

The Daily Nebraskan

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LESS COACHING Missouri Valley officials are to consider Walter Eckersall's suggestion that football coaches remain in the stands while games are being played.

To force the coaches to remain in the stands seems to be a sensible innovation. The air of professionalism that has been invading football more and more would be counteracted to some extent if the players, rather than the coaches, were responsible for the conduct of the game.

Nowadays it is a common sight, when a team is in a critical position, to see a substitute go into the game. He is left in only a play or two and is obviously sent in to carry instructions from the coach.

In such procedure, the game is not so much of a battle of skill and wits between the players, as a battle of wits between the coaches. Football loses its zest as an amateur game and becomes to some extent a thinking contest between two men hired for that purpose.

The arguments advanced by those who oppose the idea are based almost solely on this: if the plan is used the team's chance to win will be lessened. That is true, perhaps; but each team should be equally handicapped.

One objection advanced is that the coach should be present if players are injured, to take them from the game or care for them after they are out. Surely the captain, who directs the team, should be better able to tell when a man is injured than the coach on the sidelines; and all teams have trainers and doctors to care for the injured off the field.

The plan offers no real drawback, we think. It has the genuine advantage of lessening the efficient, professional aspect, and allowing the players to use and develop their own initiative.

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APPLAUSE GUARANTEED

In a set of rules for public speaking which was recently drawn up by an instructor at a college of agriculture, will be found this valuable bit of advice: "Do not talk of something your audience has never heard of before."

It is a wise maxim, and a rule that might profitably be applied to writing, teaching, and acting. Follow this simple little rule and your applause is guaranteed. If you believe otherwise, just ask yourself if it wasn't the oldest joke which brought the most laughs at the last vaudeville show you saw, if it isn't the professor who merely says things you already know whom you most enjoy hearing, and if the editorials which put you on the back for petty little prejudices already existing aren't the most easily digested.

Fortunately speakers, editors, and teachers sometimes make mistakes, sometimes become contemptuous of applause, or work while they have headaches, and formerly unmentioned ideas slip out. Of course, if an idea gets away unnoticed no harm is done. If one becomes very conspicuous, on the other hand, someone incorporates it in a new organization in order that there may be plenty of mourners when it dies.

JUNIOR COLEGES

Continued interest in the idea of establishing junior colleges throughout the state may be indicative of the trend of future development in our state educational system. Chancellor Avery, Dean James of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Professor Reed of the University Extension Division, will attend a conference at Grand Island this week where representatives of McCook, Fairbury, and Scottsbluff will discuss plans for two-year colleges.

At McCook the board of education has already made arrangements to open a junior college next fall in the city's new Y. M. C. A. building. Educational leaders at Fairbury are planning a separate building to house such an institution. And although no action has been taken at Scottsbluff the proposal is receiving serious consideration.

The attitude of these cities in inviting representatives of the University of Nebraska to attend their conference is worthy of commendation. If established, these colleges will be partly dependent upon the state university, and the University will also be affected to a considerable degree by their activity. Even though such schools are established by only a few cities, arrangements for the transfer of credits will be needed; and if the system should be adopted throughout the entire state, it would alleviate many of the size problems that are now so pressing, and perhaps create new ones of an entirely different nature.

Under existing conditions, the University's first and most urgent need is for sufficient floor space. If the University should become more of a graduate school and place for specialized training, attended only by students who had already completed two years of college work, its problems would require less attention from building contractors and more from educators, scholars, and leaders in all branches of learning.

College Press

THE CASE FOR THE DEFENSE

College papers across the line are becoming greatly involved in a discussion of the teaching methods employed in the Universities. It has as our universities have cannot be as ship is dead, that lectures and professors go on grinding out information in tabloid doses of one hour size, which the student must swallow whole, only to rush at once to another room and another lecturer where he will receive another dose of the same size.

Though we are not blind to the defects of our present educational methods, and they are not few, it cannot be denied that its successes are many. The leaders in almost every field of endeavor are university trained men, and any system that can turn out as many great men as our universities have cannot be as bad as its detractors would have us believe. The "spoon-feeding" lecture system, as it has been called, may not be approved by all, but until some better means of instruction has been devised it should not be scrapped. Listening to an hour's lecture from a professor and taking down notes on it are not inconsistent with the statement that the "sole excuse for the existence of a University is to train men and women to think out their problems for themselves."

There is no reason to suppose that the student, if he can be designated as such, who does not read and honestly study under the system as we have it today, would do so to any greater extent under any other system of instruction. Far too many students at a University come for the mere outward symbol that they have put in four years at college, or because it is an agreeable means of passing the time. No system to be devised would ever make either of these types work.

It is charged that most professors are more interested in foisting their own theories on their pupils than in presenting an impartial survey. One graduate boasts of passing with high

honors though knowing little of the work supposed to have been studied. He passed by knowing the weakness of each individual professor and pandering to it. Examinations are severely criticized as not tending to show the student's knowledge of the subject but rather his knowledge of the examiner. In this respect the case of the Kansas student, Floyd Simonton, who recently caused a furor by refusing to accept a Phi Beta Kappa key is cited. Simonton characterized examinations as "a false criterion of scholarship.....dangerous foundation for intellectual idealism and achievement."

