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Oscar Norling, Executive Editor
Jack Erickson, Editorial Assistant
Bernard Jennings, Business Assistant

Politics

"Why don't young men care (about politics)?" is both asked and answered in the July Harpers by Harold J. Laski, former University of London faculty member who has been at Yale and Harvard recently.

As is usually the case, Laski draws a comparison between the situation in this country and that in England where college men aspire to the house of commons. He also comments on the influence of students in the recent Spanish revolution and the political role played in general by European students.

In the United States he finds the college students contemptuous of politics as practiced thruout the country and preferring to the more lucrative positions in business. Politics regarded as an interlude in the practice of law, a winter occupation for the farmer—but almost never as the position of one who aims to high statesmanship as his life work.

"In America a debate is an artificial episode in which some abstract theme is debated between rival, if highly trained teams, without party context of any kind," states Laski. A glimpse into the Nebraska legislature during its last session might change a few of the London professor's ideas on this subject.

But the general condition which he describes is true. With the exception of a few specializing in political science, students pay little attention to political affairs of the state or the country. Even when interests vital to the university were being discussed by the legislature, a class examination brought to light the fact that many had no conception of the issues.

Such lack of interest in political affairs by students and graduates of the university has made it possible for politicians to pass laws detrimental to the best interest of the educational institutions of the state. And the responsibility for such actions can be placed, at least in part, at the feet of those who have or now are studying at the university.

"The youth of a nation are the trustees of posterity," declared Disraeli, the great statesman. To attain full stewardship they must exercise the citizenship which is so vital to that trusteeship.

NEBRASKA TEACHERS STUDY AT COLUMBIA

Several Nebraskans have been taking graduate work at Columbia university this summer in preparation for their Ph. D. degree in school administration, according to reports received by R. D. Moritz, director of the summer session.

Among those taking the graduate work are Paul Siedel of Wahoo; Glenn Kendall, Harvard; Howard R. Best, Wayne; O. H. Bimson, assistant superintendent of the schools at Lincoln; Paul W. Harnley, principal at Grand Island, and Galen Saylor of Waterloo.

Faculty Group Inspects Kansas Fossil Diggings

Dr. E. H. Barbour, Prof. E. F. Schramm, and Henry Reider left Wednesday morning for Reasville, Kas., where they will visit the bone quarry which is yielding fossil treasures to university excavators, G. B. Schulze, Frank Crabill, E. L. Blue, and Eugene Vanderpool.

The three faculty representatives will remain at the Kansas quarry until Saturday when they will return by way of Ravenna where a Nebraska fossil bed will be inspected.

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WHAT THEY SAY

HOPE FOR COLLEGE EXAMINATIONS.

Facts brought out by speakers at the Institute for Administrative Officers of Higher Education at Chicago indicate that undergraduates of the United States are soon to be released from the irksome bondage of the memory type of examination.

The program advocated by the group has already been adopted in many courses on this campus, but much remains to be done, and suggestions made at the institute are readily applicable to the local situation.

Ben D. Wood of Columbia college has summed up the ills of the popular examination in a rather deft two paragraphs:

"We have grossly underestimated the importance of the examining function of education. Examining can be done well only at the expense of time, talents and money. We have had little examining in this country, if by examining we mean a measure of individual growth. Our tests have been unrelated and distorted snapshots, not a record of development. Examinations do not and cannot determine education, but they should be a helpful guide to the student testing his powers.

"The important thing is to ascertain what the student has learned by virtue of being alive, regardless of what course he has or has not taken. He should know as much about the building of Ford cars as he does about the construction of Caesar's bridge."

Dr. Wood is entirely correct about underestimating the importance of the examining function of education; in the process an unfortunate stress has been laid upon the outworn types of examination without sufficient consideration of their merits. Usually examinations are a mere mechanical hurdle for the undergraduate, entailing a large amount of "cramming" and memorization, but revealing not at all the student's aptitude or mental growth.

