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SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 1927.

VIEWING WITH ALARM

Two more letters from students alarmed over the recent departure of several well-known University professors are printed in Campus Pulse this morning. There are two others which have not been printed for lack of room. These two are a fair sample of the others, though, and indicate the present state of alarm of many people concerning the future of the University in so far as professors are concerned.

The two most important things about any university are the professors who teach there, and the students who come there to learn from these professors. Money is important, but only as it is able to attract these two primary requisites of a great university.

As stated in the last issue of the Nebraskan there is no use denying that the University has lately lost many of its best men, and in the years to come will probably lose more. Every other university occasionally loses good men when they become dissatisfied with their present positions or have tempting offers to go elsewhere. It happens to be one of the privileges of men that they may go wherever they please and that they are not bound to stay in any one place. As a result even the best universities have lost good men.

The Viewing With Alarm in our case happens to be caused by the fact that Nebraska seems to have lost a number of good professors within a comparatively short time. The reasons offered for this have been many. Some blame it entirely on the financial inability of the University to hold men in the face of more tempting offers at other schools. Others bring the charge that there is an atmosphere, lack of leadership, or whatnot around this institution that does not agree with the professors who are leaving.

Of these two reasons we are inclined to believe that the first concerning lack of money is probably the dominant one. At least every one of the professors who left did so only when the position offered carried a higher salary than was being received here at Nebraska. There has been a lot of loose talk lately about the lack of leadership in the University, with sometimes none too disguised hinting that probably the University has not had the right kind of leadership for a good many years.

As far as the short period since the University has had only an acting Chancellor, and while the Regents are busy scouring the country for a first-class man to fill the position permanently is concerned, all this talk may be justified. It is impossible for any body to do real constructive work while only in an acting capacity marking time for the appearance of a permanent head. This period of readjustment is experienced by every university when it changes leadership, and the slower our Regents go about getting a new chancellor the better a man they are likely to get in the end.

But as for the suggestion that possibly the University may have had poor leadership and guidance for several years back, it is really laughable.

Practically every one of the excellent professors whose departure is now so much bemoaned was brought to the University during the administration of our last chancellor. The more we extol the quality of these men, the more credit we ought to give the administrative heads, the chancellor, and the regents, who recognized their abilities long before the public did.

One of the greatest mistakes people make is to fall for the ballyhoo line of people removed at a distance. It happens that the new president of one of the state universities farther back east is a great hand at publicity. He has been in the headlines of newspapers for some time, and every new idea which he is planning to inaugurate has been given wide publicity. (That university by the way has a most efficient publicity department.) The result is that people think he is making a wonderful institution of learning. He may be. In all probability he is. He ought to. The institution was a great seat of learning before he came there. And he has three or four times as much money to spend as we have here.

At the same time the silent, patient and deliberate efforts of men right here at home have gone on unheralded and unappreciated. It is to the everlasting credit of our retiring chancellor that he preferred the path of quiet labor and results, to the path of trumpet-heralded spectacular efforts. As a result the University today is immeasurably better than it was twenty years ago. It is on a solid foundation and ready for still greater and greater service. We have had one of the great university administrators of the country right here at home, and haven't been able to appreciate it.

Getting back again to the reason why professors are leaving Nebraska.

The question is fundamentally one of our financial ability to pay higher salaries, to build better buildings, and to equip these buildings with better laboratories and better libraries.

If the alarmed students and others but considered a moment, they would remember that for the past four or five years our state in common with many other states which are almost purely agricultural, has gone through a period of relatively bad times. The University, whose prosperity we must not forget is only a result of the general prosperity of the entire state, has suffered in these bad times along with the rest of the state.

It is the height of folly to berate the legislators and talk about getting more and more money when conditions in some parts of the state were so bad that wheat could not even be collected, and when mortgage foreclosures were greater than in any period since the bad times of the 'last century.

These were the conditions at the height of the depression, and it is little wonder, then, that legislators elected by hard-pressed people back home, were un-

able to increase the University's budget as much as it should have been to meet competition with other universities situated in states not so hard hit by the depression.

