

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

Official Paper of the University of Nebraska

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The service flag is coming to Nebraska at last. Although one or two fraternities have been flying banners since early this fall, University organizations in general have been slow to take up the custom, but fraternities are now busy at work compiling complete lists of their members in the service and will hoist their flags before the end of the week. When Nebraska has all her banners flying the stars will compare very favorably with those of sister institutions. But the service flags will represent but a small part of Nebraska's offering at that; if the University were to honor every one of her sons who has gone to fight for democracy it would be necessary to float a flag of a thousand stars from the staff on old U hall.

Middle western university publications are commenting at some length upon the statement of Secretary of War Baker that the hand-knitted sweaters, wristlets, and stockings that American sisters and mothers have been sending the soldier boys are luxuries, and not necessities. Co-eds, several college papers predict, will raise considerable commotion over this characterization of the product of their hours of zealous toil. But there is no reason why co-eds should be discouraged, nor why, for that matter, they should lessen their labors. As Secretary Baker points out, the war department is glad to have these things sent to America's army, for it gives the men a constant reminder that the folks back home are working for their comfort. Sweaters, wristlets, stockings, and all the other carefully-planned inventions of patriotic fingers are, in a strictly military sense, luxuries, but they are just as essential to Sammy Jones' happiness as his pouch of tobacco—and who would dare to call that a luxury?

What has long been declared impossible has happened. The Varsity banquet, an all-University men's affair, has been held with no resulting casualties from flying table ware. So different in this respect was it from the old Cornhusker banquet that The Nebraska State Journal, which used to pounce upon the Cornhusker banquet as a juicy morsel of scandal for the folks back home to worry about, quoted "University authorities" as agreeing that the Cornhusker party in the Y. M. C. A. went off as quietly as "a group of theological students in a seminary." In truth it was quiet, in the sense that it was entirely free from rowdiness. But it was noisy in vociferous Nebraska spirit—the kind that expressed itself in rolling roars when Dr. Young alluded to the wonderful "comeback" of the Cornhuskers in the closing moments of the Syracuse game and when Chancellor Avery announced that forty per cent of the University's normal male population was engaged in fighting autocracy. There was nothing tame, nothing Sunday-schoolish, about the first Varsity banquet. It was a happy, joyous but gentlemanly bunch of Nebraska men—including students, alumni and professors—gathered together to honor the Cornhusker football team, to laugh at the good-natured caricatures of University people, and to plan for a greater Nebraska.

THE FORUM

A Chance to Serve  
December 7, 1917.

Editor Daily Nebraska:  
The University Soldiers' committee is in receipt of a letter from the mother of one of our soldier boys, Charles S. Reed, who was a law student last year, and who now is confined to the hospital with an attack of diphtheria, asking that some of those who knew him here would write him a few words of cheer. Address Post Hospital, Madison Barracks, Sackett Harbor, N. Y.

In this connection it is the desire of the soldiers' committee that the faculty and students write to their acquaintances in the service as frequently as they can. Miss Chaikin, alumni secretary, has already catalogued some 700 names and will be glad to show the list to any one desiring to secure addresses for this purpose. The faculty and others are urgently requested to add to the list the names of all University soldiers and sailors they may now have or may come into possession of from time to time.

I shall be obliged if you will make a local notice covering the substance of the above paragraphs.  
Yours very truly,  
GEO. R. CHATBURN,  
Chairman Soldiers Committee.

LOOKING AHEAD

With conditions both inside and outside of college in a constant state of unrest and uncertainty, the spirit of pessimism or discontent is very apt to work its way among students and make them dissatisfied with their college work and the outlook on life in general. Many students have been heard to remark that they could not settle down to work this year and that the usual interest in their college work was absent.

This attitude is due to the inability of the individual to see ahead of the next few weeks or months and also due to a succumbing to a depression of feeling because the outlook for the future is not as bright as it might be.

Such persons are missing the very thing that they are looking for. Opportunity for good deeds are ever present these days and the individual who has his eyes open will not have time to think of the gloomier side of things. His time will be completely occupied in doing things worth while.

There are all kinds of ways to do good and be happy in the doing of it. The following quotation from Stevenson would make a good maxim for such persons to live by:

"When we look into the long avenue of the future and see the good there is for each one of us to do, we realize after all what a beautiful thing it is to work, and to live, and to be happy."

Get the right viewpoint. Don't mope around, being a bore to all the rest who are trying to see the bright side. Keep a stiff upper lip and cheer up.—Ohio State Lantern.

NEWSPAPERS AND EDUCATION

Some one has said that a man is as well educated as his knowledge of the daily news and the opinion he has formed of it.

Recently a K. U. woman was forced to admit that she had not heard of the Italian reverse or the capture of Americans by Germans. This perhaps is typical of many K. U. women and men as well. If the other day these persons did not know of the Italian defeat, it is likely that today they are ignorant of the rapid succession of events in Russia, of the movement of the allies toward a supreme war council, of the heroic stand of the Italians on the Piave River line, and of many other things as interesting and important.

But more than this; it is all too likely that the non-newspaper readers are the ones who are not taking the war seriously. In this light the importance of reading the newspapers cannot be over-emphasized. An intelligent preparation for victory can only be accomplished by an intelligent and informed public. The nation's newspapers have recognized that the first step toward victory is publicity. They are doing their share. The response should be unanimous, for the war has turned newspaper reading from a privilege to a duty.—Daily Kansan.

Kansas Students Combat Spread of Meningitis

All dances, parties, mass meetings, concerts and other student gatherings at the Kansas State Agricultural college have been cancelled on account of the meningitis outbreak at Camp Funston and Fort Riley. All students and faculty are to be examined by the college bacteriologists as a precautionary measure against the spread of the disease. No soldiers are allowed to ride on the street cars or the interurban or to attend movies and public gatherings.

Home Economics Club Announces Committees

The Home Economics club, at the farm has announced the committees for which are to take charge of the war work that the club has been doing. The girls have been meeting every other Wednesday evening

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to sew for French war orphans. Kate Helzer is president of the club, the other officers are Louise Enochs, vice-president; Hazel Miller, secretary; Marion Fleming, treasurer. The committees appointed are advertising—Rhoda McBride, Meda Eigenbroadt, Beatrice Schneck; program—Clara Curry, Helen Possner, Lila Drollinger, Orpha Vidgood, Verna Crabtree, Ag publications—Winefred Williams, Louise Enochs.

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