

Editorial Comment:

# Democracy Shouldn't Be Sacrificed For 'Republic'

North Carolina gubernatorial candidate Malcolm Seawell recently reported many high school and college students don't know the difference between a democracy and a republic.

To him, that is a tragedy.

But if this is a tragedy, it can't be confined to students alone. Ask almost any American what form of government we have in the United States and the answer almost invariably will be "a democracy" instead of "a republic."

What does this mean? It could be that it reflects a citizenry that isn't too "up" on its knowledge of civics. But it doesn't have to and can hardly be taken that the American people are indifferent to their form of government.

In a technical sense, our federal government is not a democracy but a republic, which is only a form of democracy. The only difference is one of convenience.

As a true democracy, the United States would act after the fashion of the small city-states of ancient Greece. Then, every member of this nation's 180,000,000 population would have to come together to pass all the laws.

Obviously, this is impossible, so we have the next best thing — a representative democracy based on free, popular elections. A few are chosen to speak for many.

This is a republic.

## Ministry, 'Service' Esteem Low?

Recently high school newspaper editors throughout the country were polled to find out how they rate careers on the basis of three criteria—interest, prestige and financial reward.

As to interest of the job, teaching, public relations and newspaper work ranked in that order. As to prestige, medicine, law and science ran one, two, three in that category. And for financial reward, the poll showed that high school editors thought law, banking and business would be the three top areas.

The immediate purpose of the survey was to indicate how much the career of journalism appealed to the students. It appeared that among these young people engaged even then in newspaper work that the appeal wasn't too high.

As far as prestige was concerned, journalism ranked eighth; in terms of prospective earnings, it was ranked 10th.

To newspaper people, the results of the

And in the United States the republic is in the form of a presidential system in which the government is carried on by a legislature and a president, largely independent of each other. A judicial system is a further safeguard to keeping freedom for the people.

For under the Constitution, the people retain the ultimate power — any government in which the people have supreme power has to be a democracy. Every generation of Americans has sacrificed in some way to preserve this "government of the people, by the people and for the people."

The tragedy that Mr. Seawell speaks of will only come when citizens fail to put democracy first, when they become so at ease with themselves and their country or so blind as to yield too much of their sovereignty—their right to govern—to the republic.

If the republic wields all the power that is only one step away from dictatorship. All that remains is for one man — or a group of men—to take control and appropriate that power to himself or themselves.

Then there is no democracy, no republic, no freedom.

Mr. Seawell may bewail the fact that Americans may have their definitions slightly incorrect.

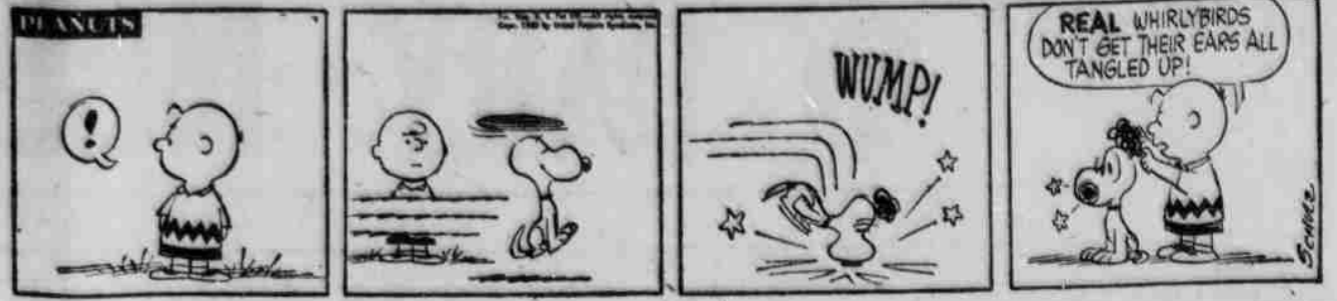
But it is hoped that they will always put the democracy before the republic.

poll were disturbing since few of these neophytes in the field indicated they had a desire to continue in journalistic work. This is one of the worst problems the field has to face today.

But much worse was the appeal and interest shown in several other areas. Little regard was shown for the ministry and public service, for instance, as either "prestige" fields or even as "interesting" work.

All three of the factors—prestige, interest and money—are important ones in any person's career. But when such fields as the two mentioned above are in such low esteem, it appears that the almighty dollar is thought not only in terms of wealth, but of prestige and interest, besides.

Money and prestige, unfortunately, do appear to go hand in hand in this country. It is an indication that some basic values have been misdirected somewhere along the way.



