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A REAL OBLIGATION

The Campus Pulse this morning has three more letters concerning the late lamented University Night. One of these, the one from Mr. Jensen, is of such a nature that it demands some editorial mention, however hasty it may be.

Mr. Jensen's letter resolves itself into two main parts, first his dragging in of the R. O. T. C. question (an old hobby) and second, the most important of all, his general statements of his philosophy of a University education.

The questions concerning the R. O. T. C. are so patently irrelevant in this present discussion that they need hardly be answered. Suffice it to say in passing that it is hardly fair to accuse a whole department for the indiscretion of one of its students. Also concerning the matter of "tainted" money, The Daily Nebraskan is of course opposed to all forms of tainted money whether on this campus, back home, or any place. Especially does The Daily Nebraskan think that religious organizations should be ever-zealous to receive only money that is without blemish. But to drag in the question of injustice of the small R. O. T. C. allowance is dragging in another subject. Suffice it to say that dear old Uncle Sam especially under Coolidge's watchful eye is mighty much on the lookout to stop payments of "tainted" money, and that if the allowances were not fully warranted, they would not be allowed.

The real meat of Mr. Jensen's letter is to be found, not in his tangential remarks on the R. O. T. C., but in his general references to university education.

Mr. Jensen seems heartily to agree that University Night was carried to excess this year. What he disagrees with is the method of correcting the abuses. He refuses to see any justification for the action of Dean Chatburn, for instance, in recommending abolishment of the affair, and he has only praise for Mr. Hayes and the Y. M. C. A. when it proposes to do some housecleaning on its own. Especially does he disapprove of the Dean's apparent failure to communicate first with the Y. M. C. A. officials.

Forgetting for a moment the particular application to University Night, we might say in a nutshell that Mr. Jensen holds in some way or other, he hasn't stated clearly, to a very liberal laissez faire theory of college and university education. This is a very popular liberal theory, and means in so many words that professors and students, everybody about the university in fact, are to be given untrammelled freedom to do as their own sweet nature dictates. That may be slightly exaggerated, of course, but is very much the impression one has of this school of thought.

The school of thought to which Mr. Jensen is particularly opposed as shown in his phrases such as "prussianized kindergarten" is the one which lays stress on authority and regulation, not particularly of thought, that is absurd of course, but at least of all public conduct which might in any way reflect on the good name of the institution. The characterization of this school of thought just given is probably very inadequate again, but the yawning deadline is only a scant hour or so removed, and this editorial must of necessity be brief and sketchy.

These two schools of thought are by their very nature quite divergent in the consequences of their logical conclusions. The whole subject is big enough for volumes at the hands of real authorities. We will, therefore, confine ourselves only to the application to student affairs such as University Night which is under fire at the present time.

Whether University Night was better or worse this year than in former years will probably never be settled. Advocates of both views are quite outspoken. A compromise settlement would probably say that the Night was about the same as it has been for the past several years.

The situation is just this then. The Y. M. C. A. which has been sponsoring the performance (which admittedly has been pandering for a number of years to shady references on student life) has been allowed to manage the affair all these years on the basis of Mr. Jensen's laissez faire policy. The result has been a woeful lack of correction of evils.

We have here at first hand, then, an example of how one of those methods works.

We venture the further opinion that had it not been for the statement of the Dean and the vigorous protests in The Nebraskan, University Night next year might have again become a near replica of what it was this year. Mr. Hayes and the student president of the association, to be sure, had discussed changes and had even decided to make changes, but the nebulous stages of their decision is apparent in their tardiness in making any public statements until after the printed opinions. We hardly believe that previous secretaries of the Y. M. C. A. attended University Night performances without some resolves to put on better shows next time. The only trouble with that kind of resolving is that it often fails to result in action. The threat of the Dean and the vigorous protests in The Nebraskan made action mandatory.

So much for this particular University Night episode. The theory of university education advanced by Mr. Jensen (we refer of course only to its relation to student conduct as stated a few paragraphs above) is a dangerous one to follow and contains so many inherent weaknesses and so many false grounds that it would take columns to discuss the matter with any degree of completeness.

The first obligation of all University officials and professors, as The Daily Nebraskan has said on other occasions, is to the fathers and mothers of the boys and girls who are sent here for higher training. With all due respect to Mr. Jensen and other inland instructors and students, this is a real obligation and one which university executives all over the land

are alive to. They must be if their institutions are to live up to their great purpose of training a better citizenry.

