

Deferred Rush

THE INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL rush committee has made a very mature and objective judgment on the feasibility of a deferred rush week. They sized up the situation and rejected it.

In writing before the IFC acts (they decided on the report last night) it is impossible to decide what they will do, but this type of rush system, as suggested by the rush committee, could only bring problems to fraternities in their time of difficulty.

THE IFC will be trying to improve fraternity scholarship through the enactment of a new policy permitting only high school seniors in the upper half of their classes to participate in rush week. If the IFC were to accept a deferred rush motion at this point, the new proposal would be rendered useless, and many hours of hard work would be cast aside.

The rush committee lists several effects that a deferred rush week would inflict on the fraternity system. According to the report the fraternity system could lose as much as \$180,000 in house bills during the period of deferment.

Can an individual fraternity afford to absorb a \$9,000 to \$10,000 loss in a single year? Would their national chapters foot the bill? Better yet, would the individual members of a fraternity be able to pay a \$100 year-end assessment to make the books balance? Or, maybe the University (gloating over new budgetary appropriations) would pay the deficit.

THE MOST important effect, however, is that 21 houses would be without pledges—the life and spark of a fraternity. Apathy would rise among the upperclassmen. Dirty rushing would result. And, interfraternity rivalry would be at an all time high. Freshman living in the dorm might get the wrong idea from the rivalry, and feelings would undoubtedly be hurt. The final result would be a slow but continuing degradation of the fraternity system—a repulsive thought to all of us.

On a campus with an effective IFC (reported one of the best in the Big Eight), and a strong Greek system, why would Dean Ross favor a deferred rush which would at the same time stifle a growing, improving way of life.

—gary lacey

Do We Need Grades?

ONE OF the threats facing learning today is the grading system. This system attempts to rank a student among his fellows according to the amount of knowledge he apparently has. In reality, it places the importance of getting a good grade above the importance of learning.

The intended use of a grade is to show the University how well a student is doing in comparison with other students. The University uses grades for conferring academic honors and scholarships, and for showing other academic institutions a student's progress and position in case the student wants to transfer or go on to graduate school. Because of the law of averages, the overall record of a student's achievement is fairly accurate. For administrative purposes, this record need never be more than fairly accurate.

GRADES AS administrative tools are necessary. The University must know where its students stand in relation to each other. However, there is no reason for the student to know his official standing. Each student knows his ability and can guess his achievement. If it differs from his professor's guess, it is probably the professor's guess which is off. One of the most entertaining college activities is bluffing. It is used by students with great ability and little achievement to see if their cleverness can cover up their lack of knowledge. Usually this bluffing doesn't fool the professor, and the general attitude is that cleverness deserves a reward which is a good

grade, and that the clever student should receive a college education.

If the student didn't have the fun of playing the grade game, if he were never given the satisfaction of seeing if he won, he might find more satisfaction in learning itself. Not every student misses grades in the bluffing fashion, but every student does use them as an incentive. They are a very good incentive, but they are also false ones.

THE PURPOSE of a college education is to give the student general knowledge as the basis for specific knowledge, and to sharpen his skill in a certain area. The goal of getting good grades never entirely dissolves the real purpose of an education, but it does dim it. If instead of receiving a grade for a paper, or an hour exam, or even for a final exam, the student were given written criticism, he would have a better idea of not only where he stood, but how he should proceed. This solution would not work for all subjects. In lower levels of science or in some parts of history where the work is only memorization and not creative, criticism is useless, however, a letter grade is equally useless. It usually serves only to confirm what the student believes he earned.

Erasing the idea of grades would not erase competition. The desire to know more, and the desire to be right are stronger incentives than a good grade. Grades are an administrative classification separate from the academic goal of learning.

—THE MICHIGAN DAILY

Capital Punishment

FOUR CONVICTED murderers were executed Friday in California's olive-green, octagonal gas chamber—two in the morning, two in the afternoon.

Supporters of capital punishment will favor these executions claiming:

THAT THE state has the moral right and obligation to execute men "unfit for human existence."

That capital punishment acts as a deterrent to future crimes by others.

THAT THROUGH execution murderers pay their "debt to society," a modern rendition of the cruder sounding "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth" doctrine.

That capital punishment saves the thousands of dollars it would cost to keep a convicted man in prison for life.

WE WOULD question the validity of the arguments of those in favor of capital punishment. The state, unless it has either clothed in the infallible drape of the old "divine right" theory or accepted the multi-faced guise of Mother Nature, cannot justify taking the life of a human being, no matter how malevolent the person be.

Many persons "unfit for human existence" are now being treated psychologically to make them fit for human existence, much like a person having malaria is treated for his particular ailment. Many of those threatened by capital punishment became criminals because of cruel pressures placed on them by society. It is more likely that society has the debt, a debt which can be paid by treatment of the criminal and not death.

THE "DETERRENT factor" is the

favorite but least tenable argument of those favoring capital punishment. These people completely forget that when England used to hang pick pockets in public there were almost always other pick pockets present in the crowd collecting what they could from the pockets of the spectators. The times have not changed so much that the same is not true today. None of us would be at all surprised if, as the news of executions is being rushed across the country, a murder or two were committed.

Besides, executions cannot act effectively as deterrents if they are held with only a chosen few state officials and a doctor or two on hand to see the deaths. For the deterrent factor to become tenable, executions would have to be held as public spectacles, viewed by as many people as possible. They would be held in public arenas; television and radio commentators would minute by minute report the happenings—from the last meal of the criminal to the final cheers of the spectators. Newspapers would splash pictures of the deceased across their pages, accompanied by vivid accounts of his last hours. The full horror and agony of the execution would thereby be demonstrated to any would-be criminals.