The institute hopes that rather than abandon examinations altogether as a useless waste of time, a system can be popularized whereby the student's progress in the ability to think effectively in new situations can be measured. The new plan will also measure the student's growth in the range of reading interest and in his power to use the skills he has been taught.

Types of examinations advocated are the essay type confined to a single subject with a time limit of several hours, objective tests similar to the ordinary intelligence test, and problem examinations in which a student is given a task to perform on his own resources in from one to three weeks.

If these new educational theories can be popularized, university studies will become more and more effective as highways to culture for all undergraduates who really belong in institutions of higher learning.

Under them instructors will get away from the idea of trying to find out how much a student has remembered and whether or not he has done his daily assignment; examinations will become a constructive part of every course rather than the positive demoralizing influence they often are at the present time.—From The Daily Iowan.

Lackey Chosen For Discussion Leader

Professor E. E. Lackey, of the department of geography, will next week attend the meetings of the World Federation of Education, in Denver. Professor Lackey meets with the National Council of Geography Teachers as federated with the larger group and there he will have charge of one of the discussion periods dealing with the "elements and possibilities of geography that should aid in teaching international understanding and cooperation."

No White Elephants, But Nearly All Other Kinds In Morrill Hall

By ZELLA M. ANDREWS.

No, Elephant Hall is not a place to park your "white elephant," but a hall in the Morrill museum where many interesting specimens of prehistoric mammoths may be seen.

At the present time, men may be seen there, toiling and sweating, planning and measuring, for the mechanics of mounting an elephant head is not so easy as it may sound.

A few days ago, workmen erected a scaffold more than fourteen feet high preparatory to the mounting of a specimen known as Elephas jeffersoni, by Mr. Reider and Frank Bell, preparators of the museum, under the direction of Dr. Barbour.

This specimen, which weighs 500 pounds, was collected in 1915 near Campbell, Franklin county, Nebraska. A great deal of measuring is required to get just the correct "pose" and the accurate spread of the tusks, which in this specimen are thirteen feet long. Suspension is from the roof rather than from the ceiling as it appears. When finished, the head will be about fourteen feet to the top of the skull which is about the actual height of the animal. The skeleton will not be mounted.

In the very near future, Elephas jeffersoni in all its elephantine hugeness, may be seen mounted at the south end of the hall directly in front of a picture of these early

proboscidian creatures painted by Miss Elizabeth Dolan.

Another specimen of Elephas jeffersoni collected last year near Trenton, Neb., will be mounted and exhibited as soon as completed. This specimen is much larger than the one collected in 1915. So far, only the jaws, skull and tusks are in. It is interesting to note that this is the only pair of tusks yet found unseparated. This will give an absolutely correct spread, which appears to be nine or ten feet.

The lower jaw of a giant "shovel tusker" was sent in this week from Valentine, Neb., by Mr. McGrew, a student of the university and a resident of Lincoln. At present, this specimen may be seen in the workroom.

This "shovel tusker," so named by Dr. Barbour because it resembles a shovel, is the only one of this type in the museum. It is almost complete and reminds one of pictures of this type found by Roy Chapman Andrews in Asia. Two years ago, a "shovel jaw" was found, but the jaw and tusks were very much longer but not so wide as this new specimen. Imagine if you can, the hugeness of the animal that wagged this four and one-half foot jaw.

"Shovel Jaws" are now being found in southern as well as in northern Nebraska. This species of elephant seems to have had a wide range, and there is a possibility that they came directly to America from Asia by the Bering Strait route.

ON THE CAMPUS

DAWES STUDENTS ARE ALL FROM CHADRON.

The six students from Dawes county are all listed from Chadron. The number is equally divided into three women and three men. Nell Morrisey Brannon, Marguerite Morrisey and Florence Gothoff Noyes are all taking graduate work toward degrees. Lyle Vernon Andrews and Benjamin F. Crites are also enrolled in the graduate college. Raymond Richard Noyes, who will teach in Chadron this year, is a senior in Teachers college.

DUNDY STUDENTS LISTED.

