

A True Friend

A home to every activity and practically a home for many of the students at this University—the Nebraska Union is a true student center.

The Daily Nebraskan has often gone on record disagreeing with administrators and their policies and criticizing the University and its non-stimulating atmosphere, but the paper is also ready to recognize hard work and devotion.

One administrator who deserves praise for his work and ideas is Allen Bennett, director of the Nebraska Union.

Mr. Bennett can be praised and thanked by the students for many of the current policies, facilities and future plans of the Union.

Most students probably don't know Mr. Bennett because one of his main policies seems to be that the Union should be for the students and the students should be in charge of it as much as possible themselves.

But any student who has ever asked for something extra—like a meeting room on short notice or permission to use the ballroom for an invited speaker (even one as controversial as Allan Ginsberg) knows that Mr. Bennett is always on the students' side.

When especially large crowds gather in the union and possibly begin to become extremely enthusiastic such as at Hyde Park or jazz and java, Mr. Bennett

with a frown on his face will sometimes appear on the outskirts of the crowd.

But very seldom—in fact as far as this paper knows never—will Mr. Bennett let the crowds confuse or hurry his judgment. He has never shown the impatience or misunderstanding of youth and their actions as many older people are guilty of doing.

The Nebraska Union is a true student union—for it really is the center of student activity. The Union is where students meet, where they hold their meetings, where the paper is written and where the controversies begin and end.

If one was to visit other unions across the country, he would realize that Nebraska's is unique. It emphasizes the students' needs and is used by all the students more than most student unions.

The Daily Nebraskan feels that Mr. Bennett is one of the main people responsible for this Union being unique.

Furthermore if each student knew the plans Mr. Bennett has for improving the Union beginning this December, the individual plans he has for helping each organization and for providing better facilities for every student—all 17,000 students at this University would be marching to Mr. Bennett's office to thank him.

Mr. Bennett is an administrator who really does respect students and their organizations—the students have no better friend or supporter.

Policy Statements

The number of pages, policy on columnists and letters to the editor in the Daily Nebraskan—all three things need to be clarified.

Today's paper is the first Daily Nebraskan with only four pages this semester. All the other papers have had six or eight pages.

The Nebraskan will continue to have six pages as frequently as possible, but has found it financially necessary to have four pages at least once a week.

The Nebraskan will plan after today on having four pages each Monday and six pages the rest of the week. This will give the business staff an extra day to build up on ads and give the rest of the paper a small rest on weekends.

At Thursday's Hyde Park one of the Nebraskan's columnists made a comment about his column and said that other people would write in his column at times.

The Nebraskan reserves the right to edit at all times or withhold all columns. The paper has more columnists right now than it has ever had, but the paper will continue to be very discriminating about which columns it publishes. We definitely will not accept every column that is given us.

As for letters to the editor, it seems necessary to remind our readers that the Nebraskan cannot publish any letter that is not signed with the writer's name. The Nebraskan will not publish the writer's name if the writer so wishes, but we must have the name for the record.

Recently the Nebraskan received a special delivery mailed in Lincoln criticizing the paper for its stand on senior keys, but the letter could not be published because it was not signed.

All Editorials
... By Wayne Kreuscher



Steve Abbott's AGENBITE OF INWIT

Remorse of conscience! Ever since the Middle Ages the sky has been falling in, and ever since the Reformation "mother" Church has been a self-righteous old hen.

No wonder, in the face of such dogmatic institutionalism, that many contemporaries consider Roman Catholicism stuffy and irrelevant, a haven for sheep-heads. Let us look to protestants this week.

Most prots are either ignorant or embarrassed about their founders theology. They fill the consequent theological void with fuzzy-headed liberalism or fundamentalism. Both are weak.

Liberals quoted Bonhoeffer about "religiousness Christianity," Tillich about "the ground of Being," and with these nebulous clichés under their belt, they go out like little tailors to slay dragons of evil, imitating whatever is currently fashionable in the world of paganism. Pagans delight, of course, in providing band-wagons for these "New" Christians.

