

Editorial Comment

Council Representation

As long as a student has the obligation of paying for the services of a university he has some right to be represented in the decisions made by that institution.

Consequently student councils have been established throughout the universities and colleges of our land predicated on this basic idea in American common law. The decision to allow student councils stems from the Revolutionary War idea that taxation without representation is unjust.

But on the other hand too much representation can be as detrimental to the workings of a legislative body. So there may be a basic disagreement between factions of an organization which has become topheavy with persons representing a particular bloc of students or workers or citizens. And so Americans frown on the antics of Tammany Hall in New York City or the late Kelly-Nash Machine in Chicago.

An organization certainly has a right to find out where it stands with regard to obtaining representation in a legislative body. But some basic protection for the members of the majority should be existent to insure equality, to insure honest government, to insure justice.

With these thoughts in mind the students of the University should consider the concerted activity of the Kosmet Klub in seeking representation on the student council.

This newspaper believes very strongly that the Kosmet Klub has no business on the student council. We believe that it is a special interest group which should abide by rather than formulate student policy.

If the Kosmet Klub were allowed to be represented on the council, moreover, the vast number of private organizations in the University would have a perfect right to have representation on the council. Then we would

see activity which gave to the special interests special privileges.

This, of course, is a step which would lead to the breakdown of a relatively efficient and relatively just student government.

Certainly at the present time a student who is a member of the Kosmet Klub has a perfect right to file for membership on the council from one of the disinterested organizations on the campus such as the Arts and Sciences College or the Inter Fraternity Council. Along the same line a member of the Buddhist Religion has a right to file for Congress as a candidate of the Republican Party. But we frown on such a man being elected as the representative of that religion. We would likewise frown on a member of the Federated Filecabinet Makers of America seeking office as a representative of that special interest group.

Basically the Daily Nebraskan believes that the council would be making a tremendous mistake if it permitted the Kosmet Klub to have a representative on the legislative body. It would be establishing a precedent which would be harmful to the student council in the long run.

Unfortunately the Kosmet Klub will probably get a sufficient number of signatures to be placed on the ballot. But fortunately the students still have the final say-so and if the motion goes onto the Spring ballot the majority will rule.

We trust that the students will remember that a change in the council constitution is an important measure. It should be made only when there is a real need for it. Now in the case of the Kosmet Klub there is no real need. As a matter of fact there is a great need to keep the constitution of the council as is with regard to organizational representation. Or if any changes are to be made the council should consider giving the engine school more representation. But clubs . . . no!

AUF Drive

Although there are some gripes about the handling of the AUF drive and auction each year, we believe the All University Fund people should be proud of the success they meet in collecting funds for charity.

So keeping these thoughts in mind we can offer some criticism and know it will be accepted in the same spirit it's offered in. Many faculty members feel they are being stung twice when the AUF solicits from them. After all, they give to the Community Chest and are asked to make twice the sacrifice. Judging from the recent publicity given to low faculty salaries the complaints are justified.

It might be wise for AUF to adopt a "hands off" policy with regard to the faculty solicitation.

Then, too, the plight of students who work and give through their offices should be taken into consideration. AUF requests to persons like that are just double bites into much needed pay checks.

All in all the AUF does a commendable job. But it must be cautious with regard to its requests for it might alienate some persons who have done more than their share. A price tag can't be placed on charity and so the spirit should be considered, not the amount.

We hope the AUF will continue to have success in aiding the fine charities selected by the students. But these suggestions might be given serious thought as the board plans next year's campaign.

Union Effort

Now that the smoke has settled and students who objected to the facilities offered to Mrs. Roosevelt when she spoke at the University have calmed down a bit a word of explanation is in order.

First students should appreciate the fact that Mrs. Roosevelt came to the University. Then they should understand that she was sponsored not by the University but by the American Association for the United Nations in cooperation with the Nebraska University Council on World Affairs. The AAUN booked the Union ballroom hoping primarily to find a location for the speeches and for the dinner honoring Mrs. Roosevelt.

Consequently it was a last-minute suggestion to the administration to make the affair an All-University convocation. As we understand it the committee members for a convocation were not available to make the necessary arrangements.

The Union then, carried out fully its part of the bargain by supplying the best of its facilities to the convocation as it was.

Certainly many students were disappointed that they could not see and hear Mrs. Roosevelt because of the limited space. On the other hand students should be pleased with the efforts of the Union to make the joint appearance of the former first lady as fine an occasion as it was.

