

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

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FORUM

To the Editor of The Daily Nebraskan:

Not long ago the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. conducted a "Tag Day" to raise the University of Nebraska's share of funds for different forms of European student relief work. From a financial standpoint the campaign was as much of a success as I expected it to be; from the standpoint of the response to a call for helpers, it was unusually gratifying, but with respect to the spirit with which a great many contributions were made, some of which were car "tokens" and "Saratoga chips," and still worse, with respect to the attitude which some apparently sincere students held toward the whole affair, the campaign was a decided failure.

Immediately will I admit: First, that the donation of metal car tickets and pool checks smacked of real humor; second, that "Tag Days" in themselves are the next thing to a public nuisance, although they still produce financial results in less time and with less expended energy than any other method; and third, that the lack of a true willingness to give is for the most part due to the lack of a true understanding of the subject for relief and not to that characteristic of selfishness which so many people think is inevitable and necessarily dominant in college students. But there is one thing that I will not admit, and that is the somewhat prevalent idea, that the European nations, having been foolish enough to embroil themselves in war, can now fight it out to a finish and that if they or their constituents pass through all manner of unnecessary suffering and sacrifice because funds are not available to allay the distress, they should then cease their struggle in order to avoid their self-initiated difficulties. We have no money for them, and if we did have, it might better be spent helping some of the needy ones about our own campus.

These opinions were publicly expressed in the editorial columns of The Daily Nebraskan immediately following "Tag Day," and in the "Awful Number" of the Awgwan. It happens, as a matter of fact, that they were both written by my own fraternity brothers, but irrelevant as that may, or may not be, I am glad to say that these conceptions represent unadulterated thoughtlessness or supreme ignorance of the actual facts, rather than any notion that we should really bask here in heaven while they grapple there in hell.

To clarify the matter, I would ask these questions: What chance did the students of the warring nations have to decide whether or not they wanted war? None, of course not. And in conjunction, what chance would we have of determining whether or not the United States should engage in the conflict? A little more than they, no doubt. And if war were actually declared would not some of us enlist tomorrow and others hesitate until conscription? Most certainly. And furthermore, if conditions here should possibly parallel those across the Atlantic, as we are certain they actually

exist, would we not expect help from our European brethren, providing they were as able to help us as we are now able to help them? I sincerely believe so. If we didn't, we wouldn't be human. What argument is there then in the theory that we should let them continue in their mad struggles without our feeling it a duty to lessen their burdens. Surely the bond of separation between the college students of the United States and the college students of England, for example, is not so great but that we ought to feel an obligation to extend them aid, even if they were really responsible in part for the present strife yonder. One only needs to keep his eyes open to the many articles telling of the heretofore unimaginable suffering and the inconceivable condition of all Europe to realize that we are living in comparative ease and luxury.

To keep these facts in mind and then to recall a statement in the Awgwan to the effect that the editorial "we" would be behind a campaign to raise money for our own needy students approaches the ridiculous. And again, to remember the misery of those across the water while thinking of how much money it will take to carry us through the formal season (and it was those of us who are standing the pressure of these parties who paid nothing or perhaps a "Saratoga chip" for our tag) ought to stretch a chord of our conscience and make us wonder whether or not college students may not be pretty selfish after all. Incidentally it is noticeable that those students who complain of contributing a penny to the people across the water are, for the most part, the ones who give still less at home.

At any rate, as a suggestion, I would say that we acquaint ourselves with the easily available facts before we contribute any cause, be it editorial columns or relief funds, and after doing this to let our conscience tell us the amount and actual worth of our donation.

Very respectfully,
GLENN S. EVERTS.

UNIVERSITY NOTICES

An important meeting of the Inter-collegiate Prohibition association will be held in Music hall, Temple, Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The election of new officers will be held. Everybody is urged to be there.

The Cornhusker picture of the University Chess club will be taken at Townsend's studio Wednesday noon at 12 o'clock.

The Cornhusker picture of the Inter-collegiate Prohibition association will be taken Wednesday noon at 12:20 o'clock at Townsend's studio. Every member is asked to be there.

The February meeting of the Mathematical club will be held next Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock in the Faculty room, Temple. The following papers will be presented: "The Cycloid," Herbert Grummann; "Cantor's Famous Contribution in the Study of the Infinite," Dr. Henry Blumberg.