What could be more amusing than the sight of confused Christians falling all over each other trying to vociferously lambast every conceivable aspect of Christianity (Kirkregard did it, didn't he?).

Fundamentalists are amusing in a different way. They set out to witness St. Paul's teaching that "You must be fools for Christ," they prove that "all fools are Christians." Unpriced by thorns of reason, unsullied by deeds of social action, they stand up at Hyde Park and shout about "grace," "salvation," and "hell." Listeners find them truly instruments of divine retribution, and sincere agnostics wager that only monogold idiots make it past the pearly gates.

Occasionally one finds liberals and fundamentalists housed in the same place. Whenever this occurs there follows a purge, Nebraska's own example of this is the recent resignation of Bruce McSpadden from the Wesley foundation. Apparently Bruce made

the mistake of reading "Motive" magazine in public, preaching "Thou shalt not kill" without apendaging "except in Viet Nam," and worst of all, discussing the subject of brotherly love for Negroes with some of the "fraternal" advisors.

Since everybody knows controversy has no place in the Church, Bruce was spanked. Realizing the seriousness of his apostasy, he resigned.

There you see Christianity: a case history of schizophrenia, a mystical body virtually sent assunder. Structure without spirit is a hollow shell; spirit without structure is anarchist confusion.

Result? The phrase of the day is "God is Dead." Out of jealousy some pastors give anti-"Playboy," anti-Beatle sermons. Nobody pays much attention. Nobody goes around saying "Playboy is dead." But then I guess its always been easier to unite people for purposes of evil than purposes of good. Remorse of conscience! Agenbite of Inwit!

Phil Boardman's A GUNNER'S BULLETS

Writing a column for this paper is no bowl of cherries. I had always looked forward to cutting my cynical swath through the hayfield of campus customs and activities, callously but righteously mowing down mediocrity and any other bugaboos in this Community of Scholars. But I seem to have developed a type of writer's hay fever.

It's not that I couldn't find enough victims for my barbed pen. In fact, they hurred themselves at me at such a pace that I had dreams at night of quitting the "Rag" and publishing instead an entire book of extremely timely and relevant campus criticism. I would even borrow a phrase from Tom Lehrer as the title of my best-seller: Tropic Of Calculus.

The subject of my column would change from day to day as more timely and willing subjects offered themselves to me for crucifixion. Today's column was, at various times, intended for Andy Taube, who was whistling in the wrong key in Monday's "Rag"; for the obnoxious photographers at the Fatha Hines concert last Friday; for Abel Hall and its deplorable (or nonexistent) maintenance and kitchen staff; for Student Senate, who seems to fumble too many important balls, but who has a defense second only to Nebraska's Big Red teams (11 and 13); for the Bill of Rights, which has had to suffer a pre-natal existence in the mind-wombs of so many insensitive politicians and writers that it took Gene Pokorny and Don Quixote de La Mancha to wrest it from a certain windmill in Monday's "Rag" and put it in its proper perspective.

However, as the deadline for my column drew sore upon me, I was still without a topic. In spite of the variety listed above, I could not see wasting my time over trite subjects or overplayed events. I could not go "literary" since all the poets buried in Westminster Abbey were still claiming innocence for John Schrekingner in Monday's "Rag."

So I asked one of my few friends. "I don't know which one I should write about. What do you think?"

"Why don't you write something positive for once."

"Positive? What do you mean?" "Look," he said, "every Tom Dick, and Harry that writes for the 'Rag'"

thinks he has to be a critic. Nobody ever reads the columns except those who are written about. They say, 'Look what he wrote about us this week' write his name down, and say he doesn't know what he's talking about anyway. So his column hasn't really accomplished anything except alienate those whom he wants to listen. Try something positive."

"Bah-Humbug!" I said politely. What you want is to praise someone, find something good about someone for a change, get them on your side, and then try to work with them for improvement."

