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Black Blotch Blotted Out.

The Interfraternity council Tuesday night sounded the death knell on this campus for what has historically been the most perplexing of all college fraternity problems: the rushing question. The supreme penalty was enacted on the old cut-throat and strong-arm method and in its place established a procedure fair to both fraternity and rushee, which—if enforced—should stop the flood of criticism on that score which in the past has poured in on Nebraska fraternities collectively every fall. The Nebraska council commends the council for the most progressive step that body has taken in many moons.

It is difficult to comprehend how a system with as many shortcomings as that in effect in the past could have been tolerated so many years. Panhellenic ten years ago did what the Interfraternity council did Tuesday night.

UNDER the old system, pledging worked something like this:

A freshman came down to school knowing practically nothing about fraternities. Some good Greek from his home town got a rush card on him. Perhaps, if he had made a name for himself in high school athletics or if his father had plenty of money, several houses got cards on him.

Of course he had to keep all dates signed for the first two days—but, if there was a conflict in dates (that is, if a second house could get hold of him—he didn't really know what it was all about anyway—and make a date with him in conflict with a previous date) then the conflict was settled by letting the rushee take his choice. This meant that whatever house got hold of the rushee first after his arrival in Lincoln and had the physical strength and power of persuasion to hold him, could hide him from every other house until after 12 midnight Monday when he could be pledged. He was given no opportunity to see other houses and decide for himself.

Moreover, violations of the rules were not punished since cases were heard only after complaint had been filed by another house; and every house, knowing itself to be a violator of some rule, was afraid of the consequences to itself should an honest attempt at enforcement be made.

TWO fundamental changes in the new rules constitute a revolutionary revision of the entire system to eliminate these unfair tactics:

1. The preferential bid system with Wednesday night pledging dinner will permit rushees to choose the fraternity on which they have decided after a comparison of all with whom they have had dates. It will allow fraternities to offer pledgeship to only those rushees they desire among their membership after ample opportunity to judge the man.

2. Provision of a faculty committee to enforce the rules will keep the procedure out of petty interfraternity politics and make possible an unbiased application of the rules to the actions of every house.

There are some other notable improvements. The stipulation that no rushees may have less than one or more than three dates during the entire week, or more than one date per day, with any one fraternity eliminates the possibility of any one fraternity monopolizing all any rushee's time or hiding him away from other houses.

The preferential system under which the rushee will submit his choice of fraternity to a faculty committee makes possible a graceful refusal of any house for the rushee who decides not to pledge at all, without his being subjected to high pressure methods asking him to "decide right now."

The provision that no rushee who does not pledge at the Wednesday night pledging dinners may pledge for one month, eliminates the after-rush-week rushing which in the past has seriously cut in on the time of freshmen attempting to orient themselves in their new surroundings during the first weeks of school. All rushing will have ended before first classes are held and cannot be resumed until well into October.

The penalties provided, both for rushees and fraternities violating the rules, are sufficient—again, if the rules are enforced—to make any infraction highly unprofitable.

CERTAIN defects, however, remain in the new set of rules. One of these is the four-hour rush period Saturday morning. It would be fairer, both to fraternities obligated to entertain the rushee during this long period and to rushees to whom such a long session is tiresome, if all rush periods were cut to two hours, or three at the longest.

Such defects are of a definitely minor nature and can be ironed out before the rules go into effect at the opening of school next fall.

The narrow margin—18 to 16—of approval given the new rules Tuesday night indicates that, as yet, they are far from being unanimously accepted by the fraternities of the campus. It is to be hoped that the houses which opposed them Tuesday night will, on more sober reflection, appreciate not only the genuine value of the new rules but the absolute necessity for their institution here to protect the fraternity system as a whole from the damaging criticism which is weakening its position at Nebraska.

More Than Ornamentation.

FOR the third time in three years the grim specter of house decorations elimination has risen in the Panhellenic council to haunt the success of the University of Nebraska's annual Homecoming fête. Any level-headed house steward can immediately see that the \$20 which may be saved by the

elimination of these decorations will have little effect on the house budget for the year.

The Nebraskan is an earnest advocate of economical policies in the operation of Greek letter houses. The reduction of expenditures through less expensive downtown parties and house parties and similar methods is earnestly recommended. The sacrifice of one of the most impressive traditions of the school year, Homecoming eve decorations, for the sake of a few shekels is a move much to be deplored.

The Homecoming tradition must be kept alive by the principle of continuity. If sororities languish this year many will find it easy to do so in another year and another year. Homecoming decorations represent more than mere ornaments. They are a symbol of that Cornhusker spirit which burns brighter than ever one night of the year as old students mingle again with the new. Homecoming decorations are a material expression of welcome to that grand body of alumni which is the University of Nebraska's.

