



**STORIES OF STATE-WIDE INTEREST**

BY John W. Thomas, Deputy Commissioner Public Lands and Buildings

**ROOTING DISLOYALTY OUT OF UNIVERSITY**

State Council of Defense Demands of Board of Regents that Pro-German Professors Be Dismissed

At the head of the faculty of the Nebraska State University and among its members are men of staunch patriotism and unswerving loyalty to the United States and her allies; but the fact that the board of regents and the university faculty have been tainted with pro-Germanism and Kaiser apologists, has been a source of grief and unconcealed indignation to thousands of Nebraskans.

Indications point to a cleaning up of the faculty by dismissing the disloyal members, or permitting them to resign, but the slowness with which the board of regents acts is exasperating, as it was when the Copperhead Haller was permitted to remain at the head of the board until he saw fit to resign. The state council of defense has made a showing to the board of regents so strong that there will be no valid excuse for further delay in acting upon the complaints of disloyalty.

On Mar. 20 the council presented to the board evidence, in the form of affidavits, of the disloyalty of twelve members of the state university faculty, and addressed a letter to the board, to publish which in full would require a page of this paper, but from which the following is an extract:

"Lincoln, Neb., May 20.—To the Members of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska.

"In July, 1917, the Nebraska state council of defense while paying deserved tribute to the loyalty of the University of Nebraska, directed your attention to the fact that there were several professors who had persistently given encouragement publicly and privately, to those who are out of harmony with the American cause. Since then many complaints concerning these instructors have reached the state council of defense. These complaints were so persistent and so numerous that the state council took the liberty of addressing a letter to your body under date of April 19, 1918, suggesting the advisability of action on your part. Replying to that letter under date of April 25, 1918, you suggested a public hearing at which the state council should appear as prosecutor. Responsibility of this character does not rest alone with the state council.

Immediately it rests with the men in authority in any public or private institution and a mere suggestion of an undesirable situation ought to be sufficient to command immediate action on the part of those in authority. The facts are so readily accessible to your board that very little effort on your part will remove all cause for complaint. Official boards in other universities have remedied the evils in their institutions and there appears to be no reason why the official board of the university of Nebraska should not act with similar energy in the discharge of its plain duty. The work of the state council is so large and its duties so manifold that it has the right to expect that organizations like yours will correct bad conditions in the business immediately entrusted to them without seeking to place the state council in the role of prosecutor.

**Assemblies Data**

Inasmuch as you have intimated that the complaints with respect to these instructors are of an anonymous character we have assembled for your benefit certain statements of fact showing that the complaints which moved us to action in the first place are not of an anonymous character and do not come from irresponsible sources.

We herewith transmit to you complaints involving the attitude of 12 instructors. We do not charge all of these instructors with treason. We do not say that they have all made themselves liable even to the sedition law. It is not necessary that a person be proved guilty of treason or sedition to show him to be unfit as an instructor. The fact, as you so aptly

suggest in your letter of April 25, 1918, that he is "negative, halting or hesitating in support of the government" disqualifies him. We arrest, therefore, that everyone of the 12 instructors herein referred to falls within the terms of your own rule.

"The evidence discloses that these university instructors have, for one reason and another, assumed an attitude calculated to encourage among those who come under their influence, within and without the university, a spirit of inactivity, indifference and opposition towards this war and an undesirable view with respect to the several fundamental questions inseparable from the war.

**Facts at Hand**

"We are sending you herewith statements, together with the names of witnesses, of the conduct on the part of these twelve instructors. The facts are readily available to you. You can command the testimony of those to whom we herein refer and you can guarantee to others who may have been reluctant to speak the protection which they naturally desire.

"There is nothing 'anonymous' in the complaints that have come to us and which we transmit to your body. In every instance the witness is entirely reputable and there is no reason to believe that in any case there is any element of personal feeling. As before stated, these complaints relate to twelve instructors.

"This evidence discloses partially on the part of more than one instructor for the I. W. W., an organization that is practically at war with America.

**Excuses for I. W. W.**

"You will find where one instructor spoke 'very feelingly' in regard to the treatment of the I. W. W., referring to 'tyranny' in this country and the alleged misuse of the common people and presenting excuses for the behavior of the organization against which our government is now proceeding.

"Another instructor who published many articles and delivered many addresses espousing the cause of Germany prior to our entrance into the war has, since our declaration, expressed contempt for what America could do in coping with Germany, extolling German prowess and German science and seldom losing opportunity for sneering at everything American.