Of the five students from Dundy county attending the summer session, two are from Benkleman. They are Mabel Berneice Lewis, a sophomore in Teachers college, and Leonard Lyle Dunn, a freshman in Teachers college.

Ellen Delyla Lasley and R. Harvey Porter are from Parks. Ellen Lasley is a freshman and Mr. Porter is a junior in Teachers college.

Dwight Eugene Catlett is the only student from Haigler. He is taking graduate work toward an advanced degree and will teach at Nebraska Wesleyan university during the coming year.

FOUR FROM LEXINGTON.

Evelyn Betser, Florence Elizabeth Peterson, Paul Harvey Jacobs and Montford Reginald Kiffin are registered from Lexington. Twelve are enrolled from Dawson county.

Evelyn Betser is a sophomore and is studying nursing training at the college of medicine at Omaha. Miss Peterson, also a sophomore, is enrolled in the college of arts and sciences. Both men are taking work in the graduate college toward advanced degrees. Both will return to teach at Lexington this year.

Floyd A. Davis and Edwin Charles Edwards are registered from Sumner. Mr. Davis, who will teach at Sumner, is taking graduate work. Mr. Edwards is a senior in the college of business administration.

Marguerite F. Hassersmith is the only student from Farnam.

She is a sophomore in Teachers college.

Sadie Jane Loibl and Florence Mildred Morris list Cozad as their home. Miss Loibl, who will teach at Sargent this year, is a senior in Teachers college. Miss Morris, who will teach at Cozad, is a freshman in the same college.

Cleo Hazel Bailey, a freshman in the agricultural college, and Evelyn Mayo Hubka, a freshman in Teachers college who will teach at Overton, are the two students enrolling from Overton.

Alma Pauline Holbein, who lives near Eustis, is a senior in Teachers college.

Five Are From Hardy.

Five women are attending the summer session from Hardy. All have been taking work in Teachers college. They are Marie Johanna Christensen, sophomore; Lillian Julia Hansen, freshman who will teach at Hardy; Mary C. Moran, junior and a teacher at Columbus, and Helen Ann Sorenson and Mabel Dorothy Sorenson, who are freshmen and teachers at Hardy.

Hattie M. Brainard, who is taking special work in Teachers college, and Romona Alva Heins, freshman in Teachers college who will teach at Big Springs, are from Ruskin.

Martha A. Behling, who leaves near Davenport, is a freshman in Teachers college and will teach at Davenport.

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ELEVEN FROM PAWNEE.

Eleven of the twenty-one students from Pawnee county attending the summer session from Pawnee City.

Five are taking work in the graduate college toward advanced degrees. They are Mary Genevieve Fletcher; M. Mildred Krouch, Edith Ann Little, who will teach at Hastings; Maragret Olive Osborn and Vernon Edward Hungate who will teach at Wauwata. Olive Elizabeth McClure is taking nurses training at the college of medicine at Omaha. She is a junior.

Five are also enrolled in Teachers college. They are Vera Elizabeth Callen, junior who will teach at Sidney; Lois O. Madden, junior; Frieda Ruth Miles, another third year student who will teach in Wawnee City, Emma Grace Fritz and Miriam Calhoun Parker.

Three women are registered from Table Rock. They are Elsie May Petrasek, freshman in the college of arts and sciences; Olive Wanda Tomek, teacher at Nemaha and Velma Irene Wopata. The last two are freshman in Teachers college.

Myrtle Ellen Knapp and Mian Turnbull, sophomores in Teachers college, and Robert Henry Knapp, graduate student who will teach at Burchard, are the three from Burchard.

DuBois is also represented by three students. Mrs. Reva Hunzeker is a sophomore in Teachers college and will teach at DuBois this week. Ernest T. Hein, who will also return to DuBois, is taking graduate work. Ferald Oswald Turner is a freshman in the college of engineering.

Laura Mae Bookwalter is the only student from Armour. She is a junior in Teachers college and will teach in Pawnee county.

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