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**RICE DEFENDS ATHLETICS**

Grantland Rice, sport writer for the New York Tribune, is as loyal friend of college athletics as any of the sport writers. He has answered with characteristic terseness and fairness some of the criticism that is occasionally directed at college athletics. His article follows:

**COLLEGE ATHLETICS**

After all, more than a few have asked, what real value can college athletics show to deserve all the importance given?

There is of course the physical side; physical development, health building which is important.

There is also another side which comes from the discipline of training and service to a certain cause.

When this question is asked we often think of Henry Newbold's epic of contest, the first four verses of his

**VITA LAMPADA**

There's a breathless hush in the  
Close to-night—

Ten to make and the match to  
win—

A bumping pitch and a blinding light,  
An hour to play and the last man  
in.

And it's not for the sake of a ribboned  
coat,

Or the selfish hope of a seasons  
fame,

But his captain's hand on his  
shoulder smote—

"Play up! play up! and play the  
game!"

The sand of the desert is sodden  
red—

Red with the wreck of a square  
that broke,

The gatling jammed and the Colonel  
dead

And the Regiment blinded with  
dust and smoke.

The river of death has brimmed its  
banks,

And England's far and honor a  
name—

But the voice of a school boy rallies  
the ranks—

"Play up! play up! and play the  
game!"

Here is at least a part of the answer. Those who can get nothing from the practice and ideal of playing the game for use later in life are too wan in spirit to matter much.

**PLAYING THE GAME**

There is only one right way to play a game—hard and clean. The basis must be courage and squareness. When that general idea is hammered in a little deeper there will be no Teapot Dome scandals to rave about. Sport, on the right basis, can do its share toward improving a civilization that is still only a few short steps from the jungle. When sport has no value in that respect it has nothing else worth saving.

**AWARDING THE "N"**

There has been much discussion of late in the Student Opinion column of the Daily Nebraskan concerning the awarding of the "N." Some are of the opinion that everyone that does something or rather for Nebraska is entitled to wear an "N." Others believe that it should only be given as a reward for participation in athletics. We are inclined toward the latter view.

The "N" has always been given in reward for participation in athletics. It is not a reward for doing something for the University, but it has been awarded members of teams that have gone out to represent the school. Not only at Nebraska, but at other large universities, the letter has been reserved for sports.

There is no doubt but that students who represent the University

**RAG CARPET**

Assistance!  
Success!

March came in like a lamb—stew.

He—What do you do on Sundays?  
Him—My dear chap, I live in Lincoln.

"Sambo and Rastus look exactly alike."  
"Yeah, they're carbon copies."

**TODAY'S SYLLOGISM.**

All inanimate objects are dumb.  
The Rag Carpet is an inanimate object.  
Aw, draw your own conclusion.

She—I just had my hair shingled.  
He (Cruelly)—They generally do wooden tops.

What's wrong with this statement? (Advertisement) Light is essential to happiness.

He—What do we use to sit down on, lie down on, and brush our teeth with?

She—I don't know. What?  
He—A chair, a bed and a tooth brush.—Gaggit.

in competitions, intellectual and otherwise, should receive some insignia and recognition for this service. It would seem that the intellectual is driven into partial obscurity by the emphasis that is laid on athletics. Students who represent the University in lines other than athletics receive very little recognition for this service. But we are not of the opinion that all such should be given an "N."

We are printing in the Student Opinion column in this issue a letter from a member of the debating team. The writer states that debaters do not want an "N," but instead would rather see the student body exhibit a greater interest in the intercollegiate debates, turn out for these and really prove to the team by their interest that the University appreciates the service.

Debaters and others, should be given more reward for their time and work than mere attendance at the debates. This should come any way for every activity of the University and its students at least merits attention and interest.

There is no question but that there should be some standardized award or insignia for students who serve the University. It should not be the "N," because that is associated with athletics. But there is a need for something else, and it should be as closely associated with it purpose as is the letter with athletics.

**Student Opinion.**

**DEBATER DOES NOT WANT "N"**

As a member of the debating team I would like to speak a word about the controversy that has arisen in your columns the last several days over the awarding of the "N." I think the debaters appreciate the good intentions and sincerity of the writer who advocates giving them the "N." But they do not agree with him.

It is true that debating is not getting enough recognition. It is true that the debater "sweats blood" and burns up energy and midnight electricity for six weeks in the "Thinkshop." It is true that he sacrifices his school work and his pleasures.

