Guest Editorial

National election results may affect students

By Donald W. Smithburg
Assistant Professor of Political Science

The American people have voted to continue and extend the New Deal. In the Presidential election, but even more emphatically in the Congressional races, they have voted for persons who support a program of positive government action; if this program, as outlined in the campaign, is carried out, it may noticeably affect the outlook for college students.

First, big government means greater opportunities for careers in the public service. Whether their fields are economics or engineering, sociology or law, a greater percentage of technicians will find themselves for the government.

Even if the aim of the student remains in the area of private business, he will find that his relationship with the government will be closer than in the past. Positive government means government intervention in the affairs of private business. To be a successful executive will require an intimate konwledge of the way government operates.

Of course, this will raise some problems in terms of curriculum planning. Students should, it seems to me, give increasing thought to including in their programs the study of politics, public administration, and public law. Rather than being merely the cake frosting of a "liberal elective," such knowledge will increasingly be a part of the essential technical equipment of the college graduate.

A second interesting effect of the election relates more directly to education. The President has promised more federal aid to education. His committee on higher education recommended early this year that such aid be in a proportion sufficient to double the enrollment of the colleges within five years.

That means more competition among college graduates for professional and managerial positions. Unless the number of such positions increases sharply (and this seems unlikely in the immediate future) there will be a great deal of competition for the positions available. This means that many students will want to think about graduate school and getting a doctor's degree if they are to stay ahead of the pack. With twice the present number of college students, we are likely in the future to have the best educated policeman, fireman, and garbage collectors in the history of the human race.

Perhaps you do not like the prospects. Perhaps you prefer traditional American individualism. In 1950 and 1952 you will have a chance to do something about it. But to be effective you will have to be politically active. Perhaps you, too, should learn the rules of the political game.

As I see IT

By DAVE PASIK
Editor-in-Chief

FROM MACHINERY HALL to Michigan avenue, 33rd street is already echoing the rattle and roll of bandwagons—it looks like we're going to see the biggest election yet.

Not only the biggest, but the best—never before has a "real" campus election been held. Appointment of the election commission has always been a last-minute step, causing three men to be swamped with the tasks of preparing, distributing, and checking petitions, handling the election booth all day, and tabulating results far into the night.

The record 30 percent turnout in May forced a change. A commission of 18 is now at work on details of the election—details that could never be afforded before.

The polls will be open for two days, and voting will take place in a location free from electioneering. The old mimeographed ballots have been replaced, and there will be a different color ballot for each class.

But far more important than these refinements is the interest being shown in the election as a whole. Because plans have been made long in advance, plenty of time is available for adequate publicity, circulation of petitions, and campaigning to get out the vote.

I suppose the reason I'm so happy about the whole thing is that I'm not going to have to write one of those sad editorials about the lack of Tech class spirit. Things are really looking up!

At the 'top'

Illinois Institute of Technology is at the top of the list—a list prepared by the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious discrimination.

This list, compiled after the council's recent survey of Illinois college admission applications, names IIT as the school asking the largest number of "discriminatory" questions of applicants for admission.

We cannot defend the appearance of these questions on the Illinois Tech blank, particularly since this information is not and never has been used for discriminating purposes. There is not a single instance on record in which IIT has been accused of racial or religious bigotry by any organization or individual.

The Institute's practices of giving an admission interview and asking the language spoken at home are defensible. The pre-admission conversation is helpful in explaining the facts of life at Tech, and knowledge of the language spoken in the home is used to give a break to the student who scores low on the English section of the entrance exam.

We advocate removal of the other objectionable questions, since this information is used only for counseling and by churches and other community agencies, and can just as well be obtained after admission.

Since Illinois Tech has an admirable record in the field or racial and religious understanding, why does it invite criticism by asking useless, outmoded questions?

