

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

THIRTY-SEVENTH YEAR

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Campus Candor

By
Harold Niemann



THE MARTYR OF THE POINT SYSTEM

Four years ago a smiling, black-haired young man left the hills of Hartington, the home of newspaper men, to become a journalist. This popular, nonchalant young man had had his share of experience. He had worked behind the plow; he had a fundamental knowledge of the functions of a newspaper.

This young man was Willard Burney, the "popular young first semester senior in journalism college" who is spoken of in the current issue of the *Alumnus*. And when he saw the greener field on the side of the fence opposite the school of journalism, of arts and science college fame, he set out for them. Because of his popularity and his knowledge of journalism, he found his own fields, went to them, and is making a success of himself.

Caught in a Taught Line. Aitho we are anxious to watch the success of anyone with a stew of arts and science knowledge, Willard Burney's case has created some new thought in a different light. The "tightening up along the entire line of education" caught Burney and others of us. But Willard was an innocent, a Daily Nebraskan managing editor, Sigma Delta Chi president, Corn Gob president, student rally head, Student Union Board of Control member, and many other minor things. Willard was an activity man who was buried so deep with important campus positions that one wonders how he withstood the ordeal physically.

He Was Only Human. Now, and in years to come, we will think of Willard Burney as somewhat of a martyr on this campus. The new deal activity man Burney, finally showed other members of extra-curricular associations that one man wasn't capable of doing everything. For that reason, then, the innocents are undertaking to establish a point system in activities similar to that which women of this campus have at the present time.

The innocents can well afford to attempt something constructive such as this. Their attempts to become nationally recognized into affiliation with the Blue Key, national senior men's honorary, have been futile partially on this account. To become an innocent on this campus, the candidate is forced to stick his finger into every curricular-cake on the campus. Like putting his finger in the neck of a small bottle, the activity man gets it and can't get out. And it isn't the point of not being able to get out, it's the point of not wanting to get out after three full years. Only one member of the present senior honorary has had the courage to drop some of the activities which put him in his honored position.

AND EVEN THE COUNCIL. The social Student Council, too, has been thinking about the point system. Like the other functions of the student representative body, however, the usual committee is working on the matter.

But Burney's absence, as the *Alumnus* points out, shows clearly the responsibility which can be placed upon one man's shoulders. Burney's prominence in the field of activities is now being difficult to match by any two men. His case was the turning point, we hope. "The best minds of Nebraska" will not be neglected if the innocents will be constructive this year and institute a men's activity point system.

Because he took a cow to college with him, a student at Presbyterian Junior college, Maxton, N. C., has been able to pay his way thru college.

STUDENT PULSE

A Plea For the Facts

To the Editor:
 Due to the rapidity with which the Lincoln Cathedral choir issue has developed, not only have many questions remained unanswered but the points which have been most discussed seem, to me, to be relatively trivial.

It would seem, if the choir is of any real value to the university or to the students, that such matters as practice rooms, financial arrangements, conflicts with other departments, and other such details could be settled with little difficulty. The questions that really matter are, what do the students get from the choir that is at all valuable; what particular benefits would the university and students as a body gain from the affiliation; what is the real, fundamental purpose of the choir?

Many of us do not yet understand these things. I would suggest that Nebraskan print a series of articles, written by someone who knows the facts, telling of the true nature of this organization. Then I believe there might be some real basis for the crystallization of an informed student opinion.

G. K.

JEAN MARVIN SPEAKS BEFORE FROSH A.W.S.

Coed Counselor President Features on Program Wednesday.

Jean Marvin, president of Coed Counselors, spoke to the Freshman A. W. S. society Wednesday afternoon at 5 o'clock in Ellen Smith hall. Miss Marvin listed the purposes of the Counselors as a basis upon which to establish real friendship among students, an intermediary for organized houses, and an aid in orientation of new students.

The Coed Counselors, formerly known as the Big Sister board, were begun about 20 years ago, Miss Marvin said, and changed their name because of similarity to another organization's name. There are 12 girls who head the organization—six affiliated, and six unaffiliated. Six of the girls are seniors, four juniors, and two sophomores. The board is chosen from prominent members of the group, and positions are determined by the number of votes received. About 100 new members are chosen every year.

