

# THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

Official Student Newspaper of the University of Nebraska

VOL. XXXV—NO. 185.

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1936.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

## PLAYERS STAGE SHAKESPEARE'S DRAMA MONDAY

Studio Theater to Present Elizabethan Plays Thruout Week.

By WILLARD BURNEY.

All the simplicity of the traditional Elizabethan theater unfolded within the muralled walls of the Temple studio Monday evening as the Studio Players opened with "The Merchant of Venice," the first of the series of Shakespearean plays to be presented throughout the week. Last night's performance marked the opening of the Shakespearean Festival, which if current receptions prove worthy, will be inaugurated as an annual affair.

Hart Jenks, playing the part of the rich miser, Shylock, returned to the Temple stage for the second time this year, having recently starred as Cyrano in the University Players' final production of the year. Jenks, whose capabilities as a Shakespearean player have been heralded all over the nation was constantly good, and provided the necessary leadership for the production of such a dramatic masterpiece.

**Work Commendable.**  
Lee Young, as Bassanio, turned in an especially commendable portrayal of the youthful courtier of Portia. Margaret Straub, June Butler, and Polly Gellatly, feminine leads in the production, also did extremely commendable work. In all, the performance was all that could be hoped for in the way of Shakespearean productions by a university cast. With the exception of a few noticeable defects in lines, the play ran through with all the smoothness of a professional production.

**"Macbeth" Opens.**  
Tonight the players will open with the second production of their series.

## JOURNALISM CLASS STAGES RADIO NEWS BROADCAST TONIGHT

Public Invited to Attend Dramatized Program in Social Science.

All university students are invited and urged to attend the "March of Time" mock radio broadcast which will be staged by students of newspaper editing class of the school of journalism tonight at 7:30 o'clock.

This presentation of the news of the week in dramatized form is a program that has been given each week throughout the semester in the classroom. This, however, is its first public appearance as a school entertainment.

The cast of the program will be composed of Dorothy Bentz, Barbara Callahan, Eleanor Clizbe, Arnold Levin, William Kaiser, Sancha Kilbourne, Grant Parr, George Pipal, John Robinson, Ralph Reed, Johnston Snipes and Clarence Summers. The program will be divided into three 20 minute broadcasts over a loudspeaker system.

**WAITE ENTERS U. S. GEOLOGICAL SERVICE**

Herbert Waite is leaving the water survey of the conservation and survey division at the end of the month for employment by the U. S. geological survey. He will have charge of certain investigations along the Rio Grande valley in Colorado and New Mexico.

## SPANISH CLUB TO PRESENT COMEDY

Language Students Give Last Program.

The Spanish club of the university in celebration of "El Dia de la Raza" will present its final program Thursday evening, April 30 from 7:30 to 9:30 o'clock in social science auditorium.

Students of the university will present the comedy "Zaragueta" in Spanish. A moving picture of Mexico will be presented by Ray Willey of Fairbury who will also tell of life in the American republic. Miss Emma Vogel will play several Spanish-American songs on the accordion.

The program is open to the public and all interested in Spanish and in Mexico are invited to attend.

## UNION BUILDING CHANGES BETTER SAYS IRVING HILL

Council President Denies Rumors of Project's Demise.

Irving Hill, president of the student council, spiked rumors today that the Union building project is dead and without hope. "Changes are better than ever now for a government allotment," stated Mr. Hill.

Congress has in committee a new bill for PWA appropriations totaling over \$700,000,000. In the bill as it now stands is included an earmarked appropriation for the Union building which means if the bill passes in its present form, actual construction can begin before the next school year.

The project has been held up in the PWA legal counsel was throughly investigating the bond issue. Last week the decision was made that the bond issue is unquestionably legal. The project was given full authorization.

In order to quell some of the rumors which have been circulating that there is no hope of realizing a Union, Chancellor Burnett has promised to make a public statement on Wednesday defining the present status and condition of Union plans and setting forth the prospects exactly. The statement will be published in the Daily Nebraskan on Thursday.

