

The Daily Nebraskan

THE BEST UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER IN THE WORLD

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If a university does not teach the student to do his own thinking it fails entirely. If he must rely on his friends, or some newspaper or magazine question column, he is not able to do the work. This is the time in the semester when "back-work" is being hurriedly made up, when papers are being written and laboratories are crowded.

A recent issue of the Wall Street Journal says that "to encourage a student to make 'dead-head' approaches to newspapers is not to educate him at all. It merely teaches him to pan-handle upon others for the thing he may get for himself, if he has brains and has learned the one thing which colleges can teach—the discipline of learning."

Does the trouble lie with the students or with the professors who are supposed to be educating them? If the students do not know how to think for themselves, then they should be taught to think. Why should anyone depend upon artificial means of getting information when they can get it for themselves with a little sincere study. The habit of independent clear thinking is one of the most valuable of all and the college professor who can instill that habit into the lives of his students has accomplished the greatest good that is within his power to do.

Practically every denominational and tuition school in the country large enough to have school activities of importance, has the single tax, according to statistics compiled by The Daily Nebraskan last spring. In this table there were about twenty universities supported by the state and having activities of importance.

The fact that the single tax is prevalent in so many of the colleges and universities throughout the country, does not prove that it is right but it will do a great deal in that direction.

The single tax is a voluntary tax levied upon the students at each semester registration, to cover the expense for student activities. If the student is interested in activities and supports them the way he should, the tax will save him money.

It is urged that the single tax would not be fair to the poor man, that it would make him pay for something he cannot use, and that he would have to bear the burden of his wealthier classmate.

If this argument were sound, the denominational schools throughout the country and nearly twenty of the big, progressive state universities, would not advocate the system as heartily as they do.

They all agree that their schools have been benefited by the single tax, that it is fair, popular and successful.

Surely those interested in the very best for Nebraska would advocate such a system of complete and equalized support.

UNIVERSITY NOTICES

CANDIDATES FOR PLACES ON THE DAILY NEBRASKAN STAFF

Applications for the various positions on the Daily Nebraskan editorial and business staffs will be received at the office of student activities until 5 o'clock p. m., Friday, January 19, 1917. Blanks on which to fill out your application can be secured at the student activities office. T. A. Williams, Secretary.

Y. W. C. A.

Meeting of Y. W. C. A. association girls this evening at 7 o'clock in the Y. W. C. A. rooms at the Temple. Elections will be discussed and also the work of the newly appointed Y. W. C. A. commission. It is urgent that as many as possible be present at this meeting.

Freshman Debate Tryouts

Tryouts for freshman debating will be held in Law 161 from 2:30 to 3:30 Thursday afternoon. Anyone who desires to try out but who cannot do so at this time, notify me by Wednesday evening.—R. B. Eldredge, chairman.

Students Guild

The University Students' Guild of the First Presbyterian church will meet Friday evening at the home of Dean R. Leland, 1312 South Twenty-first street.

Class Athletic Managers

There will be a meeting of the class athletic managers at Assistant Coach Rutherford's office, Thursday at 11

o'clock. Every manager is urged to be there.

Carr a Candidate

I wish to announce myself a candidate for Ivy Day orator, subject to the will of the senior class at the coming election.

EVERETT CARR.

Civil Engineers

Civil Engineering society meet Wednesday night at 7:30, M. A. 206. Election of officers. Cornhusker business.

FORUM

To the Editor of The Daily Nebraskan: It is the most dangerous thing in the world to praise an amateur actor—and a fortiori an actress—remarked Bernard Shaw a long time ago; he—or she—immediately rushes off and transforms a very good amateur into a very bad professional. I hope that nothing I say here will have such tragic effect. But I can not help saying a word in unstinted praise of the performance of Emilia Galotti at the Temple theatre on Friday evening.

In the first place, after a plethora of plays of the "Believe me, kiddo" type, in which cheap people utter cheap sentiments in cheap language, it is a pleasure to sit down to a play in which there are real characters who utter real sentiments in a language which in its simple, noble prose, lifts us out of the atmosphere of the trivial and the banal.

That the University is the place where just this kind of thing should be done goes without saying. We had such a play last year in Miss Howell's "Jean d'Arc" and "Emilia Galotti"

was such another. I don't mean because there were princes and counts and fine clothes and peri-wigs, though there were these in both plays; but because there were reliability, and sincerity, and human nature revealed in the heads beneath the periwigs and in the hearts behind the silk waistcoats. In other words, there was something more than flashy superficialities that we all of us contrive about us to hide the deeper realities of our thoughts and feelings, and which the current stage is so trivially concerned with. It is the effort to keep alive in the community the sense that there is a drama of this finer kind that justifies the existence of dramatics in the University. It is this for one thing that makes the Deutscher Schauspielverein in general and Miss Heppner in particular deserve so much for putting on a play such as we saw on last Friday night.

The other thing is that they put it on so well. It is ungrateful to discriminate where the whole was so admirable. It is especially ungrateful where the play is in a foreign tongue to which some come by right of birth and some by sheer acquisition. More personal credit may be said to be due to the latter. And when I think of the clear, spirited enunciation, under all the stress of action, on the part of Miss Luckey, Miss McMahon, and Mr. Nesbit—I judge by names—and of the effective, convincing action under all the stress of speech in a tongue that is not native, I can only wonder how they did it. Claudia on her return, Emilia in the last scene, and Conti in the first, will long remain in my memory.