"I've thought about writing that way, but I can't think of a single positive thing to say about this university."

"Then what are you doing here?" "I've been here three years and it's too late to change now."

"That's the wrong attitude Boardman. Everyone gets tired of reading the same old stuff. Every column in the 'Rag' is like every other column—step out of the pack, be different, be friendly."

"But I really can't think of anything to write about—nothing positive. I'd like to be friendly and have influence; I don't really like sounding like a railing Therites all the time. But what should I write about?"

"That you'll have to come up with for yourself. Take another look at Student Senate, the dorm, John Schrekingner—maybe things aren't so bad."

All right, I thought. It's true, the Senate did select John Winkworth, a senator for the right reasons, as chairman of the library committee because he wanted to try to improve our library, and not because he needed a committee. True, the innocents did do away with the senseless waste of Homecoming displays, if only for a year.

And then the YWCA, though unable to carry through its Freshman Weekend, did successfully launch the exchange program with Stillman College in Alabama. And the dorm has been made a bearable place to live by the high-spirited social atmosphere of the Sandoz-Abel s n a c k bar, especially on nights when N a t e Branch drops by for an exuberant jam session. And true, even John Schrekingner admitted that he wrote that poetry in his column.

I guess maybe things aren't so bad after all.

Jan Ikin Writes... Who Would Have Think It?

A University coed is about to leave on a typical "I - don't - know - what - we're - doing - or - where - we're-going" date. Can she simply get dressed and go?

Heaven forbid! She must first sign out neatly on the little sign out sheet as to

her destination, when she'll be back and finally when she does return what time it is then. Since she has no idea where she's going, she's likely to put "date" or if she does have some idea what the evening will entail, she might put "show," "walk," or "woodsie."

What will happen if she forgets to sign out or sign in? If it is a repeated offense she may be called before AWS Court and campused although she has made it in by hours.

Another argument sometimes offered in defense of this totally ridiculous procedure is "how will people know if someone isn't in if they don't sign out?" Now almost anyone who has lived in the WRA can tell you that anyone who took an illegal overnight and got caught was not caught because she messed up on the procedure—it is all too easy to just leave without signing out at all or to have someone else sign her in. People are caught not being in by the periodic room checks not by the sign in sheets.

they serve? They cannot be used as a check as to whether coeds are in the living unit and cannot be used to find someone who is out.

All they can do is provide the AWS Board with additional and unnecessary paper work and the average coed with additional aggravation.

If someone would suggest having the sheets available for use on a volunteer basis or for use when taking over nights or out of towns, an argument would be difficult to find. But to simply perpetuate meaningless bureaucracy is rather ludicrous.

AWS has made progress recently, but there are things left to be done. Will this system be allowed to remain? A proposal to change it may be tied up in committee for a year, one board member said.

If You Ask Me

half the people at Hyde Park Forum Thursday were just waiting to get into the South doors of the Union. Derby Day is getting to be 'old hat.' Peanuts was a better comic strip than Odd Bodkins. The fact that Nobby Tiemann used a biplane to pull his banner is indicative of something. You must be out of your mind.

Campus Opinion

Return on Jan. 2 Unavoidable

Dear Editor: Miss Polly Rhynalds ("Return on New Years Day?" Sept. 28) objects to resumption of classes on Monday, Jan. 2. An earlier letter did so on other grounds, merely the possible bowl game.

I have full sympathy with these objections, although I was the one who proposed the change in the academic calendar resulting in this date. The calendar committee had proposed Christmas vacation to run from Saturday, Dec. 24, at 12:30 through Sunday, Jan. 8.

There would have been four—read: Four days of classes on Jan. 9, 10, 11 and 12 (Monday through Thursday) followed by the reading day on the 13th and final Exams beginning on the 14th. In other words, for all practical purposes, the semester would have run until Christmas.

