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## A One House Legislature.

DEMOCRACY in government is impossible. But intelligent people have within their power the ability to make democratic forms of government more democratic in theory and far more intelligent and effective in practice by reforming present institutions of government.

To the hundreds of people gathered together Thursday afternoon, the plea was probably not a new one. But Senator George W. Norris went a step further than his less worthy compatriots and outlined a plan whereby citizens of this state could actually accomplish what others talk about.

This, in fact, is what Mr. Norris attempted to explain in a comprehensive address entitled, "The Model Legislature."

Briefly the unicameral, or one house legislature is a change in form of state government. It involves nothing complicated nor difficult to understand. Its obvious purpose is to eliminate the present legislative set-up in Nebraska, and put in its place a better form of government.

The one house legislature is merely a scheme whereby the legislative authority will be embodied in a legislature consisting of one house. The membership of this body will not be less than thirty nor more than fifty, as the legislature may decide. Yearly salaries would be drawn from a fund of \$50,000, to be divided equally among the number of members in the legislature. Members of the legislature would be elected on a non-partisan ballot, for a two year term of office.

Such is the machinery of the unicameral legislature as outlined by Senator Norris. According to the speaker's discussion the adoption of the one house legislature should accomplish the following things:

1. Save the taxpayers' money, by eliminating the expensive machinery necessary to operate a two house system.
2. It would go far toward the re-establishment of a democratic form of government, since the present system, while large in numbers, does not represent the best interests of the citizenry, but ultimately the will of party machines and powerful lobbies.
3. It would make it more difficult for dishonest men to get in office, and make it more difficult for dishonest men to retain office. In support of this point Senator Norris states that the higher salaries and a non-partisan ballot should attract intelligent and respected citizens of the state to the legislature. On the other hand, he pointed out, the smallness of the one house would make each legislator's actions known to the public, and as such dishonest men would be driven from office.
4. The smallness of the legislature would give the honest legislator an opportunity to have his record known to the people, and it would make it possible for the people of the state to readily ascertain and comprehend the record of the members of the legislature.

Senator Norris' eleven years of service in the senate has not been without the fruits of experience. He admits that the ideal situation is impossible.

Said he: "There would, of course, always be the possibility of dishonest men getting into office. There would be a possibility of dishonest men who were in office deceiving the people. But these possibilities would be very much minimized. Nothing has ever been said that is truer than the saying that 'Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.'"

Senator Norris' proposal, however, is of unquestionable merit. Indeed it should eliminate, for the most part, the damning evils of our present system of state government. The clumsy check and balance system has outgrown its usefulness, as was indicated by the speaker's clear explanation of the actual conference committee's work, when the senate and the house disagree.

## The Student Pulse

Brief, concise, contributions pertinent to matters of student life and the university are welcomed by this department, under the usual restrictions of sound newspaper practice, which excludes all libelous matter and personal attacks. Letters accepted do not necessarily indicate the editorial policy of this paper.

## We Think So Too.

TO THE EDITOR:  
During the past few weeks while campus big shots and would-be greats have been haggling over student government, what it is, and what it ought to be things of general cultural interest to the state have been going on within the university campus. Of much more lasting importance to the institution than school politics is the development of the series of Sunday afternoon concerts and convocations by the administration.

For quite some time there has been a growing feeling of discontent on the part of that minority of the student body which is interested in what

transpires outside of the campus. The cause of this disgruntled attitude among that minority has been the lack of convocations and convocation speakers worth listening to. At most schools in the United States convocations with famous speakers, musicians, etc., are common, and are counted in as a regular part of the student program. The University of Nebraska schedule has existed devoid of such a characteristic necessity, and that condition has stood and still stands in urgent need of a remedy.

With the recent arrangement made by the University for the appearance of Lorado Taft, world-renowned sculptor, next Tuesday in the Temple building, the administration has come through with a bit of commendable action, and the situation is taking a decided turn for the better, what with the announcement that a series of such programs is to take place in the future.

Another commendable arrangement recently made is that calling for a series of coliseum Sunday afternoon concerts with student groups offering entertainment. The first was the presentation of "The Messiah" in December by the University Chorus. Next came the R. O. T. C. concert in January; the Glee club will present its program this next Sunday; and in March the University Symphony orchestra is to complete the series with a public appearance. An average of 5,000 people attend these affairs. Therefore the University is placed in a very good light.

Invitations are sent throughout the state to school children. These children are future students of the University of Nebraska, and the emphasis of cultural activities is bound to arouse their interest in them and cause them to take part when they get in school here. This concert arrangement is a far-sighted one. It is the belief and aim of the administration that as much emphasis should be placed on the cultural groups and their activities as is placed on athletics, particularly football, at present.

