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Editorial ★ ★ ★ Comment ★ ★ ★

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Night News Editor: M. J. Melick

"House of Magic" Proves Fact Stranger Than Fiction

Have you ever seen a train that obeys spoken commands or a match which lights an electric lamp? Did you know that a man can shake hands with his own shadow or light a lamp from a current passing through his arms?

Demonstrations of these and many more mystifying things make up the "House of Magic," the General Electric company's science show, which will be presented at 7:30 p. m. on Dec. 8 in the Union ballroom. Actually, this pleasant combination of entertainment and information is not magic at all, but proof that sober scientific fact can be stranger than fiction.

Demonstrates Electric Charges

Research in science has uncovered many marvelous things about electricity. The "House of Magic" demonstrates some of these, how they were found, and how they are being used. The show, while it should prove of particular interest to engineering students, is open to the entire student body. It can be easily appreciated by all members of the audience, no matter what

previous scientific training they may have had. There will be no admission charge.

The new "House of Magic" is the latest version of the show which has played before approximately 13 million students, adults and service men since 1933, when it was first given at the Chicago Century of Progress World's Fair.

The magic is never deception. Even "The Man Who Shakes Hands With His Shadow" is not a trick, but a demonstration of a scientific fact—the principle of light persistence. Each act of the show is—as the speaker always points out—"the truth of science as nearly as nature has revealed it to us."

As the opening demonstration, the audience sees one of the new silicones—a substance called "bouncing putty," which can be pulled like taffy and kneaded like bread dough, yet when rolled into a ball bounces as high as rubber.

Words Move Train

The train that obeys spoken commands can't understand the speaker but it is able to count the number of syllables. Any three will make it come forward. Two will cause it to reverse and a single syllable turns the motor off altogether.

Lighting an electric lamp with a match is easy if you have a phototube, better known as an electric eye. The phototube "sees" the match's light and passes current. This current, moving through a small amplifier, actuates a relay, causing the lamp to light. The versatility of the electric eye also enables the lecturer to demonstrate that light can actually be heard and that music can be sent on a light beam as readily as along a wire or by means of radio waves.

As I Was Saying...

BY PAT NORDIN

Formal dinner parties were numerous Friday night before the respective balls. Parties of four or crowds of 18 or 20 gathered at many a night spot, some arriving at the dance late, some not at all.

The Colonial Cup was the scene of some ten parties. Sitting in the Phi Gam section was Chuck Thone with his best girl, Marilyn Samuelson, while farther on were the Kappa Sig boys with Bob Wallace and Jo Hansen. And the happy ATO's were well represented by Ted Randolph with Carol Shipman and the rest.

Seen on the long trail of 25th and O St. at 7 p. m. was a lone hitch-hiker making his way snail-like, to gayety—and the Yum-Yum Hut. This personage was later identified as Chuck Hemmingson who had nobody due to the cruelty of Julie Math-bone.

And at Atmosphere Sandy's was Bill Gohde with Hastings girl Shirley Evans, Gordon Luhrs and Mary Travis, Gene Flynn and Mary Marshall, Don Clements and Lois Larson partied at Lone Oaks. Of course, there was a goodly crowd at the Italian Village (not to be confused with Kitty Clover Potatoe Chips) including newly pinned Rog Ritter and Marlene Hill, Bill Beekler and Pat Wieland, Dick Michalek and Margaret Muechtes.

The new innovations contrived for the Military Ball proved quite successful. All eyes were on Colonel Harris during a unique presentation. Under especially jovial circumstances were Lois Gobar and Bob Robinson, Laurel Linch and Harold Bower.

And as for the other small get-together at Kings, many of the late arrivals found it necessary to dance on the tables. An outstanding example of this was six left-overs from the AGR affair—Jim Sturm and Sharon Murphy, and the Gibson "ghouls" Spook and Hoot with Jan Nutzman and Marilyn Laffler.

Lights, fanfare—and the Honorary Colonel of the Charity ball was presented, rose between teeth. Nancy Davis wouldn't admit it but the phenomon was her date in girls clothing, Jerald-ine Shulk-in.

