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Wisconsin Takes

A Forward Step.

THE board of regents of Wisconsin university last week cut the compulsory physical education requirement from two years to one year. The action of the board resulted from a recommendation of the faculty. President Glenn Frank pointed out to the board that in the opinion of "practically all of the physicians and health experts on the campus, physical education taught to students only a few hours a week accomplished no good whatever as an aid to general health."

The decision of the Wisconsin faculty and board of regents might possibly be applied to Nebraska university without endangering the health of the coeds who are forced to take two years of what goes under the name of physical education. As was pointed out in the discussion at Wisconsin the sole purpose for which physical education was made compulsory was to provide for a close checkup on the health of the students. This purpose, the faculty believed, was not being served by required courses in various forms of athletic endeavor, but could be better served by stressing the work of the student health service in conducting periodic examinations and giving advice to students.

With the necessity particularly apparent at the present time for cutting out some expenditures, it might be advisable to investigate the value which compulsory physical returns for the money it expends. If it is true that by forcing girls to cavort about in regulation costumes their general health and well being is promoted, then the department may be justified in making its courses required. But where there seems to be a reasonable doubt as to the value derived from a course which emphasizes physical activity rather than health, and which is taken by many only because it is required, it would seem that the Wisconsin university action might be one to emulate or even to exceed.

The old principle that you can lead a horse to water but you can't make it drink may often be applicable to courses in which masses of students are forced to go thru certain prescribed forms. Compulsory physical education and compulsory drill may fairly be placed in the same category in this regard. Even without other objections which may be raised to R. O. T. C. training, it is a fair object of criticism along with physical education for women on the grounds that it is compulsory.

Very clever of the United States house of representatives to vote on reduction of their own salaries in committee of the whole where no record of how the members vote is kept.

What Happened to The Closed Night?

THE student council made an unsuccessful attempt to close a night to student parties for the benefit of the barb council several weeks ago. In the first place one sorority had already arranged a formal party on that night. The decision of the council was published in the Daily Nebraskan, but apparently various campus groups fail to take seriously what they read. At any rate not until the past week have several Greek groups suddenly found that the night was closed. With dismay they related their tales of woe. They already had orchestras hired and invitations issued. And so their cases had to be excepted. As a result the closed night becomes more or less figment of the council's imagination.

Then too, the council has encountered the opposition of the dean of women who stoutly maintains that the council has no power to close nights for student parties. The council constitution, which was approved by all the necessary university officials, provides that the council shall have the power "to regulate and co-ordinate the activities of all student organizations and groups whenever such activities are of general university interest." When the council makes a particular application of this power, however, it appears that in the minds of some it is exceeding its authority.

While the matter remains more or less in an unsettled condition the purpose of the student council in this particular instance has been defeated. The council, no doubt, is to blame for not providing a more effective means of notification of its decision. But regardless of what is the cause of the difficulty it should be pointed out that the party sponsored by the barb council with the intent of putting on an affair appealing to all university students, the profit from which will go to the permanent decorations fund, is still to be given. It is deserving of the support of all students on the basis of merit which all barb council parties have shown, and on the basis of being given with a worthwhile end in view.

The barb council is making a special appeal to Greek groups to support the party, not because it needs support, but because the campus needs more affairs where affiliated and non-affiliated students feel free to attend as students rather than as members of certain organizations. It is to be hoped that the permanent decorations fund may be swelled because of general university support of the party, and that the next venture of the student council into the field of regulating and co-ordinating student activities may be more successful.

It seems unfortunate that no progress can be made in working toward a short ballot for elective state officers. A bill proposing the consolidation of three state offices, one of which is known to be practically without any functions, was defeated by a legislative committee Monday. It seems that reduction of expenses of the state are largely to be made by paring non-governmental offices and institutions.

Frosting For the Cakes.

SHROUDED once in mysterious attraction, student haunts were looked on as rather fascinating places. There was an aura of intellectual sacredness about them, and they were frequented by intelligent students and their satellites. That, at least, is the conception which has come down to us. It represents the institution which was the tavern in England, the cafe in France, and the beer garden, no doubt, in Germany.

Supplanting it there is today clinging to the edges of every campus another institution—the "cak-

ing" place. Student thirst for watery "cokes" is satiated here, and a definite air of tawdriness is inescapable.

Devotees of these places would be disgusted with their surroundings in almost any other circumstances, but linked in their minds with campus tradition, the caking place assumes the proportions of a little Bohemia. The devotees begin to frequent the place, deluding themselves into thinking they are being "Bohemian." Shortly they are enmeshed in a particularly wasteful, almost vicious, habit.

