

IFC Makes a Choice

A major step in the right direction was taken last week when the Interfraternity Council passed the final points of its legislation regarding pledge training. The Active Training Creed, as it is titled, contains six points of ideals of the IFC fraternities and methods for achieving these ideals.

This Creed represents hours of hard work by its authors, and they are to be congratulated for their foresight.

For too long, fraternities have carried a derogatory connotation with more than a few members of both the community and the student body. In some cases this outlook on the fraternity system was justified. Shocking incidents revolving around hazing activities have made it necessary that fraternities take a thorough look at themselves and realize the necessity of re-vamping their system to a position of respect in the eyes of every citizen.

The University IFC took it upon itself to develop a unique program designed to affect all of its members and came up with the Active Training Creed.

This creed calls for a scholarship program "conducive to scholastic achievement;" a personality development program regarding dating, extra-curricular activities, behavior and meal time atmosphere; a pledgemen's program designed for the "maintenance and propagation" of the fraternity; and abolition of all degrading pledge activities and hell weeks, with penalties ranging from conduct warning to maximum \$500 fines.

This last point deserves more attention, since such activities have probably been responsible for the absence of better scholarship, personality development and pledgemen'ship.

Several fraternities have already taken it upon themselves to eliminate hazing and replace hell week with help week. Since the introduction of these programs the general standards of the fraternities

which have adopted them have been raised to position of esteem well above that which they occupied previously.

With the adoption of the Active Training Creed, the IFC has done its part in improving the fraternity system. The job of putting it to his inter-Id use now lies with the individual houses. Whether they abide by this Creed is for the most part up to each fraternity. The IFC won't be able to watch every movement of every house. However, if a fraternity is interested in its reputation along with that of the entire fraternity system, it will abide by the Creed.

Take Advantage

No one wants to be accused of being trite, but one comment on today's Homecoming election seems very much in order. One vote counts.

Yes there are deals—houses doing block voting, deals and all the rest. But these are not so wide-spread nor so prevalent to make the single vote ineffective.

In other words—now that the procedure of elections has been changed—let's take advantage of it.

The Bands Played On

No matter how the game is played, the one football clash that is always worth seeing.

This year's band day came on a day when the weather couldn't have been better. The bands seemed to work better this year than last year. The color, the sound, the excitement of these high school students swarming onto the field in an orderly fashion is impressive to say the least.

Our congratulations to Prof. Donald Lenz for another superb performance. Also a note of thanks goes to the many high school band directors who work many an hour to prepare their groups for their big day in Lincoln.

From the editor's desk:

On Campuses 'n Things

That Lucy's a sharp little shrew. Rags serve not only for spider killing—but on rainy days they represent the first line of defense against rain and all those other elements.

All of which leads up to the comment that we are now in the midst of National Newspaper Week. At last report that's what we were running down here, so consider the comment made. As the staunchest of Peanuts fans, couldn't resist reprinting the strip from last September in which Lucy presented her chum with the flip-flopping dictum.

Speaking of newspapers, nine of us from the School of Journalism were the guests of an Associated Press managing editors meeting in Beatrice Friday. Which again convinced us that newpeople have more fun than anybody.

Also must report that in the midst of the festivities (ummm . . . such nice steaks) at the prompting of one of our profs (notice how I carefully refrain from identifying the good Dr. directly) in our own inimitable fashion we performed the Nebraska chant for this assembled group of state daily editors with a few AP types and University PR men thrown in.

Also we discovered someone who knew both the words and melody to that rapidly disappearing Husker song "come a-running boys"—and I must say like the gal in "My Fair Lady" that song has "Really got it" in comparison to "There is No place."

In one of those really, really sage discussions that three persons trapped in the second row of a station wagon for an hour's drive set into, it was decided that actually Nebraska songs aren't so bad. Someone commented that when you're out

at East Hills or Turnpike or at Colorado, you sing the darn things with real gusto. So why is it that you have to get away from the campus before these things really mean anything?

And between Beatrice and here we concluded that the problem lies much deeper than the songs, or the "spirit." Actually what seems to lie at the root of the thing is the sort of tense, huddle-with-the-bunch feeling that prevails on our campus. I'll admit myself that when I'm sitting at a game—basketball, football or whatever, if the people around are singing, I love to sing with the rest. But if you are one in a group of 10—and suddenly realize that you are the sole vocalizer, it doesn't take long before you become the tenth silent member.

Like this is the other half of Stuckey's comment that if the guy beside you doesn't feel like yelling, don't try to make him yell. This is the half that says if the guy beside you feels like yelling or rattling a noise-maker, maybe it'd be nice if you didn't look at him as if he had just toppled off the bar stool.

