

Nebraskan Editorials It's Up To The Council

A well-sharpened administrative ax cut off the attempt by a group of students to outlaw a secret ballot in Student Council.

It is necessary in any constitution to provide for flexibility, which in the case of the recent proposed amendment would not ideally qualify as a flexible provision.

There is nothing the student body can do now to have such a provision enacted as an amendment to the Council's constitution but it can, if it feels that such a provision should be enacted in some way, encourage Student Council members to present a similar motion as the petition in the Council as an amendment to the Council by-laws.

A Scientist Speaks

It seems almost paradoxical for a scientist, especially a scientist of the stature of Dr. Arthur Compton, to say that modern man must accept as an elementary condition for his survival the will to live and grow.

Monday evening Dr. Compton spoke of the shrinking world which now exists. Man must realize this position and work toward a solution of his own problems, he said.

The last few decades of wars, scientific advances, social changes, economic chaos and two armed camps have changed the minds of many to the point of view of Dr. Compton.

After his first lecture Monday evening, he mused that man might well be traveling on something like a swift stream coming to two forks. One, probably the simplest to navigate, leads over a falls and drops into destruction.

This analysis is not new. Men since Old Testament times have spoken and written about this same thought. And today we are told, by a Nobel Prize winner and an early expert in nuclear fission, that man should and must work toward the same goal that we have known about for ages.

Dr. Compton will be at the University for the remainder of the week, and every student and faculty member could do well to hear at least one of his lectures. A man, great of mind and world stature, speaks in each of them in an easy, friendly manner which gives the listener the impression that there is hope, and much of it, left in the modern world.

For the student it is of particular interest that Dr. Compton comments that there must be the proper mixture of extra-curricular activities and studies in order that one can accept the responsibility of citizenship. Then he adds that the men and women now in college will face the crest of the problem now developing.

One can listen, interpret and guess as to the end result of what will be said in this year's Montgomery lecture series. The important point, and to some degree the purpose of the series is for each person to begin to think seriously about what Dr. Compton is saying and what his individual position is in the complexity of contemporary culture he describes.—D. F.

ment to the Council's constitution but it can, if it feels that such a provision should be enacted in some way, encourage Student Council members to present a similar motion as the petition in the Council as an amendment to the Council by-laws. This is the only recourse the student body now has because by-law amendments may be initiated by Council members only.

It was obvious that a majority of Council members were in favor of such a provision by the result of a vote taken in Council meeting two weeks ago on a motion which would have made a standing rule out of the secret ballot provision. But because again, of technical constitutional procedure, the motion, its contents and results were declared out of order and the attempt within the Council itself to provide for the elimination of a secret ballot was defeated.

If the Council members would carry on the fight of 518 students who signed the original petition and recognize that a majority of their own group is in favor of such a provision then they must initiate in Council meeting an amendment to the by-laws which would prohibit secret ballots.

With the indications received by the last Council vote on the matter, it would be a disappointment to see the Council members drop the matter when so large a part of their own group supports the principle involved. It would be a laudatory move on the part of the Council to make their own voluntary provision, via the by-laws, to prohibit secret ballots from ever again drawing suspicion on Council members.—J. H.

Ivy Day Sing

Sinfonia members presented in their proposed rules for Ivy Day Sing only one significant change over the present rules employed by Kosmet Klub. This was the plan for a pre-Sing tryout before judges.

At first glance the plan looks like a good idea. Its advantages lies in the proposition that greater competition and the try-out requirement would make the quality of each performance better. The fact that some fraternities would be in danger of not being represented in the Sing would make them work harder to make sure that they were.

The Ivy Day Sing up to the present, however, has been a pleasant, easy-going affair. Most of the groups worked hard, and enjoyed it for the fun there was in it. Few hard feelings were caused by the outcome of the competition.

Pre-Sing tryouts, however, would tend to give Ivy Day Sing a cut-throat aspect. Interest shown thus far has made it possible for all those groups wishing to participate to do so. Elimination of some groups would take a little bit of the kick out of the Sing.