In addition, Dec. 24 would have been a day of classes, and I wondered just how many people would have been here on that day, or even on Friday the 23rd.

The Faculty Senate passed my motion to amend the proposed calendar. Nobody, including myself, was happy with either vacation schedule, but in view of other factors limiting flexibility in the calendar, one of them had to be accepted.

I suggested the possibility of taking one day (Wednesday) out of the Thanksgiving recess and to resume classes only on Tuesday, Jan. 3; but this proposal was found quite unacceptable. Adding one day to the spring semester would not make up for a day lost in the fall semester.

It's just bad luck that this time Christmas and New Year's fall on Sundays, and that there are so few days between New Year's and the end of the fall semester—which cannot be avoided in view of the need to start the summer session by the middle of June.

Edward N. Megay

Mayor's Speech Of Little Use

Dear Editor: I agree with the Sept. 28 editorial that the principle of having the mayor of Lincoln speak before the Student Senate is a fine thing. After hearing him speak Wednesday I regret that Dean Petersen did represent Lincoln and its mayor before the Senate.

I feel he did not accomplish much other than a goodwill visit. Mr. Petersen avoided the direct and clear questions asked him, as: how he felt about liquor by the drink; what can be done to solve the traffic and parking problems on campus; and how much had been done to provide fair and low-priced housing for foreign students since ASUN President Terry Schaff's report to the City Council last spring.

Mr. Petersen recognized the University's students as being responsible and called the senators the future leaders of this city. But he was very vague about the University's impact on the city of Lincoln.

I am glad that the mayor did come. It opens doors for possible future ties between Lincoln and the University. Other than that, I feel Mr. Petersen accomplished little else than to prove he's a practiced expert at evading some important questions of the time.

Jamie

South Africa's Apartheid

Dear Editor: I have followed your recent interview with Eastman and from his words it is clear that the South African government cannot claim to have achieved anything in the advancement of the native people in the country, in spite of the booming economy and in the light that the natives two miles away in the British governed Basutoland have advanced under a poorer economy to achieve their independence this year.

I think in Eastman's monoscopic view he has helped us to see the effect of the apartheid or racial oppression policy. This policy in guise of separating races suppresses, oppresses and exploits the non-Europeans, keeping them ignorant or even reducing them to humiliation in a deplorable inhuman way or as Eastman puts it, it is a practical way to "control" the 22 million natives. We know that the South African native has not been hostile or dangerous to the European settler, I therefore object to this inhuman policy which can only be controlling their number and advance.

Those who feel that educating the natives is detrimental to American interests and the European population (there) are merely evading facts. For example in free Africa there are governments headed by Africans who languished in desert prisons for several years under colonial rule. Today these men have formed not only anti-communist but staunchly DEMOCRATIC governments void of racial discrimination, fully protesting foreign business and making sure that nobody is hurt because he or she is white. I wish to add and emphasize that the entry of foreign arms and white forces is the single factor tending to jeopardize the position of friendly whites living and helping us in free Africa.

It is regretful to note that although South Africa has had a longer contact with Europeans than say Uganda, Eastman still discovered that the natives "have not been exposed to European thinking." What Eastman saw was the effect of apartheid. He tells us the natives are left alone along side a booming economy. Under apartheid there is a poor reaction to those rare government programs. We also know that the apartheid policy endeavors to keep out white and African teachers and missionaries. What hope then, does the policy offer for the development of three-quarters of the population which Eastman characterizes as superstitious and backward and therefore far below all the neighboring natives.

A practical solution is for the South African government to allow free government of missionary schools. Such schools should receive government assistance and if necessary they should be first be manned by adjoining African teachers and missionaries or even whites of non-South African origin. It is my hope that the present exploitative foreign business companies in the country would contribute to such a program thereby creating a good relationship and helping to build cooperation instead of oppressive control. The aim is a quick institution of DEMOCRACY in South Africa which is at the moment staunchly anti-DEMOCRATIC.

Abby Wandera