

Editorial — Comment — Bulletin

Here's another first

Students and faculty together have really been on their toes this year. For with considerable ingenuity they have planned undreamed of activities and have made great achievements in those already existing on the campus.

A list of firsts to be complete would cover the activities of almost every organization of the school. The Student Council has staged its first Big Six convention; the efforts of Norman Harris and John McDermott gave birth to a Senior Council designed to be a severe and alumnizing body representative of the entire senior class; new parking regulations have solved a parking problem that has been critical for many years; a successful football team won the position of Rose Bowl contestant; and now the university school of journalism stages its first all state Journalism Day.

For 17 years Gayle C. Walker, head of the school, has dreamed of an assembly of this kind, bringing together on the one hand the leaders in journalism over the state, and on the other the sizable group of students interested in either business or editorial work in this field.

Local informal meetings have been held from time to time throughout this period, pointing always to a general state conference on a large scale. This Friday that dream and the goal of all local conferences will become realities.

In the most elaborate journalism convention ever held at this school leaders in the state will congregate in the Union to discuss problems and practices in their fields. Meetings of this kind get results; and show the state that there is more to this student body and to the institution itself than just classrooms and textbooks.

It shows them, moreover, that there are students and faculty members interested in practical problems, interested in making contributions to the various fields

of business, and are applying the facts they have learned in their textbooks.

It proves to them that Nebraska after all has a school of journalism and that that school is making its presence felt. Friday's meetings are a commendable accomplishment for the journalists—and add another first to the splendid record of campus organizations this year.

Commentorials

... from our readers

Defeatism leads to failure, disintegration of defenses

Dear Editor:

I wish to point out an idea contained in an article by Otto Woerner, appearing in the NEBRASKAN Wednesday. In it we may find personified the very feeling which accompanied and, I believe, partially caused the collapse of the many small countries now controlled by Germany.

This feeling might aptly be described as "oh-what-the-hellism", or, to be more academic, defeatism; at least it is the state of mind produced by terrifying cataclysms over which there seems no control. The mind is stunned by the apparent strength and ferocity of this frightful thing coming toward us. Some fiend has loosed a terrible monster on the earth, devouring everything, bloating itself hourly on new human fodder, and spawning all the shapes of evil in its wake. It moves like lightning and nothing can stop it.

This is the ghoulish apparition which materializes

before the eyes of our more imaginative. Even the most materialistic among us can sense its vague outlines.

But what is behind this diabolic, all powerful thing? Only men. What is it built on? A patch of land occupying about three-tenths of one percent of the earth's surface; rather poor land by our standards. And what drives these men to do such things? Fear, the age-old lust for power, and revenge. Fear of their enemies who might destroy them, revenge on them because they almost did, and the lust for power by a small group of men, hated even in their own country.

Here, shivering in its underwear, stands whatever we thought it was, a hypnotic hoax. But no one can deny that it has worked; the grim evidence piles higher every day. Yet examine the actions of its enemies, excluding Britain. A great deal of talk, a show of resistance, perhaps even a sad little war to save their faces. No one seemed to care; nothing seemed to matter. Our menacing fraud was there, and its presence was enough.

I don't mean to underestimate the power of the German army; I only mean to say that, given time and resources such as ours, any country can lick them in their own back yard. Their victories have been sudden and their defeat will be sudden. They have grown so big they are afraid of themselves.

But whoever has to beat them will need plenty of those qualities more elately referred to as intestinal fortitude. No one can fight successfully if he believes he is beaten before the battle begins. This German colossus must be brought out in the open where it can be laughed at, where one can cut the slender strings which make it jump. Then half the action will be won, and we may proceed to the serious business of mopping up.

Sincerely,

A reader.

Tonight—

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banquet will feature some unusual entertainment. Col. C. F. Frankforter, chairman of the Chemical Engineering department, will be the toastmaster.

Fee award.

The O. J. Fee award to the outstanding engineer will be presented by Dean O. J. Ferguson. This is the most prized award given by the engineering department.

Other honors to be given are the Blue Print Award presented by Prof. Barnard, the Sigma Tau awards which includes presentation of the hall of fame medal by George Fowler and the freshman award by Joe Parker. Prof. Colbert will name the winners of the departmental and special awards, and Dick Hitchcock will make the field day awards. John Gate, chairman of this year's Engineers' Week, will introduce the winner of the Engineers' Contest award.

