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## Why the Pictures?

IN Friday's Daily Nebraskan there appeared an article devoted to an investigation of freshman registration photos and the uses to which they are put. An effort was made to get definite information about the alleged values of the system, with a view to later editorial comparison of the uses the pictures are supposed to have with the uses they actually have.

To understand the reason for this devious and rather extensive activity, it is necessary to know two things: one, the very apparent disregard in which the pictures are invariably held by students, and two, the complete lack of any visible advantage connected with the system.

A freshman, himself strongly disapproving of the process, first brought the matter to our attention by his strenuous grieving. He wanted to know, finally, just why the system had been instituted and what purpose was being served. None of his immediate audience could answer that question, and it soon developed that almost no one paid any attention to the pictures, or took the trouble to be skeptical of their value.

Further questioning revealed that outside the registrar's office the number of people who did know or care anything about the photos—except for indignant freshmen—was very small.

In the registrar's office, however, a statement of the system's alleged purpose was obtained. The photos are taken as a matter of record "to provide the office and the local merchants with some more definite and exact means of identifying university students." This, then, is the broad purpose of the whole system, and it will not escape attention that this purpose is both indefinable and inexplicable.

Even more puzzling does the whole question become when it is remembered that no one has been known, at least in recent years, to make use of the pictures. Quoting the Nebraskan article again, we discover: "Heads of the credit departments of Lincoln's leading stores all replied, when asked, that they had never at any time taken advantage of the existence of a freshman's identification picture."

On the campus itself there is no question of the indifference with which the pictures are regarded. As has been pointed out, "the photos may be easily detached from identification cards, and upperclassmen have no pictures on their cards." It follows then, that for the purpose of identification on the campus—even assuming that such an attempt should be made—the photos are equally without value.

There is, then, a complicated system involved in taking the pictures of freshmen, pasting them on identification cards and personal records—to be

added to at graduation by pasting a "comparative" Cornhusker photo alongside the freshmen pictures—and generally keeping people busy with pictorial records. And all this, "to provide some more definite and exact means of identifying university students!"

The conclusion is inescapable that the system is not working, and serious questions as to its value if it did work could probably be sustained. Even in spite of the extreme vagueness of the purpose, the system cannot be adequately justified. It is complex, expensive, inoperative; these alone are enough to damp the procedure as highly unnecessary.

Because of budget reductions, the library cannot have new books, but because it exists as a system, an unnecessary and costly procedure can be maintained solely that freshmen may experience the distaste of looking at bad pictures of themselves. Anomalous conditions are not difficult to find, but this surpasses them all in mystery.

'Let's Get A Tax.'

A LETTER in this morning's Student Pulse column looks into the merits of the student activity tax and concludes that the alleged disadvantages are far outweighed. Stressing the value of having all students really participating in extra-curricular affairs, J. H. B. concludes that even the malcontents will find themselves enjoying the new arrangement after their interests have been broadened thru the operation of the tax.

It is an effective review our contributor makes, and the spirit of enthusiasm in which it is written should be a bolstering influence for Student Council workers whose concern it will be to secure administrative approval for a "blanket tax."

J. H. B. is already doing good work by merely voicing his attitude and spreading the gospel, presumably, to the ranks of his friends and associates. But he goes even further; he offers his assistance to the council committee working on the tax. With students like this at hand, that committee should have small difficulty in seeing its work thru to a successful conclusion. To organize students—whose purpose might very well be the dissemination of additional information about the tax among students—is as much a part of the council's work as the actual compilation of data.

THE tax plan does have enthusiastic backers. Men and women who realize the merits of the proposal very clearly may be found in nearly every organization, and their energy should be put to work in the serious business of seeing the tax successfully thru its last concentrated stages.

Officially the student body has registered its opinion on the matter and the results are available in the figures of the vote taken last spring. But there remains a surprising number of students who are either indifferent or misinformed about the tax, in spite of the unusual size of the spring poll. To inform these students, to make them "tax conscious," if you please is one of the major remaining problems.

Hand in hand with this project, of course, goes the actual planning of methods to be used in presenting arguments for the tax to the regents. This, however, is largely a matter of executive work, involving detailed discussion and consideration, so it is perhaps best left to the council committee itself.

Summarizing, then, the work facing the council might be roughly divided into two classifications: Organization of forces for making the campus thoroly "tax conscious," and actual formulation of the method to be used in presenting the case for which most of the data has already been collected.

It is a big task, but the objectives toward which it aims is even bigger. No other single thing could so vitalize and rebuild student activities. No other thing could so help the individual students. Like J. H. B., we raise the banners and shout "Let's get a tax!"

Compulsion has frequently been the best thing for us. If students will take the long-run view they will agree with me that in this instance it will be to our advantage and good. I hereby pledge my assistance to the adoption of the blanket tax and in addition to my approval I am ready to engage in any work which I can do to help the council to get recognition from the board of regents. To the Student Council the best of luck. Let's get a tax.

Smoke—and Fire.

TO THE EDITOR: Nebraska received a self-inflicted "blackeye" last Mayday when thirteen so-called "bigshots" were tumbled to the turf. Whether the body-politic on our campus realizes it now or not is still a matter of question but the truth will out, no matter.

The innocents of the University of Nebraska have a glorious past, one that any senior honorary society should be proud to possess. But the last two years have so spotted that enviable reputation that only two courses can be pursued with dignity: revolution or destruction.

