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**We Hope You're Insulted.**

IN AN attempt to invigorate basketball audiences with some of the student interest so apparent during the football season, a movement is on foot to organize fans into cheering sections. Whether the movement will succeed probably depends on the ability of the basketball team to win a fair share of its games, but it is significant of the character of student "spirit" that organization is necessary to bring tangible results.

There are unusual circumstances in the case of Nebraska basketball, it is true, but even with last year's gloomy record in view, it is typical of undergraduate lethargy that organizers feel it necessary to cajole the student body into a state of enthusiasm. It is extremely doubtful, of course, that this state of enthusiasm can be acquired; it can be generated to some extent by cheerleaders, band music, and other forms of blatant rah-rah exhibitions, but unless it is inherent and spontaneous there is small excuse for it.

AND why do we belabor the unresisting students? It is done chiefly because they are unresisting. They are complacent as no other similar group within the focus of our attention. They have none of that quality of "intestinal fortitude" which should make an undergraduate body a thing of life and color. And perhaps if we tell a little of the unpleasant truth about themselves, they will feel insulted enough to do something spirited enough to make "organization of spirit" as unnecessary as it is insulting.

Are you insulted? We hope so.

Entering the last lap of the semester, we wonder if you realize how few days of actual classes remain before final exams?

**A Musical Treat.**

Presentation of Handel's immortal Messiah in the Coliseum Sunday marks the thirty-seventh annual Christmas production of the oratorio. Over three hundred musicians, including a chorus of 250 voices, the Lincoln Symphony orchestra, and prominent guest soloists, will take part. It will be an occasion meritorious of anyone's attendance, and the university, in sponsoring the production, will be repaid neither with applause, nor with money, but with the satisfaction of having made possible the dissemination of beauty.

It is immaterial whether the story of Christianity portrayed in the Messiah appeals to the individual as a portrayal of religious significance. But Christian and pagan alike should find spiritual satisfaction in hearing that story unfolded in terms of great and beautiful music.

Small is the man unmoved by the thing we call the Spirit of Christmas, and if you wish to see that Christmas spirit incarnated in living music, we urge you to attend the Messiah Sunday in the Coliseum.

**THE STUDENT PULSE**

**Wanted: Dismissal.**

I believe that Dr. Lyman's statement concerning the dismissal of classes Friday instead of next Wednesday is very illogical. In it he stated that it would be useless to dismiss classes because even then the students would be living together in the dormitories and fraternity and sorority houses.

Perhaps Dr. Lyman has not been informed of the fact that during the Christmas holidays approximately ninety percent of the out of town students depart to their homes. This fact shows clearly the fallacy of his argument.

Although I was not aware of the rumor before it was mentioned in The Daily Nebraskan, I believe that the most sensible and safest thing to do would be to dismiss classes in order to lessen the spread of the "flu." I have talked to several physicians and they seem to be of the opinion that all would be benefited by the dismissal of classes which would allow the students to depart for their homes sooner.

The daily invalid list is steadily mounting and some preventative measure should be taken. I appeal to Dr. Lyman and the Board of Regents to adopt the proposed plan.

J. G. E.

A contribution from a conscience-stricken undergraduate laments that all too few students write home regularly and frequently. In view of the approach of Christmas it might not be a bad idea to start laying a foundation of suggestions.

**Contemporary Comment**

**American, or European?**

A recent discussion of the writer and a highly trained, intellectual professional man brought out in no uncertain terms the opinion of the latter that the American system of education cannot live up to its high aims and ideals; that it is doomed to fail unless certain changes are instituted in the next generation; and that much of the present condition of affairs may be attributed to the typically American idea that if this country is not best in everything it enters, it must do everything in its power to be best, which is at once a rather debatable honor to be advertised.

The source of the above opinion has seen education develop into full maturity in the United States for almost half a century—he received much of his training in the American schools. At the same time, this man observed and noted the European or continental system of training people for their life's work. He was not just a visitor who dropped in for a few days or weeks, but he entered into the life of the continental educational system and picked up, first hand, the very essence of their plan.

That the American school, both primary and secondary, was being hopelessly standardized was the chief objection of this man to our system. We are not satisfied with the ordinary standards of excellence that may be built up by traditional observance on the part of a school of what is best and honorable. We are not satisfied with the knowledge that the professor imparts as a man, not simply a teacher. He has often lived life to the fullest and the very connotation of his name, coupled with his experiences, imparts much more than the course itself to a student. In this country, we are striving

constantly for recognition by some board or other body which has been set up without any real authority to ascertain the ranks of schools. We have standardized texts, courses, and schools—all of this has led to a machine-like education.

On the continent, much of the emphasis and importance is removed from the school itself, its name. People travel long distances and study under severe hardships to be trained by a man. Ask an Austrian or a German student where he studied and his reply is the name of some recognized professor. The graduation exercise is simply the acceptance of a diploma, no pomp or splendor going with it. Classes are often large, but that is no handicap where every student is thoroughly interested in a subject. Each person is put on his own resources. The weak are weeded out; they are a hindrance at best. Summing it up, the burden of education over there is placed on the student himself but he loses none of his individuality, nor does his professor or school. They are not striving for some intangible recognition. They are simply trying to impart learning, on the one side, and trying to learn, on the other.

Yet the American critics and writers go on aimlessly advertising the system of education in this country as the best. There is an almost unsurmountable obstacle of conceit and egotism to be overcome before any improvement can be made in this respect. There must be recognition of one's mistakes before they can be corrected.