Students benefit also, due to the fact that they are afforded the opportunity of appreciating the accomplishments of their fellows.

Next Tuesday when Taft is here I hope that students will turn out as well as they did for the Phyllis Bentley address on Charter Day. One thousand five hundred students were there while the usual Temple convocation throng is sufficiently large to fill four rows. When the students turned out for the Charter Day speech they showed that they are interested in quality programs. Now it is the administration's turn to offer a series of convocations deserving of student attention and attendance. According to all appearances it is complying, and is to be commended. W. M. B.

## Contemporary Comment

### Maybe The CWA Would Help.

THE poor-but-proud family, the virtuous-thought-tempted working girl, and the lad who is bound to rise through pluck and luck, are firmly established in the scheme of American hero-worship.

And there is another character who has long since proven his nobility in the eyes of men: the boy who works his way through college.

So much poetry has been wrought in praise of this last character that we should like to say a word, if only for the sake of variety and completeness, on some of the less Horatio-Algerish aspects of the situation.

Frequently we hear tales of a student who is going to college, living in a basement, half-starving to death, and trying to support a sister and aged mother on the \$2.50 a week he gets stoking a furnace. A short time ago there appeared an account of a student here at Oregon who had subsisted for some time on a diet of macaroni alone. And then there was the case last year of a girl attending U. C. L. A. while living in a make-shift shanty under a nearby bridge. She had been arrested on the charge of theft of some blankets and other small articles.

Such spartan courage, such incredible tenacity, and such overwhelming intellectualism to the point of starving during the process of acquiring an education are commendable displays of perseverance. But they also are indications of gross irrationality and a reckless disregard of health. When conditions exist that will not allow a student proper food and livable quarters, his attendance at the University is so foolish as to almost eliminate him from eligibility to sympathy.

Every year countless young men and women find their finances depleted and are forced to divide their period of education into two or more parts. The worth of education is not to be questioned, but a short delay in the completion of a college course, even the entire omission of higher education, is not fatal.

Determination to get a college education is, of course, to be praised, but there are limits past which such courage becomes silly. The penniless student who subjects himself to such privations through a college course is commendable for his endeavor but ridiculous for his lack of judgment. —Oregon Emerald.

### Princeton Scrapes Off the Moss.

ONE ARE the pleasant days when colleges and universities of the east can rest smugly on memories of past laurels and ivy-covered tradition while other institutions of higher learning entertain progressive and radical academic trends. The Daily Princetonian recognizes the need for educational innovations in rock-ribbed conservative institutions in an editorial attacking the outworn academic system at Princeton.

Students have ceased to attend college for the purpose of acquiring a charming broad A'd accent, an athletic letter or the advantages of exclusive club life. Sanity, practicability, and awareness of the problems facing students after graduation are becoming the necessary factors in college training.

As outmoded universities realize the inadequacy of their educational set-up they must radically change their policies. They must strenuously overhaul their curricula and modernize such relics as the four course plan or the preceptorial plan as pursued at Princeton. They must keep in step with the progress of their contemporaries by recognizing that educational institutions should never stand still but should lead the race for progressive thought. —Wisconsin Cardinal.

Milk Strike Rioters Quelled By Police Gas-Headline. And we thought that was the special function of the politician.

In line with the policy of giving more work to the unemployed, why not equip the CWA with spoons instead of shovels.

The advance in the price of cigarettes just means that more money will be going up in smoke. During this frigid weather activities of the nudist colonies seem to be clad in secrecy.

## METHODIST STUDENTS TO HEAR DR. MURDICK

### 'The Bible in a Critical Age' Is First of a Series of Talks.

Beginning a series of talks on "Religion for the Inquiring Mind," Dr. P. H. Murdick, minister of the Trinity Methodist church, will speak at an afternoon tea, sponsored by the Methodist Student Council, at 4 p. m. Sunday afternoon, Feb. 25, in the Wesley Foundation.

Dr. Murdick has entitled his first talk of this series "The Bible in a Critical Age." The topics of the following talks in the series are: March 4, "Prayer in the Atmosphere of Modern Science;" March 11, "Is Christianity the Solution for Social and Economic Problems?" and March 18, "Who, Then, is a Christian?"

Owing to a lack of sufficient opportunity for religious emphasis, the Methodist student council is sponsoring this series of talks in order to provide a means of emphasizing religion in the minds of the students of this university. The council has sponsored other similar talks and plans are made for another series in the near future. It is emphasized that not only Methodist students, but all students who are interested are welcome to attend these talks by Dr. Murdick.

