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THE PINK FLAG.

TO THINK that a socialist as Norman Thomas,
candidate of that party for president in 1928,
should be allowed to disseminate among University
of Nebraska students possibly "seditious" propa-
ganda at a convocation Friday morning caused con-
sideration among some of the faculty, many towns-
people, the chamber of commerce, and probably
democratic and republican taxpayers over the state.

That the university, in face of considerable op-
position, permitted the Y. M. C. A. to furnish Mr.
Thomas as a convocation speaker is commendable.
It indicates that the institution is free from prej-
udices and dogmas that have characterized and bound
some state universities in times past.

The university was willing to let student audi-
tors think for themselves. That is precisely what
Mr. Thomas exhorted them to do. Tearing asunder
masked doctrines of "economic individualism,"
"keep the country out of business," "nationalism"
and other equally pernicious arguments, Mr.
Thomas told his listeners that individual thinking
was a policy far more worthwhile.

Conservative William Oxley Thompson, president
emeritus of Ohio State university, speaking here
only a week ago, advocated precisely the same
thing, veiled in slightly different terms. Intellectual
honesty as explained by Dr. Thompson, is identical
to individual thinking, emphasized by Socialist
Thomas.

Mr. Thomas is not a "red" socialist. He is of
the pink variety. He did not arouse the students
and faculty listeners with a lot of radical rabble
against society as it is constituted today, nor did he
try to tear down completely the present economic
order. He pointed out weaknesses in the prevalent
systems and permitted the students to surmise for
themselves what changes should be made.

He vigorously insisted, however, that students
should open their eyes to problems confronting the
nation and the world at this time. The complacency
of going around, eyes shut to the unhappiness and
misery in society, apparent now and in the past,
was criticized harshly and rightly by Mr. Thomas.
Newly enlightened students—educated men and women
today must throw off the yoke of contentment
and bend their efforts toward the betterment of un-
fortunate conditions existing today.

Waving the red flag of intense and bitter social-
ism is provoking. But the pink banner flaunted by
Mr. Thomas secures attention to existing evils, en-
courages meditation over possible remedies, brings
to the foreground of thought a number of problems
the youth of today must cope with tomorrow. Think-
ing students cannot fail to recognize these things.
But first, of course, it is necessary to have students
who think.

END OF THE FORMAL SEASON.

NEBRASKA ushered out her formal season Friday
evening with the annual Junior-Senior Prom.
The duo-ballroom plan was used, so that social lions
might have some choice between orchestras and
surroundings.

Decorations, on which the Prom committee had
labored diligently, received particular notice from
the students who took part in the final formal.
Cloth canopies, which were to have been saved, were
playfully torn from the ceilings in both ballrooms
and ripped to shreds by the youthful "life of the
parties."

That this action nearly caused a huge chandelier
to crash to the floor, provided heads did not inter-
fere, added zest and drama to the occasion. Visions
of a frantic decoration chairman attempting to save
part of the cloth and prevent the crystal hanging
light from dropping, caused the jolly crowd to
chuckle merrily.

Brilliantly colored balloons, dropped from the
ceilings in the ballrooms, came in for their share of
attention. They were immediately pounced upon
and broken. All in all, perhaps someone got his \$3
worth of enjoyment. And by the way, who gets the
surplus?

THE GRADE GRAB BAG.

UNDERGRADUATE students at Rutgers recently
petitioned the faculty through their student
council to investigate the cause of their receiving
such low marks in midyear examinations. Dean
Marvin of Rutgers' college of arts and sciences ad-
mitted that the two under classes had made lower
marks than corresponding classes a year ago.

This attitude of the students is a very natural
and human one but it indicates a fundamental
weakness in their conception of true education.
They see in grades the end-all of their total schol-
astic efforts, not mere marks indicating their com-
parative ranking.

As a matter of fact students usually receive
higher grades than they justly deserve. The Phi
Beta Kappa, average 90 percent, certainly has not
imbibed all but 10 percent of the subject matter in
the course he has pursued.

The fallacy of the grade system is also shown
by the instructors who frequently scale grades up-
ward or downward. If the average of a class is 65
percent, why should it be raised to 85 percent?
Many professors have the theory that in every class
there should be a few 90 percent students, the ma-
jority in the seventies and eighties, and a few
failures. This mathematical conception of appor-
tioning grades is unjust.

However, the grading system is very similar to
many economic and political institutions in our so-
ciety. People have become so accustomed to them
that they view them as ends in themselves and
not means to a worthy end. Likewise students are

too likely to consider grades as the important thing
in college. In reality they only tell a student how
he ranks in comparison to his classmates.

The Rutgers students could find better ways to
spend their time than petitioning the faculty to
raise their grades which would mean exactly nothing.

RIDING HOBBY HORSES.

A GLIMPSE into the corner drug store, campus
lounging rooms, dormitories, fraternity and so-
rority houses, discloses at all hours of the day and
night a large number of students, always "hanging
around" with apparently nothing to do. Most of
them look bored and disgusted. They give the im-
pression of not knowing what to do with them-
selves.

