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## Too Much Protesting--

Colonel Oury is down but not out. Having written an inspiring defense of preparedness as exemplified by the compulsory training in use at the University of Nebraska, and having been overwhelmed by a flood of criticism for one or two incautious statements, he rebounds to attack anew.

We admire his spirit, but we remain doubters of his logic. Isn't there some subtle connection between overmuch defending and inherent weak spots which require such assistance? Does anyone ever defend the idea that some form of government is necessary? Does anyone ever advance concrete proof of the theory that the earth revolves around the sun? No. These two ideas are commonly accepted. They have been accepted only after they were conclusively proved to be true. They need no defense now, in spite of radicals and Volivas to the contrary.

Consider the tariff. Arguments are common. Protectionists are continually on the alert for points in favor of their stand. They need to be, since protection is a theory which is economically unsound.

Or, consider military training. Here again proponents of the compulsory drill system are ever watchful for new defenses of their attitude. They evidently need to be—no one ever searches night and day for arguments favoring a cause which needs no defense, a cause of which the merits are obvious.

The Nebraskan, first of all, criticized editorially the system of compulsory military training. Proponents of the system flew back to the attack immediately. Some advanced one defense, some another. And some, none at all. Realizing that the discussion was far from local, the Nebraska Alumnus invited a student and the colonel to write their two opposing views of the matter.

Both accepted. Both wrote articles. The colonel, in his eagerness to justify publicly what seems to him a system intrinsically sound, overstepped himself a bit. He classed the federal council of churches with a group of organizations which he said were "operating under the direct influence of the soviet government at Moscow."

The federal council of churches, hocked, indignant, requested further information. Silence. They requested proof. Silence. They are now demanding a retraction—apologies. Silence about to be broken.

"A retraction," cry the church officials. "Immediate. Right away. In the same magazine, displayed with equal prominence."

"Misquoted," cries Kirby Page, editor and pacifist. "Who wants to stand by and watch his grandmother murdered, anyway?"

"Proof...." sings sweetly the Rev. Ray Hunt. "Who said we operate under the soviet influence? They're a bunch of atheists."

"Hot air," howls the Rev. F. W. Leavitt. "Bull-dozing is no way to make the church retreat in its campaign for international peace. Careful, colonel, or someone might construe your remarks as being a bit on the shady side of the truth."

Seemingly, there is no turning of the other cheek in any of this—except possibly in the case of Kirby Page, most courteous of all. And he is not engaged in a pulp-it-filling capacity. Evidently the colonel misjudged the temper of the church officials in deeming them peaceful pacifists.

Says the colonel, breaking the silence for the first time since the storm broke, "I have no retraction to make. Under the direct influence of the soviet government at Moscow," as applied to the federal council of churches, was a slip of language.

"A wrong choice of words to convey the meaning intended," he amended his statement.

Well, it's an idea. "A slip of language" might come in handy most any time, even for us. "A wrong choice of words" is quite adroit, also.

Explained Colonel Oury: "I meant to say that the organizations listed in my article were working toward the same end as the soviet government at Moscow, and were influenced by propaganda spread by that group."

Acknowledging the difficulty of proving the effect of this influence, the colonel stuck by his guns. He could prove the soviet influence as easily as Mr. Cavert (secretary of the Federal Council of Churches) could prove the contrary," he said.

We fear there is something a bit off-balance here. For Mr. Cavert does not need to prove the contrary. It is up to the colonel to prove his statements. He made the charges. Accusations, not backed up by definite and concrete proof, are nothing more nor less than excellent methods of getting oneself into large quantities of very hot water. All charges must be proved. The accused is innocent until he is proved guilty—not guilty until he proves his innocence.

This is a principle embodied in the laws of the land, not to be lightly set aside, even by a colonel.

We can think of lots pleasanter things to do than make charges we cannot prove. The colonel, perhaps, has done just this thing. We reiterate our firm stand for elective rather than compulsory drill, and stand back to watch the

proponents of the latter system defeat their own cause.

From posters display a large question mark, with pictures of the four candidates for Prom King. Why not put the question mark after Beasley Smith?

Mortar Board now quiet, resting on past achievement. May Queen election is over, no more teas on schedule.

