

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

TWENTY-NINTH YEAR

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Sunlight Ahead.

Nebraska students have returned! Everybody seems keyed up, ready to face the last three weeks of the first semester of 1929-30 with real zest. Everybody seems to be happy to be back.

One of the joys of a vacation like that just terminated is that it gives the student an opportunity to cool down, to really reflect upon his college life. For the student who is financially independent, it is a source of two week's rest. For the student who must work for his expenses—well, it only means more work.

Unfortunately The Daily Nebraskan's most reliable sleuth, deputized during the Thanksgiving vacation, falls in the latter class, among the toilers. For that reason he has not been able to uncover any new and mystifying discoveries or "scandals" on the university campus. Perhaps it is just as well, for who wants to be burdened with such thoughts during the happy yuletide season?

However, there are still several subjects alive, which even The Nebraskan, despite its reputation for "fanning dying embers," thought had gone into history. And, curiously enough, these subjects are the very ones which The Nebraskan has been accused of taking the most prominent part in—rallies and green caps.

Regarding rallies we find that the university senate has begun action and that a committee has been appointed by the chancellor to effect a positive solution of the problem. Giving to the chancellor this power, the senate, composed of a large portion of the faculty, acted as best it could under the extenuating circumstances.

The matter of placing the responsibility for student outbursts is something which cannot be settled in the winking of an eye. A thorough investigation must be undertaken before any definite moves can be made. The university authorities and faculty members realize this; hence their desire to go about it sanely.

The irresponsible way in which the rallies have heretofore been conducted needs no further comment. Anyone in touch with university affairs is aware of the need for constructive action to take care of future "bed-lams." That a responsible group should be in charge is imperative. That such will be the ultimate edict is our hope.

Then there are those facts unearthed by this newspaper about freshman caps, how the first year men are bogged into paying a dollar for a commodity which costs 33 cents. The Nebraskan had no malicious intentions of casting undue reflections upon the society sponsoring the sale of the caps, although, as the Lincoln Journal points out, "no reports of expenditures are made of the 67 cents profit on every cap sold for a dollar." Rather, we were trying to direct attention to the fallacy of employing a much honored tradition as a means of income for the organization behind it.

That this newspaper is not alone in this contention is evidenced by the outside comment it has stimulated. Printed today in the Echoes column is a student's opinion on the matter, while in the Contemporary Sentiments department we have reprinted editorials from two state papers. The trend of thought, it is clear, is in direct harmony with The Nebraskan's: That the "tradition" should no longer exist on the University of Nebraska campus.

Such are the results of the first day's work after vacation. Not much to crow about, is it true; but there's some satisfaction in seeing that our brain children have not entirely gone astray.

Registration Time Is Here.

Another week of registration is upon us which means that another semester of school is about over. For those who will graduate in June this will be the last time they have to go through the miseries of trying to catch advisers between classes, waiting on deans, etc. It will be the last time they will find it necessary to hunt "snap" courses and lenient professors.

Students seem to fail to remember that what they get out of a course depends upon what they put into it. They can make any course easy simply by not doing the work at all. They should not, moreover, take the advice of their friends too literally about some desirable course for what requires little work on the part of one may demand hours of labor on the part of another.

Requirements which undergraduates often chaff at are indeed a godsend. What kind of an education would the average college man or woman get if allowed to take his choice at random? It would probably consist of all the courses which their friends thought were so easy.

The requirements are fixed, but it is on the electives that the ambitious student should focus his attention. These should supplement his other subjects or delve more deeply into the line which he has chosen as his life work. They should give him a clearer, saner outlook on life. Requirements are the fundamentals, but the electives are the embellishments and the thoughtful student will choose these with care and forethought.

Vacation a la Twentieth Century.

Nebraska students have returned from home where they are alleged to have spent the time with their parents, their sisters and brothers.

Picture the modern college students arriving at their homes the first day of vacation. Son and daughter came in in a rush, "kisses" the folks, left their baggage in the middle of the floor, threw the extra parcels on the table, and dashed off to have dinner with "friends." "The times out of ten dad carried the luggage upstairs and mother picked up the accessories. About 2 a. m. the "children" got home from

an impromptu party too tired to say good night to the folks. They retired wearily and were "dead to the world" until noon at least the following morning. Then they rushed around to see more friends, and if they were at home at all they were talking over the phone. Perhaps they had Christmas dinner with the family, but they were quick to run out again.