Election-time buddies

The collegiate World

Coed quarters invaded by night marauders

By Johnnie Best

Hazing, in its milder forms, can be a source of innocent fun—especially if there is a girls' dormitory on the campus. One night last week 80 male students at the University of Manitoba carried out a masterful foray against the coed quarters there. Night watchmen were drawn from the scene by decoys, while most of the masked men dashed into the women's bedrooms and overturned the beds.

The girls, some of whom were nude, were smeared with mud, soap flakes, feathers, and confetti. Making their escape without being identified, the interlopers completed their mission without fear of retaliation.

* * *

Arrested at gunpoint and charged with assault and armed robbery, three University of Miami students were released after 24 hours as "mistakenly identified," when a quartet of gunmen confessed to the holdups.

In an episode which may be recorded as a prime example of the unreliability of hysterical witnesses, the students saw evidence against them artfully built up while they were held on an "open charge." They were placed in the lineup three times, but the other men viewed with them were city firemen in uniform.

Although exonerated by the confession of the real culprits, the students will not soon forgive the damage done them. In addition to the hardship caused by loss of time and money (with legal and bonding fees totaling $500), the men are irked by the publicity in Miami newspapers, which headlined their arrest and almost ignored their release.

* * *

Could be that the new trend in public opinion polls is exemplified by the latest "campus opinnion survey" of **The College Eye** to reach us. Interviewing a cross section of students at Iowa State Teachers college, the polisters found respondents firmly opinionated on the desirability of bridge and dancing lessons.

"Yes," said 72%, when asked if bridge lessons should be offered. Negative replies came from 15%, and 13% were reported as indifferent. Asked if they wanted dancing lessons on the campus, 74% nodded agreement, 14% frowned disapproval, and 12% dozed on. Some students were said to have indicated favor for such activities, but said that they would not participate. In other words—just typical students.

* * *

"Five years for the rest of you—but not for us" seemed to be the consensus of students at Case Tech, when surveyed on the perennial question of a longer undergraduate curriculum. Statistically, Case-men lined up 63% to 37% against instituion of a five-year course, although 56% of those polled conceded that the extra year would probably do them good, if required.

Strongest in opposition to the lengthened period of schooling are the seniors, who vted 77% against the plan. Their attitude was summed up by one Case-ite who opined briefly. "Fed up in four years!"

Slipstick

Lady Godiva, we are told, was the greatest gambler in the world—she put her all on a horse. She didn't win, but she showed.

* * *

Dr. Peck: Didn't you have a brother in this course last year?
Larry: No sir, it was I. I'm taking it over again.
Dr. Peck: Extraordinary resemblance, though—extraordinary!

* * *

Well, I certainly made a good impression on her, said the cane bottomed chair as the artist's model stood up.

* * *

Little Miss Muffet
Decided to rough it
In a cabin quite old and medieval.
A rounder espied her
And plied her with cider,
And now she's the forest's prime evil.

* * *

A drunk walked into an elevator shaft, fell four floors to the bottom. Stood up, brushed himself off, and muttered: "I s-shaid UP!"

* * *

Once there was a
Sailor named Practice,
He met a girl
Named Perfect—

* * *

The war between the sexes will never be fought to a successful conclusion—mainly because there is so much fraternizing with the enemy.

* * *

Fussy woman: I want some nice, big apples for my sick husband.
Do you know whether they have been sprayed with poison?
Clerk: No ma'am, you'll have to get that at the drug store.

* * *

From the want ads:
"GIRL NEEDS A JOB. IS WILLING TO STRUGGLE IF GIVEN OPPORTUNITY."
Carbolic Gus

TECHNOLOGY NEWS
An All-American Newspaper

Published every Friday during the school year by the students of Illinois Institute of Technology, 3300 S. Federal, Chicago, Illinois. Entered as second class matter October 10, 1940, at the post office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.
Represented for national advertising by the National Advertising Service, Inc., College Publishers Representative, 420 Madison Ave., New York 17, N.Y. Advertising rates furnished upon request. Subscriptions Domestic: $1.00 per term. Foreign: $2.00 per term.

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