## What's To Be Done?

A vacancy in the student publications board has been created by the resignation of the senior member. Who is to fill the position, and how is it to be done?

"The senior class will select a man," says the president of that group.

"Why fill it at all, until spring elections?" asks the president of the Student council.

After all, a vacancy is a vacancy. There are no two ways about it. We have no senior member on the board. What's to be done? Shall we continue without one? Think of that empty chair, inhabited only by memories that linger on. And then, too, the faculty might spring a surprise, and ride rough-shod over the unsuspecting junior and sophomore members—the only remaining students on the board.

This over-bearing faculty tyranny—something certainly should be done, and that right soon! Shall we permit the senior class to fill the vacant seat? Shall we rather permit the board itself to fill the post? Or shall we allow it to remain un—no, never!

There is only one body qualified to fill the vacancy without the formality of calling a special election. That body is the Student council. It has charge of all elections, including that of publication board student members. Clearly, it should have power, in such an emergency, to select a member to serve until the spring election, rapidly approaching.

Clearly, too, it should immediately fill the vacancy, with the approval of the publication board as incidental to this action. No such occasion has arisen for years. The publication board is undecided as to what action to take. There could be no grounds for contesting the appointment of a temporary senior member by the council, however.

Student council members desire to do things, and do them all alone. Here is one opportunity they are evidently passing up. Every organization has a few powers granted it. Every organization, too, increases the scope of its action by setting precedents.

Here is a brand new situation. Why does not the Student council set a precedent, and fill the vacancy unassisted by a general vote, the appointee to serve until the spring election?

Hard to keep secrets on this campus. Might try writing 'em in textbooks, though.

Obituary notice: Deceased, one student union building project. (Handed over to the innocents, Feb. 10, 1931.)

## Rushing Things a Bit.

Interfraternity council members are at present engaged in revising, by the committee method, their rushing rules for Nebraska fraternities. This, far in advance of the rush week dates for next fall, seems to evidence a desire to keep the regulations as practical and as workable as possible, if time spent on the details of the rules is any criterion. The Nebraskan applauded the enforcement of the Interfraternity council's rush week regulations last fall, and it now gives its hearty approval to the time and energy spent by that group on keeping these rules efficient and up-to-date.

The fraternity rules, though a bit complicated, seem truly quite simple and workable when contrasted with the elaborate and mixed up maze of sorority rushing regulations.

We have pondered in vain over the coed rush restrictions. We wished to comment as intelligently as possible, suggesting a few changes that might simplify the unwieldy mass of rulings. And, thus far, we cannot as much as figure out their purpose.

The sorority rushing regulations are far too complicated to be easily enforced, or even observed. Minnesota, unhappy possessor of the same Pan Hellenic code, voices its complaints in no uncertain terms.

We cannot complain of something we cannot understand at all. Can some considerate coed explain the purpose of the rules, the reason for their intricacies, and above all, the explanation for their surprising number?

## College Comment

### The Gag That Failed.

Among excellent ways of honest-to-gosh apple-polishing has cropped up a clever little means for the pretty girls to stretch their infinitesimal wit and convince their susceptible professor that his humor is superb. Always, it is pleasing to know that one's smart cracks are well received.

Picture the educator-humorist standing before his class. The students look rather bored—in fact, one of them is lolling back in his chair, his eyelids slowly closing. Something must be done, thinks the professor. Ah, his wit—he shall keep them alert and interested by interspersing, among statements from his more scholarly nature, small, yet timely, anecdotes—they must have points, he thinks—they must be sparking.

He begins. Members of his class become alert. He has succeeded so far. He continues—his story gains momentum. The professor is pleased. Ah, he approaches the point—will they get it?

Now—now the girls in the front row are aware that the climax is near. They may gain favor if they display hearty approval of his story. They laugh, they giggle, they employ all the feminine means of exultation. Still the lad in the rear of the room drowsily slumps in his chair.

A giant in his eye, the professor stares at the dainty co-ed who delightfully received his story.

"If you can see the point in that, you're doing more than I've ever been able to do." The sleeper in the rear raises up, chuckles, and slumps to peaceful quietude.—Oregon Emerald.

