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THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

Friday, February 25, 1949

# Jhe Daily Nebraskan

## Member

### Intercollegiate Press FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR

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 News
 Editor

# The Greeks and Dean Thompson

A point made yesterday in one of the columns of The Daily Nebraskan is in need of re-emphasis. That is the "popular misconception" that Dean Thompson is "down on Greeks."

We learned from a conversation with the Dean that the idea of his being "down on Greeks" is a misconception. The misconception stems, of course, from the Dean's disapproval of the present political situation which exists on campus. Interested students must grasp the concept that one may be strongly opposed to faction politics -that is, fraternities banding together and agreeing upon candidates before campus elections are held-and be strongly in favor of the fraternity system a the same time.

Unless we grossly misinterpreted our conversation with the Dean, we are of the impression that the Dean feels as we do: that the system of organized houses provides excellent training for its members in many ways. One, it affords its members training in social adaptability. Two, it renders its members a valuable service in giving them the responsibility of looking after their own affairs: striving for harmonious relations among themselves, learning to keep their finances in the black, and discussing and solving in a democratic fashion the problems which confront the organizations.

From a psychological viewpoint, the system of organized houses is sound in that it gives to its members a sense of belonging, which is not so easily obtainable when one must live apart from his fellow students. The organized house can prove of value in an informal academic way by bringing students together where they may discuss not only principles and problems brought out in the classroom but current controversial issues on a local, national and international scale as well. From our own experience, we can say our thinking on the subject of religion has been stimulated far more by outside discussions than by anything we have picked up in the classroom. Students need and should be exposed to the thinking of other students. The organized house helps to fulfill this need.

In no way do we mean to infer that students not living in organized houses are deprived of the above advantages. These same ends can be and are reached in many other ways. There are religious groups, literary societies, rooming houses, departmental clubs and organizations and numerous unorganized groups of student friends which serve these same ends. Our point is that organized houses, too, serve in these same ways the welfare of the students and therefore are entitled to a place on campus.

The question arises, "what lies behind Dean Thompson's disapproval of 'faction activities'?" and "what is meant in the Student Council's being charged with 'political corruption'?" Our answer is that it does not mean that Dean Thompson or anyone else in the administration is seeking to eliminate the Greeks and the system of organized houses from campus. It does mean that the administration, not just Dean Thompson alone, feels that student life is not at its best when the Student Council and other activities are predominantly made up of Greeks, who are in a minority on the campus. The administration says that such predomination prevents the Council from being truly representative.



Another Teacher's College representative to the Student Council is Pat Black. She is a junior, serving her first year on the Council.

Miss Black is a member of the rally committee. This group, in co-operation with representatives

from Corn Cobs, Tassels and the Yell King, plans all football ral-

lies She is also a member of new committee which is investigating enlarging campus pep organization large enough to the card fill section.

Pat Black In addition to her duties in Council Miss Black is a member of the WAA sports board, Tassels and secretary of Alpha Xi Delta. Graduate College has one representative on the student Council, He is Rod Franklin.

Front Page

BY Bruce Kennedy

given

TRUMAN'S strong language re-

serving his third year as a Council member. He was a senior holdover member last year. He is a for-

mer member of Innocents, past president of Interfra t e r ni t y Council and a member of Rod Franklin Kappa Sigma.

negotiated soon.

## . .

THINGS just aren't going right for Dr. Anna Strong. The ex-Nebraskan was ousted from Russia on spy charges. Now the FBI subpoenaed her to appear before the Federal grand jury probing com-munism. Will Anna be deported ceived both criticism and a large again?

news play yesterday. The chair-THE BERLIN Airlift set anman of International Council of Christian Churches asked for an other record Wednesday as Rusapology in what he termed "an sian soldiers celebrated the 31st thought is exactly what the un-offense against Christian people." birthday of the Red Army. A to-But Truman asserted Friday that tal of 905 flights in 24 hours exthe language suited him, and no ceeded the mark set the day bedenial or retraction would be fore. Since June 26, 1,021,271 tons of supplies have been flown into THE ENDING of Israel and Berlin.

Questions of "why is there such a predomination of Greeks in activities?", "why isn't there any Barb representation on the Council?" and "what can be done to achieve the administration's want-a truly representative Council?" are questions which we will discuss editorially in the next few days. We hope that others, too, will discuss these questions in our Letterip column.

Today's point is thus: the upstart in campus politics should not be interpreted as an attempt to eliminate the Greek system from campus. The upstart does call for a change of some kind-none a yet offered by the administration-in the make-up of the Student Council and other activities.

Letterip

#### Dear Editor:

I'd like to tender a nomination now for Nebraska U's "Biggest Crow Eater," We all excuse honest mistakes, but it seems as if one of your columnists has a propensity for spouting first and looking afterwards.

Every columnist has the right of "fair comment" but it's becoming increasingly evident that one of your staff member's remarks tend to the unfair, Drew Pearsonish, side. How about toning down the enthusiasm and misplaced sincerity for a few facts, in a little more journalistic tradition?

After all, any student on this campus could write if they went off the deep end. We expect superior reporting and the factual, even by the "little tin gods" of ye columns.

> Sincerely, Elizabeth Schneider.

ity control objection is now being

Dean Thompson used the word

miniature "political

This

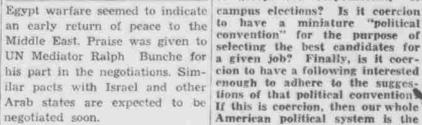
Yet

'coercion" to describe the way in

(Editor's note: Thanks to Miss Schneider for her first contribution to our LETTERIP column since last February. At that time, when the heat was on NSA, she made the observation that "Red doesn't blend too well with green." As to today's letter, we must ask Miss Schneider to be more specific as to the staff members; the erow-appetite is known to many in our office. Lastly, the granmatical error in the third paragraph, first sentence, is Miss Schneider's, no ours. We believe in placing eredit where it is due.)

#### Dear Editor:

used to discredit the student coun-One of the reasons offered for cil and other campus activities the republican defeat in the electhat are administered by elected tion of 1948 was "the failure of officials. many party members to get out and vote." If this statement is true, if there are more people in which most of the students are the United States who express elected to responsible positions. the republican point of view than Coercion means to "restrain by the view of the democrats, then force, by law, or by authority: to the whole nation is now under a repress or to curb." Is it coercion 'minority control." This minorto accept the responsibility of



From the

ahead, you must have the blessing of the faction. It is too bad that the "blessing of the faction" is the only reason for the survival of most of the student activities on the campus today. The faculty has "been waiting for the reform to come from the students, but if it does not come it will come from the faculty. affiliated students on the campus have been waiting for. They lack the organization, the initiative, but not the numbers necessary to put the reform into effect. if the faculty is bent on taking

victim of coercionists.

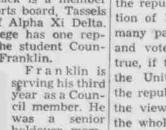
The dean goes on to say that "it

too bad that if you want to get

the reform into their own hands it will deliberately destroy the only organization and initiative left on the campus.

The group that gets things accomplished, no matter how small they are, should get the reward of representation. If the faculty moves to destroy the faction, they will also destroy the life-line of many campus activities solely dependent upon Greek support.

> WILLIAM F. CAMPBELL A Disinterested Spectator.



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