Dr. Murdick is especially fitted for this type of work, having lectured for four weeks, this past summer, at the summer school of ministerial training on a similar subject. He has also lectured in other parts of the country.

A special committee of the council has been appointed and will serve the tea that afternoon.

## UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TAKE PART IN DRAMA

### Epworth Players to Present Religious Production Sunday Night.

Nearly two dozen university students will have parts in a religious drama to be presented at the Epworth Methodist church Sunday night, Feb. 25, Irene Leech, Ag college sophomore, a n n o u n c e d Thursday. The play is sponsored by the Epworth players, most of whom are students, Miss Leech said.

Louise Bernhardt, home economics senior, will play the leading role in the play Sunday night. The title of the production, Miss Leech said, is "The Slave Maid of Israel." Mrs. Claud Johnston, Lincoln, who has studied dramatics under Herbert Yenne, university players co-director, has had charge of training for the production.

The Epworth players, Miss Leech said, won favorable recognition when they presented a religious drama last year, and the production Sunday night is expected to again draw a large attendance. The play, she said, will probably be presented in four of five churches during this season.

Other university students who will play important roles in the biblical drama are Ernest Metzger, Wesleyan, who will play the leading male role; Helen Forburger, junior; James Warner, junior; Carl Beadles, junior; Dale Meham, junior; Max McCamley, freshman; and Wesley Dunn, junior, Carlyle Hodgkin, senior.

## BAPTISTS HEAR PATTERSON

### 'Religion and Mysticism' Is Subject for Sunday Noon Lecture.

Dr. C. H. Patterson will discuss "Religion and Mysticism" in the University class at the First Baptist church, Sunday, Feb. 25, at 12 o'clock noon.

At the 6:30 p. m. young people's meeting "Leisure and Reading" is the subject to be discussed. Helen McCaughey will speak upon "Poetry." Virginia Larson on "Biography." Mary McCall on "Religious Books." Claire Rhodes on "Fiction," and Vincent Broady on Magazines.

A pre-Easter study group will meet at the Baptist student house, 1440 "Q" st., each Tuesday night until Easter. Miss Grace Spacht is conducting the class.

## Phi Tau Theta Sponsors Party Saturday Evening

Phi Tau Theta, Methodist men's fraternity, will entertain at a party at the Wesley Foundation Parsonage, Saturday evening, Feb. 24, at 8:00. Ralph Copenhaver is in charge of the entertainment which will be puzzles and games. Chaplains for the party are Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Fawell.

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## OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Washington Party.  
A Washington party will be sponsored by the social staff of the Y. W. C. A. at Memorial hall Friday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p. m. The regular instruction will be given from 7 to 7:30 under the direction of Miss Bernice Miller.

PALLADIAN SOCIETY.  
The Palladian Literary Society will hold its annual Boys Program, Feb. 23. Clifford Domingo will have charge of the program.

SIGMA UPSILON TO MEET.  
Sigma Upsilon, honorary literary group will meet at the home of Jake Gable, 2326 Garfield, Sunday night for a business meeting. Several manuscripts will be considered by the club at the meeting.

Interest Group Leaders.  
Y. W. C. A. Interest Group Leaders will hold their meeting at 4 o'clock in Ellen Smith Hall, Janet

Vleck will lead the discussion and Violet Cross will preside at the meeting.

## REGISTRATION OF ENGINEERS TOPIC AT ANNUAL EVENT

(Continued from Page 1).  
arranged for wives of engineers. As an incentive for engineering students to attend the roundup it was announced that they would not have to pay the registration fee charged the other delegates. The purchase of a banquet ticket is optional.

The last roundup held in Lincoln was very successful with 328 engineers attending, according to J. W. Haney, program chairman. This was two years ago. The event is sponsored by four co-operating groups, the Grand Island Engineers' club, the Engineers' club of Omaha, the Engineers' club of Lincoln and the college of engineering here. The annual meeting alternates among these three cities.

## Ruth Larson Will Talk Before Geography Club

Miss Ruth Larson, graduate student, will address the regular meet-

ing of the Geography club at a luncheon this noon at the Lindell hotel. The topic of her talk will be "Life and Customs of the People in India." Miss Larson spent some years as a missionary in India before enrolling at the university.

N. C. STATE.  
By defeating the debaters of Bates college before the annual convention of the National Association of Teachers of Speech, the State debating team has laid claim to national and international foreign honors.

The college of education at Ohio State university has just released an honor list of upperclassmen which includes 352 students who have made three points out of a possible four.

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