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**A Big Mystery.**

An extensive search by the Daily Nebraskan failed to reveal the relation between the athletic department, association, or whatever it is, to the rest of the university. It was found, however, that the athletic board of control is composed of eight men, six of whom are officers of some sort in the university, one of the others is a member of the alumni association, and the eighth is a representative of the banking interests holding the stadium bonds. This athletic board was created and is authorized by the board of Regents. But this seems to be the extent of the athletic board's connection with a public institution. Its transactions are not a matter of public record, it seems, for repeated attempts to gather information were a failure.

When Chancellor E. A. Burnett made the statement that the athletic association was "a private, no-profits corporation," the matter was almost cleared up. But what the Chancellor meant by this statement is not known, for the chairman of the athletic board, Prof. E. D. Scott, professed that if there was any corporation he did not know about it. This, of course, has no reference to the building corporations for the coliseum and stadium.

What the Nebraskan would like to know is, who does know anything about this athletic association, which the board of Regents has authorized to operate, but which is not a public organization. The Nebraskan would like to be enlightened on the following points:

1. If the athletic association is not a department of the university like any other educational department or activity, then just what is it?
2. If the athletic association is a part of the university, then why is it not a public organization?
3. If it is a public organization, then why are its transactions not made public, or at least open to the public?

By reading the by-laws of the board of regents and the constitution of the athletic board of control it would seem that the athletic board is nothing more than a special department of the university and as such its records and transactions are a matter of public concern. But the athletic board prefers to keep some of its affairs secret, and also intends to confuse those who endeavor to find out something about the board that is of public interest.

Just what is this big secret that the athletic department does not wish to divulge? Surely there can be nothing wrong with their operations that they are ashamed to disclose. Of course, if in spite of their constitution and the by-laws of the regents, they are a private corporation, then they are not obliged to lay their records open.

If the athletic board of control is controlling a private corporation, then what business has it to leech on the university with its football propaganda in the form of school spirit, loyalty, and the like. The students are called slackers if they fail to take an interest in the intercollegiate athletic encounters. This sort of propaganda is an effective means of getting students to give financial support to the athletic association. But if that athletic association is not a public institution, open to the public, then it is an outrage to permit such practices to continue. Why cannot some other private organization get the board of Regents to authorize it to have a football team, build a stadium and make money on the basis of student loyalty to the alma mater?

What kind of an organization have we here? It is public and it is not public. When the Daily Nebraskan made attempts to find out information about certain of the operations of the athletic board, it was battered around from one place to the other. No one was authorized to tell anything, and no one would fully explain what the athletic board was. One member of the board claimed it was a public organization, but was not obliged to expose its records to the public gaze, unless the public first stated a reason that suited the athletic board. The Chancellor of the university proclaimed that the board was so constituted that it was private to the extent that no one could look at the records, but it was public in that the university sponsored it. What kind of a mysterious organization can this athletic board of control be?

**The New Exams.**

Announcement of the new three hour exam plan Sunday met with little or no adverse comment on the campus. The plan provides for nine days of examinations with no possibility of having more than two a day. This is an extremely advantageous move in that the nerve racking grind of three or four straight examinations is gone. There will be disadvantages also. In the first place, professors who now have three hours in which to administer a final will do their utmost to fill that time with a stiff examination a full three hours in length. Others will be fair about the matter and cover the course in a test which is satisfactory. There are instructors on the campus who seem to dote on being known as "tough." These few will undoubtedly find a good chance to enhance their reputation in the new examination plan.

The plan is at least an advance

over the old system. It will probably prove satisfactory in a majority of cases. In a few it will be disadvantageous but those will undoubtedly be worked out by the administration. With the moss that covers the present educational system any step is a forward one.

**MORNING MAIL**

**The Moral Issue.**

TO THE EDITOR:  
 Oh, goodness gracious! So those big football players think that their game is beyond the touch of even God's hand! So they think that it is the big old developer of character! Just imagine having your character developed so extensively all through high school and then all through university by almost daily football practice. What a lot of surplus character each of the players must have.

