

# The Daily Nebraskan

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<b>EDITORIAL.</b>	<b>BUSINESS.</b>
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## 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 at 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 predominance prevents the Council from being truly representative.

## Meet The Council

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 rallies.

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

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.



Pat Black

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

He is a former member of Innocents, past president of Interfraternity Council and a member of Kappa Sigma.



Rod Franklin

## From the Front Page

BY Bruce Kennedy

TRUMAN'S strong language received both criticism and a large news play yesterday. The chairman of International Council of Christian Churches asked for an apology in what he termed "an offense against Christian people." But Truman asserted Friday that the language suited him, and no denial or retraction would be given.

THE ENDING of Israel and

Questions of "why is there such a predominance 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.

(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 crowd-appelle is known to many in our office. Lastly, the grammatical error in the third paragraph, first sentence, is Miss Schneider's, no ours. We believe in placing credit where it is due.)

Dear Editor:

One of the reasons offered for the republican defeat in the election of 1948 was "the failure of many party members to get out and vote." If this statement is true, if there are more people in the United States who express the republican point of view than the view of the democrats, then the whole nation is now under a "minority control." This minor-

Egypt warfare seemed to indicate an early return of peace to the Middle East. Praise was given to UN Mediator Ralph Bunche for his part in the negotiations. Similar pacts with Israel and other Arab states are expected to be 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 communism. Will Anna be deported again?

THE BERLIN Airlift set another record Wednesday as Russian soldiers celebrated the 31st birthday of the Red Army. A total of 905 flights in 24 hours exceeded the mark set the day before. Since June 26, 1,021,271 tons of supplies have been flown into Berlin.

ity control objection is now being used to discredit the student council and other campus activities that are administered by elected officials.

Dean Thompson used the word "coercion" to describe the way in which most of the students are elected to responsible positions. Coercion means to "restrain by force, by law, or by authority; to repress or to curb." Is it coercion to accept the responsibility of campus elections? Is it coercion to have a miniature "political convention" for the purpose of selecting the best candidates for a given job? Finally, is it coercion to have a following interested enough to adhere to the suggestions of that political convention? If this is coercion, then our whole American political system is the victim of coercionists.

The dean goes on to say that "it too bad that if you want to get 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." This thought is exactly what the unaffiliated 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. Yet if the faculty is bent on taking 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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