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An Intellectual Basis for Religion.

RELIGION has been so mixed with various ethical doctrines and with interpretations of beliefs which contradict each other and which are irreconcilable with known facts, that it is little wonder people in general and young people in particular are confused. Perhaps the natural reaction to this feeling of confusion, and of doubt, is the failure to subscribe to any belief. Perhaps this in turn is the basis for the charge so frequently heard that colleges breed atheists, and that students are irreligious.

The Nebraskan lays no claim of being able to interpret the feelings and ideas of Nebraska students, but we do believe that it is a fair statement to make that college students are not religious in the sense in which many people conceive of religion. College students are but little interested in church work, and in church teachings. They are tired of the stereotyped theological catch phrases which are usually meaningless to them as expressions of real religious feeling.

But college students do feel the lack of a belief, and of a sense of the meaning of things. If they do not subscribe to any doctrine, they wonder about the reconciliation of certain facts with the doctrines to which other people subscribe, or to which they once subscribed on blind faith alone. They are inclined to scoff at religious prating when it has no connection with daily living and behavior.

In other words, the student's conception of religion is an ethical conception. He believes that religion should be put into practice in a social sense. This is probably a false conception, for religion is above all a personal faith and emotional feeling. It is something which the individual should work out for himself if he is to be sure of his belief.

From the point of view of the individual who has been disillusioned in his former beliefs, or who has seen too many practical objections to subscribing to any particular doctrine or belief, it is essential that a firm intellectual foundation be established on which a faith immune from doubts can be established.

Thus, if he has been taught that the story of Jonah and the whale is a part of religious belief, he was easily disillusioned when he considered the story from the point of view of scientific probability. He must find some reason for including this story in religious teachings, or else he must discard it altogether.

The religious teacher who has illiterates with whom to deal can more easily foist upon them his own religious interpretations. If they believe what is told them, and are never in danger of doing

any thinking on their own account, this grafted religion should be satisfactory for them; it will provide for them an emotional experience and a faith in the meaning of things.

But the thinking individual must work out his own beliefs. These beliefs must be secure against practical doubts. The interpretations of others are probably not satisfactory.

The Religious Emphasis week of conferences and speeches planned under the auspices of the Religious Welfare council this week end, should provide an opportunity for those students who are doing their own thinking eagerly to take advantage of. According to the sponsors of the affair, the conference is not an attempt to convert students, nor to drum into them any stereotyped religious beliefs. It is rather an attempt to give students an opportunity to clarify their beliefs or to stimulate their thinking. The Nebraskan hopes that the conference will really be of aid in carrying out this purpose.

The Cynic Has Had His Day.

WHEN doomsday rolls around, and the process of singling out the sheep from the goats is begun, it is our fondest hope that consigned to the nethermost regions of the bottomless pit will be a certain class of people whom we now set about to describe.

These are the individuals with dour faces and perpetual leers who feign disillusionment with everything. It is their mission in life to go about making cynical comments about every project which they see undertaken.

Their greatest satisfaction is achieved in pricking the bubble of someone else's idealism. Their very presence puts a blight on any contemplation other than that of the mean and the horrid. They point gnarled fingers at everyone explaining the underlying motives of greed which actuate him in whatever endeavor he may be engaged.

Never an object is sought but that they can demonstrate the hopelessness of its attainment. Never an object is gained, but that they can clearly show its worthlessness.

THEY have enjoyed a predominance in the era since the World War. Many of them have been too clever to incite disgust. They are frequently wisecrackers who draw a big laugh with their caustic remarks.

But their popularity is waning. College students, among the first to take them up and exploit them, and the last to get rid of the disease with which they themselves have been inoculated, are at last becoming weary of the stale cynicism.

Few, if any, who scoff at the efforts of others as Quixotic, are able to demonstrate any accomplishments of their own, or even any attempts at accomplishment. Their sneers are usually expressions of their own inability to accomplish, their lack of ingenuity and energy in attempting.

The goal of complete achievement is seldom reached. But life is unbearable without the feeling, illusion tho it may be, that some things are worth working for. If accomplishment stops short of its goal, the activity is still worthwhile. It at least provides the semblance of a reason for living.

THE STUDENT PULSE

TO THE EDITOR:

Forgive me for taking liberty to voice an opinion of the Sunday column "Whats the Odds." I do not know the author, but it seems to me to be a most senseless conglomeration of the mother tongue.

Yes, dear Artemus, there is very grave danger that the "dear little coods" would stray from the

straight and narrow (it isn't half narrow enough) if they were permitted to remain out later than 12:30. It's meant for a preventive, not a cure.