They are possessors of that valuable commodity,
spare time, and are taking this way of enjoying it.
Perhaps they do derive a certain amount of satis-
faction from their loafing activities, but loafing is
one of the hardest things in the world to do and
really enjoy.

These students have not yet learned the value
of having a useful hobby, an avocation which will
result in material benefits and personal happiness.
The importance and pleasure of such hobbies has
been demonstrated by a series of articles published
in The Nebraskan on how University of Nebraska
professors spend their spare time.

Prof. S. B. Gass of the English department takes
long weekend hikes. William H. Werkmettel of the
department of philosophy searches out and collects
old documents made by early German settlers of
Nebraska. Miss Alice Howell, associate professor
of elocution and dramatic art, finds recreation in
developing a children's theater.

Developing a worthwhile hobby is really part of
a university education. The idea is justified from
the point of self-satisfaction alone, though the
friends made and knowledge gained from them are
other strong factors. Many students have helpful
hobbies. Others who specialize in loafing might
well alter their avocation to better themselves and
the university of which they are a part.

Correct this sentence: My, I'm sorry the formal
season is over. I like those stiff shirts so well.

Branding everyone with a purple stamp at the
Prom reminded one of a slaughter house where
they stamp all the certified beef. It was a typical
ceremony at a dance in a state like Nebraska where
livestock profits play such a big part in supporting
a state university.

+ The Student Pulse +

Signed contributions pertinent to matters of student
life and the university are welcomed by this depart-
ment. Opinions submitted should be brief and concise.

ENCOURAGED.

To the editor:
As the Two Poor Unsuspecting Souls seem to
think the stag line at the All-University parties is
too long, they would find some really interesting
girls if they would only look around. And the stag
line would be shortened. Probably they do not real-
ize that there is scarcely ever an open dance at
which there is not a stag line, or that there are ap-
proximately three men to two women on this cam-
pus.

As for the commercial standpoint, these parties
are not run for monetary gain but for an evening
of entertainment and recreation for all university
students who wish to attend.

As for an individual wearing a fraternity pin, one
usually feels that they are also a representative part
of the university. To my knowledge there has never
been anything at an All-University party that could
by even the remotest classification be called a pugil-
istic combat. Perhaps Two Poor Unsuspecting
Souls are really unsuspecting. J. L. K.

AGAINST OUTSIDERS.

Could Orpheus cease "stringing his lyre" to fre-
quent downtown dancehalls long enough to observe
the people who patronize them? Perhaps after he
makes a few close examinations he will not think
W. G. T. and others so naive in requesting that
identification cards be required for admittance to
the All-University parties.

I have talked to a score of barbs concerning the
All-University parties and all of them agreed that
outsiders in considerable numbers are attending
these dances, regardless of what their other opin-
ions about the parties might be. I know of several
barbs who have ceased to attend these functions
because of the riffraff from the public dancehalls
which has been finding their way to the parties.

Several non-fraternity men who play in orches-
tras for downtown dances tell me that they have
seen dancehall women on the Coliseum floor at the
All-University parties and I have observed as much
for myself. I believe that in the future money will
be lost by operating a free-for-all dance, because
the university students will cease to attend. Al-
ready they are being overshadowed by a motley ar-
rany of outsiders. BARBAROUS.

HOW TO GET MORE SLEEP.

To the editor:
After a defense of "bull sessions" the other day,
I would like to return to the original question of
students getting more sleep. As I see the problem
there are two courses open to the average student:
First, he may neglect studies and outside work,
thereby getting the much needed sleep. Second, he
may really study, partake somewhat in outside ac-
tivities, go to class, and because of this exist on too
little sleep.

As for neglecting the studies we will grant that
this is not only the wrong thing to do, but it is also
not being done by the average student.

Now then, that leaves the factor open of study-
ing, being in activities, going to college, and perhaps
having to work on the side in order to stay in
school. While arguing this point hold in mind one
fact—the ordinary man out in the world puts in eight
hours a day at work whether he is an executive, a
clerk, or a laborer.

We will assume that the average college student
carries 16 hours. Each instructor expects the stu-
dent to put in two hours outside study for every
hour spent in class, and he makes assignments ac-
cordingly. Following a little simple arithmetic we
find that, disregarding everything but school work,
the student is expected to put in forty-eight hours
a week on his studies.

Add to this a possible five hours a week in ac-
tivities and five hours in some regular exercise.
Then, say, four more hours for private business,
writing home, etc. The total is sixty-two hours a
week. An iron worker working five and one-half
days a week puts in only forty-four hours. Pro rate
our sixty-two hours over six days and we have a lit-
tle over ten hours a day actual work. On top of all
this allow something for a bit of much needed recre-
ation, relaxation, and "bull sessions," and you can
figure out how the college man can get in eight
hours' sleep. VAM.

STECKELBERG TO
GIVE PROGRAM ON
TUESDAY MORNING

University orchestra, under the
direction of Carl F. Steckelberg,
will present a program at a uni-
versity convocation, Tuesday,
March 11, at 11 o'clock in the
Temple theater. The program is
made up of overture to "Rosa-
munde," Schubert; Sleeping
Beauty, WALTZ, Tchaikowsky;
Slavonic Dance, No. 7, Dvorak;
Roberts; Selections from the For-
tune Teller, Victor Herbert.

