

questionable method to foster them. It is not unreasonable to suggest that the freshmen cap proposition conflicts with the personal freedom of the student. Whether his reason be good or bad, a freshman may not care to adopt a certain kind of costume. Is it our function to make him do so? Is he not entitled to the benefits of a great public endowment, without being hindered or molested by other than constituted authority. The word molestation is used advisedly. The proposed plan, if adopted, cannot be enforced without the exercise of stringent measures. You will have to subject the rebellious freshman to either physical chastisement, or social ostracism, and class exclusion, and the execution of any of these powers would be undemocratic, and intolerable.

We think, therefore, that as an abstract proposition, the student, freshman though he be, is possessed of the right of personal freedom, and we are not disposed to see such right abridged, unless the results obtained are worth the sacrifice.

In conclusion the writer feels that the freshmen cap idea, viewed from its essential elements, will not fulfill its purpose nor promote good ends. A college community is a sentimental settlement where ideals are fostered more by inspiration than discipline. Action may be united and concerted, but it must be spontaneous instead of mechanical. This is our ideal, in which the plan proposed finds no favor.

**FRANK FAVORS MEASURE.**  
(Continued from Page 1)

of \$3 for the same attractions. Why these discrepancies. Granted the fact that the University being situated in a city the size of Lincoln would naturally cause some students to have interests not best conducive to University spirit, have we really come here primarily to get the benefits of Lincoln rather than to attend the University as students and true supporters of the institution? Such may have been possible, but not probable, plans.

The matter of expense is enlarged upon by the writer of the aforementioned skeptical article in derogation of university spirit at Nebraska. Are the students at Nebraska poorer than the students of Kansas, Missouri, and all our neighboring schools when it comes to supporting university activities. Scarcely. Also he is presuming considerable when he hints that a person would rather study than put in a small part of his time for the University. Has any one become impressed with this idea? Some will engage in school activities more than others, but should not all do at least a little. The almost unanimous opinion seems to brand the simon pure grind method as an undesirable education. A little sociability is a sure cure for this miserable predicament.

**Classmen Blamed:**

Now the negative exponent declares that the upper classmen are to blame for this dereliction in spirit. So do we. Freshmen can not partake properly of the University spirit without leadership through the upper classmen and it is granted that they have neglected this duty. But who are the upper classmen? Are they not grown up freshmen? If we can inculcate in the freshman a few of the traditions for the betterment of Nebraska spirit, will he not carry this general interest through the remaining three years in a much more satisfactory manner than it is now manifested. And better

class spirit makes better University spirit no one will deny.

If any one can put forth a more lucid plan of promoting this than the freshmen cap proposition, let us hear of it. By means of the beautiful green caps each freshman will be known to the rest of his class, he will show that he is proud to be a member of that class, he will be no, not humiliated, but looked upon with greater interest by the upper classman, who is able to interpret in this act of wearing a cap the fact that the freshman has some University spirit and is not unscrupulously wrapped up in himself. If there are any freshmen who are of the timber that will not do this small service, it is well that we know who they are and just what ideas they do have outside of unlimited self importance. There might arise the question as to how this program for the freshmen will be enforced. Why does it need to be enforced in the majority of cases? Also have not other schools shown as a precedent that the method of enforcement is of small detail and that rioting and insurrection need not be the result of showing the few erring freshmen the proper procedure. We take it that the present freshman class will take a great measure of pride as being the first to inaugurate this system. Once the plan is started this year the next incoming freshman class will assume it as a matter of course. The idea is, you can train a young dog to do new tricks, but just endeavor once to influence certain upper classmen to come out of their shells and make report on your progress. Their training was neglected in their freshman year. Shall it be neglected in the future? Let us answer this in our class meetings. Moreover, is it no desirable to eliminate this scoffing attitude amongst some at Nebraska. Shall we sit idly by and hear their jeers and jibes at our traditions ringing in our ears longer? The writer of the ardent treatise against the proposition of starting something similar to the freshmen cap measure would do well if he can substitute a better plan, rather than by "knocking" what seems to be, by the large majority, a meritorious measure.

**WEAKNESS IN ENFORCEMENT.**  
(Continued from Page One)

the effect that they were to be compelled to wear the caps in recognition of their defeat at the hands of the sophomores. This was the original stand taken by the innocents when the plan was first announced before the Olympics, but since that time the plan has been considerably altered. \* \* \* The proposal now is that the freshmen shall be asked to wear the little green caps, not as a matter of punishment or ridicule but more as a means of identification for the purpose of helping to bring the members of the class together. But if the matter is "up to the freshmen," why these upper class rallies to "decide" whether or not freshmen shall wear said caps, or to "sanction" the action of the freshmen? Why this necessity for upper class sanction of a matter left to the freshmen? Why this summoning of upper class speakers before a freshman meeting called to decide what our friends tell us is purely a freshman question? Why this threat that if the freshmen refuse to adopt the plan another meeting will be called for the purpose of compelling them to adopt it? In other words, if green-cap advocates are leaving the question to the Up to the Freshmen, the following appears: "It seems that there has existed a general misunderstanding

within the ranks of the freshmen to freshmen, why do they not leave it to them? On the other hand, if they mean to deprive freshmen of the last word in the decision, why their attempt to soothe injured freshman feelings by sham deference to freshman wishes? Why this attempt to escape the responsibility of their cause? And Echo answers, "Why?"

**Plan is Wrong.**

Quite aside from this question begging position of green cap advocates, the plan itself is wrong. In the first place, none of its advocates has proposed any means of enforcing it. Physical force being barred both by the University rules and by the difficulties connected with the catching and labeling of four or five hundred freshmen, there remains nothing else which for the freshmen will have any terrors. The growth of University spirit, which is the ostensible excuse for this proposal, will certainly receive no impetus, nor will the freshman learn respect for student action, from the spectacle of a student body unable to carry out its own orders.

Now, what is the ostensible object of the freshmen-cap plan? To establish a tradition, I take it, for the purpose of building up University spirit. Without pausing to discuss the probable success of any attempt to legislate tradition into being, it seems clear that if this scheme of freshman discipline, which standing by itself is nothing more than a useless humiliation of the first-year man, does not promote University spirit, we have no use for it. The question, then, arises, Will that spirit of sacrifice of individual interests to the general University welfare which makes up University spirit be added to or diminished by compelling the freshman to wear a badge which separates and sets him off from the University whole, rather than making him a component part of it? I do not believe that any man's spirit of loyalty to his institution is or will be increased by visiting upon him needless humiliation, or by doing anything else than recognizing him as a free and full-privileged citizen of the student state. We already stagger under a burden of useless distinctions, we need less rather than more of the rubbish which now cumbers really efficient student action.

**Try Something Practical.**

University spirit manifests itself like any other form of loyalty, in service to the thing to which loyalty is due. Turn this first-year energy loose upon some of the things our University needs. If we must compel or "ask" the freshmen to do anything, let us have them go out and bank up the athletic field so that the student body may have a skating rink. When the dandelions begin to mar the fair face of Nature upon our campus, let the freshmen sally forth and slay them. Let them do any one of a dozen other things, any one of which would be fairer to the freshmen and more productive of real University spirit than, and at least as capable of enforcement as, any attempt to compel each freshman to label himself as such with a small green cap upon the northeast corner of his brow.

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