

The Daily Nebraskan

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
Lincoln

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1915

We are glad to acknowledge the receipt of Reed Dawson's letter. It is interesting to get the ideas of a "grad" who watches with interest what is going on at Nebraska; one who was always in the midst of things while here. The Nebraskan takes this opportunity to urge alumni to write to the University body through our columns. Thus you will keep in closer touch with the school and we will know something more of you.

KOSMET

The Kosmet play was a decided credit to all concerned in promoting and staging it. It typified the clean, wholesome college life and portrayed the youthful, energetic spirit that is typical of college young men and women. There was not a line or an action that could offend the most refined.

It is unfortunate that some of our city critics who, upon any pretext, are ready to condemn University people for their patronage of rather questionable shows couldn't have seen Friday night's performance. They might have come to the conclusion that we are, after all, not wholly bad. But then, we could hardly expect these people to attend. They go rather to the cheap shows and vaudeville, and because they find a few University students there applauding the crude jokes, they proceed to set all students down as a bad lot.

It would be a good thing if the Kosmet play could be included in the Extension Week list of representatives. The people of the state would enjoy this glimpse of wholesome college life and no doubt many would be more charitable in their criticisms of University students thereafter.

THE FORUM

Cambridge, Mass., Feb. 15.
Editor-in-Chief, Daily Nebraskan:
I was indeed very much interested in the editorial in the Nebraskan of February 10, concerning the smoking of cigarettes at University dances.

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HALLET

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There are a multitude of very good reasons why you are right.

In the first place, no gentleman wishes to be selfish with the young lady he accompanies. But smoking is certainly selfish. Granting for a moment that it is for him in place, is it not selfish to enjoy a pleasure which this young lady cannot share with him? He would never think of tasting punch unless she did; he is most considerate of her program; but most selfish with his cigarettes. "Well, perhaps that is true in theory—but not in practice," he says. "No girl ever thinks of it that way." That is a pitiful defense, trembling under the weight of its own fallacy. The truth of the matter is that young men have so long disregarded this impropriety that girls are forced to accept it as a matter of course, not daring, for fear of offending their gentlemen friends, to make a protest. As the new generations of University women come, they take conditions as they find them. This is also true of the men; they are for the most part merely inadvertently selfish. But custom can never be justly plead in defense of any abuse. Furthermore, a great number of girls, though not openly protesting, inwardly feel the injustice. And not a few, may it be said, are quick to appreciate the deference paid them when their escorts do not smoke.

In the second place, smoking is absolutely offensive to many young ladies, from a purely physical as well as ethical standpoint. They are not generally accustomed to inhaling atmosphere clogged with stale tobacco smoke. A University party is an unfortunate place to force upon them this necessity. Again the young man says: "She doesn't care." He always asks her and she permits him to smoke. This likewise is a very weak retort. Many girls give their permission because other girls do, because it is the general custom, because they are afraid of hurting the man's feelings if they don't. Such a justification could never cover evils at which the most confirmed smoker would shudder. He don't want an excuse; that which is proper of itself needs no permission, no justification, no defense. And no manner of permission can justify in the eyes of the University public that which is a breach of its better ideals.

Again, the girl who gives her permission can give only for herself, not for the young lady sitting on the other side of the man. Of her he has no thought. It is only too plain. The true gentleman—when he does think—thinks of others in the PLURAL, not the singular.

From my own limited experience, I have found many young ladies who feel that no gentleman who has the proper amount of consideration for herself and for others, will request to smoke in her presence. Of course, many feel the other way; many don't feel at all. But for the sake of those who do, every young man should feel forced to secure the permission of every young lady present in order to crawl behind the protecting wing of the lame excuse "She doesn't care!"

Finally, there is little question that there is force in the argument that this practice does reflect unfavorably on the name of the University. This may be greatly magnified, but rather it is minimized. We have been blinded in the University by custom; we forget that those of this state before whom our institution must biennially come, and from whose clear eyes she is never masked, know not our custom as their own.

With my best regards,
REED B. DAWSON, '14.
Harvard Law School.
No. 19 College House.

Printing and engraving at Boyd's,
125 No. 12th.

Scott's Orchestra. Call B-1482 or B-4521.

UNI. NOTICES

Snap Shots

Wanted by the Cornhusker staff, snap shots of Ivy Day, Olympics, picnics, parties, summer vacation scenes, etc., by March 1, 1915.

All Juniors

Will receive the Nebraskan free of charge the last semester of next year if their subscription is paid before March 1st for this semester, and before October 15th for the first semester of next year.

All basketball and track men who have not had a physical examination this semester should report at Dr. Clapp's office immediately to make appointment for same.

DR. R. G. CLAPP.

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Regular Chorus

Regular chorus work, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 5 to 6 p. m., in the Temple. Registration means free admission to all concerts of the Damrosch Symphony Orchestra of New York, which is coming for the May Festival. See Mrs. Raymond, Temple, 4 to 5 p. m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Anyone desiring may register for chorus during this coming week. Arrangements have been made whereby anyone may register but registration will last but a few days longer, so do so now.

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Comus Club

The next dance will be held February 27 at Art Hall. PRESIDENT.

Phi Beta Kappa

Notice is hereby given that grades reported to the Registrar later than March 1, will not be considered in reckoning Phi Beta Kappa standing for the class of 1915.

RAYMOND I. POOL,
Secretary.

All members of the Girls' Club who have not paid their dues will please do so at once. The dues may be paid to Miss Graham at her regular office hours, or to any member of the board, Genevieve Lowry, Freda Stuff, Lelia McNeerney, Mable Sterns, Sadie Aber, Louise Brownell, Florence Angle, Lauretta Lord, Doris Slater, Geneva Seeger, Edna Ogden, Mary Haller, or Bertha Driftmeir.

Mr. Arvid Samuelson will give a piano recital next Tuesday at 11 o'clock at the Temple Theatre.

All Juniors and Seniors who have not paid by Saturday noon for their pictures will forfeit the money paid down.

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