

Letters to the Editor

Juniors want say-so on Junior Week head

To the Editor:

I am sure that I speak for a great many juniors when I say that an "unhealthy" situation exists which we feel should be brought to the attention of the junior class and the student body as a whole. We refer, of course, to the selection and duties of the Junior Week chairman.

In the past, as you know, no standard procedure has been set for selecting a chairman. Once again ITSA has established a temporary policy to handle the choice of a chairman, and still nowhere are his duties set down. Mr. Bernay's recent motion passed by ITSA reads that the Junior Week chairman is to be elected by the board, the task of the junior class officers being to eliminate undesirable prospects from the applicants. In the final selection, however, the juniors have one vote and the

freshman, sophomore, and seniors have one vote and the dean of students has one vote.

We do not want to see the Junior Week chairman elected by the votes of fresh, soph, and senior presidents. We do not want to see the Junior Week chairman elected by the votes of the dean of students and the faculty. We want to see the juniors elect the Junior Week chairman.

If we ask why this has not been the case we are told that the job of selection is too big for the junior officers alone; that nearly \$5,000 of the Institute's funds are involved — \$5,000, we might add, that is spent to display the buildings, the grounds, the labs, not to the students but to the 25,000 curious visitors who attend.

But we are also told that the staggering sum of \$345 was listed last term as the total expenditures of the Junior Week committee.

In the interest of a more expensive Junior Week program and a more active student body we ask that ITSA at its next meeting consider the following proposals:

1. The administration of Junior Week shall henceforth be placed in the hands of the junior class, represented by a Junior Week chairman elected by the junior class as a whole.

2. The duties of this officer shall be:
 a. The formation of a committee to arrange for the Junior Week activities which comprise Junior Week.

b. The procurement from the student activities fund of sufficient funds to support said activities, and the disbursement of these funds.

3. The coordination of Junior Week activities with the Open House programs.
 Les Hardison
 Class of June '50

'Function' defended

To the Editor:

Several weeks ago a letter appeared in Technology News that expressed a complaint against the mathematics department's policy of requiring all first semester calculus students to purchase a copy of The Concept of a Function, by Dr. Menger. The department and the bookstore were accused of charging an exorbitant price (actual fifty cents) for a twenty-page mimeographed pamphlet.

At the time, this complaint seemed justified; at the present time, it is no longer valid. At every class session for the past seven or eight classes, at least one additional sheet has been distributed to each student. At the present time, these sheets are being distributed now, the total will exceed fifty at the end of the semester.

Thus, our original fifty cent investment covered not only the initial twenty sheets, but also a subscription to additional material for the balance of the semester. I hardly think that the co-authors of the fore-mentioned letter would expect any department in school to bear the expense of more than seventy pages for approximately five hundred students.

David Sachs

TECHNOLOGY NEWS

An All-American Newspaper

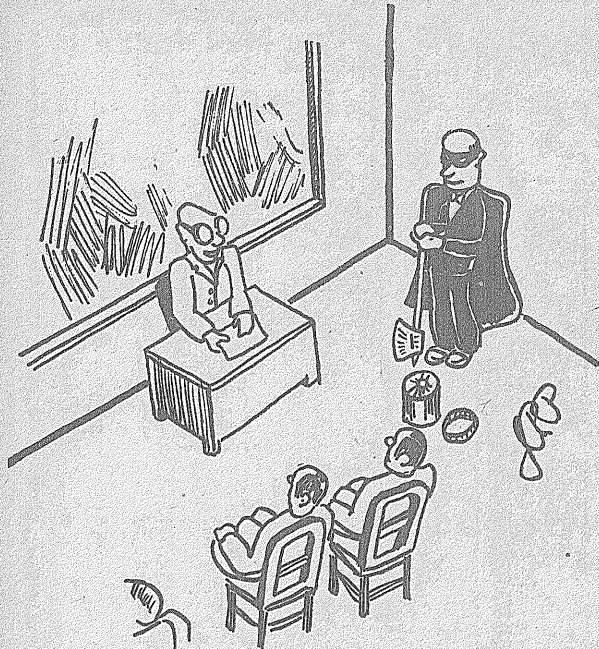
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"And those who flunk the quiz . . ."

Collegiate world

Complete publishing plant donated to college paper

By Johnnie Best

A complete newspaper plant, the former Pasadena Daily Times, has been donated to the University of Houston by a Texas oil man. The \$60,000 printing plant will be used to publish The Cougar, student newspaper, and other campus publications. Presses are expected to roll within 90 days at their new on-campus location, it was said.

Included in the gift are two linotype machines, a Duplex web press capable of printing up to 4,000 16-page papers per hour, four job presses, and 120 tons of paper stock. With the new equipment, the University will offer practical training in all fields of journalism, plus the technical aspects of printing.

