

# The Daily Nebraskan

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## CALDWELL CRITIC OF PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### REVIEWS TAFT'S FIRST DOCUMENT TO CONGRESS.

### HE FINDS LITTLE OF REAL WORTH

#### Successor of Roosevelt Fails Entirely to Continue the Aggressive Character of Former Messages.

That the recent message of President Taft wholly failed to sound a progressive note and lacked any firm suggestion of policy was the statement of Prof. H. W. Caldwell at convocation yesterday. Professor Caldwell followed his annual custom of reviewing the president's message from a critical standpoint. An unusually large crowd attended in anticipation of his remarks. He said in part:

"The president's message has from the first been regularly sent to congress. If it has any constitutional grounds it is in that clause which provides that the president may from time to time convey information to congress. Whether constitutional or not, it has become a regular custom. My message, too, is an annual message, and it is purely customary.

#### Dead King in Africa.

"The dead king is in Africa, and the live king is in America, but if the African king is really dead, he is the liveliest dead man in the world today. The message of Taft shows much of the influence of the president who has just vacated the office.

"Most messages have been merely a summary of events. A few have been epoch makers in American history. Some of these important messages have been special messages. Such for instance were the inaugural address of Washington, the famous message of Monroe presenting the Monroe doctrine, Jackson's nullification proclamation, his bank veto; Lincoln's inaugural, his July and December, 1861, messages. Almost more marked than any of these were the messages of Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt's messages were the most quotable messages of all.

"Taft's message is simple and plain. There are no sentences in it worthy of being quoted, but since other messages are promised we can not judge Taft yet in this quality. On the tariff he apparently stands pat. No changes are now urged or anticipated. Injunctions should not be granted so freely in the past unless absolutely necessary to prevent serious labor or commercial conditions.

"There is not a single progressive suggestion or utterance in the message. It is merely a summarize. As compared to previous messages, this message is a disappointment in this respect. There is no real information for a student in any American problem in the message.

#### Foreign Problems.

"Problems in Latin America, such as boundaries, the president hopes will continue to be settled peacefully. Some time ago the island of San Domingo was threatened by European powers because their debts were not paid. President Roosevelt did not wait for a law to be passed authorizing action by the United States in behalf of San Domingo, but went ahead and appointed a collector of customs for that island. President Taft announces that this has been a success. This is a case where our responsibility was appealed to outside the limits of the Monroe doctrine.

"Relations with Japan continue to be as cordial as they have been in the past. They may be no better, but are yet no worse.

"Greater care is to be exercised in accounting for and recording the collection and the distribution of money

at the United States treasury. President Taft speaks of fraud existing, but does not deal with it very vigorously.

#### Deals With Deficit.

"The question of the deficit is brought up also. A plan is proposed to meet this deficit, but the recommendation is one of the weakest in the whole message. It is: To postpone expenditures on the navy and army and other departments until the deficit is made up. Then the expenditure could go on again. A battleship costs as much money as three such state universities as this one. Evidently the president is in favor of continued heavy expenditures for such purposes. The postoffice deficit is considered. The deficit is large and the reason given are the heavy cost of newspapers and magazine carriage. Taft recommends an increase in the postal rates for magazines.

"The message is as noteworthy for what it does not say as what it does say. Why did he not explain that the railroad charges are far larger than they ought to be and that steps should be taken to reduce these heavy rates rather than increase postal rates?"

### G. B. McDONALD BACK IN LINCOLN

#### Ex-Football Star to Spend Month with Friends in City.

G. B. McDonald, ex-quarter back of Nebraska's varsity, was a campus visitor yesterday. He is visiting Lincoln friends and will be in the city until after the Christmas vacation.

Mr. McDonald graduated in 1907 and immediately entered the government forestry service. For some time he was in Washington, D. C., and for the past year and a half he has been in the west, visiting the government reserves. His work has taken him all over the western country, particularly Idaho and Montana. He has dealt almost exclusively with planting, and in this branch of the work he has had results of much interest to foresters.

