

Editorial Comment

Nebraskan Open Letter to The Council Judiciary Committee

Dear All of You: Speaking of Constitutions. Right now you are going through the constitutions of the various campus organizations and accepting or rejecting them.

Maybe the time has come for you yourselves or for members of the Student Council at large to look at your own constitution and see if, perhaps, you are not throwing rocks at denizens of glass houses.

Perhaps, in accord with Article XI of the Council Constitution, we might make some suggestions as to where work is needed and, as the voice of the students at this University, demand either an interpretation of the constitution as it stands or the necessary changes post haste.

First of all let's take a look at Article IV, Section 1, paragraph A which defines how many members shall sit on the council. We understand that a representative of the Engineering College has asked that the college be given an additional representative in accord with the stipulation in this part of the constitution which says, "Any change in the college representation shall be on the basis of one representative for every 500 students."

Next let's take a look at part four of that same section which defines that the second high person in the elections will serve in case a member of the council loses his job on the council.

Doesn't this imply that a man (or woman) who has not received even a plurality of the votes might become a member of the council contrary to the wishes of the majority of the students in a particular college? Is any corrective step being taken on this count?

One of the objections which the chairman of your committee has with the constitution is "We feel this is not sufficiently democratic for a student organization."

Now this newspaper realizes that the democratic way is not always the fastest or most efficient way in which a government can be conducted but we add that the democratic way seems to be pretty well accepted as the way of life in the good old U.S.A.

We are led to understand that there was some discussion on the committee that the method of electing the Cob officers and the

method of electing the holdover members of the council are not analogous. This seems pretty obvious.

But is the method of selecting the holdover members of the council any more democratic just because it is not analogous with the Cob-officers selection method?

We think not. And here is our reasoning. Section C of this same Article IV states that Five seniors . . . shall be nominated and elected by the outgoing Student Council, at the first meeting after the spring election, from the junior members of that body to serve during their senior year.

We understand that the five senior members are reported to represent the entire University and not any particular college or organization.

It appears, further, that those seniors are elected by Lame Ducks since the wording of the section says the outgoing members do the choosing.

We wonder just how much trouble it would entail to let the students pick the people who will represent them in the council as senior members.

After all, if they are to represent the school in toto, then we see no reason why the school in toto should not have a voice in their selection. That is, if the council wants "a sufficiently democratic" process.

We have been, we might add, confronted with the argument that the senior holdover members leave some on the council who will know the procedure and the problems of the council. But we see no more reason why these seniors should be selected by the outgoing council members than why the representatives to our national congress should be elected by the Unicameral Legislature.

We have listed some grievances which all seem to arise as a result of Article IV of the constitution.

Now it seems that Article VII defines as one of the duties of the Judiciary Committee the interpretation of the Student Council Constitution. We hope that there will be an interpretation or a move for amendment on the grounds that there seems to be sufficient evidence to warrant one or the other.

We trust that this letter will be read, in accordance with Article XI of the constitution of the council, at this Wednesday's meeting.

Further, the Daily Nebraskan trusts that the council will, in good faith, begin the proper machinery to investigate its own constitution and to avoid the challenge in the future that people who live in glass houses should throw no stones.



Letterip

Puzzled Thinker

To the Editor:

On the general subject of school spirit and particularly in response to the editorial "Aftermath" of 7 Oct. 37 I would like to present a view which apparently has not been taken into consideration. It concerns the definition of "spirit" and disturbs me somewhat since I suspect I have a deficiency here. I can't seem to muster up any. Apparently I am inhibited from grasping your concept of spirit by some mental block, for whenever I hear the word, I can't seem to progress beyond such fixed ideas as "intellect," "mind," "soul", etc. And when I hear the escape the association of the "spirit of learning" inspired by the school.

You can see my dilemma. When you list your conclusions of what the public thinks about spirit in relation to football you bewilder my thought processes just as if you had attempted to explain football in terms of school spirit as I conceive it.

For example, your first conclusion is that "football and spirit aren't necessarily equated by everyone." I didn't know they were equated by anyone and am obviously and utterly unable to comprehend why you bemoan this conclusion—if, as I infer, you do.

Your second conclusion is that the football team has been a rallying point for the state of Nebraska and since the team is weak, hence the support is too. I am sure of my ground on this point and wish to assure you that I am still supporting the University with my taxes, tuition and intensive endeavor to learn, just as strongly as ever. Do not lose heart on this point because I will stick with you regardless of the success or failure, or even existence of the team.

