

send out general salesmen. The Elliott company, in addition, last year had a local agent in the person of Mr. K. M. Snyder, who, incidentally, is the chairman of this year's invitation committee. The general salesman of the Elliott company offered to sell the invitations that were purchased last year to the committee for 24 cents each for leather and 12 cents each for paper, and he made the positive statement that they could not be purchased for less. The committee, wishing to get competing bids, refused to close the contract, much to the disgust of the salesman. Upon the arrival of the agent for the Wright company, the committee was offered a better price, but wishing to give the Elliott company another chance, they

wired that company for their lowest possible quotation, and were offered leather at 23½ cents and paper at 11½ cents each. The Wright company offered leather at 23 cents and paper at 11 cents each, and at those figures the contract was let.

After the above contract was closed, Mr. Snyder, the local agent, offered to sell the same kind of invitations as were already contracted for at 22 cents leather and 10½ cents paper. The committee, however, were bound to the contract that they had closed. There are approximately 1,200 leather and 1,500 paper sold, so that a margin of one cent amounts to \$27.00 profit. The sale, however, this year has been slightly under those figures. Had the committee accepted Mr. Snyder's price the profit to the class would have been \$60.00 instead of \$41.00.

This year the committee paid 25 cents each for leather and 12 cents for paper, as against 23 cents and 11 cents last year; last year leather were sold at 25 cents and this year at 26 cents; last year paper were sold at 12½ cents and this year at 13 cents; in other words, this year the members of the class were charged \$17.50 more for their invitations than last year. In short, Mr. Editor, while acting as agent for the Elliott company last year, Mr. Snyder offered to profit the class of 1914 about \$60.00, but while acting as agent for the class of 1915 he charges the class \$17.50 more and profits the class only about \$12.00. In fairness to the committee it should be stated that the invitations this year have a steel engraving in the front part which was not in those of last year and which is an additional expense, but last year a copper leaf was placed on the outer cover, which was not on this year's invitations, otherwise they are practically identical.

In regard to the announcements, which were sold for 5 cents each both last year and this year, and which are identical, last year they were bought of a local firm at 3½ cents each; this year they were purchased for 4½ cents each in Philadelphia; there were 1,300 sold, so that a profit of \$13 was thus lost, plus the express expense. The general salesman of the local firm stated that they were not even given a chance to bid upon the jobs this year. W. E. K.

Editor Daily Nebraskan:

As a matter of justice to both sides, I was sorry to see that the article in yesterday's Nebraskan did not specify in what respect the article of last Thursday might be considered as libel. Let us be sure of our case before we suggest libel. The recent case in New York should be a timely warning against making such charges. I don't want to be considered as in any way unmindful of professional dignity and fairness.

Every day papers print something "offensive" to some person or other. Let us not in our zeal for a certain cause make a by-word of something so essentially, fundamentally democratic as the "freedom of the press." In case of doubt, let us incline rather towards the side of a free press than towards the side of a trammelled press. If everybody could cut out of the papers everything he considered offensive, our papers would be very lean in these strenuous days. Yours for a free press.

ANTON H. JENSEN.

Editor of the Daily Nebraskan.

In Thursday's Nebraskan a writer asks, "What is the purpose of the military department of the University?" The same or similar questions have been asked about the government but when sane men have investigated the source of such questions it has been found that they came from fanatics or from those who were ignorant of the real state of affairs or whose knowledge of the needs of society is inadequate for intelligent and equitable handling of the subject. In

attacking military drill I do not believe that the writer has gone below the surface, but is giving his judgment from a survey from the view point of a man who is drilling in his first or second year and does not like it, therefore he is prejudiced.

In the first place I will say that they are not trying to make real soldiers of us, but are merely attempting to impart a little knowledge of military science that would be very valuable to every one of us in case of war whether we are ever called upon to go to the front or not. As to the building up of a reserve, every man in the state is a part of the reserves of the country whether he will or not, and in this day of training and the demand for efficiency, no man should begrudge the few hours that he gives while here, toward making that reserve more efficient when the preservation of his home at some time in the future may depend upon it. Our military policy is different from that of most countries in that we have no requirement for a period with the colors for every able bodied man and to offset this, we must have some method of giving the citizens some training in order that we may have more instructors to drill new recruits in time of need. We always have plenty of men who volunteer but never enough officers or men who have had instruction, to prepare them for service and for that reason we have always sent our armies into battle in the beginning of a war, deficient in training with the result of large and needless losses. Mr. Watson says that success in battle is in our volunteer service. Again he has not gone below the surface. I will grant that we always hear of the glorious victories won by the American volunteers, but we do not hear the other side, that of the hundreds and thousands of volunteers needlessly sacrificed to gain those victories. Sacrificed because they were not sufficiently trained in conducting themselves on the march, in camp and on the field of battle. Even those who are most strongly opposed to war admit that if war comes our men must be trained.