It is interesting to see where the idea of "Bohemianism" arose. Thomas Craven, in an article titled "The Bohemians in Paris," appearing in the February issue of Harper's, sheds some revealing light on the subject. Tracing the development from the roistering days of Francois Villon, he shows the present degradation of the Bohemians, particularly as applied to Parisian artists.

French artists have, perhaps, little connection with an American state university, but the tone of Mr. Craven's article is applicable to students who haunt the caking dens. For, he says, to be Bohemian is only to be permanently arrested in the less appealing stages of adolescence.

Arrested growth is the surest criterion of the "cake"!

Contemporary Comment

The Wrecking Crew.

THE need of economy in state government is too obvious for argument. The fact that cost of state institutions must be readjusted is recognized.

However, there are some persons, who, under the guise of economy, would cripple state institutions to such an extent that they would be worse than valueless.

Such a group was that which met in Denver Saturday and formed a state taxpayers league. This organization demanded some things that were extremely worthwhile, and others that were patently absurd.

For instance, one resolution adopted by the group demands that all salaries of state employes be reduced to the level of 1914.

To put such a scheme into operation would force many of the more enlightened instructors here to find jobs elsewhere. The result of such a policy would be to lower considerably the standing of all the Colorado institutions, whose salary scales are extremely modest when compared with those of other institutions against which they compete for worthwhile instructors.

Another proposal was that all married women should be fired. Obviously, that is impossible. Some of them cannot be replaced. We wonder if that proposal was inspired solely by the desire to save money, or by jealousy because some women are earning a decent salary?

As a matter of fact, the saving from this proposal would be negligible. Only thirty-three women whose husbands are also drawing salaries are on the state payroll.

The university should be willing to take its chances with other institutions, to cut costs to the bone. The slash of \$225,000 from the budget last year proves the administration will co-operate.

But the tax leagues must realize that there is a minimum expense below which the administration cannot go without closing the doors of the institution. If the tax league wants economy, its demands will be met. If it wants to close the institutions of higher learning, it will be opposed by all thinking citizens of the state.

Colorado needs economy. It does not want a wrecking crew.—University of Colorado—Silver and Gold.

Sigma Chi First Fraternity to Attain Fifty Years' Continuous Residence

The first fraternity on the Nebraska campus to attain fifty years of continuous residence, Sigma Chi fraternity celebrated its golden anniversary last weekend with a series of memorial services, receptions and dinners.

Founded in 1883 as the farthest west chapter of Sigma Chi, Alpha Epsilon chapter started out under the cloud of faculty and university disapproval. Fraternities were not popular, and the members of the new organization were in danger of expulsion. But due to the influence of the fathers of two of the boys, D. H. Wheeler, then mayor of Plattsmouth, and Mr. Chase, who held a similar position in Omaha, it was considered unwise to antagonize a community which might send more students to the university.

Furthermore, the graduation class of 1883 was so small that to "expel those who had suddenly determined to become Greeks," would leave a big hole in the commencement class. It has been said that the faculty that year was divided in opinion, and Sigma Chi escaped with nothing more than a censure against them.

Phi Delt's Lose Charter.

The Phi Delta Theta chapter at Nebraska has preceded Sigma Chi on the campus, but the charter of the first group was returned. It was not re-established until sometime after Sigma Chi was installed.

Founders of Sigma Chi tell an interesting story about its first start. Two members of the Sig Chi De Pauw chapter were largely responsible for its organization. Clement Chase, founder, riding with his father in a pullman, of which Rev. F. F. Brooks, De Pauw '77 was conductor. He became acquainted with Chase, and found out that a local group desired to secure a chapter of some national fraternity. Brooks recommended Sigma Chi, and thru connections with Patrick O'Bannon, De Pauw chapter father, who had then moved to Omaha, the local chapter was started.

Application was made on Sept. 25, 1882 to the parent chapter in Delaware, O. The installation took place Jan. 11, 1883. The Nebraska

group was founded in the student room of the three Wheeler brothers and Clement Chase who all roomed at the home of Miss Ellen Smith at what was then 1204 U st.

Of the eight initiates Myron Wheeler of Lincoln alone survives. The eight were Clement, Edson P. Rich and Daniel H. Wheeler, jr., of the class of 1883, Don L. Clark and William H. Lichty of '84, Myron E. Wheeler, '86; Frank A. Wood, '86; and Frank L. Wheeler, '87. Daniel H. Wheeler was elected president of the chapter.

Sig Chi One of Miami's Triad.