The argument for cigaret smoking seems to be on the theory that one should be permitted to do as they please so long as they harm no one. Which would be very nice indeed if it were possible to determine when you were overstepping the line. And harming no one includes yourself as well as the other fellow.

The whole column indicates the Nebraskan is sorely in need of a couple of thoughtful editorial writers. (No slur toward the editor-in-chief is intended.) I'm no Brisbane, either, but little intelligence or common sense is needed to equal the column under fire. College students are supposed to be sensible and not a bunch of gaga nitwits. Maybe it's just my old-fashionedness. J. H. B.

What's the Odds?

By Artemus

At last I am a success. Someone has taken the time and energy to call me a nit wit. Anyone with enough ambition to copper anything of mine is either stirred mighty easily or has one of those complexes from whence springs "a letter to the Times." Even so, I thank Mr. J. H. B. He has brought once again to a disintegrating soul the realization that there are problems to solve and causes for which to fight.

And now a story. Once I went to a night club. I went because it didn't cost me anything—the publicity agent for the master of ceremonies was a friend and, under the impression that I might be able to put in a good word at some newspaper, the management cancelled my check.

Most generally the atmosphere of night clubs bores me to extraction. They seem to be inhabited by a conglomerate mass whose imaginations have atrophied. The entertainment is dull, the music only fair, the patrons' faces take on a deathly pallor which is too reminiscent of a morgue. So, given a choice, I attend places other than "The Pirates Den," "Cafe de Paris" or "Barney's." However, when things are free my sense of what is morbid leaps into a very rapid reverse.

At any rate, I did attend this particular night club and sat, mind you, right next to the chief entertainer. As the evening wore on, he got sentimental. It was due in part to the ragging his publicity agent (my friend) was giving him over his physical condition. Finally, this renowned gag man (whose jokes had fallen uncommonly, flat, grew meditative. He was, admittedly, growing old, might be going stale. Perhaps he might join some retired punsters group or try the two-a-day in the hinterlands. Life was after all, he argued, none too good and the young make it difficult for the old.

I joined in with the spirit. My job had only recently been snatched away by the rigors of economy and the machinations of a comely female. The atmosphere became oppressive. I wondered why I had allowed friend publicity agent to convince me that the evening would be filled with music and laughter.

As I was about to leave the very mournful presence of this funny man, he suddenly perked up and, out of a clear sky, said: "Well, anyway, my son's editor of his school's paper. That's more than Arthur Brisbane can say of his son."

The party resumed. I got home at 4:30 a. m.

P. S. This Master of Ceremonies isn't thru as yet either. It was only a few weeks ago that I heard him barking over the radio on the qualities of someone or other's pork products.

FEATURES FOR FAIR RECEIVE ATTENTION

(Continued from Page 1.) pus all during the fair, and would make special excursion trips to various places on the campus for large parties. The committee believes that the "Farmer's Fair Limited" will be one of the feature attractions on the grounds. The committee is also considering the possibility of securing artists to make pencil or pen and ink drawings of fair visitors, and of a marionette show in the afternoon. Two of last year's concessions to be cut out are the "African Dive" and "Scrambled Eggs." "They

IT IS RESOLVED.

That because it is wise to provide for a period of reflection during any age, particularly during an age of chaos, the student body of the University of Nebraska, in respect to the fine sentiment underlying Religious Emphasis week as planned for March 31 to April 3, should give it serious observance.

The Student Council pledges its complete sympathy which this movement and extends to those in charge such services as it may render thru its Forum committee.

STUDENT COUNCIL.

don't quite come up to the standard of entertainment we want to maintain at Farmer's Fair," Mott said.

The following are in charge of concessions:

- Concessions. Beatrice Donaldson, Gerald Mott
- General Stand. Helen Newberg, Henrietta Haffner, Maxine Courtmash, Valeda Davis, Mary Dodril, Virginia Erickson, Maise Foreman, Edna Hansen, Leah Meham, Thelma Lunger, Janice Campbell, Virginia Copenhaver, Ruth Henderson, Charlotte English, Elaine Wilson, Melba Shoemaker, Alice Marie Ritchie, Aima Freshling, Katherine Agnew, Margie Siwers, Dorothy Zeigenbusch, John Smiley, Oletus Reinmiller, George Keller, Charles Jenkins, Don Joy, Wilford Kohn
- Kitchen Check. Lucile Hile, Lorraine Swanson
- Sunday Feed. Teresa Libershal, Florence Downs
- Tea Room. Dorothy Luchsinger, Ch. H. Ec. 273 Class
- Popecorn Stand. Gerald Tool
- Corn Game. David Rice, Raymond Kinch, Milan Austin
- Horse Show. Merrill Lee, Bill Howell, Edmund Anderson
- Baby Show. Roy Blaser, Ardelle James, Lyma Wallin
- Frask Show. Wayne Hill, Elver Hodges, Harold Larsen