As to the number of Nebraska alumni who would respond to a call to arms, an answer would of course be speculative, but as Patrick Henry said, "I can only judge the future by the past" I will sight what happened in '98 and the years following. There were about fifty or sixty men in the twelve companies from Nebraska who had had military training in the University, or an average of about four or five to the company. Now compare this number with the number of men who were in the university at that time, and make a similar comparison of the men in the university and the number in the state and you will see that the men who had had training in the university bore their share in that war. They left all walks of life to answer that call and they will do the same again whether it be 1915 or 1940. If a university education will kill the "spirit of '76" or deprive men of willingness to lift their arms in defense of a weaker nation against an oppressor, when they know their cause is right before God, God forbid that we have higher education.

Contrary to the statement of Mr. Watson, a benefit is derived physically from military training. If not it is the fault of the man and not the system. Of course if a lazy fellow goes into it with a determination to do as little as possible, and sluffs through the hour day after day he could not expect to become a physically perfect specimen of a man. I will say this however, that if a man will put something into the work and determine in his own mind that as he is compelled to take the drill, he is going to gain something from it that will be of benefit to himself, he will be surprised at the things he will accomplish in the poise of his body in standing and walking. That is the attitude with which I started to drill

four years ago and before I had drilled three months I was liking it and I have drilled since then because I have liked it and not because of the "empty honor" of being an officer.

In regard to excuses for absence, every department in the University holds the students registered there responsible for work missed in absence. The other departments held us responsible for the work missed while on the hike and during inspection, why should not the military department hold us responsible for work missed while attending other departments? It is a poor rule that will not work both ways. Again the extra time required by the military department is small compared to what is required for camp, which in accordance with the terms under which the department is maintained, they have a right to take.

Nebraska spirit is entirely foreign to the subject. To think that it is not, is to mistake the shadow for the substance. It is the men who attack institutions in our school which are maintained by men wiser and of more experience than themselves, who are responsible, in part at least, for our school spirit or the lack of it. It is not by pulling out and voicing discord that we maintain school spirit, but by pulling together.

We have the promise that the Prince of Peace will reign, and I believe that in His own good time He will, but I do not believe that by laying down our arms and advocating the doctrine of non-resistance we can hasten that time. If a world wide disarmament could be effected, such a policy would be good but we have only to listen to the echo from stricken Europe to see how far off such a possibility is. Even war has its good effects and the qualities of man that are never brought out by peace are shown in times of strife. It has been called the "acid test of character." We must guard against false ideas of patriotism.

J. LLOYD McMASTER.

THE STRONG MAN WAS ABROAD

Whiskered Gent Puts Him to Supreme Test of His Life

A strong man doing the two-a-day was a recent passenger on a train from Kansas City to Omaha, and had occasion to go into the day coach. There he was accosted by a tall man with side whiskers, who said: "Excuse me, but ain't you the strong man?"

"Some say I am," was the good-natured response.
"You can lift three tons in harness?"
"That's my record."
"You can hold two hundredweight at arm's length?"
"Yes."
"And put up 300 pounds with one hand?"
"Yes."
"And 600 with two?"
"I can."
"In that case, will you kindly undertake to raise this car window for me?"
—Saturday Blade.

Turned it Down

The Student Council of Northwestern University refused to allow the men students to participate in a "popularity contest" giving a motorcycle to the most popular student. The prize was offered by a tobacco firm and the votes were to be cast with cigarette coupons. In connection with the contest a sum of money was promised to the University Athletic Association, the amount to be determined by the number of votes cast showing how many packages of cigarettes had been bought and smoked. This offer was also refused.

Union Society Elects Officers

The Union Society held its last meeting of the school year Monday evening from 7 until 8 o'clock. The following officers were elected for the first term of next year:

- President—Edward M. Partridge, '16, Omaha.
- Vice president—Josephine Ballard, '16, Ft. Morgan, Colo.
- Secretary—George A. Odgers, '16, Bennett.
- Treasurer—Henning W. Nelson, '16, Ft. Calhoun.
- Historian—Ethel Rathkey, '16, Omaha.
- Critic—Doris Slater, '16, Lincoln.

Not Much

Bess—"Do you think much of Jimmit?"
Tess—"No; only about twenty-four hours a day."—Saturday Blade.

Math Prof.—"The examinations are in the hands of the printer. Are there any questions?"

Chorus—"Who's the printer?"—Cornell Widow.

"Where have you been?"
"In the hospital, getting censored."
"Censored?"
"Yes. I had several important parts cut out."—Ohio State Sun Dial.

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