Rather than belabor the point further, I will simply confess to the accusation that I really "just don't give a hoot about the football team", as you put it, and am also devoid of any "school spirit" as you interpret it. On the other hand I am trying to learn what the instructors and research opportunities at the University have to teach me, and am overflowing with this spirit of the school.

I wonder if I am alone in this "misconception" or if the fact that only three cheerleaders and a photographer attended the Cornhusker "sendoff" with your sports editor doesn't indicate that perhaps you are alone in your conception?

Ed. Note.—If Mr. Smith were an avid fan of the local press sports pages, he would realize that "football and spirit" are equated by quite a few thousand people in the state of Nebraska. Rather he twists the words of the Daily Nebraskan for the very point we made is the same conclusion at which he arrives—that being, that everyone doesn't believe that football and spirit either do or even should be as much as seen on the same piece of paper or heard within the same conversation.

Blasts Jaywalkers

To the Editor:

Why do they do it? Why do these students, our future lawyers, teachers and engineers walk against the red light of the traffic signals?

I can condone a lone pedestrian darting across the street against the light after checking for traffic but it seems as though they are never alone. They cross the street in droves paying no heed to the cars trying to get through. And they never seem to hurry or worry, always at a leisurely pace.

Perhaps these students share the feeling of the French cab drivers that no damned mechanical gadget changing from red to green so many times a minute is going to tell them what to do. Or perhaps they just harbor suicidal tendencies.

Whatever it is, I am sure it is not color blindness. Because if they did this deed in the uptown traffic they would soon become a bumper decoration or a greasy spot on the pavement for all posterity to see.

J. P. Schenck

Into The Limelight

Dave Rhoades

And the intrigues continue. . . Before the fall term, Bruce Brugmann joshed over to the Beta house and offered me information which would make the intrigues of Ellen Smith read like Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm. Nevertheless, being a person who simply doesn't mingle with the Inner Fellowships of the Crib (commonly known as the I.F.C.) and other innocent groups, I declined.

A Few Words Of a Kind

—e. e. hines

Mr. Typical College Student is an alley-cat tossed into an empty tiger's cage.

And sadly enough, most of us misplaced refugees try to verbally play the tiger's role. We strut about our enclosed domain roaring and ranting and panting, animated bundles of "sound and fury signifying nothing."

Though we play the part of tiger and live in his cage, we don't have his fangs and we can't digest his food.

I'm thinking of Mr. Joe College who recites long lists of just memorized chemical formulas or historical information studied for tomorrow's examination;

Of Mr. Joe College who was tops in his high school class and now plays fiddle-faddle with his slide-rule each day in order to be Mr. Wordly-Wise in Tinker Toy Class 103, the first 8 o'clock he has ever had to take in his three years of college;

Of nearly 90 per cent of the present University population who think they will be made into whole and intelligent creatures after sitting through 120 to 150 credit hours worth of classes.

Most of us would have been much better off in a trades school, or Dale Carnegie "Be Better Fellow Classes", or YM-YWCA "Clean Fun Clubs."

Our tiger's fangs, our undeveloped minds, aren't big enough to bite into information other than that dished out in the classroom lecture or gobbled eagerly up from the subject text.

Our fangs aren't even big enough to tell an instructor when he is all wet. We worry about the grade and, thus, carefully note his own ideas on any subject even when God Himself would have to search for another earthly creature who agreed with the instructor. . . to make certain that we can get a good grade on next week's 150-question "objective" examination.

We don't think. We play "yes men."

A person, of course, can't always disagree with his instructor. In the first place, those dusty creatures (not meant to be an all-inclusive term) are usually right. In the second place, Emily Post and the rest of the world have agreed that it's not the proper sort of thing to do.

So we often go on playing alley-cat, compiling our lists of "my instructor thinks this" notes, and roaring to high heaven and lowly hades outside of class about that dumb egghead, who dishes out drivel and superstition discarded by most humans in the early Stone Age.

Actually, our lives as alley-cats are much more comfortable than those of tigers. There aren't as many armed hunters seeking us out, and it doesn't require nearly as much food (in this case, knowledge) as it would if we were tigers (thinkers, not repeaters).

Use Nebraskan Want Ads

The Galley Slave

dick shugrue

For ardent fans of quiz shows here is the question of the week: What's the most preying problem around the Big Eight today? Football (Sooners and all that)? Academic Freedom? Getting dates?

Sorry. Indications from scribes around this circuit lead me to believe the biggest wave in otherwise tranquil seas is trying to get parking places away from faculty members.

Witness the violent activity by the Kansas State College newspaper which states, "A survey of the

faculty lot was made every hour on the hour for two days of two weeks by the campus police, the survey showed that many parking places in the faculty lot (that's the area behind their new Student Union, I think) are consistently vacant."