COUNCIL WILL LEARN LIMIT OF AUTHORITY

(Continued from Page 1.) council's recommendation that the Ivy day oration be moved up to the morning, and be limited to fifteen minutes. The resolution passed without a dissenting vote. Allaway reported progress of the student activity tax committee in its investigatory work on a blanket tax for Nebraska. "Present indications are," he said, "that a tax can be worked out totalling about \$7.50 to \$8 a year. This would include the three major publications and the athletic ticket."

A conference with managers of publications is planned before the next meeting of the council, he said, and indicated that Director of Athletics John K. Selleck might be favorable to a tax such as proposed.

A report by Virgene McBride listed tentative dates on the campus calendar for next year, but no action was taken.

The complete resolution endorsing Religious Emphasis week appears elsewhere in today's Daily Nebraskan.

ENGINEERS SELECT THEME FOR DISPLAY

(Continued from Page 1.) Dick Edwards, chairman of window displays; and Edward C. Elliott, in charge of traffic. General committee chairmen who were selected recently are as follows: Jack Hutchins, banquet; Carl Goth, activities; Louis Ethern, field day; John Hossack, program; Joe DeKlotz, convocation; Frank Fawlings, publicity; Bernard Donolan, tickets; Charles DeVore, window display; Marion Ball traffic.

Department chairmen are: Clarence Pedersen, applied mechanics; Albert Molenoor, agricultural engineering; Kenneth Schmidt and Cedric Richards, architectural engineering; George Gates, chemistry; Alden Carlsen, civil; Arnold Coffin, electrical; and Jack Steele, mechanical.

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MISS FEDDE TALKS TO CHARM SCHOOL

Home Ec Head Speaks on Etiquette at Dinner Table.

Miss Fedde, head of the home economics department, in connection with the agricultural college, addressed the regular meeting of the Charm school sponsored by the Big Sister board.

The general topic of Miss Fedde's discussion was concerned with the etiquette at the American dinner table. She explained the general setting of the table and finally the placing of the chairs.

These points were shown by a properly appointed table set before the group. Two girls were seated at this table and one illustrated the correct table manners while the other showed incorrect practices. A third girl acted as waitress, conducting the service properly of placing upon and removing from the table, the chinaware.

As this was being carried out, Miss Fedde explained the reasons for various uses and practices as well as the difference of the use of the fork in England and the United States. She also stressed the important point of the necessity of carrying on only a light and friendly conversation.

These points in etiquette were followed by an explanation of the correct way of introducing people. Actual examples of these definite rules in etiquette were carried out.

Entries for the interfraternity debate tourney will be received at the athletic office until Friday at 5 o'clock.

Miss Faulkner Talks Before Camera Club

Miss Kady Faulkner, instructor in the school of fine arts, discussed portraits in her address before the Lincoln Camera club at Morrill hall Tuesday night.

Comparisons were drawn between paintings and the photographic portraits. Arthur Carlson was appointed chairman to arrange for future meetings.

Official Bulletin

Rifle Club.

There will be a meeting of the men's rifle team and rifle club to organize the rifle team for next year at 5:00 Friday.

Y. W. Activities.

Ag. Freshmen commission will meet in the Home Economics parlors Thursday, March 30 at 12 o'clock. Miss Bernice Miller, secretary of the Y. W. C. A. will speak.

The Study groups conducted by Miss Bernice Miller will not meet on Friday, March 31 and Sunday, April 2.

The Y. W. C. A. cabinet retreat with Paul C. Johnston will be held Saturday, April 1 at Pioneer Park. All cabinet members are requested to meet at Ellen Smith Hall at 3 o'clock.

There will be no social dancing hour in the armory Friday, March 31 because of the Religious Problems meeting.

Mr. Allen K. Foster will speak at the convocation on the Ag. campus Friday, March 31 at 2 o'clock in Ag. hall.

The opening talk and reception for Dr. Allen K. Foster and Mr. Jim Hardwick will be held Friday, March 31 at 7:30 o'clock.

Friday.

Engineers' Week Committee—12:00.

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