

Editor's Mail

(Contributions are invited. Letters should be limited to less than 200 words. Only signed letters will be considered for publication. Personal attacks on individuals will be eliminated.)

Supports McClellan

To the Editor:

Marquette and Northern Michigan University should be proud to count among its citizenry individuals who understand situation ethics are are willing to practice them even if it means scorn and eventual loss of job.

As a native of Marquette and an alumnus of Northern, I admire the stand taken by the Faculty Senate, the student government, the American Association of University Professors and other interested persons and with them support the reinstatement of Dr. Robert F. McClellan to the teaching faculty of Northern.

J. WILLIAM BORDEAU
227 Lakeland Ave.
Sayville, Long Island, N.Y.

Faculty Vote

To the Editor:

Let me correct two misrepresentations in the article on the McClellan case in the Nov. 3 Mining Journal, which marred the paper's record of generally impartial reporting of the case to date.

First, Dr. McClellan was NOT "defeated" in the Faculty Senate election and he did not make any "bid." Nobody campaigns for a seat in the Senate. Each faculty member puts on his ballot the same number of names as there are seats to be filled (three in a regular election, two in this). Those with the highest number of votes are nominated. There are twice as many nominees — in this case, four — as there are seats to be filled. Another ballot is then held, and the persons getting the highest number of votes — two in this instance — are elected.

Nomination is a mark of esteem by one's colleagues; failure to win, on the other hand, does not indicate disapproval.

Second, the statement that "the university has 1,108 full-time employees, but only 314 ... were permitted to vote" on the resolution of "no confidence" is irrelevant and misleading. Most of the employees are clerical or service personnel, whose interests, as employees, are different from those of the academic faculty. (As CITIZENS, a majority of them might well support Dr. McClellan.) The statement is pointless except as an attempt to obscure the fact that a "hard core" of 165 faculty members — an absolute majority of the faculty and approximately 65 per cent of those voting — declared their conviction that Mr. Johnson and the board of control are not able "to govern Northern in the best interests of the university and its constituents."

I assume The Mining Journal was only printing a handout from the administration. It should be evident at this point, however, that statements by

the administration are not invariably free from bias.

ELLSWORTH BARNARD
Department of English

Northern Michigan University

(Editor's note: The Mining Journal believes that if four persons are nominated for two offices decided by voting, this constitutes an election in which two persons are elected and two are defeated. The assumption that "The Mining Journal was only printing a handout from the administration" is incorrect. The account of the election was written entirely by a Mining Journal staff member who included all of the information he considered pertinent to a report on the outcome of the election.)

More On Marching

Sir:

In reply to "Marching Feet" by Mrs. Lindroos:

No, Mrs. Lindroos, those marching feet are not getting louder — you are simply hearing better. For those marching feet have been with us since that fateful day on which two cavemen joined forces to destroy a marauding saber-toothed tiger. And those feet have marched down through the history of man. They marched to a tea party in Boston; they marched at Valley Forge and they march in Mississippi. They've marched in the laboratories, in the classrooms and in the pulpits. They've marched against tyranny, pestilence, famine and ignorance. And always, Mrs. Lindroos, they marched because they had a cause.

To imply that marching feet signal the arrival of another Hitler or Lenin is absurd. The marching feet of Patrick Henry and Abraham Lincoln still echo in the halls of history.

You say your heart grows cold with fear? Try marching, Mrs. Lindroos; it warms the heart with hope and opens the eyes to the future.

JOSEPH R. WIETEK
634 Duncan
Ishpeming

Barbs

By PHIL PASTORET

Red China's embassy in London is miffed because its back doorbell button is missing. There's a considerable body of opinion that Mao's crowd is shy a good many buttons.

Being able to remain cheerful while the boss grumbles is a triumph of mind over matter.

A waiter is a patron of an understaffed restaurant.

Save 50 per cent on enough items on sale, and you'll go bankrupt.

A real pro makes his job look easy, but not so easy that anyone could do it.