All the learning, all the knowledge, and all the mere mechanical training of students would be for naught, if at the same time the University permitted a moral atmosphere destructive of character. Mr. Jensen doesn't believe there is any such characterization as "moral" or "immoral". But there are just thousands and thousands of young men and women who do believe that there are very real standards of morality. The greatness of our country, and that of every other great country and civilization this world has ever produced, has been laid deep down in the foundations of just this realization of morality and strict observance of those standards. And the greatness of every country and civilization has dwindled just as soon as the truth of these fundamental laws was disregarded.

Now the great cry of course is that students are supposed to be old enough when they come to University to know what they are doing. There is even a more vicious turn of this argument which says that if a person is going to go bad he will do so under any circumstances.

With all due respect for young people, Mr. Jensen, and the writer, himself included, young people of college age, herded together in great numbers in colleges as they are, and away from all the anchoring influences of home, family and community, are NOT old enough and wise enough to do as they please at all times and in all places.

It is out of a realization of this reality, known perhaps best of all to those University officials who come in direct contact with students in matters of this kind, that the University has wisely set up various rules and regulations for student life.

And it was in accordance with this general police power that the Dean of Men was going to recommend prohibition of any more University Nights such as was staged last Monday night. His obligations and the obligations of the Dean of Women are very real.

THESE LITERARY MAGAZINES

Some time ago a literary group on this campus petitioned the board of regents for financial support in publishing a new literary magazine.

The main argument advanced for the new venture was the fact that there are many worthwhile pieces of student work which can not be published in the larger national magazines, and yet are good enough for publication. To fill this need the new magazine was started.

One number of the magazine has been published. Another is soon to be printed.

The magazine has hardly been launched, though, and the management has changed its policies a great deal from the initial modest purposes advanced when the group wanted support from the regents. The ambition of the magazine, it seems, now is to become a great western literary magazine.

This is a worthy ambition. Having such a high goal ahead is probably a great inducement toward constant improvement of the publication.

But if the ambition is to be achieved at the expense of not publishing those "worthwhile student works" for which the regents originally granted money, it will be a curious turning of color. Probably still another magazine will then have to be started for those student works which are still kept out.

It will probably be refreshing to recall that several years ago the University of Nebraska backed financially a similar magazine just a little bit more pretentious. The venture was finally abandoned.

In Other Columns

A number of students of the University of Wisconsin have organized a "Circle of the Godless" and applied for affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Atheism. These students are privileged to hold any individual view of religion that they choose, but as a collegiate organization they entirely subvert the purpose for which our educational institutions are endowed.

—Kearney Hub

The Professorial Pay Check

University professors often come in for a great deal of criticism, much of which is thoughtless and a great deal of which could better have been left unsaid. In the heat of a discussion concerning a cherished university institution a man recently said that no teacher had the right to exorcise the policies of the university from which he draws his pay.

Though this was said in the heat of argument and in this particular case might not have been said had the author of it sufficient time for reflection, it is significant because it reflects the attitude of a great part of society toward the men who are affiliated with institutions which they support directly or indirectly. It is also the attitude of the administrative officers of some universities. Nothing could be more untrue.

Such people often draw an analogy between the universities and large business corporations in order to prove that it is only right that a man who might not happen to "fit in" should be ejected for the good of the institution. Like most arguments of this nature, it sounds good but cannot be justified. If a university is anything it should be an intellectual ferment; opinions, even of faculty members, should be voiced openly and without fear of consequences. To say that a professor is honor bound to support antiquated methods or even methods of which he does not approve just because he draws his pay check every month from a particular auditor's office is a thesis that cannot be supported nor even tolerated.

—The Daily Texan

When Jove Nods

The easiest thing a newspaper does is make mistakes; the most difficult job the publisher has is to prevent 'em being made too often.

The Lincoln Journal and the Associated Press form a combination of meticulous diligence which is difficult to beat, but Jove occasionally nods.

The other day the Journal printed an Associated Press dispatch describing the opening sessions of the Rotary Conference at Sioux City, Iowa. The story went into detail as to the opening address of the gentleman delegated for that purpose and the "response" made by a Lincoln Rotarian. It was a well-written, concise dispatch, carrying the "meat" of the session in a few well-chosen words.

So much for the story.

But the thing reported just hadn't happened yet. The conference takes place in April, a month from now. The things which the newspaper and its news-supplying agency said HAD happened probably will happen, unless Sioux City is blown from the map in the meantime and an unkind fate removes those whose names were carried in the story.