Those conditions have changed. And as the state has more and more money, it is a dead cinch the University will get more and more.

The people of Nebraska have never been over-niggardly in matters of education. There are no signs to indicate that they will suddenly become so.

But there is a danger that the people of the state and their legislators may forget that the income of the University should be increased.

All these letters of protest and alarm may not improve matters in a hurry, but they are all valuable, every one of them, if they serve their purpose of keeping the University needs before the public.

In Other Columns

Wanted: Higher Salaries

With the limit of college professor's salaries hovering around the ten thousand dollar mark while the financial rewards to be reaped in the more sordid but more lucrative field of business have so far reached no limits, it is not surprising that universities have difficulty in securing a sufficient number of capable teachers. When the lower limits of the instructor's salary go under the thousand dollar mark a teacher could not be justly blamed for quitting the higher type of work in favor of a steady job as ordinary laborer.

It sounds well to talk in glowing terms of the rewards attached to the profession of introducing developing minds to the higher planes of intellectual life. And such rewards may not be ignored entirely. They are in truth rewards but in a world where merchants have the habit of putting that facetious little sign, "In God we trust, all others cash," over their ornate cash registers financial interests must be considered.

It is one of the curious or tragic facts of modern life that in spite of the rapidly growing demand for college educations and the unprecedented crowding of the universities the professor is still underpaid. However, there are grounds for hope in this big increase in the number of college students. If the demand for higher education is a permanent one, colleges and universities will be forced by the lack of students who are willing to take up education as their life work under the present circumstances to offer greater inducements to the men and women who have spent many years in preparation for such an important task.

The present situation is a disgrace to our standards of what is most worth while. However, economically a change must come.

—Syracuse Daily Orange.

Complimentary Insults

The seriousness with which defendants of modern college youth attempt to refute newspaper gossip about wild parties at universities is amusing.

In the first place, it is impossible to refute all that is said about college students today.

Of course nearly all newspapers and most periodicals place a false emphasis upon comments regarding college students; they remark, in substance, "Now just look at the behavior of our college students; isn't it scandalous?" The implication is that college students are expected to be perfectly behaved young people, seriously endeavoring to become careful citizens and intellectual leaders, and that foolishness and immorality are exceptional among college students. If it were true that colleges are as wicked as the world, the press would certainly not make headlines of a collegiate escapade. The truth is that the college student is looked upon almost as a superior being; his petting and his drinking are looked upon as the sins of a cherub.

In the second place, there is no need to refute much of what is said of the college student, provided of course, it is generally understood that most college students are more nearly what they ought to be than they will admit. The fact that colleges today are forced to allow many young scapegraces and nitwits to matriculate cannot be overemphasized.

No, the so-called unfavorable publicity which the press is only too eager to give the college is not altogether harmful. Its greatest harm comes from the fact that the public is likely to believe that the majority of college students are like the black sheep. On the other hand, every headline over campus gossip is an indirect compliment, in that it is an admission that such gossip is unusual. Furthermore the public may finally realize that not all persons are either entitled to or capable of college education.

—Colorado Silver and Gold.

Freshmen Have Their Points

Butler is one of the oldest colleges in the state and yet it is only recently that its sororities have discovered the existence of certain good qualities connected with freshmen girls. Heretofore the humble feminine beginners in the mysteries of higher education has been regarded as little above the "rhinie" of the male variety, which is commonly accepted as plumb the depths of worthlessness. Occasionally rephrases could be found with a spark of compassion for the yearlings, however, they were completely hopeless in the raw state of high school graduates and offering only a faint prospect of redemption after a year of unremitting toil under sophomoric tutelage.

"Sweet are the uses of adversity," says Shakespeare in "As You Like It" and in the hour of their distress the sorority sisters have at last noted a point or two in favor of the lowly freshman. The gloom which pervades the homes of the feminine Greeks has been caused by an edict of the dean of women that hereafter the freshman girls must live at the college dormitory. The protest against this ruling has been predicted on the financial embarrassment which, it is alleged, will result if the organizations fail to receive the aid of those who are just beginning their college careers. Running a sorority house entails a financial problem and, so far as the money is concerned the freshman dollar buys fully as much as any other.

