

Wednesday's Letter

Editor Daily Nebraskan
 Most of the great universities of the country are fortunate in possessing for campus purposes, grounds naturally beautiful and capable of almost indefinite improvement. Our own university campus lacks any natural features of beauty, and besides is cramped in area. The consequences will be disastrous to our best future unless the greatest care is taken, and the most far-sighted wisdom displayed, in present and future management. The culture value of beautiful environment will be lost, and ultimately the growth of the University retarded—as compared with our rival schools—unless we make the most of our possibilities, which are meagre at the best. Some universities, like Chicago for example, can in part secure a compensation for lack of natural beauty of grounds in the architectural effects of their buildings. Our university, however, lacks the means to secure an effect in this way. The buildings of the immediate future at least cannot fill the aesthetic need, and unfortunately the campus at present is half covered with hideously ugly structures—the library being the only building that is architecturally approvable.

Just at this moment the location of the two new buildings on the campus makes the question a live one, for the present decision will probably determine the future of our campus. Two ideas should be kept in mind: (1) convenience, and (2) artistic and aesthetic environment; and of the two, the latter just now should weigh most, for no arrangement can seriously discommode on a campus as small as ours is, and is likely to remain.

In regard to convenience, the decision should be based on a few fundamental considerations: (1) It should be kept in mind that Nebraska is not so poor, and its citizens are not so niggardly in their attitude toward educationally limited to its present commandment limited to its present contracted campus, hence forced to plan as if no expansion was to be possible. (2) The city of Lincoln is destined to grow toward the east and south, hence the great mass of the students will move more and more to the east. This will make the center of student life ever lie east of 12th street. With the new "Temple" for social and religious purposes at R and 12th streets, that corner becomes the natural gathering point. (3) Within a decade or two the University will add to its building grounds the two blocks just east of the present campus—an event which will make 12th street the center of the campus. Naturally, therefore, for the above reasons the administration building may most conveniently, for the future, be located just south of the chemistry building, the chief point of entrance to the University in the future, and perhaps even now. Then let the physics building be erected on the east side of the south entrance to balance the library building. This arrangement gives symmetry to the grounds, and makes possible really effective landscape gardening. In course of years University hall—the present main building—will be replaced by one of architectural beauty. The lawn in its front—the extension of 11th street—may be made artistically beautiful by a fountain in its center, with shrubs, grass and trees skillfully massed around it. Is it not true that here only are there real possibilities of landscape effects?

No doubt every one connected with the University is deeply anxious that the best plans be adopted, so no criticism is intended in stating that it seems to me the location of the administration building—especially since it must be a rather cheap building—between the walks at the head of 11th street will be a serious error. It will not be in the most convenient location for the near future. It will cut off the view of the interior of the campus, and the central building of the future. Finally, it will destroy the only real chance on the campus for a good piece of landscape gardening. Shall the aesthetic be sacrificed so completely to the prac-

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tical, for mere fear that the state will not purchase more land in the future for needed growth? At least, before the decision is made, would it not be well to call the faculty together on the one side, and the citizens of Lincoln on the other, in order that the widest interchange of views may be had? For counsel, the opinion of the many is best; for execution, the will of one. The hour now calls for the wisdom of all. When once the decision is made, everyone will loyally accept it, but now many of us desire to hear the arguments of others and to present our own views, since the question is so vital and far reaching.

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Twenty-nine freshmen were asked the question, "Do you enjoy drill?" Three innocent-looking youths wearing corporal's stripes answered "Yes." One replied "No." Seven said "Not on your life." Seven answered ungrammatically "Not me." Three mumbled something resembling profanity. One said "What you givin' us?" Two said "Ask me." Five stared in blank amazement with an insulted air.

The results were tabulated by the class in advanced psychology, which will report its findings to the war department.—Ohio Lantern.

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