### CLUB MET SATURDAY NIGHT.

#### Komenians Held Christmas Festivities at Home of Miss Hrbek.

The Christmas meeting of the Komenians Club was held Saturday evening with Miss Sarka Hrbek, 1726 Q street. A large representation of the membership was present to enjoy the program of Christmas games. Otto Kotouc of Humboldt, Neb., and A. A. Tenopir of Omaha, Neb., alumni of the club, were present and gave brief but valuable talks on the progress of the Komenians movement among young Bohemians. The formal portion of the program consisted mainly of musical numbers, the first being selections from Dvorak's "New World Symphony," played by Orrin Stepanek, who prefaced his number by interesting remarks on the early life and musical preparation of the great Bohemian composer, who later spent a number of years in this country, being director of the conservatory of music in New York City. Mr. Stepanek's rendition of the selected portions of "The New World Symphony" were so much enjoyed that he had to respond to an encore. Mr. John Bouchal gave a humorous reading on "Buttons—Harmless and Otherwise."

A piano duet, entitled "Poet and Peasant," rendered by Miss Vlasta Dolansky and Miss Emma Vlasta, was thoroughly enjoyed, after which Miss Krisl read an article on "Christmas Customs in Bohemia."

After a number of Bohemian songs, which were given by the chorus, various games, always played at the Christmas season among the Czechs, occupied the company. The serving of refreshments was followed by other games.

The next meeting of the Komenians Club will take place on the evening of the first Saturday following the holiday recess.

## TAKES STAND FOR A REFORM IN THE RULES

### DR. CLAPP TO VOTE FOR CHANGE IN RULES DECEMBER 28.

### JOHN BENDER TO COACH BASEBALL

#### Sweaters of a Uniform Color and "N's" of a Distinct Design to Be Granted Hereafter in the Various Branches of Athletics.

Considerable interest and comment was made over the campus yesterday over the action of the athletic board on the matter of revision of the football rules. Students generally seem to be in favor of an action in the matter and were heartily in favor of any action which would not take from the game its interest and at the same time tend to decrease the chances of injury to any of the players.

Chancellor Avery is very much in sympathy with this movement and it was at his suggestion that the action of the athletic board on the matter was taken. "Let the friends of the game do what is in their power to remedy it before others have a chance to revise it," is the opinion of the chancellor.

At the meeting of the board the following motion was made and carried: "That the delegate to the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of the United States be instructed to work toward the securing of the elimination as far as possible of the dangerous features of football." This delegate of the board, Dr. Clapp, will attend this meeting of the Intercollegiate Athletic Association in New York City December 28, and carry out this policy.

#### State Sentiment.

That this action is in harmony with the feelings of the students of the university and the other colleges over the state, as well as the people of the state, is evidenced by the action which these people have taken. President Crabtree of the Peru Normal school and other faculty men of the state have agitated this matter to a certain degree, and the action of the Nebraska athletic board comes as a recognition of these demands.

Not alone in this state do the friends of football feel that a revision of the rules is necessary, but the sentiment is found all over the country wherever football is played. At Cornell the rules must be revised or the game will be prohibited and in Georgetown and Holy Cross the sport has been eliminated from athletics. The attitude of such football authorities as Walter Camp and Stagg show that the attempts at revision of the rules have a sound basis and that such a thing is an absolute necessity.

#### No Proxies.

In other lines of purely local nature the athletic board took further action and made a ruling which goes into effect January 1, 1910, to the effect that after this date no proxy will be allowed in any athletic board election. That this ruling has been needed has been felt by the members of the board for some time. Specific instances of voting by proxy has been shown in elections in the past few years and it has always caused a large amount of unnecessary difficulty.

#### Bender Coach.

The report of the baseball committee was read and approved to the effect that "Johnny" Bender be hired for baseball coach next season and that he assume his duties March 1st and continue them until the close of the season. Bender expects to be a student in the university next semester, and with this in view he will be fully able to have charge of his work as baseball coach.

For the past two seasons "Billy" Fox has coached the varsity baseball

team, but this year he will be unable to do so as he no longer has interests in Lincoln which would allow him to remain as coach of the university team until the close of the college baseball season.

#### Uniform Sweaters.

A report of the administration committee was read and approved to the effect that the sweater and "N's" granted by the athletic board hereafter would be of a uniformity and certain sweaters for certain lines of athletics would be in vogue. For football, a white block "N" was presented, eight inches in height, seven inches wide at the center and two inch bars with square blocks, the sweater to be cardinal and the style of the neck left to the choice of the individual. The cross-country "N" is to be a cardinal flowing "N" six inches in height and five inches wide, the sweater to be a white coat jersey. The basketball sweater is to be a white coat jersey, and the baseball and track sweaters to be cardinal coat jerseys.