Although the protests have been registered solely on financial grounds, there is an even more serious aspect to the problem to which the Butler officials should give due consideration. If the newcomers are to be lodged in the dormitory it will mean that an entire year will be lost which should be devoted to the training of the fledglings. In the atmosphere of the dormitory they may become inoculated with ideas of their own importance and lose the feeling of respect and awe for their sisters a year or more ahead. The task of the upper classmen will be well nigh hopeless if the freshmen emerge from that opening year minus the discipline which never for one moment relaxes to the point of permitting them to forget their humble station. Furthermore the sorority elders will be compelled to exist without the aid of the pledges in such little matters as running errands, answering the doorbell and performing other odd tasks. A sorority house without some freshmen would be as lonesome as the pretty girl with halitosis. It is a vexing problem and one that may well disturb Butler's classic halls.

—Indianapolis Star.

The Campus Pulse

Letters from readers are cordially welcomed in this department, and will be printed in all cases subject only to the common newspaper practice of keeping out all libelous matter, and attacks against individuals and religions.

To The Editor: The recent announcement of Prof. Eear's removal; the threatened resignation of Dr. Alexander; the departure of Professors Dodd and Hamilton all bring to a head the feeling that Nebraska will have to mend its ways or soon suffer from a dearth of the greatest factor in Education—competent and inspiring teachers.

A University is not to be valued for its size; the number of students enrolled, or for the completeness of its external equipment. It should be valued for the faculty of splendid men and women who teach within its precincts. The importance of the courses taught is secondary to the quality of the minds that teach them. A liberal education depends not only upon books but upon contacts with really fine men and women.

It is high time that Nebraska corrected its niggardly attitude toward the men who are the life blood of its existence. Within the last year or so the University has lost Dr. Barker, Prof. Seavey, Prof. Gray, Prof. De Baufre, Prof. Buck, and others. The loss of these together with the loss of three more and the imminent loss of a fourth, shows only too well that something is quite wrong here. Perhaps we are too young, perhaps we suffer from misplaced emphasis and smack too much of the trade school. We care too much for the externals and little enough for the more essential internals.

Is Nebraska going to be considered only as a stepping-stone for our gifted teachers? Let the University keep its good men!

Wilfrid Webster.

Dear Editor: The Daily Nebraskan is in favor of the proposed deferred pledging bill. The Interfraternity Council is opposed to it. I cannot understand your constant antagonism with that body. It seems to be a mere matter of policy.

But your policy is no matter of mine. And the fact that you are in favor of the bill matters not either. I am neither opposed nor in favor. The measure is an insignificant one. The anomaly is that our very busy legislature (and our overworked editor) should spend so much of the state's time and money on a matter of such little importance; when far more weighty matters in regard to our university should engage their attention.

I refer to the continual dribbling away of our most valued professors. Within the short time that I have been in the school many instructors whose names were on my tongue years before I became of college age, have left Nebraska. Such men as Dean Cutter, Dr. Barker, Saul Areson, Dean Buck, Dean Seavey and lately Professor E. M. Dood. Each year more of our illustrious professors are leaving us. New men and inexperienced come in to take their place. Our standards are lowered for a while. These men become experienced and learned and it is not long before they leave us. Slowly but surely our standards as a first class institution of learning are being lowered. Many students are leaving Nebraska. This is especially true of the Law School. It is a serious situation.

We are proud of our Alma Mater. We would like to continue to see its head among the leaders. Why doesn't the legislature use a little of its time to solve this problem? Isn't it more worthwhile than trying to legislate for a group which is little understood by the mass of the farmers who comprise our law making body and who are only too ready to vote in favor of anything to curb the fraternities. Whether we have second year pledging or not, isn't important; whether we have a capable teaching staff is. Let's not waste so much time over trifles.

