

letters to the editor

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One of the points made in the argument against stadium expansion was the probability of students paying a fee in addition to the ticket prices. Prokop has further insulted the intelligence of the university student by proposing a surcharge on the ticket price under the guise of the prevention of scalping of tickets.

I suppose that the students will have to abide with this man until a suitable election comes up. It is really too bad that in this day and age, people in power cannot remember being young, and try to destroy this experience for others.

Sheila M. Krueger  
Freshman  
Life Sciences

Politics of business

Sometimes political speakers are ushered onto the stage and presented to the audience as business leaders, captains of American Industry. So last Friday, Robert Stuart, Chairman of the Board of National Can Corporation, addressed engineering students gathered in the ballroom of the student union. Planners of E-Week billed his presentation as a motivational speech. Mr. Stuart's ruminations, however, were clearly political. I offer this letter as a mild response to the social myopia espoused by Mr. Stuart.

Mr. Stuart, who at times seemed to read from a civics book of the early '20s vintage, condemned government involvement in the economic life of the nation. He chastised the social workers, the eco-freaks, the do-gooders, and the bleeding heart liberals. Business, Mr. Stuart reminded the audience, is the business of America and those who would limit the Rule of Free Enterprise ought to be regarded as parasites and devoid of truth.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Stuart, who attempted to pluck the speck out of the eyes of post-Rooseveltian Democrats, was unable to detect the log in his own eye. Most persons with even moderate political awareness would express justifiable concern about the growth of government and its consequential discouragement of initiative and individual energy. Mr. Stuart eloquently, but overbroadly, indicted the proliferation of state authority and damned the pervasive influence that it has on all aspects of life in these United States.

Throughout his speech and in a brief question and answer session, Mr. Stuart refused to recognize the many evil indiscretions of American business and business-controlled technology. He glowingly retold the story of the Declaration of Independence but seemed to have forgotten such social phenomena as slavery, genocide practiced against the Native American, child labor, inhuman working conditions, oppressive business maneuvers against labor, and the rape of our environment.

The E-Week speaker praised the business leaders as the most humane and moral group of persons in the country. It is unfortunate that Mr. Stuart was unwilling to admit that greed is a major factor in the operation of American business, that inherent in the capitalistic economic system is the notion that the only meaningful corporate existence is a profitable corporate existence.

Surely, the profit motive and humanitarian effort do occasionally merge. Mr. Stuart would have us believe that a society which enhances human life can only be born of the union republican politics and Adam Smith's economics. Such hubris is not dissimilar from the arrogance of Imperial Rome, the vanity of Marxism or the millennial claims of Nazism. The nemesis of Stuart's pronouncements is a society of automatons whose only "freedom" is technological progress.

Mr. Stuart, and business leaders of his mold, have a peculiar tendency to separate individual and structural humanitarian concern. Mr. Stuart has served in nearly 50 humanitarian, religious, and service organizations. These

efforts are generally salutary and ought to be applauded. But, as another international corporation reminds us, the system is the solution.

Mr. Stuart's glorification of an antiquated and inherently unjust political-economics schema is evidence that his humanitarian impulses are more passe than truly visceral and cerebral. Mr. Stuart preached that laissez-faire and blind faith in technology could produce a good society, filled with precious freedom. His reactionary stance, however, prevented him from recognizing that those economic and scientific systems, once regarded as tools to perfect "more perfect union" are now semi-sacrosanct ideological rules which do violence against human dignity and limit the achievement of substantial justice in society.

Three Mile Island and the death syndrome of the nuclear program (from mining to disposal of radioactive waste are as much products of the beliefs of persons like Mr. Stuart as they are the immediate results of faulty valves and operator error.

Hopefully, not many of the students and faculty who attended the convocation subscribe to Mr. Stuart's views. We can be happy that he is the retired chief executive of National Can Corporation. Let us reject Stuart's folly and refuse to bow down to the gods of technology and ideological absolutism.

We ought not be docile to either the methodological totalitarianism of either corporate power of big government. Technological progress and material prosperity are not sacred. Whether students of engineering, law, athletics, philosophy or business, we ought to use our knowledge to summon the powers that be to the vital task of enhancing human life in society.

David H. Hahn  
College of Law

Jews in Moslem countries

Anti-semitism is a well known phenomenon in Arabic (Moslem) countries. For example, in Syria, at the present time, there are 5,000 Jews living in ghettos, and not permitted to travel freely between the cities. Jews may not emigrate, which is in violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 13, to which Syria is a party. Furthermore, they must carry identity cards which have the "religion" space filled in for Jews, but are blank for all other religious groups.

Therefore, it is not surprising to see Hadi Omar Rghei in his article, "Islamic People are Selling Faith for Power" (April 23, 1979), voicing blatant anti-semitic lies, "The bad tradition and habits which caused our backwardness for centuries and most of which has been inserted in our culture by the West and Jews."

What is surprising, is that he can end his article by stating that, "If Libya is on the right track of true Islam, then this experiment will be crowned with victory and success resulting in justice and prosperity for human beings."

Has history not yet taught us that true human justice and prosperity depends upon the acceptance of all mankind? Have we already forgotten the senseless destruction of six million Jews, based on Hitler's propagandistic lies, which Hadi Omar Rghei now dares to repeat.

Never again.

Michel Aichenbaum  
School Psychology

Attack on Greeks

After reading the opinion of Shelley Smith in Wednesday's edition of the *Daily Nebraskan*, I was extremely alarmed to find it a vicious attack on the Greek system. I was also disappointed in the judgment of the *Daily Nebraskan* in their decision to give an obviously prejudicial writing such a prominent position on their editorial page.

The opinion dealt with the promotion of the Greek system through Greek Week. It accused the week's finale of being a "crude" example of the insensitivity of Greeks as a whole. I was not able to attend Greek Night Live and therefore cannot judge the validity of these accusations.

However, I do resent the broad generalization of Greeks as "insensitive people who care only for themselves." This kind of statement is the fuel that all types of prejudice thrive on.

I am a Greek and I do not consider myself any more insensitive because of the fact that I pledged to a fraternity. One cannot draw a conclusion about a large group of people from the actions of a few. Greek Night Live may have been offensive to some but, condemning the whole Greek system for the mistakes of those who organized the show seems to be a bit unfair.

Personally, I see no value in the constant battle between Greeks and independents. It leads only to a lack of student unity and disputes of all types. I think that the opinion entitled "Greek relations take a step backward" only did more to promote this pointless quarreling.

Curt Tideman  
Freshman  
Journalism Major

Greeks do care

In response to Shelley Smith's statement of April 25, I would like to set the record straight that the Greek Night Live Committee in no way had any idea that our MC's were going to make the off-color statements they did in reference to the Greek system.

My committee had worked damn hard to produce a show that would be a credit to the Greek system, not a putdown, in essence, this purpose was achieved, and I am extremely sorry for anyone that was offended by the MC's remarks.

Next year's show will be improved as a result of this incident which is a crystal clear indication that Greeks Do care about others in their system, Miss Smith!!!

Steve Viessman  
Acacia Fraternity  
1979 Greek Night Live  
Committee Chairman

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