by Richard Martin
with Richard Cain
Assistant Editor

World renowned economist Dr. John Kenneth Galbraith talked about his perspectives on world economics when he spoke here on Wednesday, April 5.

His lecture was given to a packed Erie Hall and was broadcast live to 18 other Penn State campuses via a fiber optics linkup with University Park's satellite system.

Galbraith, a native of nearby Ontario, Canada, is Professor Emeritus of Economics at Harvard University.

Galbraith began his lecture by contrasting the economic structures of the United States and the Soviet Union. He believes that the two countries are in a transitional stage in that they are at opposite ends of the economic spectrum but are slowly moving towards each other.

Galbraith pointed out that in the past any steps towards communism were immediately condemned by the United States just as any movements toward capitalism were condemned by the Soviet Union. He believes that these "barriers" have lessened considerably since the McCarthy and Stalin years and even went as far as to say that Marx's theories could not be completely rejected.

Galbraith then touched on some topics that he thought the United States needed to concentrate on including welfare, social security and low cost housing and aid for the poor. He used these programs as an example of the United States movement towards a more socialist mind set.

"This is the age of accommodation, not ideology," Galbraith said as he cited the changing attitude of those who preach the laissez-faire or "leave it alone" philosophy and then go begging for government intervention when things go under.

Galbraith then discussed a topic which he referred to as the "black hole of economies." This theory contends that all industrial societies suffer from a rapid growth of management personnel that turns the industries into a huge bureaucracy. This affliction affects both socialist and capitalist economies.

Galbraith pointed out that the Soviet industrial bureaucracy numbers over 30 million in an economy that he labels as "vast, inert, change resisting and stagnant."

Galbraith then looked at the other side of the scale and criticized the U.S. system for relying to heavily on taxes and tariffs to protect the "old and senile industries."

Galbraith believes that the main threat to both the U.S. and Soviet economies is the over emphasis and spending on the military. He also sees an eventual fall of the all powerful Japanese superiority as more firms continue to migrate to lower wage regions. He gave India as just one example.

In short, Galbraith conveyed that the most pressing situation in the U.S. economy lies in the lack of cooperation between the government, the industry's bureaucratic management and the labor force. As far as the overwhelming third world debt goes, "When foolish loans are made by foolish bankers to foolish governments, repayment cannot be expected."

Vandals Inflict Serious Damage on Nearby Home

by James Martin
Collegian Editor

James and Audrey Manges were awakened early this past Sunday morning by the sound of their household water pump running continuously.

When they investigated, they found out why.

The couple discovered a running garden hose had been placed inside their car. Upon further investigation, they found their home had been extensively vandalized.

The Manges' house, located across the street from Behrend's Continuing Education offices, was apparently vandalized at approximately 1 am Sunday morning.

Over 3 inches of water had accumulated inside their car, a 1985

Chrysler Lebaron, according to Audrey Manges, who notes the car had to be towed away for repairs.

What was worse than the damage to the car, say the couple, was that a large quantity of green paint was splattered all over the front of their house as well as on their windows.

Vandals also tore out between 90 and 100 shrubs, adds Mrs Manges.

Other damage included key scratches on one of the family's cars as well as paint damage on their blacktop driveway.

The couple, who have rented out space in their basement to Behrend students for nine years, say they are concerned that Behrend students were involved and have met with Dean of Student Services Chris Reber to discuss the drinking situation at Behrend.

Following his meeting with the

couple, Reber noted, "This act is deplorable. It's obviously a criminal act with serious legal implications. Whoever did it should be brought to justice."

Currently, the matter is under investigation by the Pennsylvania State Police.

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WPSE Has New Chief

Frederick Anzivino has been hired to fill the newly-created position of Station Manager for Behrend's radio station WPSE.

Anzivino, who has had over ten years experience in radio, will begin working Monday. Most recently, he has been managing a radio station in Salem, Ohio.

According to Dean of Student Services Chris Reber, work on the radio station is going well and an opening date of May 1 may be realistic.

He also noted that the station will be looking for a number of student volunteers to help get the station off the ground this summer. Interested students have been asked to contact Ken Bunting.