Thus it went on for two weeks. Then mother and dad wistfully watched their "prizes" depart, telling them what a wonderful visit they'd had with them. Yes; the students always go home to visit the family.

With the validity of the no football captain for 1930 decision being fairly well established now comes the problem for some fraternities to place their senior honorary potentialities.

Many textbooks brought home over vacation remain "untouched by human hands."

Echoes of the Campus.

Fleeing the Freshmen.

To the Editor of The Nebraskan: Reports published in The Daily Nebraskan for Thursday have disclosed the information that the Innocents society makes a profit of \$400 or more on the sale of green caps to the new freshmen every year. This society has been in charge of the sale of these caps for some time and the past two years has charged \$1 for each cap.

It is true that this honorary organization must have some money to sustain its organization but is it necessary to obtain it in this way? Why should such a tradition continue to exist when such corruption exists and the original idea is not enforced?

The facts disclosed by The Daily Nebraskan reporter showed that a profit of 67 cents is realized from the sale of each cap to a green freshman. He is confronted by an Innocent as he leaves the coliseum and told that he must purchase and wear a green cap. This is the last he hears about the whole thing unless there is some rumor of the enforcement of the rule around a fraternity house. And the fraternities are even beginning to slow down in their enforcement of this tradition.

Sale of these coverings for the new students was undoubtedly given to Innocents as a means of obtaining revenue for their organization. Previous to this practice the caps were given away as an advertising stunt. Isn't there some other method for the Innocents to make money than by fleecing the poor freshmen who hardly know what school is all about the first semester?

The Corn Cobs make their money by selling programs and ticket selling campaigns. The Tasseis enter various enterprises. Other organizations on the campus use varying methods to obtain money. Why should the Innocents be given any special concession and allowed to charge such exorbitant prices? The charge of fraud seems to be well founded when the society is as lax in enforcing the tradition as they have been the past year.

The Daily Nebraskan is to be congratulated on its discovery of the situation as it really is. The editor should receive the hearty thanks of all the students intending to enter the university at some future date and an attempt should be made by the student body as a whole to do away with this tradition as it now exists. K. F. V.

Contemporary Sentiments

Not Exactly Clear.

Lincoln Journal: The green caps controversy at the university has reached a point where the facts are fairly well developed. The caps cost the Innocents about 33 cents. Something like four hundred dollars profit resulted from the compulsory sale of these to freshmen and this profit was used by the Innocents to finance "football rallies, convocations and such activities." No member of the society profits personally from the tribute or tax levied on the first year boys. No reports of expenditures are made of the 67 cents profit on every cap sold for a dollar. Just why first year men should be taxed for the support of such activities is not made clear.

Innocents May Be Innocent at That, Says Omaha Bee.

Omaha Morning Bee: One of the honorary societies at the University of Nebraska is called the "Innocents." It is composed of senior students who are outstanding for their desirable qualities.

Under a rule adopted and enforced by the Innocents, freshmen students are required to wear green caps. Thus their status as first year men at the school is established at sight.

But a story is current that the green caps have been sold to the boys at a profit of around 100 percent, that they are purchased from a dealer designated by the society, and the only possible inference is that someone has done right well in the deal.

Of course, the Innocents deny, and probably rightly, that they have any share in the profit, are not engaged in racketeering, and have acted solely from good motives. Let that all be admitted, and there is something left.

Why should a young man, fresh from high school or other preparatory institution, be required to advertise that fact to the world? Does it ever occur to the lordly sophomores, juniors, or seniors, that the boy who has just left home to start on the high enterprise of gaining a university degree, has feelings? What do the upperclassmen hope to gain by subjecting the beginners to any sort of humiliation?

Common courtesy, not to speak of generosity, would seem to dictate that the freshman be welcomed, be given a place, and made to feel at home on the campus, at least. He lacks experience, is green, and needs guidance. And the Innocents are the ones designated to provide that guidance. Is the green cap rule a good way to start a boy off on his university life?

GIRLS' COMMERCE CLUB WILL HOLD LUNCHEON AFFAIR

Girls' Commercial club will hold its monthly luncheon at the chamber of commerce Thursday noon, Jan. 9, according to Catherine Brown, president.

Mrs. Myron Reichart of the Federal Trust company will speak on the subject of accounting. Mrs. Reichart took her accounting preparation work at the University of Nebraska, and will tell of her experiences in the practical field.

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