

The Daily Nebraskan

Station A, Lincoln, Nebraska. OFFICIAL PUBLICATION UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA Under Direction of the Student Publication Board

Published Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday mornings during the academic year.

Editorial Offices—University Hall 4, Business Offices—West stand of Stadium. Office Hours—Afternoons with the exception of Friday and Sunday.

Entered as second-class matter at the postoffice in Lincoln, Nebraska, under act of Congress, March 3, 1879, and at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, act of October 3, 1917, authorized January 10, 1923.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE \$2 a year \$1.25 a semester Single Copy, 5 cents

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PROTECTION PROMISED

The assurance given a Daily Nebraskan reporter by John Wright, Lincoln commissioner of public safety, that signal lights similar to those used on O street will be placed at the intersections of Twelfth with R and Q streets, is good news for all who are compelled to participate in the dangerous congestion at those corners.

Commissioner of Streets and Parks E. E. Duncan, when told of Mr. Wright's decision, said that a traffic officer would be better. He is undoubtedly right, but let us hope that the officials will not let a slight disagreement over the best method postpone action any longer than is absolutely necessary.

Lincoln citizens should feel obligated to provide such protection as is needed by students and faculty members of this University. They should see to it that action is taken as soon as possible. They should look the barn gate before the horse is stolen.

VERY VAGUE

"If the college graduates hold to the ideals of college life instead of sloughing them off after class day, the United States will become the greatest moral and intellectual power in his," concludes an editorial in Liberty Magazine, which calls itself "A Weekly for Everybody."

The statement may be true, but what does it mean? Surely the editors of "A Weekly for Everybody" should not talk of things which no one understands. But that is exactly the case, when they refer to "the ideals of college life." What are they?

Do seniors want the privilege of cutting classes? Over at the University of Illinois the school newspaper debated the question with vigor and enthusiasm, collected information from dozens of other large universities, printed ballots as an accommodation to the student council, and did everything within the power of a newspaper to stimulate interest. Then the student body of 11,000 cast a total of 187 votes.

nor will be considered by the council of administration as of the slightest significance beyond an indication that the students have not the least interest in the matter."

If a similar proposal were advanced at the University of Nebraska, there would probably be about the same amount of indifference on the part of the general student body. There is something wrong with students so dead from the neck up that even a proposal relative to class attendance does not cause a single revolution in the brain. Are they satisfied with everything, "as is"? We doubt it.

Why, then, this perpetual and deadening silence?

WE SECOND THE MOTION!

Attempts to discover what is locked up in the little ivory boxes which house the brains of other people are always interesting. The editorial which follows, taken from The Daily Californian, reports no startling discoveries, but deals with the problem.

A Shakespeare festival is held; classes nominate new officers; the Little Theater announces another playing in rehearsal; a new magazine will appear; the Missouri track squad arrives; "Pelly" stretches her wings for another flight; a contest for yells is held—and so on.

Every day the front page reveals the aspirations of one group, the triumphs of another, the defeat of still another. And every day the campus reads and shrugs its often-shrugged shoulders and says: "Who cares?" And every day the manager, the athlete, the debater, the actor turns to the front page and runs his eye over the columns till he comes to something about his activity—and stops—for good.

The campus falls into three groups, a very large group interested in very little of anything; a group interested only in specific activities, and a very diminutive group which is, to its credit, interested in everything.

What the other half thinks and does is a dark mystery to most of the second group. Their minds are peculiarly single track in their pursuit of our aim to the exclusion of everything else.

For a good many years, editors and student officials have howled about something which their facile minds have chosen to call indifference. Not all the campus is indifferent. Most of the campus is too interested in one thing and only one thing. That is one reason why some activities are in a slump; only the people immediately interested keep them alive; the others are too busy turning other wheels, and grinding other axes.

The answer to the problem raised by the uproar about indifference is not to be found in more uproar, but in a little personally conducted inquiry into what other people are thinking and doing.

Thomas Q. Harrison, the lonely member of a Fellowship of Youth for Peace, went to Lawrence, Kansas, soon after leaving Lincoln. As might have been expected, there was some discussion during the period of his stay there. And now, Paul Blanshard, field secretary of the League for Industrial Democracy, who will also be remembered by some Nebraskans, is speaking at Kansas on "Labor and Imperialism in China and Japan." The editorial from The Daily Kansan which is reprinted may have been inspired by the visits of these gentlemen.