NORMAN THOMAS
SCORES PRESENT
SOCIAL SCHEME

(Continued from Page 1.)
The great number of people. It is
absurd nonsense," he declared, "to
think we can operate under the
competitive system and get any-
thing but waste."

A government is best that gov-
erns least, is another inherited
philosophy, according to Mr.
Thomas. Tariff is not the worst
example of government in busi-
ness, it is the most perfect illus-
tration.

"The inadequacy of society is
tragic when they care nothing for
the unemployment problem as
long as the big interests are all
right. We are greatly concerned
for big business through tariff and
other interests, but we do not as-
sume responsibility when thou-
sands of people are thrown out of
work. A farmer will take care of
his disabled mules, he illustrated,
but workmen do not kick. It is
heartbreaking the way men must
hunt for work that does not exist,
in order to live."

Passing on the international af-
fairs, Mr. Thomas believed that
the present conception of national
loyalty is narrow and inadequate.
"All I am or can become, I owe to
my nation," he intoned with ex-
aggerated solemnity. "This is un-
true. All of us are indebted to
humanity and the world. There is
no such thing as national culture
and civilization."

"Do unto others as you would
have them do to you, and do it
first, in our international law," he
declared. Instead of applying our
energies for the safety of Ameri-
cans in Nicaragua, we need na-
tional patriotism for the removal
of slums, victory over disease, and
solving of the unemployment prob-
lem."

Referring to social life, Mr.
Thomas stated that in effect we
do not have impartial justice, but
loyalty to the gang. Our highest
social philosophy is keeping up
with the neighborhood Jones's and
the fear of losing the job."

"We must broaden our views,
and not be content with letting
dogmas answer our problems," he
declared. "Until the ordinary man
gets some new vision, a new per-
ception of life, we can never make
much progress. In giving up pur-
suit of acquisition for ourselves,
and working in comradeship
tyranny, corruption and poverty
could be worked out. Ignorance,
selfishness and inability or refusal
to think keep us shackled."

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make use of it, your store.
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JOE COLLEGE
DRAWS CRITICISM

(Continued from Page 1.)
ing to the sound of leather heels
two coeds considered the audible
reflex "abominable," one considered
them "cute," another thought them
"ineane," while the rest passed on
them as "all right," "determined,"
and "noisy." Seven of the group
preferred leather heels, while the
remaining three thought rubber
heels the better. It was a tossup
concerning their attitude on the
fellow who clicks his heels at each
step," and "the man who merely
walks on them."

The 'open roadster' was the
most favored car for spring driv-
ing, seven girls casting their vote
in its favor. One preferred a
coupe and the touring car drew
two ballots. The rumble seat sev-
eral varied comments, namely:
'censored,' 'o. k. when warm,' 'for
mother-in-laws only,' 'uncomfort-
able,' 'should be named rumpie
seat,' 'depends who you are with,'
and 'awfully nice.'

Garters Preferred
Several gave no thought what-
ever to the garterless man, and
the remaining thought him either
'sexy,' 'censored,' 'practical,' or
'too much sex appeal.'

Plus fours proved rather popu-
lar as a piece of masculine wear-
ing apparel, for they drew four
favorable comments. Three pre-
ferred 'knee length knickers' and
'white linen knickers' amassed
three votes.

Surprisingly the feminine senti-
ment favored the 'bare-headed
man,' (provided he was not bald.)
However one was partial to a hat,
and another favored a cap.

Concluding the written inter-
views the all-knowing fair sex was
asked to state what they thought
to be the four most outstanding
characteristics, fads, or fables, of
our own dear 'Joe College.' In gen-

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eral they considered him rather
dumb and quite irresponsible. His
conceit was an outstanding trait,
and his nonchalance was rather
striking.
Lots of Cakes
He was said to have 'an unlim-
ited capacity for caking,' and was
possessed of a demonaic air. Pipe,
jackets, sport oxfords, and knick-
ers or cords, were characteristic
articles of attire. One noticed his
'beep-beep' a la Bill McCleery and
Carl Hahn. Another thought he
made it his business to look as
'disreputable as possible.' 'Clever-
ness,' 'wise-cracking ability,' and
'a democratic nature' were notice-
able traits in the viewpoint of one
coed. In whole, 'Joe College'
seemed to be a man of many
accomplishments, generally liked,
but with a few bad traits. In
truth, he always has been, and
always will be, a campus tradition.

Confidentially Now,
What's She Saying?



Why silly, you ought to know that she'd be telling her
all about the new pastel shade crepes from the Campus
Shop...that's where she found just the one she wanted.

Magee's
AND AS THEY
USED TO SAY—



Here's Looking
At You
In a new Spring Braeburn.
We usually frown on an exuberant
display of emotion, but there are times
when breaking down and confessing
is a very good thing.
... a minute please while we reach for
the superlative dictionary.
The new Braeburns are glamorous,
glorious, gorgeous, gracious, glowing,
... hey ... how about coming in and
seeing them and using your own
dictionary.
\$35--\$40
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