There may be a few sororities and fraternities so situated that they must watch every corner on the highway of operating expense. Most certainly there will be no stigma, social or otherwise, attached to those houses because they find it necessary to eliminate decorations.

But for Greek-letter groups in the large, there are few reasons why this Homecoming eve should not be as impressive and colorful as those in the past. To the Panhellenic council goes this sincere plea:

Do not commit campus sororities to a no-decoration policy through council action. At least it should remain an optional matter for each individual sorority to decide. Such economy proposals as the one which recommends elimination of Homecoming decorations are often passed without serious consideration of the principles involved. Homecoming is something which is symbolic of much more than mere dollars and cents.

The Nebraskan highly commends the efforts of the Panhellenic council in attempting to cope with the financial problems of sororities. The Panhellenic council has long been an exemplification of the manner in which a campus governing body should function. The Nebraskan is not trying to direct the council's actions. Ours is simply to point out the status which Homecoming eve holds as a University of Nebraska tradition of welcome to its alumni.

Hart Jenks compares Tassel saleswomen to Joan Crawford, according to a Nebraskan headline. That wasn't the same group of Tassels we saw selling tickets, then.

Orchestrating the Nebraskan proclaims, has started holding dancing classes. If Orchestras members danced attired in the attractive lack of apparel artists depict that kind of dancers wearing, one guess is that their public performances would be better attended.

A Breach Of Americanism.

JUSTIFIED protest from many quarters continues to be registered against the recent ruling of the Federal labor department which prohibits non-quota foreign students, attending American schools, accepting payment for work to defray part of their educational expenses.

Among those who have already expressed regret and opposition to the new executive order are Dr. Butler of Columbia, Dr. Cloyd H. Marvin of George Washington University, Dr. William J. Cooper, commissioner of education in the interior department, Dr. John H. MacCracken, associate director of the American Council of Education, and J. F. Kelly, who is in charge of the division of colleges and professional schools in the office of education. Several newspapers, student and metropolitan, including the New York Times and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, have also attacked the wisdom and fairness of the action.

According to the ruling of Secretary Doak, a person from a foreign country desiring admittance to the United States without regard to the immigration quota of that country in order to attend school in this country, must give assurance that he can maintain uninterrupted student status and is forbidden to accept any payment for work in order to maintain that student status.

The ruling applies not only to new foreign students entering American universities this fall, but to students now in the midst of their college careers in this country. To those among this latter class who have in the past been partially self-supporting, the labor department decision means the probable end of their education in this country. To these students the new ruling is a definite breach of the terms under which they entered school here; for until this year there has been no restriction on their privilege of working.

THE rule was doubtless made with a sincere intention to aid American students who find it hard to get jobs to work their way through school in these times of economic distress. Doubtless, also, it was made without due consideration of its consequences, both as to its adverse effect on international amity as applied to the United States, and as to the actual benefit of the order to American students, which will be negligible.

It is estimated that there are about 10,000 foreign students in American schools. Not more than half of these are working their way through. And of this half, at least 2,500 are from non-quota countries or countries whose immigration quotas are not filled anyway. To these students the rule cannot apply. Moreover, a majority of students, foreign or American, working part time while attending school do domestic work to pay for board and room. This rule does not forbid. The effect, then, will be to take work away from probably not more than a thousand foreign students and give it to American students.

The actual benefit to American students from the regulation will be negligible in comparison to the blot on "open door" policy long maintained toward foreign students who desire to secure an education in America.

All fair-minded American students and school administrators will endorse the attitude expressed by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, which says:

"The presence of foreign students in our colleges is a potent force for the development of international amity. Our own students gain quite as much from contact with them as they learn from us. This sudden denial to them of a privilege which they have long enjoyed is grossly unfair and cannot fail to give rise to resentment. Its possible influence upon the employment situation in the United States is negligible. American students have made no request for the protection which the department appears so eager to afford them. Nor is it likely that they would support the policy if they were afforded an opportunity to express themselves upon it. Our educators, indeed, have been unanimous in their condemnation of the ruling."

The Student Pulse

Brief, concise contributions pertinent to matters of student life and the interest of the student body are invited by this department, under the usual restrictions. Letters should be signed, which excludes all libelous matter and personal attacks. Letters and the student body will be withheld from publication if so desired.

Supporting the Athletes.

TO THE EDITOR:

With many people holding the narrow-minded attitude, expressed in the Student Pulse column Sunday, there is little question that the student with athletic ability is at a distinct disadvantage during his college career.