Many people over the state have demanded that certain men be barred from speaking on the campus because they have opinions that are not always popular.

Perhaps the speakers have poorly founded opinions, and again there is the possibility that judgment of the good citizens over the state is faulty. But whether the speaker has an opinion that is approved of or not, the student body is entitled to hear him.

Throughout the past, progress has been made by questioning the ideas, the institutions, in fact, everything that existed, and in abolishing and so changing and creating that whatever existed was there because there was a good reason for it. The ultimate aim should not be to protect and keep alive an institution just because our fathers did, or to hold to an idea, a hatred or a prejudice just because they did; but to find out the facts and then from the knowledge to do that thing which is best for the society of today and tomorrow.

If speakers were barred from the campus just because they had ideas different from those of the majority of people, the students would be cut off from an opportunity to get a new viewpoint, to acquire a new angle to a situation, to get more information about it. Some propaganda may be put out, but certainly students and instructors should be about as able to decide what is bunk and as able to discriminate as anybody else. The University should be allowed to listen to these men with different ideas for they, like Columbus, may not be such big fools after all. If the University wishes to main-

Concerning Mr. Mencken

If you have happened to read the April issue of The American Mercury before the representative of the Watch and Ward society saw "Hatrack" you may have read the editorial. Of course, since then everyone has been so busy discovering just what was objectionable in "Hatrack" that other pages of The Mercury have probably been overlooked. The editorial for the month was one which should have brought cheer to the writer of "Men and Things" in the Nebraska State Journal, and thrown a shiver into all dissatisfied graduates, including those on the Soviet payroll. The following little article concerning Mr. Mencken's editorial is taken from the "Wind-Mill" column of The New Student:

The mournful spectacle of a Messiah reading his disciples limb from limb is before us. In the April Mercury Mr. Mencken razes the college rebels. The revolting student is accused of the "buncombe" of assuming that college exists for the learner's sake. The poorly trained students are not intelligent enough to be subjected to a heady draught of fresh and stimulating teaching. "Obviously it is imprudent to parade heresies before such infants as it would be to lecture on obstetrics before girls of thirteen."

Somehow that argument has a familiar sound to the Windmill. He recalls the reason college president's give for firing obstreperous editors or canning heretical professors: College students are immature and must be protected from ideas.....

Always raucous chuckles are to be heard from the anti-Meckenesites. The Tech, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, hastens to adorn the moral: "This time, we see a leader turn-

on his uninvited followers as one would turn on the uninvited companionship of a stray dog. His reprimand is severe, and it should have a cooling effect upon the activities of the radical, anti-everything college propagandist, many of whom work in the mistaken belief that they are deputies of Mr. Mencken."

As for the Windmill he is glad to say that he has always been able to take his Mencken or leave him. And since reprints are in order this week he offers a poem of more than a year ago. It happens to be more or less apropos:

THE COLLEGE BOY'S LAMENT I feed the mouth that bites me I read Doc Mencken's mag, I treat him fine as velvet He treats me like a rag.

I paid for two subscriptions Of Mencken's Mercury And yet he says that I belong To the booboisie.

I bought his book of burlesque His Prejudices too, I love him moron moron more What can a feller do?

The more I love and praise him The more he does me dirt He calls me "greasy rah, rah boy"

And says my mind is 'full of skirt.' I've studied cross-word puzzles And thought that Ra, meant God But in Mencken's language, rah, rah Means a numskull and a clod.

And so I ask you, Beatrice Fairfax I ask with piteous looks "Shall I give up my Baltimore And go back to my books?"

of time from college work is also mentioned among the individual disadvantages.

The discouragement resulting from the hiring of a non-faculty coach at a higher salary than that of faculty members, in proportion to the period of service, and the consequent discouragement to the educators, is the gist of Section III.

Although football does keep the alumni in touch with the college, this influence is often unwholesome, since it leads to alumni concern for the entrance of football men to the college, rather than for those who give promise of attaining general leadership. Afraid of this over-emphasis of football, Section V concludes: "The alumni at least know that we have other concerns. The general public, without that knowledge, and fed on newspaper athletic publicity, is very likely to fail to understand our real purpose and the nature of our real effort, and is consequently likely to fail to give that effort the moral and financial support it deserves."