The intrinsic honors, I suppose, must inevitably go to those who have come by their German more natively, if not more honestly. Mr. Grove did a piece of acting—let me refer here to my first sentence—that was very affecting. The fine cadence of his lines, the variety of tone that bent under the pressure of his changeable mood, the winning ease of his bearing spoke of exceptional abilities, and gave us a sympathy with the weak, amiable Prince that lifted the whole play into dramatic momentousness. Mr. Rabe will long be remembered as the Polonius of the play, dry, grim, sardonic, with not a break in his perfect manner of the old, proud, unscrupulous mentor and counsellor.

Of Miss Craft's rendering of a most difficult part it is hard to speak adequately. Like the Prince, Orsina had the task of putting a deep humanity into an unsympathetic part—to win our sympathy and so heighten the conflict with which inwardly we reproduce the tragic presentment of the stage. And she did it with a charm and skill that made this conflict movingly real. Nothing else in the play equaled the scene between Orsina and Marinelli; and the touching "Verachtung" and "Gleichgültig" speeches—I don't know how else to distinguish them—reached a real tragic depth.

Mr. Naber as the outraged father gave a spirited rendering of the part. Mr. Hinze, both as the aged counsellor and as the conspirator, won from the audience a quick and deserved appreciation that followed him at every reappearance. Mr. Weiland did his lines clearly and energetically. To have gone over these latter roles so hastily is only to say that every play has minor parts. So well were they all rendered that though my aural German is very shaky and I missed the nice intention of many sentences, I always knew what word it was that I didn't know the meaning of. The merit was theirs and the fault mine.

If I may have another line I should like to say that this experience seems to me to confirm what I have long suspected—that given a drama of a noble type and amateurs will do better in it than in a trivial one. It takes a very consummate artist to put the spark of humanity into a stalking puppet; but put the lines of a good play into an amateur's mouth and their very depth and sincerity will carry him through. To say nothing of the infinitely greater benefit to the student himself!

SHERLOCK B. GASS.

Washington—A live fish gradually frozen in a cake of ice does not die, it merely suspends all life processes. When the ice melts, if it does so slowly, the fish takes up its vital activities again, as if nothing had happened. This is also true of frogs and turtles, and other cold-blooded animals. So says the department of science. (But what we want to know is whether or not the oysters that we eat on the half shell are alive and kicking, or dead and buried?)—Ex.

THE DAYS GONE BY

Five Years Ago Today

Jerome R. Forbes was in the race with Will Randall for president of the junior class.

Everett M. Jenks of Scranton, Ia., a prominent junior law student, died as a result of an abscess in the brain.

An investigation of the pawn shops in Park Row, New York, three or four Phi Beta Kappa keys and forty-two pins of prominent fraternities were found. The prices paid for these articles ranged from 75 cents to \$10.00.

Fraternity men scouted the idea that the original owners found it necessary to put their pins in soak, but believed the pins were either lost or stolen in most cases.

Two Years Ago Today

The military ball was held at the Lincoln hotel.

No tryouts were held for the junior debating team, as only three men intended to try out. These were allowed to represent the class.

One Year Ago Today

Notice was received that Anan Raymond, '13, who was graduated with Phi Beta Kappa honors, had been taken into partnership with Mr. Brogan, a prominent lawyer of Omaha. Mr. Raymond acted as private secretary to the chancellor while in school.

ALUMNI NEWS

Luke H. Cheney, '87, attorney at Stockville, visited alumni headquarters yesterday. Mr. Cheney was recently elected vice-president of the state bar association.

Matie Hall, '13, of York, is visiting friends in Lincoln this week.

Russel Aker, ex-'17, of Harvard, and Cirt Merrick, '13, of Adams, are visitors at the Farm House.

Fred L. Taylor, '16, who has been instructor in the Alma high school, has resigned his position there and accepted the appointment of assistant state farm demonstrator.

BRIEF BITS OF NEWS

Earl Hogue, '18, spent last week-end with his parents at Crete.

Clarence Mickeland, '17, and Earl Yates, '17, have gone to York to inspect imported nursery stock for the government.

Glenheim Foe, '20, Red Cloud; a member of the University cadet band, is under treatment this week at the Lincoln sanitarium. He suffered an attack of grip last week, but continued in school, his illness becoming more serious Saturday.

President Dick of the Kearney state normal school and Superintendent Caverness, secretary of the state normal school board, visited the University yesterday.

Charles McLeod, secretary of the board of education at Stanton, visited here yesterday.

Myrtle Gelwick has accepted a position in the West Point high school for the second semester. She will teach the sciences.

Ira K. Roberts, who will graduate this February, has been elected to teach English and German in the Davenport high school next semester.

Emily Cox is ill this week with influenza.

Miss Graham attended the home economics conference at the state farm yesterday afternoon.

Minnesota—A graduate in a communication to the Daily, says he is in favor of reducing the size of classes in college, even going so far as to make instructors work three or four hours a day, if necessary.—Ex.

Classified Advertising

LOST—Bunch of keys; liberal reward. Return student activities office. 77-79

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