

Letterip

Dear Editor:

Norman W. Lundberg, in a letter to the editor of The Daily Nebraskan of Wednesday, April 6, expressed his opinion relative to recent changes in the basis for scholarship honors. He should be gratified to learn how nearly correct his logic is. He states two reasons which he thinks may have been the basis for the change, neither of which, in his judgment, is sufficient. His first suggested reason was to make the Honors List more exclusive. This was not the reason, although the list may be shortened as a result of the changes. The second suggested reason was the ease in computing eligible students. This reason comes more nearly accounting for the change.

The University Senate was informed by the Registrars Office that the task of preparing the lists for Honor Convocation had become so great that it was almost impossible to accomplish it and that the suggested changes would help. Sufficient data were available to show that no great change would result in the number of students recognized from any college. Space will not permit the presentation of this data and an analysis of the same. A few of the most salient facts are: In no one of the senior classes of 1948-1949 in the six colleges, Agriculture, Arts and Science, Business Administration, Engineering, Pharmacy and Teachers, is the percentage of students with grades above 7.00 less than ten per cent of the class in that college. Mr. Lundberg had misgivings about the Engineers in which College approximately seventeen per cent of the Seniors have grades above 7.00.

C. W. Smith, Chairman,
Honors Convocation Committee

From the Front Page

By Bruce Kennedy

European Recovery Program passage appeared to be certain in the House of Representatives Tuesday. The total amount requested by President Truman would, by all indications, not be trimmed in any way. All efforts that have been tried so far to cut the amount have been beaten off and Speaker Rayburn predicted other efforts will receive the same treatment.

TRUMAN again asked for speedy ratification of the North Atlantic Treaty as he sent the pact to the Senate. But Congress was asking for more details concerning the cost of arming member nations. Truman carefully sidestepped this phase of the pact, but it is believed that he will give a full report on it sometime in the future.

DOUBLING of the old-age pensions under the social security system was urged by the CIO Tuesday. Led by President Philip Murray, the CIO said the present provisions were shockingly inadequate.

EXCESSIVE overwork and fatigue were given as the causes for the hospitalization of former Secretary of Defense Forrestal in Maryland. His son gave reporters the details. The 57-year-old official retired at the end of last month.

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Haydon Hails Humanism As Hope, Meaning of Life

By Susie Reed

An effort to find a way of life which will give meaning and beauty and direction to living... the combination of science with idealism to let hope walk with the mind.

This is how humanism was defined by Albert Haydon, head of Chicago University's department of comparative religion, at a convocation Tuesday.

"The humanist," the white-haired author and lecturer said, "feels perfectly at home in his universe. Memories of his long ancestry linger in his muscles and in his cells. The same stuff that makes up his body and brain is that which makes up the farthest universe."

"WE (THE humanists) are bearers of the planet's life... responsible bearers... creators of the future. While science is pushing back the circle of encroaching darkness, the humanist prefers to work and live in the light rather than speculate about the unknown."

It is humanism, Haydon said, that will unify the four currents of the old Christian church, the influence of Renaissance idealism, political democracy and the sci-

ences. When the church separated from culture at the end of the 13th century, Haydon explained, culture was left without a sense of responsibility toward the common human cause.

"The tragedy of the Western world," the speaker said, "is that these four currents were never brought together so that we have a single culture. The result is that every phase of our culture has gone its way without responsibility to the human ideal."

"The humanist makes an effort to build a way of life that will unify these currents. He asks, 'What do we know?' and on the basis of knowledge builds his interpretation of the world."

SCIENCE does three things, Haydon said. It gives an interpretation of the universe, of man's history in the universe, of the history of culture and an understanding of human nature.

"Science," he continued, "is not only knowledge but power... to purify and cleanse the earth, to probe into the intricacies of the human mind and heart, to release the possibilities which make for harmony."

Finally, he said, science is method. The objective of science, he explained, is to present a democratic way of meeting any problem.

"The humanist," Haydon said, "must maintain a scientific attitude. He can't be arrogant in regard to other points of view. He puts full responsibility in man... has faith in man creating a good society in which man can live."

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