And here's something else. I noticed in the Sunday paper that Father O'Donnell, president of Notre Dame, refused to appear on a program in honor of Knute Rockne because Gene Tunney, the ex-pugilist and United States Army man, was to speak on the same program. Since when did football become so snooty that even a prize fighter is below it? Is prize fighting so far down in the scale of professions that football can not be mentioned in the same breath with it? Is there any reason that one should believe that football is superior to professional boxing? Is it better to be a professional boxer and admit it than to be a professional football coach and say that you are not? "Although Father O'Donnell admitted that Tunney was an 'excellent gentleman' he did not feel it was becoming for him to appear on the same program with an 'ex-fighter'." Does Father O'Donnell realize that at least half the people of the nation had never heard of Notre Dame until Rockne, the world famed coach and auto salesman, put a winning team into the field?

Now that that disgust is worked off, here's another. Miss Louise Pound of our English department has made the choice statement concerning the recent Winkler scandal in the Sunday's paper. It goes: "Our county attorney is an ex-University of Nebraska football player and has had his character expensively developed by football. No doubt we should place extra confidence in his judgment." Here's another example of surplus character in the football player. Congratulations, Mr. Athletic Department.

**SEPTEMBER MOURNING.  
 WOMEN JOURNALISTS  
 GIVE HOLIDAY PARTY**

Theta Sigma Phi, honorary organization for women in journalism, held their annual Christmas party at Ellen Smith hall Monday afternoon. The twelve members exchanged gifts and talked over their page in Awgwan. Plans were made for future pages. Margaret Day was in charge of the food.

**EPISODES**

By Oliver DeWolf

Words and statements are flying thick and fast since Max Towle, Lancaster county attorney, has announced that he will not prosecute Gus Winkler. Briefly the facts of this extraordinary case are: On September 17, 1930, the Lincoln National Bank and Trust company was robbed of two and a half million dollars in bonds securities and cash. Incidentally it is the biggest bank robbery on record. Witnesses claim that all the way from five to nine men participated. Winkler was alleged to have been one of the participants. He was arrested while recuperating from an automobile wreck in a hospital at St. Joseph, Mich.

Several weeks ago he made an astounding offer. If Towle would not prosecute him, he would return \$600,000 worth of stolen bonds and securities. His offer was refused. Now comes the news that Winkler will not be prosecuted. The reasons given for this seem to simmer down to the point that Winkler's alibi is airtight. He claims that he was in Buffalo, New York, at the time the robbery took place. Subsequent investigation has failed to shake Winkler's story. Despite the fact that the entire case is pretty badly muddled up, it would seem that Max Towle and Sergeant Roy Steffans of the Chicago Secret Six, who has aided in the investigation, would be in a position to know whether or not Winkler is guilty. It is certain that Winkler could not be convicted on general principles regardless of the fact that he is admittedly a member of the Capone gang. The question remains as to whether or not he participated in the Lincoln bank robbery. Towle and Steffans are satisfied that he did not. In spite of the odious quality of the \$600,000 offer, that is enough for me.

Another nation has abandoned the gold standard. Premier Tsuyoshi Inukai, of Japan, made the announcement. It is understood that the Japanese government has decided to let the yen find its own level. New York quotes it at 40 cents. The decision of the new Japanese government is attributed to the recent abandonment of the gold standard by Great Britain.

The United States senate is progressing nicely on its unfinished business—that of electing a president pro tempore. Senator George H. Moses, republican, New Hampshire, thanks to the senate independents whom he termed "sons of the wild jackass," has 31 votes. Senator Pittman, democrat,

Nevada, a strong silver advocate, has 42 votes. Senator Vandenberg, republican, has found twelve friends to cast ballots for him, and Senator George Norris, independent, Nebraska is charged with one lonesome vote. The next ballot will be the thirteenth, and it may be lucky or unlucky, who knows.

The interior of the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kas., resembles an armed camp. Nuff sed!

**HANNA WRITES ARTICLE**

November Law Bulletin Features Work of Columbian.

The lead article of the November issue of the Nebraska Law Bulletin, which has just come from the press, is written by Prof. John Hanna, Columbia university, formerly of Auburn, and is entitled "The Nebraska Law of Conditional Sales."