J. M. F.

Notices

MONDAY, APRIL 18

Xi Delta
Very important Xi Delta meeting Monday
soon at Ellen Smith Hall.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

Home Economics Club
Home Economics Club meeting Tuesday
April 19 Ellen Smith Hall at 7 P. M.
Program.

RUTH MARTIN IN RECITAL

Fine Arts Student to Make Final Appearance for Degree

Miss Ruth Martin, class of Georgia Sheldon, will give her graduation recital for the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts Monday evening, April 18, at the Temple theater at 8:15 o'clock.

The program is:
Bach—Prelude and Fugue D Major.
Rameau—Tambourin.
Couperin—La Fleurie.
Graun—Gigue B flat Minor.
Lachner—Prelude and Toccata.
Medelssohn—Variations Serieuses.
Sauer—Concerto E Minor, Allegro Patetico.

The orchestral parts on the second piano will be played by Miss Sheldon.

Miss Bolton to Give Graduation Recital

Miss Frances J. Bolton, student with Howard Kirkpatrick, will give her graduation recital for the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts Tuesday evening at the Temple Theater at 8:15 o'clock. Earnest Harrison will play the accompaniment.

What shall I do with that Spot?

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SENIORS!

Are last semester's Senior Officers or this semester's Senior Officers responsible for this semester's Senior Activities?

Senior Invitations were ordered and placed on sale here by this semester's Senior Class President and his committee.

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ORDERS TAKEN UNTIL APRIL 20TH.

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ENGINEERS NAME DEPARTMENT GROUPS

(Continued from Page One.)

Civil Engineering department: department chairman, O. F. Burd; window display, H. G. Schlitt; materials laboratory, Bill Carver; road working laboratory, James Wichman; instrument display, Maurice Swan.

Physics department: department chairman, McCartney; assistants, Jorgenson, Hiltner, Kilgore.

Agricultural engineering department: chairman, Leonard Echoenleber; window display, W. Neeland.

Architectural engineering department: department chairman, Ed Foster; window display, Leon Maca, Christensen; work chairman, Greene.

The special committees and their members are:
Luff in Charge of Field Day
Field Day: chairman, Earl Luff; prizes, Bob Rensch; games, Costin; publicity, Leon Maca; baseball, Ray Lepicier.

Convocation and pep rally committee: chairman, Gibson and Trively; cheerleader, Hamilton.

Ticket sales committee: chairman, A. Butler; M. E. department, F. E. Hunt and J. W. Jilson; chemistry department, Ralph Raikes; E. E. department, Reed and Taylor; C. E. department, L. Graham; Ag. E. department, Unthank.

Banquet Chairman, T. O. Blaschke. Program committee: chairman, R. R. Foster; assistants, Olson and Lepicier.

Committee on campus structure: chairman, Harold Zipp; assistants, Lepicier, Lope, Noonan, and Plummer.

The Agricultural Engineers have submitted plans for their Engineers' Night display which will be in the northeast room of the basement of M. E. building. They are arranging a display which will show how other branches of engineering are related to Agricultural Engineering, and how they are practically applied in

the agricultural field.
Ag College To Have Exhibits
To show the application of Civil Engineering in the Agricultural field, they will have a display of a transit and level which is used in irrigation and drainage projects. To demonstrate the use of Architectural Engineering in this field, they will have a plan of farm buildings and a farmstead. In connection with Mechanical Engineering, they will demonstrate a brake test of an engine on a block. From the field of Electrical Engineering they will have a display of an electric lighting plant suitable for farm use with wiring to buildings. In relation to the department of chemistry, they will conduct a test of soil.

Definite plans have been made for the banquet which will be held Friday night, May 6. Dean Potter, Dean of Engineering at Purdue University, will speak on "Taking Stock and Looking Ahead". The banquet is to be held at the University Club, and about 150 men are expected to be present.

To cut down campus speeders, Stanford University has ruled that violators will be fined a dollar a mile over the speed limit.

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