To remedy these evils, the report presents the Fauver plan and the Farley plan for consideration. The

Professor Tells Of Football Ideas

(Continued from Page One.)

other institutions. It culminates in the madness of the yelling mob at the game itself."

The Bulletin, in addition, accuses modern football of leading to other evils in the undergraduate body,— "its tendency to give occasions for drinking, its encouragement of betting, and its provocation of dishonesty in various respects." The charge of dishonesty rests on the indirect hiring to athletes so that the alma mater may put out a winning team, and the temptations to dishonesty in the football ticket situation, whereby the student often sells his ticket at a price several times that which he paid for it because of the great demand for seats for the "big games." Of the conduct of the spectators, the Bulletin says: "The game itself is occasionally marred by drunken shouting, by fighting in the stands, and by performance on the part of unauthorized sideliners. The football train, particularly on its return journey, is apt to be the scene of more or less disgraceful behavior."

Recognizing the advantages of training in discipline and cooperation, and the association with a coach, who is generally a man of high character, the report devotes the remainder of Section II to an analysis of the disadvantages of the game to the individual members of the squad. The disadvantages are the same as those for the student body in general,—over-excitement and distortion of values,—but with a special application. All the pressure of the press, and the cheering thousands of spectators are brought to bear upon the college athlete. The Bulletin quotes Heywood Brown: "It is not fair or wise for a 20-year old boy to be put in a position where 70,000 may see him blunder. A man might very well spend forty years trying to live down the stigma, and worse than that, the inner conviction of dumbness because at a critical point in a big game he is called for a line plunge when a forward pass would have been better." Loss

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first proposal would limit participation in intercollegiate to one year. The report admits that the standard of play might be lowered, but declares that the relative strength of the teams would not be changed. The advantages of this plan are that it would permit a larger number of men to compete, interfere with the college work of the members of the squad for only one year instead of four, bring about the formation of an undergraduate coaching staff, leading to the development of teams more truly products of the colleges they represent—and a decrease in the volume of highly colored publicity, "detrimental to the player and sport alike."

Under the Farley plan a college would schedule only four games each season, and those with teams in its own class and vicinity. The elimination of spring and early season training are the salient advantages of this plan, since the four scheduled games would be played late in the fall, giving ample time for preparation after the opening of the fall term.

The report closes with a plea for faculty action and the cooperation of members of athletic leagues and conferences in carrying out the reforms which it suggests.

"Abie's Irish Rose" If your idea of entertainment in the theatre is to laugh and hear your neighbor laugh with you, then

do not fail to see "Abie's Irish Rose", the mirth provoking comedy success by Anne Nichols, who is both its author and producer. "Abie's Irish Rose" is showing today matinee and night at the Orpheum.

Aptly described as "the play that puts 'U' in humor," this comedy, based on the martial troubles of a young couple of different race and religious beliefs, has established a record for continuous laughter that has not been equalled by any other theatrical attraction in America. It is now in its fourth year at the Republic Theatre, New York, and has also broked capacity records at Chicago, Washington, Buffalo, Baltimore, Cleveland, Montreal, Cincinnati, Toronto, Pittsburg, Kansas City, St. Louis, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, and all other large cities. —Adv.

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"Campus Chatter" SOCIETY NOTES! —you all know Bill Day! Well, here he is, snap-shot as he was crossing one of the most important thresholds in his college career. (Mayer Bros. Co.) Willum—Himself! —You see, Bill yearns for sartorial splendor as well as for the fruits of the midnight oil, so he's been helping various clothing stores around town to become bigger and better places to spend the he-man dollar. HOWEVER— as he became more and more of a connoisseur, nothing would satisfy Bill but to become identified with Mayer Bros. Co. where he could assist in passing out the REAL CLOTHES FOR COLLEGE MEN—Society Brand! DROP IN for a Golf Suit —or a Wedding Suit —or for clothes for any of the other popular college sports. Not only will you get the clothes you want, but a little talk by Bill himself—absolutely gratis—on how Society Brand styles are actually created by the Social Satellites at Yale, Harvard, Princeton and other leading Eastern colleges. ALSO FREE AT MAYER BROS. CO. —with every Golf Suit, a pamphlet on "How to play Golf" by Noah News—containing not only actual instructions, but appropriate remarks for every type of dub shot!