

UNIVERSITY GIRLS ARE AGAINST PROPOSED BEAUTY SELECTIONS

BLACK MASQUES AND SILVER SERPENTS REFUSE CORNHUSKER REQUEST

**Believe Nebraska Womanhood Stands for Ideals of Worth
Rather Than Mere Physical Charm.**

Nebraska university girls, speaking through the Black Masques and the Silver Serpents, have refused to select the twenty most beautiful university girls for an honor section in the Cornhusker, on the grounds that Nebraska womanhood stands for more than mere physical charm, and that the worth of a woman does not depend upon her beauty. The decision was made at a meeting of the Black Masques and Silver Serpents yesterday noon.

Paul Babson, business manager of the Cornhusker, had asked the senior and junior organizations to nominate twenty of the most beautiful girls for a beauty section of the Cornhusker. It was proposed to have the subscribers to the book vote upon these, the eight receiving the highest number of votes to be given a place of honor in the university annual.

Statement in Letter

The organization met, but instead of selecting the girls, the Black Masques and Silver Serpents sent this letter to Babson:

"Mr. Paul Babson: In accordance with the action taken at the joint meeting of the Black Masques and the Silver Serpents, we wish to notify you that these societies did not see fit to make a choice of girls for the beauty section of the Cornhusker.

"The reason for such action is as follows:

"It is contrary to the aims and purposes of the two organizations which emphasize worth rather than beauty. Organizations which attempt to promote good fellowship among all university girls could not consistently make such a discrimination.

"Black Masques,
"Silver Serpents."

That the action of these societies reflects the almost unanimous opinion of the feminine university students is indicated by the comments that have been heard on all sides in praise of the action taken. Girls of every class have declared that an arbitrary selection on the basis of beauty alone falls far short of the ideals of Nebraska womanhood held at the university.

One member of the Black Masques had this to say: "Shortly after the publication of the 1915 Cornhusker, the girls who had at first merely laughed at the section began to realize that it was a reflection upon the school that a selection on the basis of beauty alone should be made. So when the societies met this noon the girls were unanimously opposed to the thought of a similar section.

"The Black Masques are selected from among the most worthy girls of the junior class, on a basis of their activities and ability in all-round lines. For this organization to select for

especial distinction from all the girls of the school a few who were chosen for their beauty alone, would be to belittle the position of the society and to act against the good of the university."

A member of the Silver Serpents heartily agreed with this comment, and speaking more particularly of her society said: "The Silver Serpents is an organization to promote good fellowship, helpfulness and friendship among the girls. To discriminate against some merely because they were not as attractive as others would not help us attain our object, and would be manifestly unfair. So the Silver Serpents were unanimously opposed to the request of Mr. Babson."

Suggestion is Made

The suggestion was made to the Cornhusker staff that if it was truly desired to honor some university women that an attempt be made to choose eight girls who would be really representative, as for instance, two girls from each class who were known for their all-round ability and worth.

This suggestion met a ready response from the staff, and Paul Babson announced last night that in all probability the Cornhusker would contain a "Nebraska Girls" section, with pictures of eight girls most truly representing the spirit of womanhood of the university and the state. It is possible that the Black Masques and Silver Serpents will be asked to help in this selection.

Similar Action at Vassar

The action of the Nebraska girls finds a parallel in a similar decision made by the undergraduates of Vassar college, when the question of the selection of the May Queen and the daisy chain bearers for Vassar's annual fete came up. The girls voted against making a selection, on the grounds that too much attention was being paid to the attractiveness of the fair sex and not enough to the real worth of womanhood. In the opinion of the Vassar girls, American women will not reach their highest and truest sphere of influence until less attention is paid to beauty and more is paid to real attributes of strength and character.

The members of the Black Masques who took part in the conference were: Florence Angle, Louise Brownell, Lulu Mae Coe, Marie Cusack, Edna Froyd, Jeanette Finney, Camille Leyda, Lauretta Lord, Ruth Mills, Blanche Richards, Doris Slater, Freda Stuff and Hester Wyman.

The members of the Silver Serpents were: Ruth Burch, Blanche Busk, Louise Coe, Hester Dickinson, Dorothy Ellsworth, Marguerite Kauffman, Ethel Kittinger, Olive Lehmer, Carrie Moodie, Edna Pegler, Anna Russell, Helen Schwab, Doris Scroggin, Lulu Shade, Esther Smith and Genevieve Welch.

Lincoln's Malfeasance

Heretofore we have discussed only negligence in the conduct of the city of Lincoln. But fresh in the minds of those in the university is an act on the part of the city which, in the absence of a better explanation, must be interpreted as excuseless.

Two years ago, one of the reasons advanced for removal was the fact that in the extension work a spur could be extended from railroad lines to the farm campus, from which the unloading of materials could take place, thus saving thousands of dollars to the state. To refute this argument, Lincoln told the people that a similar spur could be constructed in town, extending north of the campus, from the Missouri Pacific and Northwestern lines to the buildings being erected.