Every fall letters are sent to prospective freshmen, and information is given by the girls in various ways during Freshman Day. A party is given in the fall, and unaffiliated freshmen girls are assigned to the guidance of some Coed Counselor. The society also distributes freshman buttons, and maintains a number of hobby groups throughout the year.

RAMSEY TO ADDRESS PALLADIAN MEMBERS ABOUT 'OLD MEXICO'

(Continued from Page 1.)
 after the basketball game.

Mr. Ramsey was in Mexico last summer for some time and he will talk on everything of interest in our neighboring country from the natives, the climate, and tourist accommodations, to bullfights. He will describe the pottery, mention the Pan-American highway, and has brought along colored slides to illustrate his lecture.

Speaking on Mexico as the land of contradiction, Mr. Ramsey will point out that it is exceedingly rich in natural resources, yet its people are among the poorest. With its prehistoric civilization it is one of the oldest countries in the world, yet it has one of the most modern of capitals.

Mr. Ramsey is a well known speaker on this campus. All unaffiliated university students who are interested in attending, are welcome to come.

Also on the program, which is under the direction of Faith Medlar, program chairman, is to be an impromptu speech, an old custom with the society. Malcolm Hayes, a member of the organization will play several piano selections, the names of which he will reveal at the meeting.

Wearing shoes is a terrible price to pay for an education, according to Ingrid Larsen, coed at the University of Minnesota. At home in Hawaii she never wore shoes, so she doffs hers as soon as she gets home from classes.

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NEWS PARADE
 by Marjorie Churchill

WHAT! NO BELGIAN BABES!

The horror, the humiliation of it all! An American citizen being forced by a Japanese interpreter to sweep the floor! Like the hot-headed Allison who had his face slapped by a Japanese sentry, the Wisconsin man who was "insulted" by an interpreter in Shanghai is getting a lot of publicity and probably feels pretty much abused about it all.

It seems there is no Belgian Baby to be cut into little bits by inhumanly cruel Japanese soldiers and to be publicized with many and lurid variations in all American newspapers. And so all the face-slapping and floor-sweeping. Accounts of the incident are flaunted before the eyes of the home public so that its wrath may be aroused toward the atrocities being performed.

That war will ever exist without the same sort of "incidents" is a misguided sort of belief. Foreign troops in a warring country may expect a sort of untouchable immunity, but it is seldom forthcoming—depending, of course, on how precariously the chip is unbalanced on a touchy shoulder.

Things aren't going so smoothly for Hitler's plans, it seems. Nazi followers are set up in several important governmental spots. But they're not in the departments of finance and propaganda. And what these departments mean to a spread of the nazi influence can easily be seen.

Hitler is insisting on the removal of Victor Klenboeck, governor of the National bank of Austria. Klenboeck is blamed for the breaking off of trade negotiations. Then, too, he has objected to having Austria embark on Germany's four year plan for economic self-sufficiency.

What seemed to be a rather soft situation for der Fuehrer becomes a little more complicated. But it cannot be hoped that he will fail to push the advantage he has gained, and Europe is on edge again, wondering exactly how far he will go and just what is due to happen next.

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When A Sheepskin Isn't Too Warm

An anonymous article appears in this month's *Alumnus* under the heading of "Needles and Pins." In a few short pages is related a seemingly exaggerated abundance of trials and tribulations which have impeded the path of two young persons who light heartedly left their university life in 1936. Exaggerated and unfair as the hardships seem, they nevertheless are true, if the sincerity with which the authoress writes can be any indication of the authenticity of the facts.

The article opens with the phrase, "Back in the gay, glad days of 1936, I was one of several hundred unsuspecting graduates of the University of Nebraska who swarmed out upon the business and professional world." The story of the struggle that follows in the attempt to live a happy married life in spite of the bugaboos of unemployment, illness, and constant thwarting arouses more sympathy than any fabricated movie screened for the purpose of giving ladies a chance to weep a few silent tears and men a chance to shake their heads in sympathy.