Definitely encouraged by these enthusiastic reports the student union committee has been called for a meeting this afternoon at 3 o'clock in the student council rooms at University hall. At the meeting plans will be made for the collection of the pledges.

"All members of the student body interested in expressing opinions on the campaign are invited to meet with the committee," stated Mr. Hill.

## FRANTZ PRAISES WORK OF BOSWELL

Professor Talks at Library Association Dinner on Biography

An appreciation of the character and works of James Boswell was given by Prof. Ray W. Frantz of the university English department at a dinner of the Lincoln chapter of the American Library association Sunday evening at the Cornhusker hotel. Professor Frantz outlined Boswell's life in connection with the writing of his great biography, "The Life of Johnson."

He portrayed very vividly the interesting personality of Johnson, and showed his chief manner of writing to be that of biography. The meeting was the third and last of the year for the Lincoln chapter. Fifty-six were present. Miss Clara Craig, reference librarian at the University of Nebraska, was chairman for the year, and presided at the dinner. Election of officers resulted in Miss Nellie Carey, secretary of Nebraska Public Library commission, as chairman for the coming year.

## STEPANEK TALKS AT PBK INITIATION BANQUET TONIGHT

Scholastic Honorary Will Take In Thirty Members.

Phi Beta Kappa, honorary scholastic society, will honor thirty recently elected members tonight, at an initiation and banquet at the University club.

The speaker of the evening, Prof. Orin Stepanek of the University will talk on "Shine, Pershing Republic." Irving Hill of Lincoln will give the student response. The new president, Dr. Louise Pound of the English department will be introduced.

A musical program by Marcella Lehl, soprano, and James Fitch, baritone, accompanied by John Erickson, will be presented. In charge of the initiation are Dr. Pool, chairman of the department of botany; Mrs. A. W. Williams, secretary; Dr. James R. Wadsworth, of the Romance languages department, treasurer; Prof. Clifford M. Hicks, of the college of business administration, historian; and Dr. A. R. Congdon of teachers college.

The new members will be: Margorie Barg, Lincoln; Henry Broady, Plains, Kansas; Elizabeth Bushee, Lincoln; Evelyn Diamond, Lincoln; Mrs. Fern Fowle, Pueblo, Colo.; Hester Freeman, Lincoln; Henry Grabow, Omaha; James Held, Scottsbluff; Lester Hicks, Meadow Grove; Irving Hill, Lincoln; Marion Jackson, York; Margaret Jackson, Lincoln; Helen Jorgensen, Soria, S. D.; Richard Krebs, Lincoln; Orva Lewis, Mo. Valley, Ia.; Anna Laurie McCall, Omaha; James Marvin, Lincoln; Jackson Miers, Seward; Jay Mickel, Lincoln; Eleanor Neale, Ft. Calhoun; Hildegard Persson, Kingsburg, Cal.; Ada Marie Petrea, Pawnee City; Lois Pierson, Lincoln; Irene Remmers, Firth; Mrs. Ida Samuelson, Pierce; Carlos Sorensen, Broken Bow; Delores Theobald, Wainwright; Gladys Todd, Lincoln; Mrs. Merle Van Derhock, Lincoln; David Warner, Dakota City.

Prof. Clifford M. Hicks of the college of business administration, secretary of the local chapter, announced that reservations for the dinner will be taken by him until noon Tuesday.

## ENGINEERS SEE SLIDES OF DAM AT MEETING

Newmyer, Claussen Explain Pictures Wednesday Evening.

Slides of the Coolidge dam, located in southeastern Arizona, will be shown to members of the American Society of Civil Engineers at a meeting Wednesday, April 29 in M. A. 102. Final plans for Engineers Night will also be made.

Lowell Newmyer and Elmer Claussen, civil engineering students, will explain the slides which were furnished thru the courtesy of the national A. S. C. E. organization.