The letter to which I refer exemplifies an attitude that has made the university athlete more of a martyr than an offender. These wolves, who pose as sincere guardians of the great game of football, are a much greater peril to the sport than a so-called subsidized athlete. In the first place, these athletes are pictured as parasitic brutes, while actually they come far from being as much of a parasite as their attackers. In most instances this alleged subsidization consists in the athlete being awarded a job by some one who is interested in his participation in athletics at a certain school.

We are not advocating the outright hiring of athletes by universities, but we do believe that the athlete is not being given a fair break. In practically all instances the allegedly subsidized athlete is in reality a student trying to obtain a college education in face of financial handicaps.

It is not uncommon for a student to work his way thru school, but the athlete finds it even harder for him to do so than other students. Firstly, his scope of employment is much more limited. The hours he must spend on the practice field and the time taken for trips eliminates many jobs. The only time he has left for work is in the evening, and if he is to remain eligible he must utilize a large part of his evenings in study. And then, even athletes must sleep.

In addition to the problem of finding time for remunerative employment, the athlete finds restrictions against certain kinds of work. He cannot take advantage of his natural abilities, as other students can, because any kind of work that even hints of athletics would brand him as a professional.

The writer of the Sunday letter made special mention of the "preference" given to students of brawn. Can he call these restrictions "preference"? He also speaks of athletes being "tossed the life of luxury." Certainly such statements were made by a person unfamiliar with the conditions, for we will not charge him with deliberate misstatement of facts.

The grueling toil of the practice field, the terrific pounding of the big games, the nervous strain of skill sessions, the hours spent over text books, and the outside employment are far from our idea of being "tossed the life of luxury." Much could be said in defense of the modern university athlete, but after all, he is bearing up under the attacks of these vultures with the same sportsmanship that marks his performance on the gridiron. BRAD.

Against Gym.

TO THE EDITOR:

Partly because of a reduced budget and partly because the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Kansas has doubted the value of compulsory gymnasium courses, that university has relegated such courses to the category of electives. A study of the problem which has extended over more than a year at Kansas has convinced the authorities that compulsory gymnasium is not a necessary requirement to foster a desirable education. Once again we are almost inclined to congratulate the depression for causing university officials to look into the value of the many subjects offered to students and particularly to look into those things which students are compelled to take before they can receive the stamp of approval from their institutions.

The whole problem of what should be compulsory in a university curriculum is one which has a good deal to be said of each of the varied viewpoints which educators hold. But in general it is indisputable that the whole modern trend in education is to give the student the widest possible choice of subjects which he wants.

Obviously, if a university degree is to mean anything at all, certain requirements are essential. But with hundreds of thousands of students with innumerable interests demanding university courses and degrees, the case against specific requirements as opposed to broad general requirements is a very strong one.

Gymnasium and compulsory drill are, in the opinion of the Daily Nebraskan, two of the particularly onerous specific requirements. That the two courses have merit which entitles them to places in the university curriculum, we will not dispute, but that the value of these courses is universal and should therefore be made compulsory, we do oppose.

We recognize the value of hav-

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ing every student participate in some activity which develops him physically, but we do not believe that required gymnasium (for women at Nebraska) nor required drill, necessarily supply this development under the mass scheme of which it must be operated, and with the active opposition of many and the passive opposition of more who are herded into the classes against their will.

Kansas has found the solution, we believe, when it turns to a broad intramural sport program and elective gymnasium classes. Students are encouraged to participate in these sports, and by putting the sport program on that basis we predict a far greater total value from the program than when every student was compelled to participate. We still believe in the old adage that you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink, and the you compel students to take gymnasium or drill, we firmly believe that whether they get value out of the course or not depends entirely upon their own attitude. If their atti-

tude is antagonistic, it is probable that their time is being entirely wasted.

If anyone can demonstrate that gymnasium or drill constitute an essential part of a liberal education, or if anyone can show that students receive valuable benefit from the mass instruction in spite of their own opposition, then we will be willing to withdraw our opposition, but until those propositions are successfully advanced, we will continue to believe and advocate the abolition of compulsory physical education and drill.

—LIBERAL.

ATHLETIC TICKET SALE TOTAL 2500, CHECKUP REVEALS

(Continued from Page 1.)

appeal for increased zeal has been sent out to other salesmen because of the opportunity to raise their quota during the last two days of the week. A large number of general public admission tickets as well as student tickets should be sold before the close of the cam-

paign, it was stated. Members of the Innocents society believe that the football rally Friday evening will stimulate further sales and that the general wave of enthusiasm which has settled over the student body should make for unprecedented co-operation among the men and women of the university.

No homecoming decorations will be used at the University of Indiana during the coming year, interfraternity and inter-sorority councils decided.

A recent report from the University of Texas reveals that eighteen professors resigned from the faculty last year, but only fourteen have been newly hired.

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