An autobiography of the late Chief Justice Sullivan of the Nebraska supreme court by Judge Louis Lightner appears in the Bar section. There are also notes by the editor, Prof. Lester B. Orfield, on the Nebraska sterilization statute and the Nebraska statute abol-

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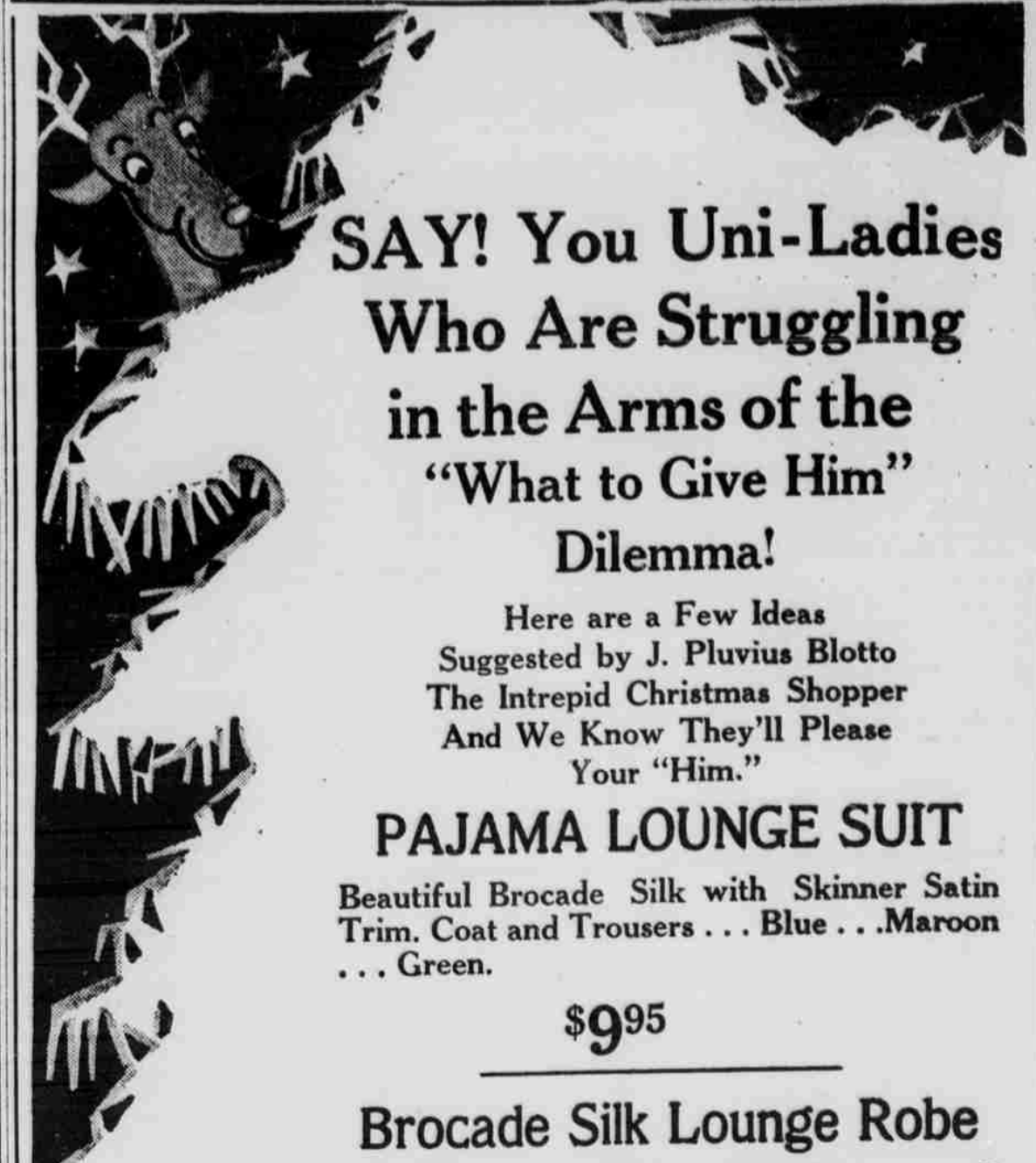
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ishing the difference between principals and accessories.

Other cases commented on are those involving the Victor Seymour primary case, the declaratory judgments act, the injunction against the Ak-Sar-Ben pari-mutuel betting scheme.

Prof. G. D. Swezey, head of the department of astronomy, will speak at a public lecture held Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock in the observatory. He will speak on the general subject of astronomy. The observatory will be open to the public from 8 until 10 p. m.

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