The assiduous correspondent for the Associated Press, anxious to serve and please, merely got his dates twisted in the story, "shot" it out to his bureau and newspapers, uninformed on the topic discussed, printed it as a matter of course.

The point is, of course, that not all the ludicrous errors in newspaperdom are printed in the "hick" towns. Some of the really side-splitting "breaks" are to be found in the metropolitan area where, it is said, the "hick" population is not entirely obliterated.

—Nebraska City News-Press

The Campus Pulse

Letters from readers are cordially welcomed in this department, and will be printed in all cases subject only to the common newspaper practice of keeping out all libelous matter, and attacks against individuals and religions.

Dear Editor:

Monday night we, two of us, went to see West's Prairie Schooners. Tuesday I read all about it in the city papers, one of which said it was the best production for some time. Wednesday I read all about it in THE DAILY NEBRASKAN, which said it was one of the worst productions in many years. Thursday I read ye Editor's comment. And now what have I got? A headache, some questions, and a few observations.

Now, Mr. Editor, you've been running a pretty fair editorial column this year, all things considered, giving advice to the lovelorn, the forsaken, the misled fraternity pledges, and, oh, advice on a host of subjects. I've read them with interest and I don't have time to read just anything that comes along. But I've got some questions, as I said, funny ones too, and I want to ask them of you, if you don't mind.

As you possibly know, I've been somewhat interested in the R. O. T. C. the past year. Members of the R. O. T. C. have asked me some difficult questions, at times. These questions always started off with this: "Suppose somebody were going to attack your sister, your sweetheart," etc., etc. I got the idea that the R. O. T. C. members were strong for American womanhood. Imagine my surprise Monday evening when a member of the R. O. T. C. is guilty of the most uncalled for attacks along that line. Mr. Editor, are the R. O. T. C. members dishonest in their professed regard for American womanhood? I don't step down for anybody on the campus in my respect for womanhood and I'd like to have

that question answered; and I'm not a prude either.

In Thursday's editorial you bring up the question of tainted money. I'm with you. I think a fair proposition would be to ask the Y. M. C. A. to return disappointed patrons their money, the same as in the case of any theater whose patrons might be offended, or deceived. But here comes another question. The "commutation of quarters" received by the R. O. T. C. is tainted money according to money. The best proof that such is the case is the fact that privately many officers of the R. O. T. C. admit that ethically they cannot defend the proposition. Their excuse is always this: "If I don't take it, somebody else does." The Y. M. C. A. can say the same thing. The Editor certainly doesn't want to be dishonest. Will you come out editorially against all tainted money on the campus?

Now for a few observations. As far as I'm concerned University Night this year was, in many respects, far better than last year; in some ways it was far worse. By "worse" I mean, among other things, that it was guilty to a greater extent of malicious

abuse, personal spite and a depreciatory attitude towards womanhood. When Dean Chatburn calls attention to the advisability of making production and name agree, my hat is off to Dean Chatburn for seeing what was the greatest lie about the whole thing, and having the courage to say it. He is right: it wasn't "University Night."

The word "immoral" has been bandied about by your correspondents. That word is usually, not always, the refuge of those whose vocabulary, mental abilities and understanding are limited. The world has not yet

found out what is moral and immoral. Christ drank wine but that doesn't make him immoral to me, although I don't drink wine myself. He is immoral to any number of people, if they would be honest about it. Some say that science will ultimately settle that question; some say that it will turn out finally to be a personal question. The question of what is moral and immoral is an open question. The word "immoral" as used by your correspondents doesn't mean a thing, and I repeat that I strongly disapproved of Monday's University Night. (Continued on Page Four.)

LINDELL PARTY HOUSE DANCE

Friday and Saturday Night

Revellers Playing

"Where U of N Students Dance"

"Watch For and Patronize the Green Coaches"

O. L. & B. GREEN COACH SERVICE

Leave University Place, 26th & Warren
 A. M.—6:22, 6:37, 6:52, 7:07, 7:22, 7:37, 7:52, 8:07, 8:22, 8:37.
 P. M.—4:22, 4:52, 5:07, 5:22, 5:37, 5:52, 6:07, 6:22, 6:37.
 Leave Lincoln, 12th & N
 A. M.—6:45, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 7:45, 8:00, 8:15, 8:30, 8:45.
 P. M.—4:45, 5:00, 5:15, 5:30, 5:45, 6:00, 6:15, 6:30, 6:45.

At other times departure is on hour and half hour, last through from Lincoln 11:22 P. M. Last through from Uni Place 11:00 P. M. Sunday Service starts 1 hour later and discontinues 1 hour earlier

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