Coolidge dam, named after the president of the United States, is a multiple dome dam across the Gila river near the Arizona-Mexico border. It has the distinction of being the first of a new type of concrete dam, the engineers explained. The diversion dams and main canals were constructed as part of a flood water project, and it was not until 1924 that the construction of a storage dam was authorized by the congress of the United States.

The cost of the project was not to exceed 5 1/2 million dollars, which amount was to include all preliminary expenses such as the reconstruction of 20 miles of standard gauge railroad and 12 miles of highway, the purchase of 35,000 acres of land under the reservoir, the installation of 20 miles of power lines, and other contingent expenses.

# No Inquest Made in Campus Shooting; Nebraskan Staff Finds Missing Poison Flask

Cyanide Content in Opened Bottle Found Near University Hall.

Shrouded in mystery when it passed from the picture after the attack on Dr. Harry Kurz by Instructor J. P. Weller, the "missing poison bottle" which Dr. Kurz told police was in the hand of his assailant was discovered late Monday afternoon by members of the Daily Nebraskan staff, who were searching for clues to reconstruct the tragedy.

Serving as a final connecting link for the route Weller took on leaving University hall, the nearly empty poison bottle, found flung in the bushes outside the west entrance to the building, showed positive tests of cyanide when examined by a Lincoln pharmacist.

Contained in an innocent-looking mouth wash bottle, the few remaining drops of amber liquid were declared to be a solution of soluble cyanide. That the bottle had been thrown there recently was evidenced by the new label, unsoiled by Sunday's rains; that it had been recently filled was proven by the strong odor of mouth wash on the cap, still unpenetrated by the acid smell of the poison.

Cap of the bottle was found on the ground some feet from the container, which was caught in the lower branches of a bush. That he drank part or all of its contents (Continued on Page 4).

## INTER-CLUB COUNCIL TO AID ORGANIZATION ALL BARB FRESHMEN

Members to Participate in Freshman Day in September.

Barb Inter-Club Council will meet Tuesday evening, April 28, at 7:15 in U hall, room 8, for election of officers, to hear a report of the All Barb banquet, and to make plans for coordinating its activities with the administration on Freshman Day next fall for the purpose of giving out information for the organization of all unaffiliated students on the campus.

Six offices are to be filled and it is urged that all men eligible be present since it is necessary that there be a large turnout if the election is to be representative. New officers will take office tonight.

## DELTA SIGMA PI TO INITIATE TONIGHT

Commerce Groups Plan Joint Picnic Friday.

Delta Sigma Pi, men's professional commercial fraternity, will give a dinner at 6 o'clock this evening at the Lincoln hotel for pledges. Initiation ceremonies will be held May 10.

## MRS. MORRISON TO PRESENT READINGS

Mrs. Bess Gearhart Morrison will give a reading, "The Shadings of the Years," in costume and with musical accompaniment, in the club room of the University Episcopal church Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

## PRINCIPALS IN CAMPUS TRAGEDY



From The Lincoln Journal. PROF. J. P. WELLER. From The Lincoln Journal. DR. HARRY KURZ.

## An Editorial Word on The Weller-Kurz Tragedy.

STARK tragedy was enacted on the University campus yesterday morning. One professor attempted to kill another and finally committed suicide himself. It is as one individual acting against another; one individual trying to eradicate by some means the jumbblings of a distracted mind.

Newspapers throughout the entire United States and more particularly throughout the state of Nebraska will give the tragedy great play in their columns. No doubt the drama justifies headlines, but it does not justify misinterpretation. Already it has been rumored that such an action was the result of a general undercurrent of ill-feeling on the part of members of the University staff. Such statements as this are maliciously untrue.

Why people do certain acts; why they commit certain deeds is often beyond the scope of human understanding. Conflicting emotions play a part in every man's life. The execution of a single individual's emotion does not accurately portray the emotions of other people in the same surroundings.

