

The Daily Nebraskan

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QUACKS Suggesting that the Student Council recommend the remodeling of the machinery for the election of the May Queen, a senior student today voices the opinion that the May Queen for this year be representative of the entire campus and the choice of every student in the University.

It is futile to continue toleration of the present May Queen electing system when it has become the target of criticism and the subject matter of jokes. It is absurd to believe that the May Queen can be outfitted in a flimsy gown, surrounded with attendants in delicate dresses, and conducted to the throne on Ivy day, representative of the choice of every student in the University.

Students know that they are being deprived of their right to aid in the selection of the May Queen. They are aware that the present machinery requires careful handling to keep it functioning in proper manner and to hush the clatter and bang that might develop in the mechanism.

For nearly twenty years now this system has been functioning. For nearly twenty different years have students been deceived into believing that the May Queen, conducted to the throne amid elaborate ceremony, represents something other than the choice of a few senior women. It is comparable to forcing college students to believe in ghost stories.

The Council has it within their power to consider these protests as the soundings taken of the entire student body. The defects of the present system, the pampering that is necessary to keep the gears meshing simultaneously in this machine, the feasibility of placing this election on a more democratic basis—these facts are as plain as ABC blocks to a two-year old.

There has been clamoring for a shake-up in the May Queen election before, but never has there been any shaking done. If the Council can sooth the irritation that the May Queen election has caused again this spring, without taking the sledge to the contraption as it exists now, then it ought to be accorded the distinction of being one of the world's famous quacks.

One trouble with having a magnetic personality is an aching right arm.

WHY WE'RE HERE A professor, the other day, in one of his classes, asked his students individually why they were in University. Many and various answers were given to this interrogation, the majority of them being "because I have nothing else to do," "because my folks insist that I go," and "because I want to widen my acquaintances." Very few of the answers denoted any educational intentions on the part of the students.

At this time of the year, a question of similar nature and of equal significance is being asked the high school senior, who in less than two months will be eligible for college entrance. "Shall I go to college and if so, why?" is a question the high school student is asking himself. He may be offered a position with attractive emolument and without hesitation accept the offer. But, on the other hand, he may be devoid of any such offers and as a consequence be at a loss to decide what to do.

A plan, recently suggested by Chancellor Burnett to avoid freshman failures, would seem to be applicable in the case of the undecided high school senior. In his plan, the Chancellor incorporates two alternatives: First, refusing to admit to the University those students who were in the lowest fourth in their high school graduating classes except by examination, and second, furnishing an examination to high schools which would give students an idea of how capable they would be in pursuing university work.

The first suggestion speaks for itself. If the individual does not prove himself to be of average intelligence in high school certainly he should not contemplate any further pursuit of study. The second part of the plan, however, would be more appropriate for the youth who faces the problem of whether he should attend college.

By giving the high school graduate an examination of university caliber, he could get a "taste" of what would be expected of him upon entering the University and if he would be able to handle the work competently. Should the outcome be favorable, he could proceed to make plans for college. He could determine the particular aspect in which he is adept and plan to follow that as his life's work.

The campus prowler must have succumbed to an attack of spring fever.

CRACK THE WHIP Ambition is the slave-driver who cracks his whip across the back of a lazy mind. He supplants the urge to buckle down and accomplish great things through the medium of mental labor. It is he who keeps the human mind in its harness, tugging at the load, instead of running wild. How many of those students who fail to make

the grade in college have ambition? In all probability statistics, which one may say will prove anything, would show that those who go back home as failures at the end of a term lack ambition. For where there is ambition there can be no evident degree of mental laziness. And that is the one thing that can be held accountable for failures in college life. The number of students who drop out because they haven't the time to study is much smaller than the number who have the time but not the willpower to study.

Study, after all, is an art. Any morning in the week one can sit in the library and see men and women enter, sit down, and spend the entire time gazing around. It is the exceptional case when someone spends the majority of the time studying. Watch the man or woman who enters college with a definite aim, rather than that of having a good time. If he is able to keep before him at all times the realization of a goal toward which he is pointing, it is improbable that he will fall by the wayside.