The philanthropist stated that he made the gift to the University with the feeling that the country has a great need for well-trained journalists. His action will permit conduct of a thorough course in modern high-speed newspaper production.

With selective service hardly underway yet, the male-female ratio in American colleges is rapidly returning to normal. This happier condition has had but slight effect on the scene at 33rd and Federal, but on some campuses the improvement is significant.

The Herzl Light reports that the ratio of men to women has plummeted from 3-1 to 1.196-1. Men in the evening classes there are actually outnumbered by the girls, the article reveals.

Perhaps as further evidence of the pleasing trend comes a little item from Furman University, conveying the fact that Dean Tibbs there has finally consented to mixed classes in the Marriage for Moderns course.

Editorials . . .

This is 'Blast Harriman Week'

Right about now we thought we ought to comment on the cafeteria situation, because it seems to be a tradition to proclaim a "Blast Harriman Week" at least once every semester.

But do you mind if we shrug off this duty to the student body and take a more realistic attitude?

In pointing out the areas in which we feel the cafeteria can be improved, we are cognizant of present handicaps which face the management. Yet—

● Why can't a more efficient organization of the sandwich and milk lines in the North cafeteria be devised?

At present, it is necessary to plow through both the plate lunch and checking lines in order to get a sandwich. Confusion reigns at the milk counter also.

● Food prices today, as all of us know, are exorbitantly high. However, the cafeteria milk prices are out of line. Despite bottle-washing and handling expenses, a mark-up of more than 50 per cent is not justifiable on a staple food such as this.

But just to prove we're not bitter about these matters, we'd like to mention that we've noticed a consistent effort to improve Tech cafeteria atmosphere. Table-cleaning service is rapid, and students may eat lunch in clean, pleasant surroundings. The variety of sandwiches has improved considerably.

Especially noticed is the extra service given willingly at odd hours to student groups. This, above all, is appreciated.

as I see IT

By DAVE PASK

Editor-in-Chief

SMALL TROUBLES replacing big ones — it's progress, for sure.

In my mailbox adjoining, you see a small trouble; someone's confused about Junior Week. And this might be a good thing. A handful of students boiling and foaming about an event still on the horizon indicates, if nothing else, that someone's looking beyond the end of his slide rule.



But there's a point— why this confusion about one of the Institution's traditions? Perhaps because someone has lost sight of the fact that Junior Week has grown up in the last two years. In fact, I don't think it's Junior Week any more at all—it's something far bigger and better.

Mr. Hardison is arguing for something that no longer exists: the old spring three-day pass when Armour boys would let down their hair and a few pair of freshman trousers, while the faculty headed for cover. Junior Week officers were always found in the center ring of the circus.

But can I speak in the same paragraph of the spectacular three-day show that Illinois Tech presented last spring to 25,000 visitors?

The scores of student groups participating were made up of every class and department, all with an equal interest in the festivities.

That's why "Junior Week" is a misnomer. The junior class officers, assuming duties in February, will find that only finishing touches are left to be done by that time; for practical reasons, even details of their Junior Prom will have long since been taken care of.

Consider the confusion created for a time by the line "separating" Junior Week from Open House. Fortunately, no one let this get in the way of carrying out a well-balanced unified theme. But Mr. Hardison grumbles that the whole school should not be allowed to interfere with "Junior" Week.

I think the solution is obvious. It would be quite easy to change the name, and I suggest that this be done.

Slipstick

If it's funny enough to tell, it's been told; if it wasn't been told it's too clean; and if it's dirty enough to interest engineers, the editor gets kicked out of school.

Student: I want a nice room for me and my wife.
 Clerk: Yes sir, just sign the register. Anything else?

Student: Yeah, gimme a pack of cigarettes.
 Clerk: What kind, sir?

Student: (turning to wife) What brand do you smoke, babe?

Cinderella: Godmother, must I leave the ball at midnight?
 Fairy: Stop swearing, child, or you won't go at all.

Dear Diary:
 Monday—I felt highly honored for being placed at the captain's table.
 Tuesday—I spent the morning on the bridge with the captain. He seems to like me.

Wednesday—The captain made proper welcome to an officer and a gentleman.

Thursday—the captain threatened to sink the ship unless I agreed to his proposals.

Friday—I saved six hundred lives.

Lady: What rank does your uniform represent?
 Sailor: I'm a naval surgeon.

Lady: My, my, how you young people do specialize!

There once was a young lady named Eve
 Who caused husband Adam to grieve;
 When he asked where she'd been,
 She replied with a grin,
 "I've been absent without any leave."

We point with pride to the purity of the white space between our jokes.
 Carollie Gus