Quality in the Sing is a naturally desired thing. But it has never been and should not be a prerequisite. The Sing in the past has been marked by a feeling of fellowship, unoffensive pride and good-natured showing off. Stiff competition would change this.

Regardless of which group, Sinfonia or Kosmet Klub, supervises the Sing, it is hoped that the plan will never be put into effect. Although the suggestion would improve the Sing in one respect, it might have unfortunate repercussions in another.—K. N.

Alumni Viewpoint Former NU Student Thankful She Took 'Fringe' Courses

Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles written by University of Nebraska alumni. Elizabeth Kerr was graduated in 1906, and now resides in Chicago.

A fall or spring never passes that does not evoke to me nostalgic memories of returning to the campus at the start of a new term and my graduation from college. It is at these seasons, too, that my ideas of education became deepest.

All of us nurse pet theories of education, its purposes and responsibilities and its achievements in actuality.

Experience is the best teacher of all. Formal education is an ideal forerunner, co-worker and post-analyzer, so to speak, of experience.

Human beings that we are, most of us are notoriously poor at taking advice when proffered as such. However, we are receptive to the personal observations of others.

Daily I am thankful I took certain subjects in college, even though they overcrowded my academic schedule every semester I was in school. These "fringe" subjects I longed to take, squeezed in and around my required subjects and electives for three majors, sacrificed scholarship, I fear, but these are many of the courses I remember most pleasantly and which have often proved most useful. I have heard too many adults say they wished they had taken this or that in college but had not the time. Make time. You'll never regret it. Get your educational money's worth.

Remembering those who help one, to me, is the hallmark of an educated person. Nothing is so graceless as ingratitude. No one succeeds by himself. The person who takes sole credit for his progress is ignorant or a liar . . . and a college graduate can afford to be neither. However, brief the interlude, show appreciation now for the deeds others do for you.

Be prepared to meet persons with chips on their shoulders for college graduates. This, I think, comes as the biggest shock to many college graduates. In every business and walk

of life you will encounter the self-made executive, up from the ranks, who feels acutely his lack of a college degree, even though for him it is no handicap. Meeting this type of person on his own terms, a sincere and genuine person who can deliver the goods in ability will soon disarm and convert him to an appreciation, rather than a resentment, of college training.

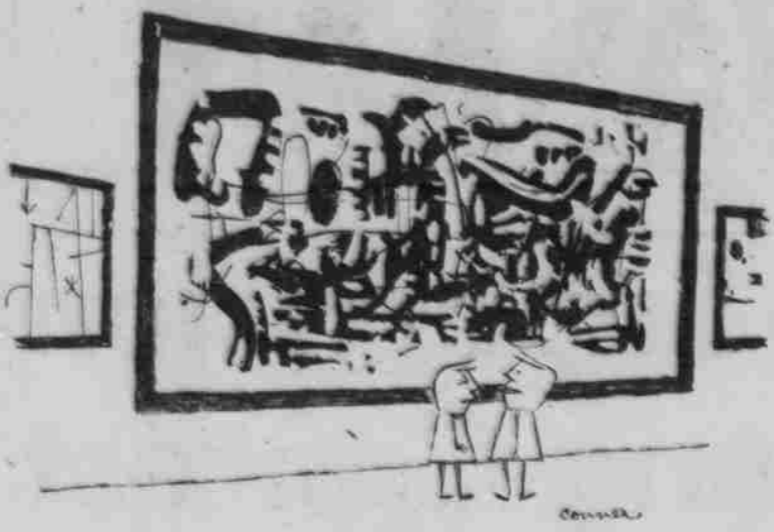
Accept the fact your community will call upon you first in civic duties. Consider this a compliment rather than a chore. The prime purpose of education is to provide a concerned citizenry for society.

Try to foresee the ramifications of your every action, however small it may seem at the time. Like a game of chess, life's moves are delicate. The world is full of people who find it easier to say "I'm sorry, I made a mistake or I should have done this" than to think before acting. And everything you do does affect someone else.

