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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1913.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY.

In a letter to the Nebraskan, published in today's Forum, Harry Burtis offers the suggestion that University students enlist themselves in a campaign to entertain the legislature, the idea being to arouse the interest of the legislators in the University and get them acquainted with the campus and conditions that exist thereon. It is in line with a series of suggestions that have been made from time to time, and we conceive it to be an excellent one.

The question of university appropriations is never a minor one with the legislature, but this year it will doubtlessly assume more than ordinary proportions on account of the special effort that the regents have taken to present the crying needs of the University. The removal question will come up, te final solution of which it is felt will be governed principally by the consideration of expense. The authorities are agreed that material improvement is needed no matter where the campus is located and are therefore directing their energies toward the securing of a substantial appropriation.

The students cannot do very much toward bringing this end about but they can do something. They can at least instill into the solons a friendly attitude, which in a time of pressing need might innure to the benefit of the institution. The students can bring the legislators up to the campus and show them around which might bring home more favorably some of the facts brought out in the regents' printed report. As to the degree of personal influence that can be exerted is a question that can not definitely be determined, although it would appear that in so far as ulterior motive is concerned, the students' advocacy of a generous appropriation bill would not be tinctured with the idea of personal profit or advancement. The average student will have left the institution before it will reap the benefit of many new buildings, and hence will have nothing but the future interests of the school at heart.

If the students are able to lobby without their enterprise becoming objectional it would seem that they should be encouraged to exert their influence at the capitol. At all events, they should get together on the proposition, and if anything is found that they can do, the same should be done with dispatch.

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The Forum

Editor Daily Nebraskan:

Two big things the university needs are better equipment and University spirit. One is just as essential as the other to a successful, unified school. Here is a plan by which we can do at least a little toward strengthening both.

The legislature is now in session. To this representative body of men we look for an appropriation commensurate with the needs of the University. No man will put his money into a proporition he has not investigated. If we ask what seems an excessive amount we must show the necessity for it. This is our opportunity. Let's invite the legislature to visit us. Take the members through University Hall. Let them walk down the rickety stairs, seat them in any of the rooms, which cannot be decently ventilated these days without freezing everyone near the windows, show them the danger from fire. Let them see the cadets drilling in the Armory with only ten feet between companies; take them down to the locker and shower bath rooms. Let them look in on the Chemistry, Botany and Zoology laboratories. Then they'll realize under what crowded conditions many of the students' work.

How will this arouse Nebraska spirit? We all claim to be boosters for the school. Here is a fine chance to prove that we are for every one who can do something to help. Let one or two students go with each legislator as his guide. If possible have the host and guest from the same district. Let the rest of us prepare a display of the work that University students have done for the state, and are now doing, in school and out. We would put the school on exhibition. Every organization could have some definite work to do, every individual feel that he was aiding the good cause, even if required to do nothing more than attend classes as usual.

These men have the right to know what we are doing with our share of the state's funds and no one is better prepared to show them than we students. Let's get together and hold an open house for the state, as represented by its legislators.

HARRY BURTIS.

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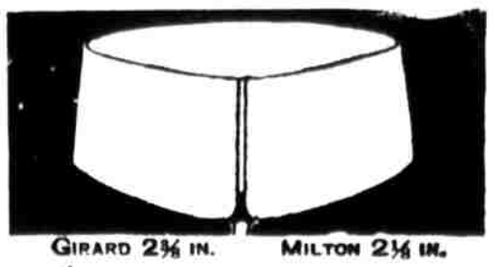
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