In the future, through the cooperation of other civic groups in the city, it is hoped that the entire student body will get the opportunity to hear distinguished guests. All that can be said at the present time is we profit by our mistakes.

Mutterings

steve schultz

Now I know nothing about AWS because I know next to nothing about sorority girls (which is probably all the better for all concerned). I am given to understand by informed sources, however, that AWS has something or other to do with seeing that all the girls get in on time so that their dates still have time for a quick brew before the state men padlock the pubs. I hear also that they mingle their minds and dispense campuses with sagacious zeal to anyone wicked enough to violate someone's arbitrary opinion of what constitutes an hour before which nothing untoward can happen. And currently, I am told, the AWS Special Committee on Literature and Drama Appreciation is doing its blue-nosed best to decide which Coed Follies scripts are proper for presentation.

A girl I knew in the good old days when we were all young and even more foolish than we are now is skitmaster for one of the campus centers of sisterhood. Her script centers around the "AWS-USSR Pajama Factory," a disciplinary institution situated in either Siberia or the Sandhills for the purpose of punishing girls with the intolable gall to consider 10:30 an unlikely bedtime for mature young ladies. The Dean of Women appears and gets her comeuppance.

Now, for old times sake I read this script before it was turned in for approval. It's mildly amusing and fairly satirical. A few days ago it was returned from the AWS with all sorts of red editorial scrawls, consisting mostly of suggestions that the whole thing was not treated subtly enough, whatever that may mean. By the time the self-appointed censors were through, hardly enough was left of the script to present onstage.

If one didn't know better—which I don't—one might think that the administration is afraid to be made fun of. One might even suppose that, like God and the Great White Father of the Potomac, the administration has joined that select group which is untouched by humorous hands. If so, they may as well build that Sandhills Pajama Factory for real; in fact, I'll be only too glad to go there because things will get pretty hot here on campus for anyone who lacks the proper reverence.

Oh, don't worry too much. As the Kosmet Klub show proves, you can still make jokes about curling matches, begging in Paris and the Asian flu. Just so long as the good Dean doesn't take up any of the three.

According to an apocryphal story, an instructor once passed a paper around his classroom and asked his students to sign it. All of them did. It turned out to be a contract giving him permission to decapitate them on the steps

of Andrews Hall. The moral is obvious.

Equally obvious is the fact that the Kosmet Klub will be able to collect signatures on its current petition for membership in the Student Council until the cows come home. Everyone wants to be a good fellow, so everyone will sign.

What is not obvious is why KK feels it is entitled to a representation among the campus solons. (Solon?) Certainly the club, made up of a selected membership who gain admission without any regard for equal representation of the student body and with—do I dare breathe the words?—occasional political pull, cannot claim to represent any large segment of the campus populus. Certainly the club cannot dispute the fact that some of its members are already on the Student Council. Certainly the club cannot suppose that the student body does not know that many of its members already exercise considerable influence on campus. And certainly no one thinks the present concentration of power among a small group of politicos can be relieved by giving that group even more power.

The Gadfly

Sara Jones

A headline on page 12 of the Wednesday Lincoln Journal carried a terse and unknowingly accurate statement. "Hardin Talks Principles." Everyone in the University talks principles. But in actual practice these principles become meaningless cliches.

Dr. Marvel Baker, Assistant Dean of the College of Agriculture, called the Patterson motion at the Faculty Senate Tuesday a "naked personal attack on Dean Lambert." He's right. Three times the academic freedom of a professor within Lambert's department was violated, with the express knowledge of Lambert. At the time that Dr. Mitchell was removed as chairman of the department of agriculture economics the reason given by Lambert was the need to strengthen research and extension work within the department, a reason whose untruth became laughably apparent only days after it was announced. He was indeed a naked personal attack on someone, Mr. Baker. The only difference between the accusation of Lambert and the accusation of Mitchell was that Mitchell was shown to be innocent.

Sustained applause followed Chancellor Hardin's statement that such questions are "seldom wholly black or wholly white, wholly right or wholly wrong." This is indeed a statement worthy of a public relations expert, for it absolves

blame and takes away any feelings of responsibility, for after all, "such questions are never wholly right or wholly wrong."