## No Mans Land



THE P. H. came down like a wolf on the Mortar Board. (For definition of P. H. see index below.) His cohorts were not gleaming with purple and gold because they had no color. And he was in more publicity—this isn't even supposed to rhyme. What we want to know is why the rule prohibiting electioneering at the polls which holds good at all other elections doesn't hold good at the May queen-Mortar Board election? Looks as though there was something rotten in the state of Denmark, or Wales. We've heard that Scotland takes very good care of Wales. Are all the Scotchmen on this campus too tight to remember their duty?

A little sermonette about campaigning at the polls might even be sung at members of a sorority or two—We never mention names—unless we know how to spell them.

INDEX.  
 P. H. means publicity hound.

BIG hearted seniors. They're thinking of giving the university something to remember them by other than marks on the arms of class chairs and wads of gum under them. Suggestions as to the nature of the gift seem to be in order. We wish to know what would be the matter with establishing an oasis in the middle of the drill field where weary students could seek rest and shelter from the melting sun, the pelting rain, and the snow. The proper equipment for an oasis is, of course, some grass, some running water, and a tree, preferably the coconut kind. A moon may be added for atmosphere in the spring.

The library clock could doubtless use some hands, and a gross of coatbooks or parking spaces might also be acceptable. Well anyway we have made some suggestions.

POWER to the powers that have induced Powers Hapgood to come here for the industrial conference. He may be able to offer a few suggestions for the remedy of unemployment. But we doubt if you can do any good, Powers, unless you're on the right side of the fence.

We attended the social dancing class the other day, as a reporter, not an instructor. (Joke.) There were boys of all kinds and dimensions in a seemingly unlimited quantity, but girls seemed rather scarce. What's the matter with you guineas? You never would have a better chance to be popular than there, and they tell us that's all we come to college for. It's really for the sake of the sex in general, you know. If you will offer yourself as an instructor, think of all the sore toes you will be saving for somebody. And if you can't dance yourself—the best things in life are free, you know.

WE ARE beginning to appreciate the sports editor. We have finally figured out something his column is good for! It almost invariably furnishes us with material for our last paragraph. The latest howl from that direction concerns a headline which was written by the "women's editor" who was forced to write it because the sports editor was too lazy to write his own heads. The woman always says. This time she happened to pay double.

## OURY WILL NOT RETRACT; SAYS WORDS ARE POOR

(Continued from Page 1.)

These letters were printed in full in the Lincoln State Journal Sunday, Col. Oury said he had never received them and their publication was a complete surprise to him. Yesterday's interview resulting in the colonel's statement that his assertion in the Alumnus was a "poor selection of words to convey his meanings" and his refusal to retract the meaning intended was the result of the demand published Sunday.

The colonel's letter to Mr. Cavert, while correcting the wording of his statement, leaves the meaning essentially the same.

Says Drill Necessary.

The article argued that military organization is one of the necessities to the maintenance of stable government and pointed to the fact that deterioration of the military power preceded both the French and Russian revolutions. It also supported military organization as a necessity to preserving order in time of disaster, pointing to the example of the San Francisco fire.

He asserted that military instruction is a benefit to university students without the militarization and concluded: "The influence of the military department over the minds of the many students who have taken the course and have become better citizens on account of it justifies its past and should assure its future."

Questions Kirby Page.  
 In the article in the Alumnus Col. Oury said, "I recently heard Mr. Kirby Page, an ultra pacifist, make the statement in reply to a question by a student, that he would stand by and see a ruffian murder his grandmother without resisting him." This statement was alleged to have been made by Mr. Page following a talk at a World Forum meeting here last December. Col. Oury contends that the quotation is correct and that Mr. Page said his "grandmother would have to go rather than use force to help her."

Mr. Page's letter in which he replies to the Colonel's statement follows and was among those sent to the Lincoln Journal last week and published Sunday.

"You have misunderstood the statement I made on that occasion. I think I said that time as I repeatedly do from the platform.

LEARN TO DANCE  
 Can teach you to lead in one lesson. Guarantee to teach you in six private lessons. Classes every Monday and Wednesday, course and have become better citizens on account of it justifies its past and should assure its future." morning, afternoon and evening. Ball Room and Tap.  
 MRS. LUELLE WILLIAMS  
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that I am not Tolstoyan and, therefore, do not regard the use of physical force as necessarily immoral. I did not say that I would stand by and see my grandmother beaten by a ruffian without resisting. When I said that I would not use a method which would kill ten other grandmothers in the effort to protect my own grandmother. This is what war does. For every innocent person it protects, it kills ten other innocent people."