Speaking of games and yelling, I must say that the Tri Deltis and whoever was sitting around them displayed considerably more enthusiasm at Saturday's game than did the red-blazered boys who get special seats in return for cheering. It's kind of too bad that when a spontaneous yell starts it has to come from an individual house with an eye to copping a trophy rather than from a pep organization.

But then I imagine the Tri Deltis and cohorts had more fun than the peppers.

And notice I have thus far refrained from labelling the whole biz conformity.

But one word about conformity. Even if the card section is supposed to be seated during any card flashes—if an individual within the section feels that when the national anthem is played he should stand even though it partially disrupts the picture, I'd say more power to him.



Diana

Lucy's Really Got It



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—Writing in America—

Who's To Review the Reviewers

By Doug McCartney

No one who has sampled the delights of the English literature courses and compared them with much of the current works, can help but notice the difference.

One question which arises from this observation is "Are today's writers exemplifying a new trend — a new type of writing, or are they the time-worn successes of the past, slightly modified with current public obsessions such as sex?"

Final Judges

The people who make the final judgment are the critics. They are found reviewing novels, movies, TV, and any and all kinds of writing.

Harper's Magazine answered saying, "The leading writers of the times will judge the critics. To them also falls more accurate

examination of today's writings." And this they undertook in the latest issue of Harper's.

Now it falls to the public, to criticize the writers who review the critics who read the nations writings.

One of the contributors of the magazine, Bud Schulberg, author of "On the Waterfront" and "What Makes Sammy Run" centers his criticism on the movie and TV industries. He points out that about the only people you don't hear about in connection with a movie, are the people who wrote it.

Back in the days of 5 P.T. (pre-television) when the movies were king, they were also mass produced and "about as full of real life as a box of popcorn." The nations top writers left Hollywood, after seeing the essence of their scripts wind up under the re-writer's pencil or on the cutting-room floor.

Popcorn Production

Schulberg writes, "In this popcorn, mass-production era, no wonder writers were tucked away in dark corners, or hired and fired out of hand like the itinerant odd-job men they were."

Then came TV, and as Schulberg puts it, "the public seemed to be reaching at least an enlightened stage of adolescence." The movies were forced to offer more than the slicks.

"The trend is in the direction of a new, wide-open kind of film making . . . writers are encouraged to write and produce and direct their own work . . . for the first time in American film history the writer—that is if he is willing to fight for his right—is being given his head."

Vance Bourjaily, one of the best of the young novelists who has tried play-writing, challenges television to prove its worth. He calls it "a challenge to our writers without precedent in the history of human culture" then adds, "we seem to have faced it squarely with our backs."

One of the leading reviewers, novelist Elizabeth Hardwick, wrote a few hard hitting statements in her critiques.

"The condition of popular reviewing has become so listless, the effect of its agreeable judgments so en-

ervating to the general reading public that the sly publishers of "Lolita" have tried to stimulate sales by quoting bad reviews with the good."

"The truth is, one imagines, that the publishers—seeing their best and their least products received with uniform equanimity—must be aware that the drama of the book world is being slowly, painlessly killed."

She pointed out that in Book Review Digest in 1958, of the reviews, 51%

were favorable, 4.7% unfavorable, and most important, 44.3% were non-committal!

"The book reviews . . . are marked by the same lack of strenuous effort." The author counters however, that there is room, for the individual willing to put forth this serious effort. And not only is there room, but a serious need! The next part will deal with the methods of writing, featuring the criticisms of Kazin, Yerby, MacLeish and Brustein.

Nebraskan Letterip

The Daily Nebraskan will publish only those letters which are signed. Letters attacking individuals must carry the author's name. Others may use initials or a pen name. Letters should not exceed 500 words. When letters exceed this limit the Nebraskan reserves the right to condense them, retaining the writer's views.

Gaping Absence

To the Editor:

The whole problem of school spirit on this campus is tied up with the gaping absence of effective rallies. In the four years that I have trod the pitted sidewalks of old N.U., I have not witnessed nor participated in one good rabble-rousing riot.

Singing mournful chants will neither endear the Alma Mater to the hearts of her students nor instill in their insipid little souls the true spirit of mass hysteria. What is needed is an all

university sit down strike for shorter assignments, a gross looting of Love Library, or mass march through downtown Lincoln to remind the city folks that the University is still important.

Nothing grows well unless it is carefully nurtured. If students grow accustomed to rioting for such trivia, no doubt a cause will move them to even more impressive violence.

Rally, rally now for the sake of more effective rallies in the future. Don't let your school down!

G.C.



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