Rather than becoming hasty in the condemnation of any man, it would be best to ascertain all the facts. Most of these are beyond our reach, but we do know that Professor Weller cannot be judged in the same light as other men. His parents were both invalid, bed-ridden since his childhood, adding to his grief when his father passed away last year. He had always lived alone, found few opportunities for associations, and centered his whole life in his profession. The nervous tension resulting from the loss of his position and prestige is certainly responsible in part for the actions of Professor Weller.

The mind is a peculiar instrument, shaped and formed by many complex considerations. It is not the position of humanity to pass final judgment upon humanity. Humanity may only interpret, reason and grope for causes but these causes as a rule can only be found insofar as the particular weaknesses assert themselves in the character of those doing the interpreting. Thus such diversions from normality should cause sympathy, if only it is to sympathize and understand one's self. Sanity is merely a borderline condition. Digression from it is almost a regular occurrence by the perfectly normal. But sometimes individuals are unfortunate enough in these "temporary departures", with which each and everyone is endowed, to take tragic avenues of escape from life's burdens.

The Nebraskan's main concern is with the people outside the University. They should view the affair as one likely to occur any place, where individuals come in contact with each other. No significance beyond the obvious facts should be intruded by way of false interpretation. Classes continued in spite of the upheaval. It is the Nebraskan's sincere hope that these people will form their judgments, not from mishaps and offenses quite out of the ordinary, but from the sentiments and fervent desires of the best and wisest of our group.

To outsiders we issue this statement of Piusal's: "It is of dangerous consequence to represent to man how near he is to the level of beasts, without showing him at the same time his greatness. It is very beneficial that the attainment of man be recognized."

IRWIN RYAN.

## FLAG SALUTING COURSES DEGRADE OUR INSTITUTIONS

It is becoming quite impossible to look upon many of our schools as educational institutions at all. Prof. Lane W. Lancaster told the Nebraska History Teachers at their association convention meeting at the University club Saturday morning. Schools in many parts of the country are setting aside a part of a crowded schedule to give instruction in such matters as thrift, the effect of alcohol and tobacco tree planting, the salute to the flag, and even kindness to dumb animals, Professor Lancaster said.

Discussing the responsibility of the social studies teacher Professor Lancaster declared that the position of the social studies teacher is the same as that of other teachers. It does us all good to pause occasionally and remember that we are public servants and are committed by those who employ us to the task of preserving what remains of our tradition, he commented.

The danger shown by a large number of organizations and persons is that of telling us what we ought to be about. One grim result is that education is regarded as a science.

"Far from being axiomatic," he continued, "is the suggestion that more instruction in the social sciences will create a better social order. From this arises the belief that our traditional political machinery is unable to cope with the problems thrown up in a period of confusion such as this."

Professor Lancaster told of another school of advisers which assures that the chief function of social study is to turn out better

## Funeral Arrangements for Mr. J. P. Weller to Be Announced Today.

John P. Weller, 40, instructor in the romance language department of the university, left his 8 o'clock class in University hall yesterday morning, stepped into the hall to fire two revolver shots at his superior, Dr. Harry Kurz, then ended his own life on the plot of ground east of the campus studio. Kurz, shot in the right wrist, was not seriously hurt.

County Attorney Max Towle said there would be no inquest in the death of Weller.

Funeral arrangements will be announced sometime today. The body is at Castle, Roper and Matthews.

Mr. Weller, whom the regents recently had given a leave of absence without permission to return, had made previous threats upon the life of Dr. Kurz, the chairman of the romance language department said.

The alleged motive of the shooting was declared to be a faculty dispute. Mr. Weller, who had often differed with Dr. Kurz had lobbied in the last session of the legislature for a bill that would remove Kurz from chairmanship of the romance department by consolidating it with the German department headed by Dr. J. E. A. Alexis.

After excusing himself from his (Continued on Page 4).

## DAVE BERNSTEIN WINS FIRST PLACE IN IOWA RIFLE COMPETITION

Nebraska Pershing Riflemen Bow to Minnesota in Unit Matches.