Main speaker at the banquet will be Major A. T. Lobdell, recently called to duty as head of the engineering unit in the Nebraska ROTC. Formerly connected with the Nebraska State Highway Department, Major Lobdell will talk on "Construction and National Defense."

Climaxing Engineers' Week, a dance will be given at the Hotel Cornhusker Saturday night when the Engineers' Sweetheart will be introduced. Voting booths at the mechanic arts building and in the agricultural engineering building on ag campus will be open to all engineers from today until the dance.

Sweetheart candidates.

Candidates selected by Mrs. Barney Oldfield, wife of the Lincoln newspaper columnist, are Betty Malone, Louise Howerter, Mary Fredenhagen, Alice Blackstone and Louise Eppinger.

Every department in the engineering college will be thrown open for public inspection tonight. In addition, each department has prepared special exhibits for the occasion.

Among the most outstanding is the display planned by the electrical engineers under the direction of Frank Slaymaker. At the electrical engineering building, there will be a number of exhibits in which spectators can participate. Included is a magnetic tape recording, a voice controlled train, an electrical water fountain and many other unusual displays.

An X-ray demonstration and voice recording will be among the features prepared by the electrical engineers in another exhibit at the physics building.

With Wade Paschke chairman, the mechanical engineering department has planned an exhibit showing all phases of mechanical engineering. Use of polaroid in

The Saturday Letter

By Raymond E. Manchester.
Dear Friend:

You have read of empires. You have heard of empires. You know empires by name—Roman, British, etc. But what about the empire of "They?" That invisible wonderful, powerful, intangible, fascinating, universal, convenient empire of "They!" Tangible empires come and go, rise and fall. The empire of "They" goes on forever. Tangible empires can be seen, heard and felt, but the empire of "They" is like the "man upon the stair" and the citizens of "They" are always not there when gentlemen with statistical inclinations start nosing about.

But, invisible things are real and the "They" empire is as real as limburger cheese. Last evening a speaker said (when discussing the European situation) "They" had better look out or there will be a great surprise." For a full hour afterward the listeners attempted to discover the identity of "They" but with no success. Last week an employed man said, "They" can't do this to me," but to date no one knows just who is referred to by "They." Today a student said, "They" should give students more chances for extra-curricular activities." Was he referring to the president of the university? No. Was he talking about the faculty? No. Did he direct his remarks

castings and the stroboscope in studying moving parts will be explained. Eleven other exhibits have been made.

Chemical engineers.

The main lecture room of Avery laboratory will be the scene of the demonstrations of the chemical engineers. Starting promptly at 8 and 9 o'clock, the demonstrations will vary from the discussion of high explosives to explanation of sugar refining. Prizes for spectators with the best sense of smell and pictures of interested onlookers, will be given. They also promise that a miniature volcano will erupt.

Importance of civil engineering in aviation, photography, road and bridge construction will be explained in that department's ex-

toward trustees? No. Was he thinking of the student body, the voters of the state or of the student council? No. Just that vague unnamed group made up of folks called in total, "They."

We hear,
"I notice 'They' need a new road."
"They" are having quite a time."
"They" are having a late spring."
"They" look for a big wheat crop."
"They" had a cyclone in Georgia."
"They" started a new school in Texas."
"They" are having a famine in India."
"They" had an argument in council meeting."
"They" had a big crowd at the fair."

"They," people everywhere—scattered all over the world! Who are the "they" folks? What do they (the "They" men) look like? Can't see them, can't hear them, can't locate them, but how nice to know we have them always at hand to accept all blame for projects that go wrong and (by never objecting) to make it unnecessary to be specific when we amuse ourselves by talking all around the mulberry bush.

hibit, under the direction of Martin Siemens.

The architectural engineers' display, under the chairmanship of David Wink, will feature the results of a local survey on Lincoln architecture, motion pictures and an exhibit of work done by students during the year will also be on the program.

David Roach, chairman of the Engineering Mechanics department, has announced that a complete series of engineering drawings illustrating all phases of mechanical engineering will head that department's exhibit. In addition, several tests on the strength of materials and on the difference between bituminous and non-bituminous highways will also be performed.

The military engineers have prepared an extensive exhibit as have the agricultural engineers who yesterday returned the 40 inch combine to its position south of the Pharmacy building. Insurance company officials fixed the combine after lawyers' seizure of the machine early Saturday morning.

Friday afternoon will be highlighted by a field day when all varieties of athletics—including some original games—will be played.

Student council at Fairmont (W. Va.) State Teachers college is sponsoring a swing band.

The Daily Nebraskan

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