## ... Forget it

By Dick Stuckey

This week this column shall attempt to raise itself to the intellectual height of other columns, and shall attempt to shake the bonds of apathy and shall try to reach out towards the spirit of the institution (as do other columns) in support of the same.

Like it's Big Words month, two of which are "Rah, Rah."

Hence we commence. (Not confusing "column" with "pillar".)

It seems as if recent times have experienced a tremendous influx of a rather stimulating, if not habitually effective, barrage of a certain amount of material devoted intensively to the mores and preceding continuations of our reflexive living in this highly abundant intellectual state which is the University at large, per se...

Foot bone connected to leg bone.

And furthermore, this recent encountering of explanation for the socio-cultural-economic rationale of modern times seems to be quite stimulating in pathological digression to those interested in pursuing further the political and metaphysical debates connected to those things which shall never know more streamlined turbulence than we now visualize...

Leg bone connected to knee bone.

And if Americans everywhere are not aware of the flux of relative gravitational forces acting on their minds and, indeed, whole systems, then we certainly are way out there man...

But whosoever shall call it only a thing which shall never be realized without the methods of entomology and systematic perseverance shall never know what it is that reacts counter to the political forces which acts counter to that which acts counter to the...uh...thingamabobs.

And then, if we let ourselves into a state which demands much more philosophical specialization and apparent regression for realization of a certain kind of natural hypothesis which can never be actually re-morgivated (seemingly so, at least, that is) then we must accept the fact that Communism and other states of certain anti-anti-badguys policies will never realize the above, at least during the course of present election year including the possibility of another type of parenthetical corroboration...

Head bone connected to Philip Wylie. So now, our course must be straight, except for those places where it may deviate, and in the deviations, the places where deviation laxes; and we must possess in mind that things of the mind do not necessarily emit from the mind, but possibly from Time magazine or something...

Tail bone connected to sorority row.

And as an afterthought, it would be wise to rise up against the forms of synthesis which tend to act on us in a matter which is certainly not at all in the best interest of anyone who is seriously considering the possibilities of becoming nearer to whatever it is that will eventually tend to become much more nearer than anything except those things which were initially nearer to start with before anyone considered becoming an intellect...

Back bone connected to the...uh...front bone?

So much for the metaphysical club of the Daily Nebraskan.

And now that we have raised ourselves to standards of intelligence never before gotten, we ought turn to the cheering section.

And the ones behind the scenes where all the pictures get taken.

For instance: Elmo Quadrette butt picker-upper, and husker; Gargery Smith Union sump-pump cleaner, and husker; Melville Glinch, record selector for the Mueller Tower, principle of the Nebraska School for the Deaf, payola treasurer, and husker; Basil Metabolism, official tractor testing track starter, and husker; and Gaston Kibblit-muchingheimer - J o n e s, working girl, campus entertainer, and husker.

To the above group, (which sadly enough is obviously not complete for there are many more wonderful people who are true blue huskers and fine baby sitters) we say a big rah-rah for a life dedicated to dedication and...uh...money.

Who is nicer than these nicies, and who helps the poor young student more than fine people like these—thanks, Elmo, Gladstone, Melville, Basil and Gas, for jobs well done. Remember all the fun we had in study hall, and best of luck in the future to an up and coming young up and coming...

Paticake, paticake...

## Conservative Estimate

By John Hoerner

The IFC took another big step forward Wednesday night when they asked the Administration to require that all men who go through Rush Week next fall live and eat at Selleck Quad through the entire three day period.



Hoerner

Another improvement was the provision that the rushee will visit all 21 fraternities for a 1/2 hour open house—he formerly went to 8 or 10 which were arbitrarily grouped. The rushee chose the fraternities he wanted to visit from each group.

With each rushee visiting all houses they can be divided into 21 equal groups so that approximately the same number can be expected at each open house.

To those familiar with women's Rush Week, it is readily apparent that these two moves bring the men's system closer to the effective job done by Panhel each year.

Only three things really remain different. Men's rush week is shorter, summer rushing is allowed and the system of bidding and pledging is in the hands of the rushees.

Even considering the basic differences between the entering freshmen men

and women it is worthy for the IFC to consider adopting a no-summer rushing program. A longer Rush Week would, of course, be necessary to give the rushee time to make his decision between houses.

There is a lot of talk about how to encourage more men to go through Rush Week. The sororities seem to have more than they can handle so it may be worthwhile at least to consider the merits of their system.

It would not be inconceivable to prohibit summer rushing by individual fraternities and replace it with IFC sponsored rush teams coordinated in an overall program designed to get more men to come through Rush Week.