"Another instructor declined to subscribe for liberty bonds, explaining his unwillingness on the ground that he was opposed to all war and for that reason could not support the government. On one occasion when an instructor (hereinafter referred to) announced that he intended to write a paper in defense of the I. W. W.'s, this instructor urged him to prepare the paper and expressed entire sympathy with his views.

**Right to Invade Belgium**

"Another instructor who, prior to our entrance into the war, had sought to convince his classes that Germany was entirely right in invading Belgium territory and its treatment of Belgian population, has never corrected his attitude before his classes and you will find that among the members of these classes the impression obtains that he is entirely sympathetic with Germany's attempt to justify itself before the world.

"Another instructor has repeatedly asserted that America had no basis for entering the war and no business being in it. In his classes this instructor has always taken a negative attitude with respect to the war and at no time has shown any sympathy for it. This same instructor in conversation with the father of a boy in the service said that German propaganda was nothing but 'newspaper buncombe' and that the Germans had committed no worse atrocities than the other side had committed.

"Nebraska is a patriotic state. In every government activity it has gone 'over the top.' That does not mean that we have not had undesirable conditions to deal with in this state. In this respect Nebraska is no different from many other states. But the evils have been uncovered and the remedy applied in uncompromising spirit. For the very reason that Nebraska is patriotic, for the very reason that its last dollar and its last man is at the service of our beloved country the people of this state will not tolerate what, in the parlance of the street, is aptly called an 'off col-

attitude toward this war. This view held uncompromisingly toward men generally must be maintained in dealing with those who hold influential positions and particularly with those who are entrusted with the education of the youth of the state. That devotion to America which has given Nebraska the lead in all government activities will hold to account for undivided loyalty every person living under Nebraska's protection.

"The boys are falling 'over there,' and for those of us who remain at home there is but one line of endeavor and that is the straightforward line of stalwart Americanism—that Americanism that does not withhold a single individual sacrifice for the successful completion of the war; that Americanism that will not tolerate interference or opposition by the inactive or indifferent with those who are awake and alert to the seriousness of the crisis confronting our country."

"In the discharge of our duty we have pointed out the cancer in the University of Nebraska and in the name of the people of this state we called upon you to take immediate action.

"Nebraska State Council of Defense,

- KEITH NEVILLE, Governor
- ROBERT M. JOYCE
- GEORGE COUPLAND
- RICHARD L. METCALFE
- HERBERT E. GOOCH
- E. O. WEBER
- T. P. REYNOLDS
- CHARLES A. McCLLOUD
- GEORGE O. BROPHY
- H. E. CLAPP
- GEORGE E. JOHNSON."

A large part of the letter of the state council of defense is omitted from the above quotation. In the part here omitted, mention is made and information given of faculty members who ridiculed the allies, contoned the sinking of the Lusitania, opposed the war of the United States against Germany, even after war had been declared between the two countries, denied the atrocities committed by order of German commanders, declared the draft was a big mistake and held students in fear of being discriminated against if they made complaint of the obnoxious pro-Germanism of their teachers. Before closing the letter, the board of regents is given a prod to spur them to action in this sentence: "The complaints that have reached the state council from entirely reputable men and women—from business men, from members of the faculty, from students and from other deeply concerned Americans—are so numerous and so amazing that it is difficult to understand why your body did not long ago act upon its own motion in order to clear the bad atmosphere which these men of peculiar views have brought into our university circles."

Reference is then made to a decision of Judge Mullen in New York, in the case of a student of Columbia University, that points the way for handling disloyalty in educational institutions.



In order that there may be full cooperation in garden work in the state this year, the federal government has placed the work under the direction of the agricultural extension service of the University of Nebraska. The director of the extension service is made director of the United States school garden army of Nebraska. This will do away with all forms of duplication in garden work. Thousands of boys and girls who have already registered in school for garden work will now be enlisted in the great school garden army of the state. They will be given the regular U. S. badge or insignia, which will bear the letters "U. S. S. G.," meaning United States school garden. There will be captains and lieutenants with their proper insignia to wear. Towns not already doing garden work with the extension service should immediately get in touch with the Agricultural extension service, University farm, Lincoln, Neb.

**SPRAYS AND HOW TO MAKE THEM**

"Sprays and How to Make Them," is the title of one section of the new extension bulletin, "Home Vegetable Gardening," now being distributed by the agricultural extension service, University farm, Lincoln, Neb. The bulletin tells how to poison insects which destroy the ordinary garden vegetables. The ingredients for the spray may be purchased at any drug store and are easily mixed and readily applied. Their use may be the means of saving the garden.