A student cannot become a "grade A" man without "wasting much of his energy on forms and husks which are inevitable in courses which are taught, not to individuals but to classes of 30, 90, 100, and 150." It's a beautiful dream, that of giving individual instruction to each student, but hardly practical in these days of universal poverty on the part of the Colleges.—McGill University.

Ten Years Ago

The inter-fraternity bowling contest was planned to be held at the Y. M. C. A. for an entire week. Each team was to withstand the entire expense.

For some time the Alumni of the University of Nebraska contributed to a fund known as the Bessey Memorial Fund, in honor of Professor Charles Bessey. The proceeds of the fund were to be used by Mrs. Bessey to aid and encourage worthy students in botany.

The Y. M. C. A. celebrated its fifteenth birthday. It was one of the associations that set aside February as a "Jubilee Month" during which many events of interest were scheduled.

Twenty Years Ago

Three prizes, one of \$10, a second of \$75 and a third of \$50, were established by Honorable John Barrett, United States Minister to Columbia to be awarded to the authors of the best papers on a given number of subjects. The object was to promote the study of history, peoples, politics, resources and possibilities of sister republics.

The weather bureau had moved from the location where they had been for twelve years and were to be

found at the west end of the upper floor of Brace Hall. The celebration of the University Charter Day was planned to be more elaborate than ever. The day increased in importance in the past years, and plans were in the hands of Dr. Clapp of the Athletic Board. The management of the University Summer Session joined with the other universities and colleges of the state in a union summer session to be held in Lincoln. This made possible a more unique and comprehensive program.

On The Air

University Studio broadcasting over KFAB (340.7)

Wednesday, Feb. 10 9:30 to 9:55 a. m. Weather report by Prof. T. A. Blair. Road report and Announcements.

10:30 to 11:00 a. m. "Spring Tonic," by Miss Matilda Peters, Head of the Foods and Nutrition Division, Department of Home Economics.

1:15 to 1:30 p. m. Musical convocation. The entire program will be given by Miss Halcyon Hooker, Pianist.

3:00 to 3:30 p. m. The first of a series of interpretations of the Book of Job, by Dr. F. A. Stuff, Chairman of the Department of English. This is a combined radio-correspondence course.

8:05 to 8:30 p. m. "The Out of Doors in February," by M. H. Swenk, Associate Professor of Horticulture.

"The Cow-Testing Association—Bookkeeping for Cows," by Ray F. Morgan, Assistant Professor of Dairy Husbandry.

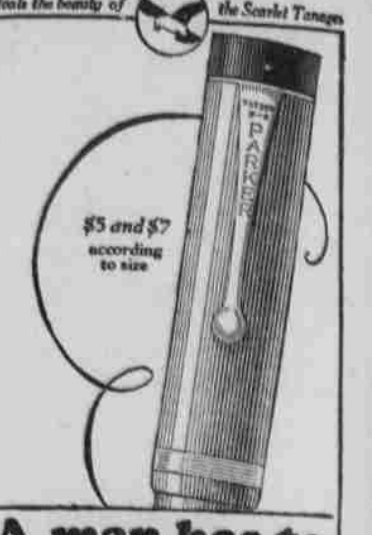
Professor A. L. Hamlin of Columbia University, gave an illustrated lecture on "Art and Architecture." He dwelt particularly with the relationship between architecture and culture.

Notices

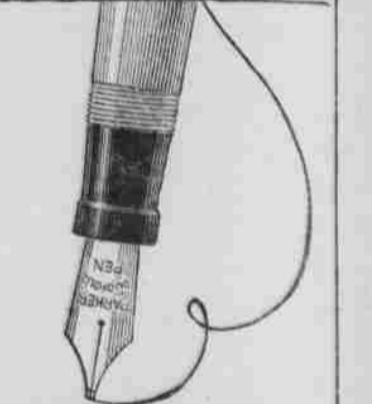
Iron Sphinx Iron Sphinx pictures will be taken February 10 at 12:15, Campus studio.

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Freshman Bible Class The Freshman Bible Class will not meet this Thursday night. All Students registered in the Department of Educational Service, see that there is a copy of the schedule of your classes on file in the office. Math. Club There will be a Social Meeting of the Math. Club in Faculty Hall at the Temple, Thursday, February 11, at 7:00 o'clock. Engineers Important meeting of the Chemical Engineers, Thursday at 7:30, in Chemistry Hall 102. Delian Literary Society A Valentine Kid Party will be given by the Delian Literary Society, Friday, February 12, at 8:30 in Faculty Hall. Komenky Club A business meeting of the Komenky Club, Thursday, February 10, at 7:00. Commercial Club Commercial Club picture will be taken Friday, February 12, at 12:30 at Campus studio. Commercial Club meeting, Thursday, at 11:00 at Commercial Club Rooms. Corn Cobs Corn Cob meeting, Thursday at 7:00 at the Temple. All members must be present for University Night rehearsal. Delta Omicron Monthly business meeting of Delta Omicron, Thursday, at 7:15, at Ellen Smith Hall. Kappa Phi Kappa Phi meeting at Ellen Smith Hall, Thursday evening, February 11. A musical program to be given. All Methodist girls invited. Theta Sigma Phi Important meeting of Theta Sigma Phi Wednesday, at 5:00 in Ellen Smith Hall. Military Training in Russia The Soviet government as Moscow has ordered that compulsory military training be given in all Russian colleges as a means for the development of national defense.



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