Colonel Oury declares that the above quotation of Mr. Page is not the one used in the Lincoln meeting; that he has probably confused it with some other meeting.

## SPRING PRACTICE AT OKLAHOMA U BEGINS

### 32 Gridders Out for Early Training; Six Letter Men Report.

NORMAN, Okla.—A flock of new yellow footballs, kicked and tossed about by overweight young men clad in University of Oklahoma uniforms, filled the air at Owen field today as the Sooner spring football practice, scheduled to last one month, was begun in earnest by Head Coach Adrian H. Lindsey, assisted by Line Coach Dewey "Snorter" Lester.

Thirty-two men, ten of whom are backs, have already checked out equipment and more are reported every day. Six letter winners from last fall, Charles Teel, Tulsa, guard; Charles Wilson, Oklahoma City, tackle; Ab Walker, Blackwell, back; John B. Robinson, Hominy, back; Orin "Red" Borah, Champlain, Ill., guard; and Earnest Massad, Ardmore, fullback, were in the array.

The punting of Borah, who began his workout with six perfectly spiraling punts despite the fact he is corpulent as an alderman and hasn't picked up a ball since last autumn, was noticeable. Marvin "Swede" Ellstrom, the 160 pound frosh fullback from Tonkawa, also elevated several high spinning punts.

Capt. Guy Warren of Norman, hasn't yet reported as he is employed by a downtown cleaning and pressing firm and has been too busy with both his job and his studies. He is a halfback.

Linesmen reporting are: Charles Teel, Tulsa; Charles Wilson, Oklahoma City; Orin Borah, Champlain, Ill.; Marion Foreman, Newkirk; Henry Haag, Norman; Choptian Danszyk, Loup City, Neb.; Troy Shelby, Anadarko; Kenneth Atkins, Camden, Ark.; W. C. Whiteside, Council Hill; Claude Whittington, of Guthrie; Howard Maxon, Independence, Mo.; Orville Corey, Calumet; Kenneth Wickham, Bristow; Ben Mackie, Webb City; Elwood Brockman, of Tulsa; James Kelly, Norman; Lloyd Manley, Mountain View; George Denton, Colbert; Deane Bushyhead, Claremore; H. E. Delaney, Oklahoma City; Paul Early, Ponca City, and Smith Watkins, of Lawton.

Backs reporting are: Ab Walker of Blackwell; John B. Robinson, Hominy; Earnest Massad, Ardmore; Laudis Dennis, Marlow;

M. W. Reed, Pauls Valley; B. E. Derington, Hunnewell, Kas.; Marvin Ellstrom, Tonkawa; William Panaze, Little Rock, Ark.; Bob Dunlap, Haskell, and Joseph Swoford, Oklahoma City.

## SYRACUSE STUDENTS STUDY CITY RECORDS

### Graduate Workers Survey All Annals of City of Rochester.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—Departmental and bureau records of the city of Rochester are wide open for observation and study by nine students of public administration in the Syracuse university school of citizenship and public affairs. The course of study which they are undertaking covers one year, and part of that time is spent at some bureau of municipal research.

In the past six years the classes took their field study under the direction of the New York city bureau of municipal research, but this year it was decided that six weeks should be spent in Rochester, with the Rochester bureau of municipal research assisting.

After a cursory survey, the student investigators praised the city of Rochester for the willingness of city officials to place all records at their disposal, for the high efficiency of that personnel as compared to that of most municipalities, and also for various scientific methods employed by the city departments in carrying out their duties.

They declared that Rochester as a field of study should prove extremely beneficial, because city manager government is in force there and because the Rochester bureau of municipal research has direct opportunity to study the working of this form of government and the problems arising under it, and has outlined an excellent course of study to be followed.

Completion of the course is followed by three months of apprenticeship in the office of a city manager or with a bureau of research. After the six week study here, the group will work for the New York state conference of mayors, being assigned to various cities of the state for study of specific municipal problems.