Armed with enthusiasm, explore the potentialities in every job and task. Some of life's greatest opportunities and most fascinating challenges came to me as the result of seeming routine affairs or inauspicious beginnings. I have seen an entire company change from the effects of one lowly employee, and this change was a permanent, far-reaching thing to everyone with whom this person came in contact. Years after the employee left, the marks of the person's character remained on the scene he frequented. Yet at the time, this person performed near-miracles in human relationships unconsciously and naturally just by being his own cheerful, enthusiastic self.

It is not easy to represent in yourself a college education. But that is what each of us does when he leaves school. The world judges colleges and universities, and rightly so, by their products. It is the price we pay for our educations but it is a rewarding role to fill

Campus Capers By Bruce Conner



"I wonder if it's got stereophonic sound, too?"

The Self-Governed NU Housing Policy Needs Clarification

By LOUIS SCROEN

In this space two weeks ago I was intended for self-sustaining students.

He also outlined the reasoning behind the long-range housing policy — and, in essence, the reasoning behind all University demands for students and their activities. The University wants to assure, basically, minimum health and safety standards in student housing. But in the broader policy pattern, it wants to assure to every student the fullest possible opportunity for the best possible education. It wants this education to extend far beyond the school curriculum.

The ultimate objective of the housing policy, as I understood it at the time of the previous writing, was to bring all unmarried students whose legal residence is outside Lincoln under complete University jurisdiction — into private co-operatives, fraternities and sororities or University-sponsored housing.

My principal objection was that truly independent students — legal adults paying their own way through school or financed by GI benefits — should not be forced unwillingly under University control. This, I believe, would be a violation of their rights as self-sustaining citizens.

The long-range housing policy, as basically established in the by-laws of the Board of Regents, permits the University to require all unmarried, non-Lincoln resident undergraduate students to live in University-controlled housing. But it permits exceptions to be made. The representative indicated clearly that the exception



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Nebraskan Letterip

Why Shout?

Dear Editor:

Unfortunately I am viewing the Rogers — Innocents Society controversy as an interested but an informed bystander. The only knowledge I have emanates from the daily documentaries appearing in our University publication. Notwithstanding what has been written I have been able to draw my own conclusions:

1. Jack Rogers, although a bright boy in his own right, has not the stamina nor the determination to stay in an organization and not get his own way 100 per cent of the time.

2. Jan Harrison, although an outstanding young journalist, does not know that it is sometimes better to refuse comment rather than make a big deal out of nothing.

3. Ellie Elliott should get her head out of the clouds and cease creating challenges for the student body to meet. It takes more courage to stay with a group when it disagrees with your ideas than it does to run away when the going gets a little hard.

The Innocents Society has never in my mind been a "perfect" organization. Naturally it has faults. I challenge Ellie Elliott, et al. to show me an organization which can boast that it has no weakness. If Jack Rogers did not like what the Innocents Society stood for then he should have never applied. I believe I assume correctly that only those junior men who seek membership are considered.

If Mr. Rogers chooses to cease his affiliation with the Society then the proper place to lodge his resignation is with the Society itself. If Mr. Rogers thinks his resignation deserves any publicity then he can make a statement to The Nebraskan — apparently, such were his thoughts.

However, if the Society does not wish to make a statement that is no concern to anybody outside the Society. Perhaps the Society does not consider the loss of Rogers' "services" significant enough to merit comment. If this be the reason, then I am inclined to acquiesce with the Society's decision.

IRA STANLEY EPSTEIN

It would seem that the student's third and/or fourth years in the University might better be spent adjusting to individualism and non-University social intercourse. My own experience and observation uphold this point of view. The experience and observations of others may differ.

One major point, I feel, is exemplified in my original misunderstanding of the University's housing policy. I was gained from an impression presented to representatives of some organized houses, and therefore, reflected fairly widespread misunderstanding of the policy. The University has failed to clarify this policy sufficiently. It should be clarified thoroughly and frequently. An annual statement of the long-range policy, I think, would be in order. And it should be more than a simple policy statement. It should present in detail the reasoning behind the policy.