David Bernstein was winner of the sophomore individual rifle competition at the Pershing Rifle drill meet held Saturday in Iowa City, in which three colleges competed.

Grant Lemmon placed second in the sophomore division, and Louis Bushman took third place in the freshman competition. The Nebraska platoon won second place in the platoon competition, bowing to the unit from Minnesota.

A regimental assembly of the national and chapter officers of the organization officially opened the meet on Saturday morning. The first shoulder-to-shoulder rifle match ever scheduled at these annual meets was called off as several of the Iowa members were confined to the hospital.

**Informal Luncheon**  
The dining room of the Iowa university Student Union building was the scene of the informal luncheon at which the Iowa officers were hosts to the visiting officers.

The freshman and sophomore individual competitions began the afternoon activities. A regimental review and personal inspection of the ranks by two Iowa army officers followed the individual competes.

**Platoon Competition.**  
The feature and closing event of the meet was the platoon competition won by Minnesota. The two army officers acted as judges for all the competitive events.

Awards and announcements of victors of the meet were not made until the dance which was held in honor of the visiting Pershing Riflemen. The Iowa crack squad gave an exhibition during the intermission.

Approximately 125 members from Universities of Iowa, Nebraska and Minnesota, all members of the second regiment, attended the meet. Thirty-seven students from Nebraska traveled to Iowa City to participate.

## VALENTINO TO TEACH STUDENTS TANGO.

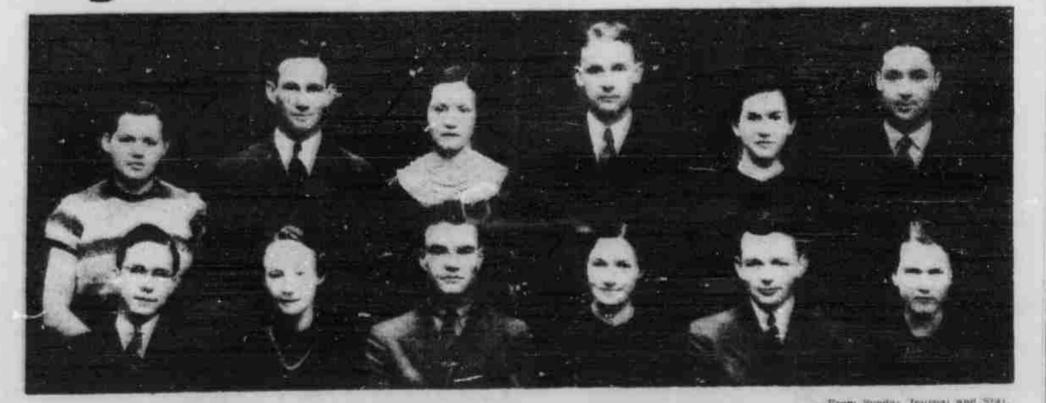
Professional Dancer Gives Instruction to University Classes.

Instruction in the tango, Spanish dance, will be given tonight under the auspices of the Women's Athletic association. Senior Valentino, assisted by Miss Claudia Moore, dancing instructor in the physical education department, will hold the class in Grant Memorial hall from 7 to 8 o'clock.

Valentino is a professional dancer from California, enroute to the east. Monday he instructed several classes in the women's physical education department. Both men and women are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to learn the popular dance. Dates are not obligatory.

Admission of 25 cents each or 50 cents a couple will be charged students attending the tango class. Women should wear full skirts and flat-heeled shoes. Miss Moore emphasized, in order to learn the dance most easily,

# Work Progresses on Ag College's Big Event--Farmer's Fair, May 9



Members of the 1936 Farmers Fair Board who control arrangements for the state-wide agricultural celebration that centers on the Ag campus May 9 are: Backrow, junior board: Raymond Hilton, Darrell Bauder, Elsie Buymann, LeRoy Hansch, Elinor McFadden, and Clyde White; front row, senior board: Al Pearl, Janice Campbell, Burr Ross, manager, Katherine Jones, Paul Pierce, and Ruth Henderson.