Much can be said in favor of what this man thinks, and he is patriotic citizen. Each one of us is different. What will educate one person may not be at all suitable to another person. Many a spark of genius has been allowed to smolder out simply because it could not find expression. Many have been allowed to remain in school at the expense of those really interested, simply because they pay tuition, have well-known parents, or excel in some sport. Education at its best is an individual problem and those trying to benefit by it should not be run through four years of university, like raw materials through a machine.—SMU Semi-Weekly Campus.

May we reiterate a request that letters intended for the Student Pulse column must be signed? Names of the contributors will be withheld if desired, but the editor must know who the senders are.

It would make interesting reading to know how many scores of persons have inquired of the Nebraskan within the past few days about the possibility of school being closed on account of the influenza epidemic. Unfortunately, no record was kept, but the number runs well into the dozens.

The League of Nations is in a quandary. It can exercise no authority over non-member nations, and it seems to be easy for a nation which does not like what the league is planning to do to threaten to resign.

**FLU CONFINES COL. PRICE.**  
Colonel D. E. Price, law librarian, is confined to his home by an attack of the flu.

**Duke university**  
**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**  
**DURHAM, N. C.**

Four terms of eleven weeks are given each year. These may be taken consecutively (M. D. in three years) or three terms may be taken each year (M. D. in four years). The entrance requirements are intelligence, character and at least two years of college work, including the subjects specified for Grade A Medical Schools. Catalogues and application forms may be obtained from the Dean.

**Hayseed and Haywire.**

By George Round.

From all appearances the Block and Bridle club of the college of agriculture does not believe that girls lose any of their feministic qualities by being around livestock. At least they have scheduled a coed showmanship contest as a part of their Junior Ak-Sar-Ben.

The controversy about girls showing livestock came up recently when George Jackson, secretary of the state fair, made the statement that girls should be barred from showing stock at the state fair. Perhaps they should and perhaps they shouldn't. The extension service, the organization which sponsors 4-H club work, doesn't encourage girls to enter livestock clubs but does not bar them from competing in such clubs.

Aside to Mae Street (not main street): No we haven't found Ralph or Don as yet . . . And to Dick Moran, we say that triplets are no more at the college of agriculture . . . Give us the rural attitude is the motto of ag journalism students. . . Ruth Schill, 1932 graduate and Alpha Xi Delta, is still pounding the typewriter on the Custer County Chief at Broken Bow . . .

But Johnny Lowenstein, Ag man, agrees with Secretary Jackson in saying that with few exceptions girls should be barred from 4-H livestock activities. He makes poultry an exception. Being a former club member, Johnny should know what he is talking about. On the other hand, however, LaVern "Kingfish" Gengrich believes the opposite. So there you are. Neither here nor there.

"Hello Katrinka, may I have a date for the Ak-Sar-Ben Ball?"

"I'd love to go. It is the social event of the season and I was in hopes you would call. Thanks for calling."

And such, believe it or not, may be the tone of telephone conversation centering about the mammoth Ak-Sar-Ben ball to be held on the Ag campus Saturday. It is to be one of the big events of the season for the college students.

As for tuxedos, corsages and the like, they are taboo.

Thirther and Thirther: Organized Agriculture meetings are the next big thing for the college of agriculture campus. . . One agricultural college professor is for "pleasingly plump" style and not for "slim hips." He says reverting to the old fashioned fad would mean increased sale of farm products and would help return prosperity to the farmer. . . How many coeds would be willing to go back to the old slogan? The line forms to the right . . .

**PALLADIANS NAME MARGARET REEDY TO HEAD SOCIETY**

Margaret Reedy was elected president of Palladian literary society at a recent business meeting. Other officers selected were Graham Howe, vice-president; Bill Allington, critic; Wilbur Hansen, treasurer; Kenneth Millet, recording secretary; Jean Bunnell, corresponding secretary; Harry West, program secretary, and Burton Marvin, historian.

The organization's annual Christmas party will be held Friday night at the home of Dorothy Keller.

**OFFICIAL BULLETIN**

**Social Dancing Class.**

The Social Dancing class will be held Friday at seven in the Armory.

**Fireside Forum.**

Rev. Ray Hunt of First Christian church will speak at the Fireside Forum meeting Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. His topic will be "How religious experience expresses itself in regard to social problems."

**German Party.**

The German department will hold a Christmas party for all German students in the auditorium of Morrill hall Thursday, Dec. 15 from 4 to 6 p. m.

**Classics Club.**

Friday afternoon at three o'clock the Classics club will meet in room 202, Andrews hall. Dr. Ginsberg will discuss the subject "Was There Any Arbitration in the Ancient World?"

**Kappa Phi.**

There will be a meeting of Kappa Phi, Methodist girls club, Thursday in Ellen Smith hall, at which a pageant will be presented by the pledges.

**Barb Council**

The Barb council will meet Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock in Social Science.

**Christmas Wreaths.**

The Y. W. C. A. is selling Christmas wreaths, arbor vitae for 55 cents and holly for 40 cents. The wreaths are 15 inches in diameter and may be secured from the Y. W. C. A. office in Ellen Smith hall.

**Phi Chi Theta.**

There will be a short meeting of Phi Chi Theta, Thursday, Dec. 15, at 7:15 p. m. at Ellen Smith hall.

Cutting a class at the University of Maryland costs the student three dollars.

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