Some students have expressed to me the fear that the University's housing policy is aimed ultimately to eliminate houses — particularly fraternities and sororities — and require students to live in University-sponsored housing. Such misconceptions — and the official University representative indicated that they are misconceptions — would be largely eliminated by an annual clarification.

With the Nebraska Legislature now considering the University budget, which includes requests for appropriations to further the long-range housing policy, student, faculty and public support for the policy is needed. The time now is ripe for a complete clarification of the policy.

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THE TREEHOUSE OF THE AUGUST MOON

Spring is just around the corner, and with spring, as always, will come tree-sitting contests. This I applaud. Tree-sitting is healthful and jolly and as American as apple pie. Also it keeps you off the streets.

Tree-sitting is not, however, without its hazards, as you will presently see when I tell you the dread and chilling tale of Manuel Sigafoos and Ed Pancreas.

Manuel and Ed, friends and room-mates, were walking one day past the folk music room in the School of Dentistry and Fine Arts. Suddenly they stopped, for coming through the door of the folk music room was a clear and thrilling alto voice singing the lovely folk tune, 'I Strangled My True-Love with Her Own Yellow Braids, and I'll Never Eat Her Sorghum Any More.'

When the last shimmering notes of the ballad had died away, Manuel and Ed rushed into the room, and there they thought their swelling hearts must burst asunder. For the singer was as beautiful as the song! Fair as the morn she was, doe-eyed and curvilinear.

"My name is Manuel Sigafoos," cried Manuel Sigafoos, "and I love you madly, wildly, tempestuously!"

"My name is Ed Pancreas," cried Ed Pancreas, "and I love you more than Manuel Sigafoos."

"My name is Ursula Thing," cried the girl, "and I've got a jim-dandy idea. Why don't you two have a contest, and I will go steady with the winner?"

"What kind of contest?" cried Manuel and Ed.

"A tree-sitting contest," cried Ursula Thing. "Natch!"

"Done and done," cried Manuel and Ed, and they clambered up adjoining aspens, taking with them the following necessities: food, water, clothing, medications, bedding, reading matter, and — most essential of all — plenty of Philip Morris cigarettes.

We who live on the ground, with all the attendant advantages, know how important Philip Morris cigarettes are. Think, then, how much more important they must be to the lonely tree dweller — how much more welcome their vintage tobaccos, how much more soothing their mild pure flavor, how much more comforting to know as one sits in leafy solitude that come wind or weather, come light or dark, Philip Morris will always remain the same dependable, reliable, flavorful friend.

Well supplied with Philip Morris, our heroes began their contest — Manuel with good heart, Ed with evil cunning. The shocking fact is that Ed intended to win the contest with a Machiavellian ruse. It seems that Ed, quite unbeknownst to Manuel, was one of three identical triplets. Each night while Manuel dozed on his bough, one of Ed's brothers — Fred or Jed — would sneak up the tree and replace him. Thus Ed was spending only one-third as much time in the tree as Manuel. "How can I lose?" said Ed with a crafty giggle to his brother Fred or Jed.

But Ed had a surprise coming. For Manuel, though he did not know it himself, was a druid! He had been abandoned as an infant at the hut of a poor and humble woodcutter named Winthrop Mayhew Sigafoos, who had raised the child as his own. So when Manuel got into the tree, he found to his surprise that he'd never felt so at home and happy in his life, and he had absolutely no intention of ever leaving.

After four or five years Ed and his brothers wearied of the contest and conceded. Ursula Thing came to Manuel's tree and called him to come down and pin her. He declined. Instead he asked her to join him in the tree. This she could not do, being subject to acromegaly (a morbid allergy to woodpeckers) so she ended up with Ed after all.

Only she made a mistake — a very natural mistake. It was Jed she ended up with, not Ed.

Ed, heartbroken at being tricked by his own brother, took up metallurgy to forget.

Crime does not pay.

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The Nebraskan

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