Many a student's darkest hour during mid-semester week is just before it dawns on him.

It is a little hard to tell whether students are thinking more about spring vacation or mid-semester examinations this week.

It is getting about time for spring rains. Chronic slicker-borrowers better begin looking around to see who has the newest slicker.

There will always be whispering campaigns as long as the politicians are educated in universities and colleges.

The fellow that said "Don't make a mark that you can never rub out" probably knew how difficult it was to see over another fellow's shoulder during a final examination.

With so many lights on the campus now, aviators flying after sundown are liable to mistake 'U' hall for a hangar.

OTHER STUDENTS SAY—

To the Editor: Just another word regarding the May Queen. She should, by all means, be representative of the entire student body. This is the one honorary election that attracts the attention of the state as well as the student body.

In fairness to the May Queen who will represent Nebraska this spring, she should be able to feel that she is truly the representative of the student body. In view of the criticism that has been voiced of the present method of selecting the May Queen, the girl selected by that method, if permitted to stand, could not feel that she was a true representative. She would know, and everyone else would know, that she was the selection of a mere handful of senior women. She could not feel at ease when, in front of the great Ivy day throng, she is announced as the representative of the Nebraska student body.

There is only one way to avoid this embarrassment for the one who holds the center of attraction in the most beautiful symbolic pageant of the entire year. This is to be sure that the May Queen is truly representative of the student body.

It is up to the Student Council to provide for the election of a May Queen, and do away with the criticism of her election. Then only can the successful candidate for Nebraska's highest honor feel that she is truly representative. —A Senior

INACCURACIES DO CREEP IN

After reading Proter's article regarding the May Queen elections, one cannot fail to appreciate the keen interest he is displaying in the matter. However, if Proter is so interested in the election of our May Queen, it seems to this casual observer that Proter has been quite negligent in his investigations concerning such election.

It seems that a student so vitally interested in campus affairs would at least read our campus publication, better known as The Daily Nebraskan, thoroughly. Proter, if you read the Nebraskan, how do you reconcile your statement to the effect that only 58 votes were cast for May Queen? The Daily Nebraskan printed an article on the last May Queen election, in which it stated that over 300 votes were cast this year compared with 80 last year. As this is theoretically the only information available on the subject, your figures are surely in error.

To this observer the comparative figures would indicate that the Senior women do realize the importance of May Queen election and are showing an increased interest in this election. Why not give them another trial and see what will happen next year? —Just An Observer

ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW

COLLEGE OF BOLOGNA

There should be established at all large universities a College of Bologna. There is a greater need for the establishment of this sort of a college than for the maintenance of many now in existence. There is no doubt, in the minds of many, that 50 per cent of the freshmen attending the University of Minnesota, for instance, are doing so for the specific purpose of either finding a husband or a wife, or inhaling a bit of collegiate culture.

There seems to be something gratifying these modern and hectic days in seeing that one has been to college. There seems to be an inherent desire to become a member of some Greek letter organization. Fraternities and sororities in number and membership are becoming so common they are almost prerequisites to any sort of a social standing in communities of 10,000 or more.

The College of Bologna would take care of students such as these. It would take the strain off the minds of professors who really wish to spend their time instructing students.

There are boys and girls who lament over coming examinations. They shudder over the marks they expect. The fear does not come from any desire to remain in a university, but rather because of the wrath of parents. It is because of parents who insist that their children acquire at least a year's culture in college, that the College of Bologna would have a large enrollment.

The College of Bologna would be filled with students who wish to acquire a year's reputation as a student in a university without contributing any mental effort. The College of Bologna would refresh the minds of these worried students. It would permit a freer circulation of socially inclined students. But, without a doubt, the prejudice of Academic finds would prohibit the establishment of any sort of an institution at Minnesota. —Minnesota Daily

A STUDENT LOOKS AT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

By David Fellman

RAG A Student looks at public affairs. An order of President Hoover which has attracted more comment throughout the nation, and more attention in our national capital than all the peace treaties of the last decade, is his presidential yacht, should be laid aside, and that its crew should return to the regular naval service. This will represent a saving of about \$300,000 a year, the operating cost of the large yacht. It also means that nine officers and 148 men will be returned to ordinary services in the navy. It seems that the president took this course because he wanted to save the nation the expense, and felt that the men were needed in the service elsewhere, where they could be of more benefit to the nation.