"This is a current problem and should be dealt with immediately." Editorial writer Roger Myers goes on to say that he hopes the K-State traffic board will do something about this situation.

Around here with the number of faculty who are skooking around in Volkswagens perhaps there should be legislation to cut the size of faculty parking areas. It's obvious there won't be many faculty people driving bulky Cadillacs. And it's further obvious that the foreign cars would fit very snugly into the corridors of Andrews. There's a thought!

As long as I'm on the exchange-ideas-and-fill-space-jag here's a bit of information from the North Carolina Tar Heel (which is a pretty decent newspaper.)

Communist Gail Goodwin says, "The writer of this column would like to acknowledge all the gentlemen who so enthusiastically responded to Saturday's item concerning the conceited coed. I hear that Saturday night the girls' dormitories were filled with boys asking if there were any coeds who didn't have dates and nobly offering to take such leftovers as may be had out wining, dining and dancing."

"Here I must admit that one facet of the enigmatic personality of a coed was left out in the haste of writing Saturday's column: pride. If she had been marooned on an island for six months without seeing a man, she would still die a thousand deaths before accepting a Saturday night date at 7 p.m. Saturday night. Puzzling? Yes, but true."

Are you in vogue? Flunking out of school and all that stuff. If so, kick yourself hard and settle down. That's the advice which comes to us from the TCC at The University of Whidmore.

Now it seems that members of the venerable organization are sure that students who are in school aren't here for anything more than the social whirl. So they (TCC members) try to get people on the stick and settle down to the work of college.

It would be interesting to see a group of students at our University band together to start prodding people (even forcibly) into studying. Or they might encourage some laggards to drop out of college.



from the editor— First Things First... by Jack Pollock

The Big Eight's mighty Oklahoma takes a second place berth this week.

Sportswriters, including the International News Service's panel of experts, this week voted Michigan State the nation's top team, despite Oklahoma's record of 43 consecutive victories. Oklahoma had to rally in the last half to beat Texas (21-7) after trailing 7-0 at the end of the first two quarters.

Pertinent quote of the week: A cartoon showing a wife tugging at the coat of her irate husband yelling at a hot dog salesman blocking view at a football game. " . . . Watch your manners and your English, Fignewton! . . . He might well be a professor supplementing his salary! . . ."

Reports the Norfolk Daily News on football and the University spirit, "Assuming there is something lacking at the school of which the football slump is a symptom, loyal alumni will be asking what it is that is missing. Is it solely the want of a winning team that is responsible for the dumpy feeling on the campus?"

"The answer probably is that that is an important reason for the absence of enthusiasm. But why the slump?"

"Nebraska has had some good coaches," The Daily News explains, "but they haven't been able to turn out teams such as we used to see on Memorial field."

"One of the reasons for the poor showing one might guess is that the high school stars in Nebraska choose other schools to attend," the News says. "In diagnosing the trouble it would

be well to determine that this is so. Is it because we can't pay the price? Or that there is more glory in playing for some more successful team?"

"A good many are guessing the trouble is financial. It started about the time colleges began frankly to hold out the money lure to entice good players. Nebraska has been raising her bid in the last year or two, but it is suspected that other schools are upping scholarship offers too.

"Is it too much of a professional air that is spoiling college football? Are the boys playing for what they can get out of it instead of for the fun of it? Some observers say so."

If they are right, a school with limited resources like Nebraska will always be handicapped, the News points out.

Says the News "But perhaps all the trouble is that we are putting too much stress on football. Alumni and students alike are letting their attitude toward the school rest on whether or not we have a winning team."

"There are many activities at the University that are more important than football. If we showed the same interest in building up an outstanding faculty that we do in developing a winning football team, Nebraska could do more for its young people than the greatest of football teams could do."

Leave it to the Irish . . . An Irish bartender is believed the first to come up with a Sputnik cocktail.

The recipe calls for "three beeps of gin and one beep of vermouth."

Says the inventor, "Three Sputnik cocktails will send anyone into outer space."

Daily Nebraskan

FIFTY-SIX YEARS OLD Member: Associated Collegiate Press Intercollegiate Press Representative: National Advertising Service, Incorporated Published at: Room 26, Student Union Lincoln, Nebraska 14th & R

part of any member of the faculty of the University, or on the part of any person outside the University. The members of the Nebraskan staff are personally responsible for what they say, or do or cause to be printed, February 5, 1956.

Subscription rates are \$2.50 per semester or \$4 for the academic year.

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