The Daily Rebraskan



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Editorial Remarks

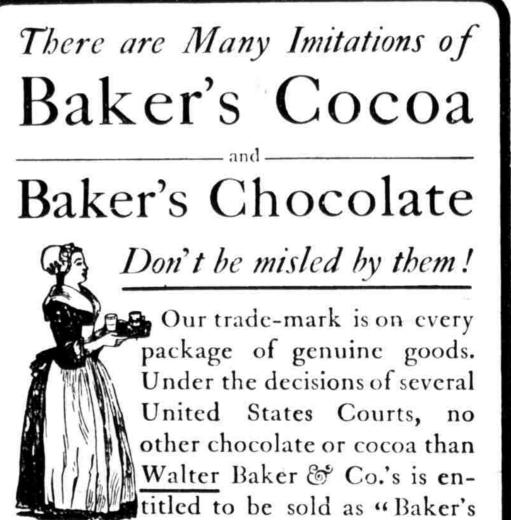
Under the caption "A Mischievous Discrimination," the Omaha Bee, of April 30, disuesses the professional rension fund as follows:

"One of the conditions of the munificent donation made by Andrew Carnegic last week to found a pension fend for college and university professors requires the exclusion of memters of state universities from participation in its benefits. Chancellor An- the half-paid instructor in a state uni-

retent and experienced professional talent that they will have to content themselves with serving as a training school to develop new material, or as an asylum for Oslerized relicts unable to connect with one of the pension fund institutions

"Should the situation become acute the state universities will have only two alternatives to choose from. They must either increase their faculty salaries to the point that will enable them to make provision themselves as they go along for their support after retiring, or they will have to improvise some scheme for a state pension fund to be created out of the same resources from which the universities themselves are maintained. The difficulty here would be that if the states which maintain state universities undertake to provide pensions for their university professors they will not be able to stop there, but will have to provide pensions for teachers in all branches of their public school system, and then for all permanent employes in the state civil service That none of the state university commonwealths are ready for such a radical departure goes without saying "On the other hand, one other solution remains to prevail upon Mr. Carnegie to remove the uncalled for and mischevious discrimination against state universities and to open his rension fund foundation to all higher educational institutions alike We do not believe Mr. Carnegie thoroughly realized the pernicious consequences sure to follow the conditions he has attached to this endowment, or that he would intentionally put the people of those states who have assumed the burden of supporting their own universities as public institutions without waiting for private gifts or bequests, at a disadvantage as compared with those who have had their universities supplied to them almost without cost by benefactions of wealthy philanthropists. Mr. Carnegie's principle in the distribution of his bounty has been to help people to help themselves and none deserve better under this rule than the state universities which have been established and maintained by the people and for the people."

When Mr. Carnegie made this offer he was doubtless moved to exclude state university professors because of a very justifiable reluctance to contribute to the support of state empioyes, desiring rather to confine his benevolence to colleges wholly dependent upon subscription, donation or endewment. While justifiable such scruples are manifestly unfair for thus drews, in response to the Bee's inquiry versity is left to make the most of his



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prompted it we are extremely loathe to admit. A moment's reflection upon the feasibility of an individual undertaking to pension the employes of a commonwealth such as ours will suffice to prove that the restriction is pot "uncalled-for."

Of the three remedies only one therefore, is left and if the process of elimination has been right the remaining one is the one to be tried.

If members of our faculty were remunerated sufficiently to enable them to lay by a little "against a stormy day" less would be thought about a pension.



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as to his opinion of the probable effect of this discrimination, characterizes it as "cruelly invidious," but while this indicates what may be expected, it does not explain how this blighting influence will be felt.

"The promise of pensions for superannuated or incapacitated professors and instructors in the great universities of the country is equivalent to increasing the salaries attaching to those positions. Other things being equal, is will be perfectly natural for the educator who has devoted himself to instructional or research work in institutions of higher learning to prefer the place which allows him to participate in a pension fund under certain conditions over one which leaves him entirely dependent upon his own resources when the time comes to retire from active service. In other words, until something is done to counteract this disturbing factor, unless other conditions enter, the state universities will be so handicapped in their efforts to secure and hold com- doubt, but that a mischievous spirit new Restaurant, 119 South 12th.

pittance, while the well remunerated instructor in a wealthy endowed institution is benefitted unjustly. Not that the benefit is unjust in itself, but it is unjust in comparison of relative merits and positions. It is a case of the saying "to him that hath shall be given," being only too true.

The above article suggests three remedies; to increase salaries, to establish a pension fund or to prevail upon Mr. Carnegie to remove the socalled "uncalled for and mischievous discrimination," and the writer proceeds to knock out the second of the remedial possibilities, leaving an in crease in salaries or a change in Caracgie's mind as the only resorts. The epithets "uncalled-for" and 'mischievous' are in themselves uncalled for. That such a restriction is

mischievous in its effect there is not

Mr. Carnegie's pension idea is a great and good one and it would be a splendid thing if it could be made all inclusive, but a line had to be drawn It is extremely doubtful if the donor can be induced to change his mind. In the meantime our faculty still holds the sack and the much deplored "brain leakage" continues,

It Pays.

In Tuesday's issue of the Nebraskan appeared an advertisement, calling for back numbers of the paper. We ne glected to state that only one copy of each was desired, and as a consequence more copies were brought to the office than could be taken care of. The promptness with which the advertise ment was answered is an indication that the columns of the paper are valuable as an advertising medium.

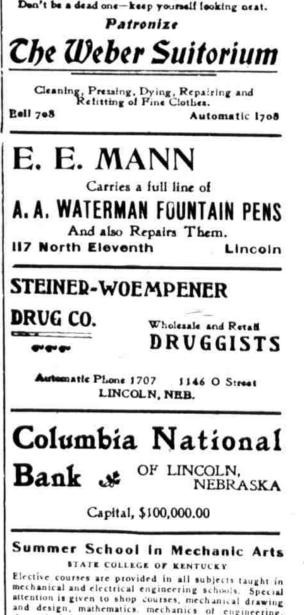
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