Social Washington is all agog. Those week-end trips of the president up and down the Potomac have been important events in the social life of the capital. Recent presidents have been in the habit of resting up, over the week-end, by getting away from the busy capital, and enjoying the soothing delights of the river. To go along with the president, at his invitation, has been a cherished design of many people. And further, many an important problem of state had been ironed out, in quiet and comfort, on the good ship Mayflower. It looks like fishing will take the place of sailing, as the presidential pastime, as President Hoover is an inveterate fisher. Indeed, the newspapers are already hailing the advent of a "fishing" cabinet.

Many editorial columns of the country have hailed this new economy with great delight, being particularly pleased with the economy of it all, and the fine democratizing influence which the order of the president will diffuse throughout the country. This sort of benefit, however, can be greatly overexaggerated, and there is also a limit to the nature and amount of democratic effusion that is desirable. The president of the United States holds an exalted office, one in which the control of the affairs of the richest nation on the face of the globe lies. It is false economy to scrimp and save at any point that will tend to lessen the comfort or the dignity of the chief executive. If our country can afford to build battleships, fifteen of them, at a cost of \$15,000,000 each, then it can afford to provide the president with a yacht at a cost of \$300,000 a year.

The British trading ship Imaloue, trading in illicit liquor, was seized by coast guard officials off the American coast, and was pursued beyond the legally recognized limits. As a result of gun fire on the part of the coast guards, the rum runner was sunk, and one negro was killed. Now international complications have arisen between our government and that of Great Britain. The question that must be settled is a very delicate one, since it involves the much-disputed point as to how far the sovereignty of a state extends into the adjoining ocean. The treasury department, which has charge of the coast guard, has rushed to the defense of the men who sank the Imaloue, but the state department, which has charge of the diplomatic affairs of the country, is treading the ground very cautiously.

Vice President Curtis and Gov. M. Reed of Kansas are in a very difficult and embarrassing position. As a result of his election to the vice-presidency, Mr. Curtis resigned his seat in the United States senate. Now it is Governor Reed's duty to choose a successor for the balance of Mr. Curtis's term. The obvious choice of the governor is Henry J. Allen, former governor of the state, and one who is high in the councils of the republican party. But the trouble is that Mr. Allen is the most bitter political enemy that Mr. Curtis has in the State of Kansas. It would be rather incongruous to see the seat of Mr. Curtis, voluntarily vacated, turned over to his most implacable political opponent.

The election of members to the Italian parliament was held last Sunday. It was an unusual sort of an election, as all happenings connected with Italy's unusual premier seem to be, and it deserves some special notice. The central office of the Fascist party, of which Mussolini is undisputed and absolute proprietor, nominated a complete ticket of 400 candidates, which is the total membership of the parliament. All that the people had the right to do, under the provisions of the electoral law, which was jammed down the reluctant throat of Italy by her energetic dictator, was to vote for or against the whole ticket. There was no choice of candidates, on the part of the voter, no right to reject one individual member of another. All the voter had the power to do was to register his approval or disapproval of the existing administration as a whole.

Mussolini introduced this obviously undemocratic electoral scheme to remedy the existing parliamentary system under which Italy functioned when he seized the reigns of power during the chaotic period immediately following the World war. He was thoroughly disgusted with the parliamentary system, with its many blocs and innumerable factions, and their bickering back and forth. He was disgusted with the weak coalition cabinets which ran the country by compromising with enough inter-

ests in parliament to get enough votes to command a mercenary sort whether they approved of the administration. His position is simply this: Let the people decide whether they approve of the administration, then let them have absolute control of the legislature, so that a unified, consistent, and vigorous national policy can be carried out. If the people want the Fascist, so Mussolini argues, then let the Fascist run the whole government, unhampered by troublesome and dilatory minorities.