Small Talk—It's a puzzle to all why Bill Perkins was elected "Most Partyingest Engineer." Must have happened before Tuesday night when he took date Jane McCuig home at 9:30 in time for her late date with Burt Ehrmann, or he would surely have been disqualified.

Sportsmanship Again...

If everyone in the University had the same satirical attitude about sportsmanship that Friday's Letterip author had, we probably would have a great deal of difficulty even hiring basketball officials.

The author of that letter seems to think that we have had "atrocious" officiating at our games. What he forgets is that the officials Nebraska hires are all well-known and reliable or they would not be hired. Naturally, a referee can have an "off" day just as anyone else can. It's no easy task to see every little rule infraction made by the players. In fact, if the officials were to blow their whistles every time a rule is broken, the games would last far into the night.

The author also forgets that the referees are on the floor with the players and are in a much better position to see the rule infraction. The fan is sitting away from the action and cannot possibly see the game as the officials do. This is why so many fans burst forth with loud boos and referee-name-calling tantrums when a foul is called.

Perhaps editorials on sportsmanship do get tiresome. But if the fans (and there were university students included) who threw snowballs at the officials during the Missouri football game had any conception of sportsmanship, they would never have acted in such a childish manner. It was certainly a display of poor sportsmanship, and it probably did little to gain any friendship for us from the referees. And it may be a good idea to have the officials at least on friendly terms with us once in a while.

FRITZ SIMPSON

Corn Shucks Announces Six 1949 Nebraska Beauty Queens

The six 1949 Cornhusker Beauty Queens were revealed in the December Beauty Queen issue of Corn Shucks. They are Laverna Acker, Pat Berge, Jo Bergman, Vanita Brown, Pat Gaddis and Margaret Thomsen.

Miss Acker is a junior Home Ec major. She participates in AUF and is district representative of the Ag YWCA and district finance chairman of the Y council. Miss Acker is also a member of Phi Upsilon Omicron, Home Ec honorary, and the Home Ec club.

Miss Berge Participates in YW. Miss Berge works in Student Foundation and YW. She is a Teachers College junior and a member of Gamma Phi Beta.

A Fine Arts senior, Miss Bergman is a member of University Singers Cathedral Choir, and Alpha Epsilon Rho, national radio honorary. She is also a member of Alpha Phi.

Miss Brown is a freshman in the school of Journalism and is active in Student Foundation and the Red Cross college unit.

Miss Gaddis, sophomore Home Ec major, has participated in Student Foundation and AUF and is on the Union General Entertainment committee. She is a member of Kappa Alpha Theta.

Miss Thomsen Active in YW. A Teachers College freshman, Miss Thomsen is active in YW, Student Foundation and Rifle

club. She is a member of Alpha Chi Omega.

The six Beauty Queens were chosen in November from a group of 46 candidates by five yearbook staff members from various schools. The judges were Ward Crackett, Colorado University; Milton Eisenhower, Jr., Kansas State; Chuck Rosenfeldt, University of Missouri; Bud Gilmer, Colorado University; and John Tyson, University of Iowa.

Vets Lead Enrollment

Slightly more than half of the total enrollment at the University of Nebraska is comprised of veterans of World War II final figures for the current semester showed Friday.

Comparison of the total enrollment for the past two years show that there is a slight decline in veteran enrollment. Actual totals were 5,110 in 1948, 5,481 in 1947, and 6,549 in 1946.

Male students outnumber women better than four to one this fall. The pre-war ratio was slightly better than two men for every woman.

Dr. G. W. Rosenlof, director of admissions, announced that the total enrollment for the current semester is 10,073, just 89 students below the record set in the fall of 1947. The 1946 total was 9,648, the pre-war average 6,500.

Enrollment for 1948-1949 of unduplicated names is expected to reach the all-time high of 12,200, he added.

Enrollment by classes: Freshmen, 2,913; sophomore, 1,462; juniors, 2,251; seniors, 1,864; unclassified, 116; student at large, 66; graduate and professional, 1,401.

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