

The Daily Nebraskan

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

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Published every day except Saturday and Sunday during the college year. Subscription, per semester, \$1.

Entered at the postoffice at Lincoln, Nebraska, as second-class mail matter under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

The flu, like the poor, is still with us.

Yesterday's report shows several new cases of influenza and the death of Ralph Gehring, '21, of Superior, but as yet no action to close schools, to prevent the further spread of the epidemic, has been taken.

The Daily Nebraskan is not speaking in behalf of an extended Christmas vacation. It is, however, ready to say frankly that it is of the opinion that schools should be closed indefinitely on account of the influenza epidemic which is rapidly becoming worse, and which demands attention. Our cause for concern is the welfare of the students.

If there is anything that can be done to protect the health and the lives of students, the Nebraskan thinks that it should be done. So far the measures for preventing the spread of the epidemic have been unsuccessful. The situation approaches a crisis. There is stringent need for more active, preventative measures. If closing school will help, and it seems that such an extremity is the only solution for the exigency at hand, then schools should be closed. Repeatedly the warning has come from doctors all over the world, who are fighting this perplexing malady, to avoid crowds and to prevent public gatherings as much as possible. A Cincinnati doctor has said that it might take a year for such an epidemic as this to run its course.

The question arises at once whether it would be possible to close public gatherings for that length of time. It would be extremely harmful economically. So, in the question of closing school the answering argument is that such an action would cap the climax on a semester that has already had a hard and weary struggle to keep itself going. However, should argument be tolerated when the matter under consideration is of life and death seriousness?

Is it venturing too much to say that the student body of the University of Nebraska would go to school willingly for a few weeks longer in the summer to assure more healthful environment on the return?

A MESSAGE TO STUDENTS

It was indeed a message that Lord Charnwood brought to the students of the University. He set our duty clearly before us. It is our task and our privilege to perpetuate Democracy, that our dead shall not have died in vain.

What was said to all the students in the Auditorium, yesterday, was of especial significance to the members of the S. A. T. C. unit. These men can not help but have a feeling of regret that they put on the uniform of the United States Army just too late to see any active service. Many are discouraged with things in general, and remorseful toward themselves to think that they have not contributed anything to the cause for which so many have lost their lives. The mood of these men is that "it's all over now and what's the use?"

According to Lord Charnwood, and to other eminent men who have had the opportunity to study the war, both objectively and philosophically, while the fighting is over, the causes and ideals for which the fighting was done, have not yet become firmly enough established to be cast aside in the pursuits of irrelevant occupations and pleasures. The solid establishment of Democracy in the world is our part—a task possibly even harder by fighting, though less stern and shorn of the outward appearances of chivalry.

If we are to put thoughts of idle sentiment or envy concerning our dead out of our minds, and make of their sacrifices practical inspirations leading to earnest resolve, we must each analyze our own future and do that which will contribute the most to our aim.

This week the demobilization of the S. A. T. C. and the S. N. T. C. has started. Almost every hour of the day one can see groups of men, who have just received their discharges, carrying their suitcases to the stations in happy anticipation of home. It is natural for the dismissed men to go home. That is their first impulse. After several months of confinement under the unusual military restrictions they want to get away.

Without sufficient reflection these men do that which appeals to them most pleasantly. But are they doing their duty? Are they regarding the sacrifices that have been made as soldiers? Are they discharging their obligations as men? Is the course they are taking now going to contribute to their own ultimate welfare?

Are you who are going home doing your share, or are you only trying to ease your consciences with the quack balm that you can do more by going home than you could do by staying in school?

HAND GRENADES

"AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION"

Since there are a few scattered cases of influenza in this vicinity, it might be well to note a few preventatives for this harmless little pestilence.

One of the best ways to fight the

influenza germ is to ever be present in crowded class rooms—you know, there is strength in numbers. Never open any windows in these rooms—the fresh air might rouse the germs to great activity.

Do not make the mistake of dressing too warmly. The young lady who wears pumps and Niagara Maid hosiery on a chill December day is far

less likely to take unto herself the influenza, than is her brother who pampers himself in a heavy sweater and muffler.

Do not let yourself be coerced into gargling. Such pastimes are annoying, and result only in a needless expenditure of energy. Moreover, the substance which you would gargle would cost you money which might profitably be spent in going to the movies where nightly great throngs gather to ward off the friendly little microbes.

In other words, if the "lid" has been put on anywhere, take it off and see what's inside.

BRIEF BITS OF NEWS

W. S. G. A. Campaigns Ends—W. S. G. A. membership campaign ended at 2 o'clock, Wednesday afternoon. Results will be published later.

New Building for University—Work has begun on the new Veterinary Science building on the University farm campus at Lincoln. It will be three stories, 50 by 90 feet, and of brick, fireproof construction. The general contract calls for an expenditure of about \$60,000. The building is a part of the program of the university to build up a strong department of Veterinary Science for the state. The new agricultural engineering building, which is one of the finest of its kind in America, has just recently been completed on the University farm campus.

New Bulletin Issued—"Well Planned Meals," a bulletin by Julia Vance, of the Home Economics department of the University of Nebraska, has been reprinted for free distribution. This bulletin has had wide circulation. It briefly discusses food-stuffs, how food is measured, conditions influencing the individual requirement, how to choose a family dietary, suggestive menus, etc. This bulletin is well worth the reading by anyone interested in food. It may be obtained, free, by addressing the Extension Service, University Farm, Lincoln, Nebraska, or from any county agent or home demonstration agent.

Hints on Sanitation

(a) One hundred and thirty-one men washing the dishes in a tub one-third full of luke-warm water. (Guaranteed to bring results.)

(b) Getting confused as to whether the old meat is for the town dogs or the S. A. T. C.—and the decision in favor of the latter.

Swayze says Rackett holds a similar position on the men's end of the line.

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