Finally The Chancellor said that he would act to insure the observance of principles included in the report on the Mitchell case. That's fine, Chancellor. Five years ago in the almost forgotten Anderson case, our former Chancellor endorsed a beautiful set of principles of academic freedom. When Mitchell was first attacked, the Regents proclaimed a set of principles. Two years ago they reaffirmed them. So all in all the Mitchell case was nothing but a summer storm—lightning and thunder and dark storm clouds, but when it's over the air is as hot and stuffy as before. After all the fuss and shouting, all we got was another affirmation of principles.

The Mitchell case is over—finished. The Rag will carry no more stories or columns about it. The faculty and the students, bored to death by two years of editorials, can sigh with relief. The Administration will join in rousing chorus—"It's All Over Now!"

And the saddest part about it is that the Administration probably didn't mean to consciously abridge Mitchell's freedom. They thought they were doing the whole thing for the good of the University. And they can't see where they've done anything blameworthy at all.

for Democratic Action and the Un-affiliated Women Students League for Democratic Action. Oh, yes, there was also a representative for the BB&G, Bill's Beanery and Guzzle Shop.

Well, with all these groups represented, there was no argument when a new organization (or one that was here-to-fore unrepresented on the council for some reason) applied for membership. At least there was none until one day the Komedly Klan applied for membership. It was a very good group, even though it was small (23 members), in fact, the Komedly Klan was revered by all the students. And everybody said, "Why not give the Komedly Klan (or KK'ers as they were commonly known) a representative, everyone else has one."

The KK'ers even petitioned the students and got a tremendous support since no one could resist the heart-touching pleas of a fraternity brother saying, "but I need the signatures," and "It'll help me if you sign it."

But then someone found out why the Studentium Council had denied the organization representation. You see, the members were afraid that if any more representatives were admitted it might upset the seating arrangement. They had worked for months in Committee meetings to come up with the present arrangement in which every Council member could both see the beautiful new Administration Building through the picture window and have easy access to the door to run down to the Bean Pot for a bowl of bean soup.

When the student body found out about the seating arrangement in the Councilium and the fact that Council leaders were padding their own pocketbooks with bribes for good seats, it turned out to be the straw that broke the camel's back. The good denizens of the student body got together and adapted a system of representation by colleges alone. This, they said was the most democratic of all, since the representation was based on the number of students in each college, one representative being allowed for every 500 students. At first an obstacle arose in this plan, some said, what if a college should grow from 1000 to 1500 students, wouldn't they have unfair representation. This, however, was worked out with the adoption of a system of periodic adjustment to fit the changing enrollments of the colleges.

The plan was adopted overwhelmingly, of course some opponents said it was done not for more democratic government, but because some Councilium members wanted seats nearer the window.

A Nebraskan Series

Rickover Cites Education Democratization, European Subsidization of 'Able Students'

This is the last in a series of articles featuring excerpts from a speech of Admiral H. G. Rickover of the Atomic Energy Commission.

The European educational system has now been democratized by abolishing school fees and by subsidizing the education of able students through scholarships. This is done extensively in England, where, for example, three-fourths of the students at Oxford are on government grants. Russia has gone furthest in this respect by paying complete living expenses to able students. Opportunities have also been developed which permit the late blooming child to catch up or shift from one educational track to another.

Moreover, democratization has not meant the lowering of academic standards. Examinations weed out those who cannot absorb further education. And yet the system is, in fact, less rigid than ours when circumstances require. Thus it permits changes in the demand and supply of the several professions to be effected rapidly.

It is this continental European system which the Soviets reintroduced 20 years ago and which has enabled them to forge ahead at an astonishing rate. There is nothing specifically Russian or communistic in their system, except that they have trapped all the "nonessentials" from the European model—they have stripped everything that develops independent thought and a cultivated mind—and that they have introduced as much political indoctrination into the curriculum as they consider necessary. By paying the living expenses of most students, by putting large sums into construction and equipment of superb laboratories and libraries, and by offering their children no other road to success but education, the Soviets have been able to get a larger percentage of their students—almost twice the number in Europe and America—into professional university level study.

The method is simple. Combine the European educational system with adequate funds, and motivate children by offering the highest material rewards for hard mental study and you get the same result anywhere in the world. There are the beginnings of this in China, too.

In no other Western country are educational institutions so precariously placed financially, so de-

pendent on local politicians, on the whim of small communities where few have ever had a higher education. Half our colleges are continuously threatened with bankruptcy. The future looks bleak unless in some way federal assistance can be made acceptable and some sort of national standard can be established to which diploma and degree-giving institutions must conform.