All organizations that expect to submit a "skit" for possible production University Night must report definitely to M. E. Chittick the event and cast before next Wednesday night.

There will be a meeting of the senior play committee at 11 o'clock Thursday, in U hall 106.

Those members of the Comus club who have not yet ordered their pins may do so at Hallet's. The other pins have arrived and can be obtained of Dwight Davis. Telephone B-1778.

The Phi Alpha Tau Cornhusker picture will be taken this noon at Townsend's studio.

The financial statement of the Law hop, held in the Lincoln hotel January 29, 1916, is as follows:

Total receipts, 70 tickets at \$1 each, \$70. Expenditures, refreshments, \$7.50; maid, \$1; doorkeeper, \$1.50; total, \$67.75. P. C. Spencer, chairman. Audited February 2, 1916. T. A. Williams, agent student activities.

There will be a meeting of the agricultural engineers this evening at 7:30 o'clock in Mechanical Arts hall 206. Prof. Clark E. Mickey will speak on "Road and Pavement Construction."

The class in Home Economics 16 under Miss Hayden, which meets on Tuesday at 5 o'clock, will be excused today in order that the girls may attend the student rally in the Temple theatre, which is to be addressed by Miss Holmquist.

Someone advanced the opinion that the letter "e" is the most unfortunate character in the English alphabet, because it is always out of cash, forever in debt, never out of danger and in hell all the time. For some reason he overlooked the fortunes of the letter, so we call his attention to the Silver Serpents will meet at 7:15 o'clock tomorrow night at the Kappa Alpha Theta house. The meeting will close promptly at 8 o'clock.

SOCIETY

The Bandage club will give a Charity Ball, February 24, at the Lincoln hotel. There will be a ball in the ball room, cards in the Chinese and English rooms, vaudeville and a supper in the dining room.

The members of the Bandage circle have been working every week, since last fall, making surgical dressings for the wounded soldiers in Europe. At the Charity Ball the ladies hope to raise enough funds to buy the materials for the bandages.

All countries are working to lighten the sufferings of the soldiers on the continent, and the Charity Ball is an opportunity for everyone to show their interest and good wishes for this splendid work.

Barbara Nachtrieb, Alpha Phi visiting delegate, arrived in Lincoln yesterday afternoon after a four months' tour. She is now on her way home to San Francisco and the Nebraska chapter is the last chapter to be inspected. Her stay here will be short, as she must be in San Francisco by February 14, in order to take a position as executive secretary of the California state commission of social insurance. Miss Nachtrieb graduated from the University of California in 1912, and received the degrees of LL. D. and J. D. in 1915.

Robert C. Ashby, '08, is now assistant professor in the department of dairy and animal husbandry at the University of Minnesota. After Mr. Ashby left the university, he went to Washington state college and remained there four years. He was in charge of agricultural extension for three years and one year in charge of animal husbandry. He went to Minnesota in the early spring of 1914 and secured his M. Sc. last June.

A. S. Weaver, '09, now in Glendale, Cal., on receiving a copy of the University Journal, wrote that he was glad to hear of the reorganization of the Alumni association on a sound financial basis and expressed his best wishes for its success.

Miss Keo Currie, '08, writes to the Alumni office from Pocatello, Idaho, that she has been teaching German there for two years. Miss Currie says she never sees any University of Nebraska people and that she is the only teacher from Nebraska there.

Leon W. Samuelson, law '15, and

editor-in-chief of the Cornhusker last year, was married on January 4 to Velma Satchelle, a graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan. Mr. Samuelson is practicing law at Hildreth.

Rudolf Prokop, '16, was called home last week by a change for the worse in the condition of his mother, who has been ill for some time. He returned to school Monday.

Miss Sarka Hrbkova spoke Monday evening before the men of the First Christian church on "The Contribution of the Immigrant."

John McMullen, '16, has returned to school.

Emil Holub, special, was at Wymore the week-end.

William Wenstrand, '13, of Wahoo, was a visitor yesterday at the Alpha Tau Omega house.

Mabel Anderson, '17, spent the week-end at Wahoo.

Libbie Breuer, graduate student, was at Wilbur the week-end.

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