When the construction work began last fall, the regents submitted to the

city commission a measure carrying this promise into effect. Such a plan would save the people of the state \$15,000. The only opposition to the plan was advanced by certain residents of the north part of town. Their reasons for the most part were idle fears, with no foundation in fact. And yet the commission refused to fulfill their obligation.

Just what reason is there for this attitude? Are the imagined fears of a few of Lincoln's voters of more importance than the confidence of the state? Are the wishes of a few taxpayers or more moment than \$15,000 of the people of Nebraska? Or does the confidence that comes from the fact that the university is located here for all time cool the ambition to please the people—that ambition which was so evident two years ago? Lincoln, these are questions that you must answer sooner or later.

WEATHERLY SPEAKS OF FORD PARTY

**Declares Much Was Done for Welfare
of Nations**

"For the first time in the history of the world a group of common people of one nation met with those from other nations to work together for peace," said Dr. A. L. Weatherly in his talk on the Ford peace expedition at convocation yesterday morning. "This is a big step forward and means much for the future welfare of nations."

The object of the Ford peace party was to appeal to the goodwill of the people of the four neutral nations to organize a conference to suggest to the belligerents a basis of settlement of the war. This basis to be founded on principles of justice and humanity.

"We did foolish things," confessed Dr. Weatherly with a smile, "and we were not as smart as our critics. But men that do things make mistakes. And it is better to have tried and failed than not to have tried at all."

DR. P. L. HALL TALKS "EFFICIENCY"

"Efficiency is the cutting out of waste." This was the keynote of Dr. P. L. Hall's address before the University Commercial club yesterday afternoon.

"In the business world we are confronted with exactly the same condition of affairs," went on the speaker. "Never in the history of the world has a man starting out with nothing in his hand had as much opportunity to succeed as he has now. He has only to show efficiency." Doctor Hall was of the opinion that the business world is waking up more and more to its opportunities and that the number of labor saving devices will increase many times.

SHANTZ ADDRESSES P. B. K. AND SIGMA XI

Dr. H. L. Shantz of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture will deliver the annual address before the local chapters of Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi at the Temple theatre Saturday, February 12. His subject, "Water as a Factor in Plant Growth," will be illustrated.

Dr. Shantz is a graduate of the University of Nebraska, receiving his Ph. D. degree in 1905. After graduation he became an instructor in the department of botany in the University of Missouri. From there he went to the department of agriculture and at present is plant physiologist in the office of alkali and drought resisting plant investigation, working in the region of the Great Plains and Great Basin.

POLITICAL FIGHT DRAWS TO CLOSE

The political campaign of the aspirants for the 1917 Cornhusker will be brought to a close Monday, February 14, when the voters of the junior and sophomore classes shall decide whom they will reject. The campaigns have been particularly open and free from personal antagonism. This is no doubt due to the calibre of the various contestants, all of whom have proven themselves above petty politics.

Charles M. Frey and Edgar D. Kid-doo are the candidates for editor-in-chief of our next annual. Frey is a junior Arts and Sciences, his home is Sterling. He is the junior managing editor of the 1916 Cornhusker. Kid-

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Football Stars Teach Girls "One-and-Over"

'Tis a hard cruel world and the most of us have forgotten childhood days and have become so dignified that play is below our level. Anyone who has happened to see the sparkling eyes and buoyant youth that emerges from the doorway of the gym at 9:50 o'clock on Tuesday and Thursday mornings will wonder the reason for such a sight. No fountain of youth has been discovered in a corner of the gym, neither is there a good fairy up there to wave her magic wand. These joyous students are members of the playground class, "physical education 40" taught by Miss Ina Gittings, and they have been playing the good old games.

Last semester the class work was theoretical, but the work this semester is practical, and the students meet in the gymnasium and play games, all kinds, ranging from "ring around the rosie" to "ante over."

Every member of the class is forced to demonstrate what he knows and to

tell what he remembers of the "good old days." The assignment for each class meeting is a list of ten games. The lists are read aloud, and compared, and any game that is suggested and not known by the members of the class is taught by the one who suggests it.

The co-eds star in teaching "Farmer in the Dell," "Mulberry Bush," etc., while the men grow enthusiastic over "Duck on the Rock." To the delight of Miss Gittings and the co-ed members of the class, a demonstration of "One and Over" was given yesterday morning by star players, with all the laughs of a true comedy and all the disasters of a tragedy. It was as exciting as a gridiron battle and in fact as realistic with the presence of Rutherford, Corey, Riddell and Otoupalik. Many of the co-eds screamed when Otoupalik didn't play fair and was submitted to "punishment"—but it was a splendid performance, and it is great fun to regain one's lost youth.

KOSMET Tickets go on Sale 9 O'clock **FEB. 12th**