England which was faced with a tradition of private education and of control by thousands of local school boards finally worked out a compromise by which government and local school authorities were able to co-operate. The local school boards had to go however, and were replaced by a small number of county councils. Government aid remains voluntary but is conditioned on acceptance of uniform standards of excellence in curriculum and in teacher qualification. Moving slowly step by step, England has been able to overcome her own political obstacles to good public education; but it took her over a hundred years and she has been that much behind continental Europe. Might this not be one reason why, despite her far-flung Empire, her enormous head start in industrialization, England was rapidly overtaken by Germany, both industrially and finally militarily? Education is too vital for a nation's welfare safely to be debated overlong.

In our own country, the schools have been primarily engines for Americanizing children of diverse backgrounds; for teaching all children to get along with others whose economic and cultural standards might be different; for developing the qualities which citizens in a democracy need in order to carry out their political responsibilities. These tasks our schools have accomplished excellently. As long as the country devoted all its energies single-mindedly to development of the highest standard of living for the greatest number of people, the kind of education received by American youngsters was entirely adequate. But in the pursuit of this aim, we have neglected two things:

First, we have not counted the cost to us of our high standard of living in terms of rapid exhaustion of irreplaceable mineral and fuel resources; and

Second, we have failed to recognize the damage done to our

talented children by squeezing them into the strait jacket of the comprehensive school.

Faced with the task of expanding the aims of American education we must yet not lose its great qualities of humaneness and its ability to lay the spiritual foundations for harmonious democratic life among people of varied capacities and cultural standards.

Change, of course, is always a painful. Too often those whose way of life is dependent on the old and familiar routines resist fiercely, counting their own interests above those of the nation, though never conscious of this. Nothing is easier than to convince oneself that what is good for him is good for the country.

Today unlike a hundred years ago, we no longer have a wide margin of time. We no longer live on an island, spiritually and

geographically removed from the power politics of the world. A hundred years ago, Europe was the cockpit of power struggles, and we stood on the side lines, protected by friendly oceans and free to choose whether to refrain from or join the battle.

Today, it is we who are in the center of the area; and how well prepared we are will determine whether there is to be a battle and, if so, whether we will emerge victorious.

H. G. Wells remarked that civilization is a race between education and catastrophe. If this school throws its weight into the scale on the side of education—small though this weight may be in the total mass of educational effort our country requires—it may yet be the little bit which will guarantee survival of civilization.

from the editor—

First Things First...

by Jack Pollock

According to a poll on dating taken recently at the Georgia Institute of Technology, the coeds agreed boys should not drink, should dress conservatively, 67 per cent disapproved of kissing on the first drink, in addition to attribute as being considerate, humorous, intelligent and cheerful. They mentioned nothing, however, about letting the boys out of the glass cages for Christmas.

The boys, on the other hand, described the ideal coed as "wow," "my wife," attractive, Christian, honest, understanding, congenial and intelligent. One wanted a girl with a 140 IQ and another asked for an MIT electrical engineering graduate.

Down to the basics, boys favored girls with blue eyes (47%), while 28 per cent preferred brown eyes and 10 per cent with green eyes. The remaining 15 per cent were distributed among "same color," black, dark, two, one, none, hazel, red, yellow, purple and pink.

Most desirable heights were 5'3" 18%, 5'4" 18%, 5'6" 18% and 5'5" 16%. Thirteen per cent preferred coeds standing from 4'9" to 5'2" and 11 per cent preferred those from 5'8" to 6'0". Another six per cent preferred any girl up to 30" (zero inches) or to "six beer cans" in height.

Brown hair received 32 per cent favor over blondes, 29 per cent and blacks 22 per cent. The remaining 17 per cent covered such colors as dark, yellow, at least some, lots of, blue, real, or natural color.

Other results: Twenty-five per cent approved of girls who smoke, 71 per cent disapproved; 27 per cent preferred girls who drink, 69 per cent did not; 66 per cent for sweet girls for party girls; 54 per cent approved of kissing on the first date and 39 per cent disapproved and 84 per cent said the men should make the decisions. (For the other 16 per cent, I'll offer for sale by texts on "How to be a Yes Man," and the recent offering of "How to be Happily Henpecked.") Every love and marriage course ought to have the latter. I think I can safely say in the Cornhusker state, votes for men making the decisions would probably run over the 100 per cent mark, allowing more than ample room for ballot stuffing.

Then there was the professor who announced an exam and a student asked what was to be included on the quiz. Quipped the indignant instructor, "Son, I'm an educator—not a quiz coach!"

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