Reserve sweaters were also granted to the scrubs of this year and the board voted to add the names of Pearce and Dobson to the list previously submitted. The petition of the men for the sweaters bearing a large "2" with a small "N" was voted down by the board, as it was felt that the men wearing the "N" sweaters should be the only ones of the university privileged to wear an "N" of any sort.

### SENIORS HOLD MEETING.

#### Election of Members to the Student Publication Held and Other Business Transacted.

At a meeting of the members of the senior class yesterday morning at 10 o'clock in the music hall at the Temple, President Hof Mann appointed a committee to arrange for a commencement day speaker. It was suggested that an educator be asked to give the address instead of a politician as has been the case in late years. S. A. Mahood was appointed chairman of this committee. To represent the class on the student publication board George M. Wallace was elected. The senior play was also discussed and a modern play will in all probability be given by the class next spring. The president also announced that a committee would be appointed to arrange for the senior masquerade which will be given some time in the near future.

### COMFORTABLE JOURNEY HOME.

#### Burlington Wants Students to Buy Tickets Early.

City Ticket Agent Bonnell of the Burlington lines has issued a request that students intending to go home for the Christmas vacation buy their tickets early so that the road officials may know when to expect the crowds and how to properly care for them.

His letter in part follows: "If students will buy their tickets at least one day in advance of their starting, and do so at this office, we can be posted as to the number of extra cars to be put on each train. This will not only help us, but will insure for students plenty of comfortable seatings on the home trip. We want to please them and make their vacation a pleasant one and to start out on the trip standing up will not be pleasant. I would also ask that they say in buying the tickets on what date they will start. The early checking of baggage will also be a factor in assisting them to get away more promptly, as that can be done at their leisure, instead of the last moment in the rush which will delay the trains and not only them but the other students."

Your car fare would pay for a nice lunch at the Boston Lunch. Why go home?

## WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THE PROFESSOR

### DRAMATIC CLUB TO DIVULGE SECRET THURSDAY NIGHT.

### SEARL DAVIS IS TITLE CHARACTER

#### Miss Bailey Leading Lady, Supported by Strongest Cast Ever Appearing on University Stage.

"What's the Matter With the Professor?" is the rather startling title of the play which will be staged at the Temple theater Thursday night by the University Dramatic Club. This is the first play of the club this year. The cast is exceptionally strong, every character being impersonated by one of the strongest members of that organization.

Although bills have been circulated containing the query "What is the matter with the professor?" nothing definite has been discovered as yet. The cast has been working faithfully for the last two weeks to unravel this mystery, and it is hoped that on the night of the 16th they will have the matter perfectly clear in their own minds and be able to give to the university public a solution of the matter. To aid them in their research they have the professor with them, continually quizzing him, checking his data, and proving his original records. It is safe to say that the play when produced will be something unique, even in the comedy line at Nebraska.

#### Cast of Characters.

The cast was carefully picked from the best talent in the club and contains many names not unfamiliar to the university public. Many of them appeared to advantage in previous plays given by the club and others appeared in the senior play last year. They have been putting in every moment of available time in preparation for the production on the 16th, and will, in the opinion of their coach, put on the best play ever appearing on the university stage. Miss Howell, the president of the club, says emphatically that the following cast will force the professor to divulge his secret. The cast is as follows:

Professor Goodwille.....Searl S. Davis  
Dr. Cousins.....Yale Holland  
Dr. Yellowleaves.....John M. Alexander  
Miss Goodwille.....Eather Bailey  
Sir George Guilding.....Nye Morehouse  
The Dowager.....Miss Nagl  
Effie.....Ada Morgan  
Pete.....Lawrence Coy  
Henders.....Paul Yates  
Footman.....H. G. Rushton  
Miss White.....Bashie Tully

No effort has been spared to make the play artistic from every viewpoint. Special scenery has been secured from the Lyric theater, which will add a great deal to the staging of the play. In order to avoid any delay that might be experienced by having inexperienced men handling this scenery, the club have engaged professional stage hands for this work.

#### Second Performance.

The sale of tickets has been pushed with such vigor that it is feared there will be some trouble in securing sufficient seating capacity in the theater. This may necessitate a second performance. However, until the sale of tickets reaches a point that will warrant a second performance no announcement is a second will be made.

The tickets may be secured from any member of the club or at either one of the university book stores. The tickets sell at 25 cents and may be reserved for an additional charge of 10 cents. The seats may be reserved any day between 1 and 2 p. m., or at the Temple theater box office Thursday, the day of the play.