**MR. ANNESLEY'S NAP**

By JOAN BUGBY.

"Bert," said Helen Annesley at breakfast, "what time did you get home?"

"Bout four—maybe half-past!"

"You look it!"

"Just how?"

"Seedy. You need sleep."

"I know it," he groaned. "I wish to thunder the governor was at home. I'd sleep all day. But here I've got to go to that blame store and be tormented for ten hours."

"It's your own fault. You should have come home earlier."

"It wasn't my fault. I took Myrtle to the dance and she wouldn't think of leaving. I was nearly dead."

"Look here, Bertie. You've got to pull yourself together. Peggy Brice is coming today and I'm counting on you. In the first place, can't you meet her at three and come home early?"

"I might manage it, sis; but I'll have to have some sleep somehow. Three, did you say?"

"Three-five at the Pennsylvania station. No use describing her. Just pick out the prettiest girl you see."

"I'll find her."

So Bert went to the store and called Johnny Stebbins, who had two rows of brass buttons down the front of his diminutive jacket.

"Johnny, it's up to you whether I get a nap or not. Two good solid hours! So if any of those people come, drummers, you know, tell them I'm dead, and don't let them view the remains, either. If they insist, send them to Barlowe or Martin."

"Yes, sir!"

"Here's a dollar. Now you stay by that outside door and don't let anyone in."

In two minutes Bert was snoring. But the anteroom was very warm, and Johnny was very tired.

And then—as fairs come when folks are asleep—she came!

She was pretty and little and tastefully dressed, and she carried a satchel. She asked for Mr. Annesley's office and was directed politely. She opened the door of the anteroom with its two rows of high-backed seats facing each other and to her surprise found only a small boy asleep.

On the door opposite was the word "Private." She opened the door. A snore greeted her. Turning, she saw the leather couch on which lay a man asleep. She had intruded unwittingly and started to tiptoe out.

But her bag knocked against a chair. Mr. Annesley sat up instantly, seeing someone in the room he sprang to his feet.

"Who did that?"

"The girl was backing frightened into a corner. 'I—I'm afraid I did.'"

"This is a — of a place where a fellow can't have two minutes' peace without someone butting in and half killing him besides. Who let you in?"

"No one. I just came."

"Where's Johnny? I told him to keep everybody out."

"The little boy? Oh, he was tired, too. He was asleep, poor little fellow! I'm so sorry I upset that chair. It was stupid and awkward of me."

But Bert did not notice her halting confusion, for he was having a bad time on his own account.

"I beg your pardon, most humbly," he said, getting redder by the minute. "I thought you were selling something, you see. Will you please forgive me?"

"It's all right," she laughed merrily, having recovered her own equilibrium. "I've had enough fun out of it to more than make up for the other. And now, Mr. Annesley, if you'll kindly tell me how to get to your house I'll be very much obliged. I'm Peggy Brice. I came earlier than I intended, and haven't an idea how to go. Your store being so near to the station, I thought I'd come in and inquire."

And then! And this is really what the story is all about, but it only takes a minute to tell it, although it affected the lives of two people for all time. The very thing Peggy was blushing about, a little card, had in some manner slipped to the floor. She stooped, and Bert stooped at the same time, but he got it. And it was his own picture!

She looked wretched and ready to cry. And he looked at her a long, long time in a very odd way. And his heart seemed to go along with the look and to stay, for he never had eyes for another girl after that.

And Johnny, whimpering and scared to death because he had slept at the switch and wrecked the peace of his employer, nearly fell dead when Mr. Annesley, going out with a pretty girl, gave him another dollar.

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**Real Courtesy**

A good story concerning the new railway regulations, which require all season tickets to be shown at the barriers, is told by Herbert Walker, the general manager of the London & Southwestern.

Owing to the simultaneous arrival at adjacent platforms of two crowded trains there was congestion at the unbuttoning and fumbling for tickets. One smartly dressed man, however, lifted his hat gracefully to the lady

ticket collector, bowed politely and passed out unchallenged. Whereupon an irascible elderly party further back called out:

"So you pass men who raise their hats to you, miss. I wonder if you'd pass me!"

"Certainly I will," she replied, "if you'll take the trouble to fasten your ticket inside the crown of your hat in such a position that I can see exit gates, accompanied by the usual ticket collector there when you raise it."



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