But the fact that the story is sad is not the important part of the article. Rather it is the indictment which the article levels at university training which is significant. Believing that many young college graduates are in the same predicament as she and her husband, the young authoress bitterly accuses educational institutions of failure to accept the tremendous responsibility to fit one for living. And by proper training the authoress stresses the fact that she means training not just for holding jobs, but also for meeting with a well adjusted mental and emotional outlook the kind of struggling existence which youngsters fresh out of college are being more and more forced to accept.

One of the major criticisms which the writer levels against the school is the fact that negligible attempts are made when a student enrolls in a college to ascertain his vocational capacities, and even less actual guidance is given him thru his college career. "Also," the writer explains, "little knowledge of the really desperate employment situation existing today seeps inside

the sheltered classroom walls. No university can be expected to say to the deans of its colleges: 'Cut your enrolment for the next few years. . . Our graduates are standing in line 30 deep for every potential job.'

The authoress enlarges her statement by going further and commenting, "I am not contesting or belittling the value of a college education. Indeed, an A. B. degree today is equal to a high school diploma of 10 or 15 years ago. Nor have I any idea of how a collegiate institution can go as far as present day circumstances demand that it should in equipping students to hold their own in a 1938 in which unemployment figures alarmingly." She does, however, condemn the university for its lack of vocational guidance and consequently its output of misfits. As an example she points out the work of her husband. Trained in political science and economics, his job now, after four years of arduous collegiate study and eager anticipation, is stuffing envelopes. He's done it for months, and unless something breaks he'll probably go on stuffing envelopes until his hair turns gray. Consequently his ambition is being slowly stifled and his sense of values is becoming warped.

How should one view such an accusation? It is undoubtedly as real and true as the writer has suggested. There is undoubtedly a need for a change and a new interest in the vocational capacities of the individual. However, such a change could not be wrought immediately and until university officials could alter the setup to meet the new need the student must try to do something about the situation himself. There is no restriction which would prevent an individual from conferring with members of the faculty in order to help him straighten out his vocational plans. Neither is there any restriction which would prevent a student from doing a bit of studying on the matter himself, so that in future years his vocational outlook won't appear quite as dim and blurred.

The conclusion drawn from this regrettable situation is that the university is neglecting one of its major responsibilities. But, we must add sorrowfully, the student is not sharing his part of the burden either. A change on both sides of the fence would help prevent further tragedies such as that which has been enacted in the life of the young *Alumnus* authoress.

JOURNALISTS HEAR GILMAN'S VIEWS ON CHINESE SITUATION.

(Continued from Page 1.)
 and two British dailies there are scores of tabloid or "mosquito" sheets published by native Chinese, the returned American related. "These scandal sheets print any sort of libel or juicy bits of gossip, and are forced to move their offices almost every other day to keep ahead of the police."

Gilman pointed out that newspapers in China play up details of sex crimes and print pictures

which would not be tolerated in America.
 Sino-Jap War at an End.
 Hearers at the luncheon were surprised to find lengthy accounts of American and European sporting events written up on the sports page and also a section devoted to American "funnies." Subscribers to the paper include several thousand English speaking Chinese as well as Americans and Britishers.
 "They are fighting their last battle," said Gilman regarding the Sino-Japanese conflict. "From now on the fighting will consist

only of guerilla warfare which makes any kind of accurate reporting doubly hard for the newspapermen.
 "Though the people are loyal to the Chiang Kai-Shek regime, they are nevertheless realists. If the Japanese offer them peace and a chance to make a living they will submit passively and forget their loyalty."

Disillusioned Grad, Faculty Member, Dorothy C. Fisher Write for Current Alumnus

(Continued from Page 1.)
 the vital questions of the day. He quotes the dissenting articles of well-known alumni on the peace question and adds his own plea for international organization.

Also in this issue, Delmar L. Thornbury writes the concluding chapter of "My Years at Nebraska," the first of a series of "Notes in a Birthday" appears; Kathleen G. Heurn, graduate of 1896, writes a sketch on Sulgrave Manor, the home of Washington's ancestors in England; and the usual "Campus Circle" and "Alumni Paragraphs" appear.

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