All Are Graduates.  
 All the students are graduates of universities, eight having received A. B. degrees and one a Ph. D. The training which they are being prepared is for the development of city managers or to equip students for any type of municipal administration work.

As many universities and colleges are represented in the group as there are students in it. Joel Gordon of Boston is a graduate of Harvard; Glen Leet, Norwich university; Yao Tien Chung, U. of Chicago; DeWitt Krueger, Stanford university; Thomas A. Flynn, U. of Kansas; R. Morris Hoisington, U. of Colorado; Evan Asay, Colorado college; Harvey R. Gojee, Hamilton college; Clarence Girard, Union college.

## PROFESSOR OPPOSES STUDENTS WORKING

### Claims Work Detracts Mind From Studies; Should Not Be Permitted.

Just when Johnnie Workaday, ambitious cousin of Joe College, is planning to board the next train for college, where he expects to support himself and win an education at the same time, a professor steps forward and tells him that he should not be allowed to go to school.

Prof. Henry Robinson of an eastern university intimates that a student who expects to nourish his soul at the breast of culture and his body on the bounty of some one who will let him work five hours a day for his room and board will not be able to do either well, so should relinquish one for the other.

The professor's argument seems to have little effect on the employment situation as seen by the officials of the local Y. M. C. A., student bureau however. About ninety-five students wanting odd jobs have left their names with the bureau, while sixty-three were given jobs in December and eighty-six in January.

Thirty-three students want permanent work, while twelve were employed in December and twenty in January. Both figures show a decrease, because of the unemployment situation in Columbia and the surrounding community which has caused less work than in other years.

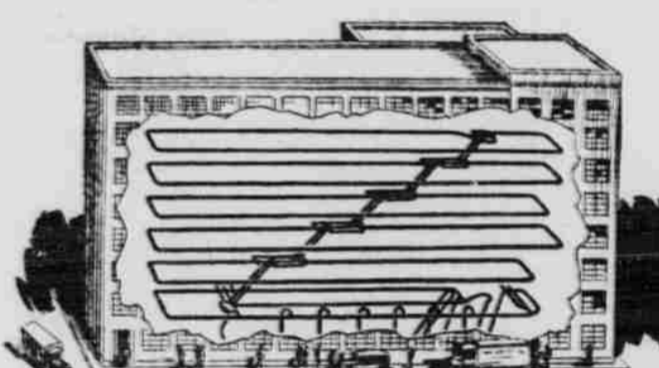
Professor Robinson presents a long but unconvincing argument against students working their way thru school, in spite of the fact that nearly two million of the five million college students in the United States are partly or entirely supporting themselves.

He says, "A high quality of scholarship or intelligent interest in not to be expected from a student who comes to class dulled and sullen from fatigue. Economically and socially the only solution to the problem is to keep the deadheads out. Make it harder to stay in college—and within a few years college will mean more than a youthful lark."

Thus the doctor is in direct opposition to the ideal of American democracy which would put an education in the hands of all that would work for it.

He would cut college enrollment by two-fifths at one single stroke. Then, should he pare off those in college for the social life who would be forced to leave when deadheads are kept out, he would probably cut off another fifth. Such a cut would mean that the present 2 percent of our population that is college bred would decline in a generation to less than 1-2 of 1 percent.

On the other side of Dr. Robinson's theory is stated in the words of Theodore Roosevelt, who said: "If you can't get thru college in any other way, work your way thru. But don't try to go to school at the same time. Take a job for a year, save money to see you thru a couple of college years, and then repeat the performance."



Sometimes the cart should be put before the horse

Here's a case where a warehouse was built around a conveyor, instead of the conveyor being squeezed into the warehouse... Western Electric



Packages can be switched onto sidings—by one central dispatcher

wanted a new warehouse for telephone equipment. For the most efficient handling of material, its own distribution engineers designed a system of conveyors

even before architectural details of the building were worked out... This was done

after careful estimate had been made of volume and kinds of material to be stored

and handled... There are many other assignments that challenge resourcefulness and imagination in making telephones and equipment

for the Bell System—purchasing its supplies—acting as its distributor.

# Western Electric

Manufacturers... Purchasers... Distributors

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