With such a plan no house would really lose because if the IFC rush teams did their jobs well a man would feel that he was being rushed by and for the system. With the resulting number of men going through, each fraternity would be able to increase its selectivity, and larger, better pledge classes for all would result.

Another possibility that should be considered is having the rushees pledge the same way as their female counterparts.

Each rushee would list his preferences one, two and three and each fraternity would turn in a list showing the men it wanted in order of preference. By some stroke of mathematical wizardry, it comes out so that both the fraternity and rushee get the nearest possible to their first choices.

The prime advantage of this as I see it would be the complete elimination of spiking or at least its effectiveness — no rushee would be especially anxious to go running around saying "I'm going Signa Phi Nothing," if he didn't know for sure whether he was going or not.

Granted these proposals are radical and would take a complete change of attitude by fraternities, but the spirit of them should be considered.

As I see it the entire fraternity system will never gain by giving a rushee competitive, comparative house propaganda until he has made up his mind for sure in favor of the system as a whole.

### From the Editor's Desk:

## It Seems to Me...

By Carroll Kraus

Got that low-down, depressed feeling? Then chances are that you've just seen the movie "On the Beach" currently running at the Varsity Theatre. (Incidentally, mention of the movie or theatre is not any form of payola.)

The movie presents a pretty dramatic situation of what could happen if someone pushed the button at the wrong time. In short it tells the story of how the last traces of the human race live and die.

The people of Australia and nearby areas have to wait for their death from radiation, knowing it is coming soon. A search in an American submarine for some place somewhere that hasn't been touched by radiation is fruitless.

The movie portrays some people who can face up to death—knowing it is coming for sure within a certain time—and others who can't. But nearly all of the final survivors actually don't die of radiation. They are issued pills by the government to take when they find they're suffering from radiation sickness, and die a quick, painless death instead of a long, tortured one.

In short the movie is highly provocative, and it's easy to see how some Americans

questioned the taste of showing it in foreign countries, where it was greeted with large crowds and apparent growing concern over the future of the human race.

The frightening part about the whole presentation is that it graphically portrays, with no holds barred, what actually could happen to the world when, as the script goes, "people develop weapons they can never use."

Just this morning the Lincoln newspaper carried a story of the development of atomic reactors in Communist China. And certainly the structure of an atomic bomb is that country's aim.

Adding this nation to the list of three which already have atomic weapons can only increase the danger of the outbreak of atomic war. China is a country that doesn't quite fall into the same classification as Russia does as a potential enemy.

Many writers have predicted that if a third world war comes, it may involve Red China against the rest of the world. America and the U.S.S.R. might be allies in such a contest which certainly appears it would be a "war to end all wars" one way or another.

But anyway, "On the Beach" is prescribed for anyone who likes to worry about what's happening and what could happen to the world. Its bound at least to shake many people out of the smallness of their little worlds.



Kraus

## Daily Nebraskan

SIXTY-NINE YEARS OLD  
Member: Associated Collegiate Press, Intercollegiate Press  
Representative: National Advertising Service, Incorporated  
Published at: Room 36, Student Union, Lincoln, Nebraska 68503  
Telephone NE 2-7631, ext. 4225, 4226, 4227  
The Daily Nebraskan is published Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday during the school year, except during vacations and exam periods, by students of the University of Nebraska under the authorization of the Committee on Student Activities as an expression of student opinion. Publication under the jurisdiction of the Student Activities Committee shall be free of charge. The University of Nebraska is not responsible for the content of the Daily Nebraskan staff are personally responsible for what they say, or

do, or cause to be printed, February 2, 1960.  
Subscription rates are \$3 per semester or \$5 for the academic year.  
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News Editor: Herb Probasco  
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## 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 250 words. When letters exceed this limit the Nebraskan reserves the right to condense them retaining the writer's views.

### Not 'Revolts'

To the Editor:  
I take exception to your editorial comment—"Protests Poor Approach to Civil Rights Problem," (Nebraskan, March 18). I would say they are one of the best approaches that exist.

The editorial states that "The USNSA is evidently trying to solve the racial problem by conducting and sponsoring student revolts." The USNSA is not trying to solve any problems, they are only showing that a problem does exist.

I would also say that "revolt" is a rather strong word for an orderly demonstration. The same paragraph goes on to say that "It seems rather unusual that such an organization representing American college students would take such means to focus attention on an issue in a nation where revolts and demonstrations are frowned upon."

It is true that revolts are frowned upon in America but it is not true to say the same for demonstrations. What is a picket line but a demonstration that is approved by the U.S. Government as a proper way for union men to express themselves.



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