WE ARE confident that if such a spectacle were ever held, and the full barbarity of this institution revealed to modern man, capital punishment, like other relics of the less civilized past, would quickly pass from the present scene.

—The COLORADO DAILY



Who Says So?

The Boogie Men

That's Who!

The campus looks like the parade following the return of General MacArthur. Not even Broadway could compare with all the chunks of paper that are fluttering around. Every member of every organization must submit a detailed report in triplicate for the first three pages, duplicate for the next umpteen, have them bound, put one copy on file in the central reserve room in the library, have another engraved on the head of a pin to be worn by the new chairman, and then take the other copy of the report home to cry on.

We have heard that the local bookstores have a part in this since they are getting cuts on the typewriter ribbons, paper, carbon, binding, as well as buffer sales.

Have the new Mortar Boards and Innocents gotten to know each other some mentioned that there were a few people in the activity world that they must not have known.

The entire J-School is waltzing around these days with little ribbons that say J-Day on them. It would appear that the entire staff of the school is planning to re-enact the entire Normandy invasion during these last few days to pep up the campus.

Now in the year 1963 (After Burt), the Student Council sees the exit of the old, the entrance of the new. We trust they entered from stage center in preference to the left or right.

Old Burt and his crew didn't do too badly this year. In fact, they accomplished quite a bit for the students. There were the humorous faux pas—student flow in Burnett to mention only one.

We shall now see what the newly added IPC annex will do as it moves into another year in dominating the Council. Gad—could you imagine what the Council would be like if the UPP had won?

Maybe this will be the year of student rights, the rebellion to rubber-stampitis, enactment of free love, beer in the Union, etc.

—l.h.m.

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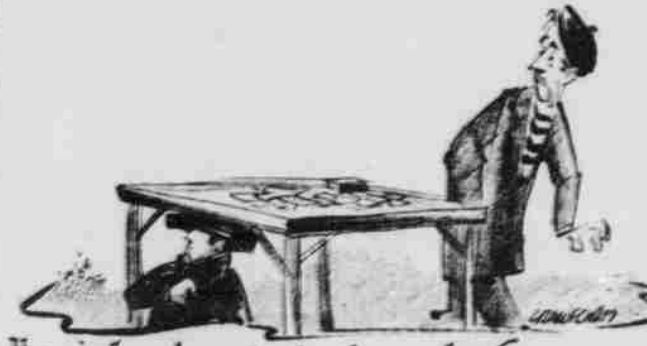
On Campus with Max Strubman
(Author of "I Was a Teen-age Dwarf," "The Many Loves of Dottie Gillis," etc.)

HOW TO SEE EUROPE
FOR ONLY \$300 A DAY: NO. 2

Last week we discussed England, the first stop on the tour of Europe that every American college student is going to make this summer. Today we will take up your next stop—France, or the Pearl of the Pacific, as it is generally called.

To get from England to France, one greases one's body and swims the English Channel. Similarly, to get from France to Spain, one greases one's body and slides down the Pyrenees. And, of course, to get from France to Switzerland, one greases one's body and wriggles through the Simplon Tunnel. Thus, as you can see, the most important single item to take to Europe is a valise full of grease.

No, I am wrong. The most important thing to take to Europe is a valise full of Marlboro Cigarettes—or at least as many as



the customs regulations will allow. And if by chance you should run out of Marlboros in Europe, do not despair. That familiar red and white Marlboro package is as omnipresent in Europe as it is in all fifty of the United States. And it is the same superb cigarette you find at home—the same pure white filter, the same zesty, mellow blend of tobaccos presiding the filter. This gem of the tobaccoist's art, this prodigy of cigarette engineering, was achieved by Marlboro's well-known research team—Fred Softpack and Walter Flitop—and I, for one, am grateful.

But I digress. We were speaking of France—or the Serpent of the Nile, as it is popularly termed.

Let us first briefly sum up the history of France. The nation was discovered in 1066 by Madame Guillotine. There followed a series of costly wars with Schleswig-Holstein, the Cleveland Indians, and Jean Jacques Rousseau. Stability finally came to this troubled land with the coronation of Marshal Foch, who married Lorraine Alice and had three children: Popsy, Mopsy, and Charlemagne. This later became known as the Petit Trianon.

Marshal Foch—or the Boy Orator of the Platte, as he was affectionately called—was succeeded by Napoleon, who introduced shortness to France. Until Napoleon the French were the tallest nation in Europe. After Napoleon most Frenchmen were able to walk comfortably under card tables. This later became known as the Hunchback of Notre Dame.

Napoleon, after his defeat by Credit Mobilier, was exiled to Elba, where he made the famous statement, "Able was I ere I saw Elba." This sentence reads the same whether you spell it forward or backward. You can also spell Marlboro backward—Orblimur. Do not, however, try to smoke Marlboro backward because that undoes all the pleasure of the finest cigarette made.

After Napoleon's death the French people fell into a great fit of melancholy, known as the Louisiana Purchase. For over a century everyone sat around moping and refusing his food. This torpor was not lifted until Eiffel built his famous tower, which made everybody giggle so hard that today France is the gayest country in Europe.

Each night the colorful natives gather at sidewalk cafes and about "Oo-la-la!" as Maurice Chevalier promenades down the Champs Elysees swinging his malacca cane. Then, tired but happy, everyone goes to the Louvre for bowls of onion soup. The principal industry of France is cashing travellers checks.

Well sir, I guess that's all you need to know about France. Next week we will visit the Land of the Midnight Sun—Spain.

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