Sigma Chi, one of the Miami Triad, which Beta Theta Pi and Phi Delta Theta are the other two, was the nineteenth fraternity to enter the national field. Its universally recognized name is "Sig," and as it is the oldest national of the Sigma group has sole title to the name. The most popularized fraternity song of the day, is "The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi."

Since its installation, Alpha Epsilon chapter has initiated 395 members, of whom 354 are living. Since 1893 that chapter has lived in various places around town, rooms above the now O. J. King grocery, in 1895, rooms in the Halter block, 1708 O street, in 1902, 1142 E in 1903 and at 1536 P street a few years later.

Build New House in 1930.

In 1906 the wearers of the white cross purchased the property at 518 North Sixteenth, which remained their home in one guise or another until a year ago. The present chapter house is of brick in English design and with its furnishings cost \$75,000. It houses thirty men in its three stories.

Affairs during the week were started with a reception Saturday afternoon, where the members of the Mothers club were entertained at a reception. Sunday morning a church service was held at the St. Matthews Episcopal church. Alumni members were served a 1 o'clock buffet luncheon Sunday at the chapter house, and Sunday evening at the Hotel Cornhusker, a 6:30 o'clock banquet closed the festivities. Places for one hundred were provided.

UNIVERSITY PLAYERS PRESENTING "PORGY" OPENS AT TEMPLE

(Continued from Page 1.) ina. A small section of the race that has kept its tradition, its customs, its beliefs and legends to itself, the Gullah tribe about whom this play was written show an especial dramatic interest.

From the crap game in the first act to the exit of Porgy in the third the play itself shows the dramatic colorful life of its character. Their spiritual fervor, their easy morals, and their whole hearted enjoyment of life make the play a realistic, entertaining two and a half hours of drama.

Cast of characters:

- Bess Dorothy Zoelner
- Crown Francis Brandt
- Porgy W. Zolney Lerner
- Jake Clifton Conaway
- Clara Dorothy Dean
- Lily June Nash
- Maria Nora Osborne
- Serena Virginia Jones
- Robbins Lewis Burnett
- Nelson Claude Gordon
- Annie Mildred Brand
- Sporting Life J. R. Lillard
- Mingo Armand Hunter
- Alan Archdale Francis Sturdevant
- Peter Al Tiffany
- Undertaker Claude Gordon
- Detective George Spelvin
- Simon Frazier J. R. Lillard
- Jim Bernard Jennings
- Two Policemen John Stover
- Scipio Jack Epstein
- The Crab Man Henry McWilliams
- Coroner Howard Hadley
- Children: Alice McWilliams, Arbelia Dean, Katharine Dean, Sherman McWilliams, Wendell Mayle, Paul Corneal, Kendall McWilliams.

The chorus consisted of: Mrs. Dorothy Dean, soloist; Evelyn Johnson, soloist; Will Molden, soloist; Delmar J. Woods, Merle Dean, James Wadkins, Burt Newton, Harriet Mayle, Jennie Wadkins, Naomi Rigby, Myrtle Deane, Marion Watkins, Roberta Coffee, Esther Foster, Pearl Christian, Sara Ann McWilliams, Darline Holmes, Lonnie Thomas, Jennie R. Edwards, Leola Burden, Evelyn H. Edwards, Opal McWilliams, Frances Duane, Charles Holmes.

NEBRASKANS REACH FOR FLANNELS AS COLD WAVE HITS

(Continued from Page 1.) ologist for the university, the well known flannels will be in order. He says that the cold wave will probably continue for the next thirty-six hours, with sub-zero temperatures prevailing.

Following the longest period of warm January weather ever recorded at the university, the warm

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southerly winds and low pressure areas centering over the plains region suddenly stopped, and the strong winds of a high pressure area over Canada swept in to fill the region. The high pressure area's course has been marked by sub-zero temperatures and some snow.

According to Mr. Blair, such occurrences are common to this part of the country, and should be expected during this particular time of the year, as the air pressure areas are subject to greater fluctuation than at any other time.

NEBRASKA DEBATES SIOUX CITY COLLEGE

No Decision Granted to Winner of Word Battle.

The Nebraska team debated against Morningside college of Sioux City, Ia., Friday on the question, Resolved: that the inter-governmental World war debts and reparations should be canceled. There was no decision.

Nebraska debated the negative side of the question and Morningside upheld the affirmative. The Nebraska debaters were John F. Stover and Milo W. Price. There was an open forum discussion of the question after the debate. Drake university will argue the negative side of the cancellation of war debts proposition against Nebraska in a radio debate at 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon. The debate will be broadcast over station KFOR. H. Vincent Broady and Howard W. Holtzendorff will be the speakers for Nebraska.

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