What does he want in return? He wants a large enthusiastic crowd the night he debates. He wants the school to evidence interest in his efforts in the days preceding and following the debate. He wants to feel that the school at large is concerned with whether or not he puts over his arguments effectively.

This year one team debates here March 12 and the other team at Iowa City March 13. The Iowa City debate will probably be broadcast by radio. If the school shows interest in these two contests, if they fill Temple theater for the home debate, and carry a thoroughly appreciative attitude towards the team, then we will feel that it is worthwhile. This will mean more to us than an "N" which we feel is an honor that is peculiar to athletics.

If it is ever decided to confer upon the debaters some other mark of appreciation besides membership in Delta Sigma Rho, it will be gratefully accepted, only the team has no desire to receive a reward which has heretofore been granted only to Nebraska's athletic men.

A DEBATER

**The College Press.**

**THE PLATFORM OF THE CRIMSON**  
(Cornell Sun)

The platform of the Harvard Crimson which will dictate this paper's policy for the ensuing year contains noteworthy suggestions of tendencies which are current in many American universities today.

In its primary suggestion, the Crimson would expand a system already used by several colleges. In rare instances those undergraduates who display unusual talents in their studies are permitted, with free rein, to arrange their academic work. For them, there is no such thing as compulsory attendance; and to them the customary disciplinary measures do not apply. However, they must have proved themselves capable of

utilizing their time to the best advantage and to be gifted not only with exceptional mental ability, but with correct habits of study. This cessful in European universities certainly seems to be in all fairness to those concerned, for the mentally more efficient students are allowed to progress independently in the selection of courses, without hindrance by those who take longer in absorbing fundamentals.

Another recommendation of the platform sets forth the desirability of making a decided distinction between degrees obtained with "honors" and those by "pases." This, again, would be a tendency toward the creation of more reliable academic standards. It is, however, a new suggestion and therefore is one which should receive much consideration before being put to actual test in a university. At present, despite the wide gulf between "pasing" and proficiency, either mark will procure a degree, with it evident that the accepted A. B. is a decidedly elastic index of merit.

The entire list of suggestions show a tendency toward developing and giving as free play as possible to the student's initiative from the time he enters college until he leaves. American methods of education have always been criticized for being too limited in their scope, too rigid in their requirements, and any recommendations given to rectify the present system should at least be seriously considered.

**Notices**

**Freshman Commission.**

Meeting Tuesday at 6:45, Ellen Smith hall.

**Home Ec Club.**

Important meeting of the Home Economics Club Tuesday at 7 p. m., at Ellen Smith hall.

**Xi Delta.**

Xi Delta meeting Ellen Smith hall Thursday evening at 7:15.

**Girls Corn Club.**

Dinner at 6:00 Thursday.

**W. A. A.**

Board meeting Tuesday, Social Science 101.

W. A. A. general meeting Wednesday at 7:30 in Social Science auditorium.

Basketball feed Wednesday at 6 in Ellen Smith hall. Sign on poster on W. A. A. bulletin board.

**Farmers Fair Board.**

Meeting in Ag hall 204 Tuesday at 7:30 p. m.

**Alpha Zeta.**

Important meeting in Ag hall 304 Wednesday at 7:30 p. m.

**Y. M. C. A. Elections.**

Elections will be held Wednesday.

**Senior Class Meeting.**

Thursday at 11 o'clock in Social Science auditorium. Election of minor officers.

**Delta Omicron.**

Important meeting 7:15 Tuesday at Ellen Smith hall.

**N Club Luncheon.**

N Club luncheon and meeting this noon at the chamber of commerce. Important.

**Idealism Club.**

Practical Idealism club will hold first meeting after becoming an official organization at 7 tonight. Topic—Plans for world peace with Miss Frederica Lau as speaker. Election of officers. SS107.

**Shop and Store Room Under Stadium Opens**

Equipment and store material was moved yesterday from the old carpenter shop north of University hall to the new shop in the stadium.

The space under the west stands of the stadium has recently been arranged and a heating plant installed.

Townsend—Portrait photographer.



**The ivy won't save any of us**

THE ivy of tradition is a slender support. A man or a team or a college that clings to it, harking back to the glories of yesterday, is likely to be outstripped by some young but sturdy rival.

That is a sermon we have taken home to ourselves.

The Western Electric Company is proud of its fifty-four years of history. But it is a great deal more concerned with the next fifty-four—and that is why we have been talking to the college men of America month after month now for four years.

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