Mussolini's logic is quite incompatible with modern governmental systems, and with the modern political philosophy. His position, in that position is inherently a bad thing, that a government, to be successful, must rule with a free reign, unchecked and untruncated. The experience of other countries does not bear this out. In England, where a system of parliamentary government exists, his Majesty's "loyal opposition" is considered a necessary and vital part of the government. So it is in the United States. The strongest argument for the retention of a strong Democratic party is the necessity of maintaining a vigorous minority in congress so that the acts of the Republican administration can be constantly subjected to the closest sort of scrutiny. The worst thing that can happen to the very popular Republican party is the obliteration of the Democratic party. And, in such an event, the country would suffer a distinct loss. Minority parties have contributed richly to the development of the country. The discovery and prosecution of the Teapot Dome oil scandals, a service of immeasurable benefit and value to the country, was due to the efforts of the watchful and alert Democratic minority in the senate.

BETWEEN THE LINES

By LaSalle Gilman

"Napoleon," by Emil Ludwig, 682 pages, New York: Boni & Livrecht, \$3.00. Midsemester time is not conducive to reading, and this is a long book, but once started the reader is so fascinated he can't stop and must finish the last page. This is a most marvelous biography from the pen of Ludwig who is undoubtedly the outstanding biographer of our times. Never until now reads this book does he see and understand that magnetic, powerful, brilliant character, Napoleon, as he is depicted here. It is more stirring than any novel could be, for it makes an epic from the life of a great man. Written for the most part in the present tense, and without any reference to dates, the story moves as a series of flash pictures, carrying one from one episode to another; letting the reader feel the powerful sweep upward of Bonaparte in his steady rise to fame. I can only quote a few remarks concerning the book: "I congratulate you on bringing out so necessary a book, by so competent and brilliant a man and in such a substantial form."—Will Durant. "Read Emil Ludwig's 'Napoleon,' for your reward will indeed be great! It is one of the most fascinating and richly satisfying of modern biographies."—Starr Lawrence. "An outstanding book in Napoleon literature—a Sargent portrait wherein secrets that ordinarily hidden in the heart are written in the countenance for all the world to read. May prove to be an abiding contribution to the world's creative literature."—Atlantic Monthly. "Head and shoulders above the new books is 'Napoleon,' perhaps without equal among the many Napoleon biographies. It is fine because it is human, and its easy, clear style brings out Napoleon as

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no book of history has done"—Europa Gazette. Jim Tully has developed a distinct style since his "Emmett Lawler," "Jamegan," and "Beggars of Life." "Circus Parade" and "Shanty Irish" depict his progress. Now he breaks into the Mercury with a short story—"Sapping the Men Days." He has adopted the new century style, surely, with single sentence paragraphs. It is tedious reading; one reads in gasps and jerks, for some reason. As usual, it deals with hobos. Hobo themes are popular lately; all the leading magazines are publishing yarns about the grizzled bums who ride the blind baggages. Herbiner's is running a series of such stories by a man who is an elevator operator in a New York apartment and never wrote a line before in his life. But he has bummed for twenty years and seems to know what he is talking about.

Tully revels in good old blasphemy, as readers of "Circus Parade" and "Shanty Irish" have noted. It is strong stuff; almost enough to make a good faint, and it gets readers. That's all that's really necessary.

In the Mercury's "Americana," I find this item from the Rushville (Nebraska) Standard: "C. O. Hazel has had his moustache shaved off. The decapitation was made because so much congealed water gathered on his whiskers while he was driving his auto to and fro from Rushville to Pine Ridge that Chas. found it difficult to expectorate."

I presume the fun-loving editor of Americana thinks that this item is typical and makes a good cross-section of Nebraska for eastern readers to laugh over. And I also remember an easterner who asked me where I was from and when I said "Nebraska," he murmured, "Ye God! Out among the buffaloes and Indians and cactus!" We're branded for sure, but who cares about that!

ATMOSPHERE SHROUDS MOLIERE'S PIECE Continued from Page 1. students of continental drama and the lovers of Moliere to see this

classic in its true light, Lerner continued. Tickets will go on sale at the close of the week, with seats reserved at Ross P. Curtiss Music company. Single admissions will be seventy-five cents for the evening performance, while the Saturday matinee tickets will be placed on sale for fifty cents each.

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