The original purpose of the organization was to choose those men each year that had in themselves those innate characteristics of leadership and accomplishment. He wins the honor is if a student can gain, by hard work and dogged perseverance, the distinction of being Innocent material! Ah—but that is a thing of

history. Corrupt politics now has the Innocent Society under its mailed fist with the aim in view of manufacturing innocents out of bird seed.

Nebraskans should feel sorry for themselves for allowing their name to be dragged to the muck with a society that should represent the best of our university. An honorary society should in itself imply impartiality and fair play. But in this instance such is not the case. At the present time it is just another political group using under-handed methods to rob Nebraska university of one more glorious tradition.

AG STUDENTS ENTERTAINED

Faculty Reception Officially Opens Social Season On Campus.

Nearly five hundred people were present Saturday night at the reception given students by the Ag college faculty, according to a report given by members of the committee in charge. The faculty reception, which occurred at the student activities building on the Ag campus, officially opens the social season for agricultural college students.

University officials in the receiving line, according to the report, were Chancellor and Mrs. E. A. Burnett, Dean and Mrs. W. W. Burr, Dean T. J. Thompson, Dean Amanda Heppner, Miss Florence McGarhey, Coach Dana Bible, and Coach Henry Schulte.

According to D. B. Whelan, reception committee member, the major part of the program consisted of games and dancing. Special entertainment was provided for those who did not care to dance. A grand march led by Dean and Mrs. Burr was the big event of the evening. Lunch was served at the close of the entertainment.

## Ag College

By Carlyle Hodgkin

FARMERS BEWARE.

A farmer in Illinois, pestered by chicken thieves, rigged up a device to get rid of them. He put a gun in the hen house and tied a string to the trigger so that the thief would be likely to run into the string.

Unhappily, at a time when the farmer was directly in front of the gun, an old hen flew into the string and pulled the trigger. The farmer was taken to the hospital.

SPIRIT GROWS BY ACTION.

Last week at Ag club's first meeting a resolution was passed to work with the Daily Nebraskan in putting on a subscription drive on the Ag campus. The idea was suggested by the Nebraskan's business staff, and the club members liked it.

Monday morning the campaign begins. In the course of the drive every Ag student and every faculty member will be offered an opportunity to subscribe to the student daily. The campaign, if successful, will be profitable to the club, and the prizes offered by the Nebraskan staff for high individuals in the campus-wide subscription drive also hold good for students working on Ag Campus.

To facilitate the most complete coverage of the campus, the club, according to John Loewenstein, president, has set up special machinery for the job. Three teams were organized with Arthur Peterson, Willard Waldo, and William Donahue as the team captains. Certain of the buildings on the campus have been allotted to each team to contact both the faculty members there and the students having classes in those buildings. The campaign bids fair to be thorough.

This sales campaign, an entirely new activity for Ag club, comes at a most opportune time. Clubs, organizations and the like exist for one purpose: to carry out some function or activity. Without activities to perform, any sort of an organization soon atrophies and dies. Whatever spark of spirit and enthusiasm an organization may have grows and develops by use, by activity. That is why this new undertaking comes at an opportune time.

Right now at the beginning of the year Ag club has, if it ever will have, an element of pep, a certain restlessness to be up and doing something. The subscription drive gives it something to do. In addition to being a profitable undertaking in a year when profitable undertakings promise to be rare, the subscription campaign should be very valuable to the club as a means to bring it to life, getting it into action, getting it going.

Wible is Master of Arts.

Prof. C. L. Wible, assistant professor of pharmacognosy, was granted his master of art's degree from the University of Arizona at the close of the summer session.

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"TURN BACK THE CLOCK"

To be fully appreciated this picture must be seen from the beginning. Features 1:10, 3:45, 5:15, 7:35, 10:—

## YWCA STAFF SCHEDULE FOR YEAR ANNOUNCED

(Continued from Page 1.)

Boos as chairman plans to meet Tuesday at 4 o'clock. Donna Davis and her Church Relations group are to hold their meetings Wednesday at 5 o'clock.

The finance staff, Bash Perkins, chairman, will meet Wednesday at 5 o'clock. Violet Cross is to have charge of the publicity staff which meets on Wednesday at 5 o'clock. Helen Lutz will conduct the social staff at 5 o'clock on Monday. Elaine Fontein and her group will make plans for vespers on Tuesday at 4 o'clock.

Genevieve Jeffries will conduct the Ag staff on Thursday at 5 o'clock while Dorothy Cathers has Sophomore commission Friday at 4 o'clock. The Upperclass commission under the guidance of Virginia McBride will meet Thursday at 5 o'clock. At 5 o'clock, the program and office group under Louise Hossack will meet. Roberta Coffee and Breta Peterson have charge of the international staff meeting 5 o'clock on Thursday. On Friday from 7 to 8:30 Helen Lutz plans to conduct the social dancing class.

Denice Green, chairman of the

postor committee, has not yet scheduled her staff meetings. Ruth Cheney will have the freshmen cabinet.

## Philosophy Instructors Attend Chicago Meeting

Dr. E. L. Hinman and Dr. O. K. Bouwsma, of the philosophy department of the university attended the triennial meeting of the American Philosophy Association, which was held in Chicago, Sept. 7 to 9.

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