

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

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Second Hand Book Racket.

CURRENT number of the Cornhusker Countryman, just out, reports successful operation for two years now of a cooperative book exchange by an honorary society on the College of Agriculture campus.

On the "city" campus no agency to furnish this direct book exchange exists and students remain victims of a second-hand book purchase system that is little short of a racket. Book stores handling second hand books pay so ridiculously little and charge so outrageously much that students, unless forced to sell or buy second-hand books by financial necessity, would rather buy new books and keep them even after the use for them has passed.

Students at Nebraska are getting disgusted with a system under which they pay two dollars for a second-hand book, use it a semester and sell it back for fifty cents, when this same book is resold to another student for a dollar seventy-five.

If the Ag college book exchange can operate successfully on a ten percent margin, why must the book stores with their much greater volume of business, exact several hundred percent for the same service?

The evil will not be eliminated by appealing to the book stores on their sense of justice. They have the students in a position to dictate book prices to them and will keep them there until a competitive agency which would force them place the practice on an equitable business basis is provided.

There is but one establishment now providing this competition: the Regents book store. And this handles only new books. There new books may be bought at a saving, but the profit arm reaches out to grab the student when he sells this new book; for some books have absolutely no value to the student after he has finished the course in which they are used as texts, as in the case of foreign language readers.

But one thing will put an end to the second-hand book racket at Nebraska. That is establishment of a student-operated cooperative second-hand book exchange. Such exchanges are now in existence at many schools, large and small, all over the country.

Such a project for Nebraska has often been discussed. The time for action is now, when every penny looks like fifty cents to the struggling student. In a few months the change of semesters will turn another harvest of student money to the counters of the book dealers. The Nebraskan urges the Student council to investigate at once the plans of operation used for cooperative book exchanges at other schools, looking towards establishment of a similar exchange for Nebraska.

A Line For the Line.

WHAT do the multitudes in the stadium see when they watch a football game? The fullback driving over for a first down, the shift half dodging through a broken field forty yards to the goal, the brilliant quarterback outwitting the planned strategy of a formidable foe, the speedy end streaking down on a punt with the snap of the ball. These are the heroes of the hero worshippers who follow America's greatest sport—college football.

These are the men who get the ovations from the cheering crowds in the stadiums of the nation every Saturday. These are the men whose names are on the tongues of every follower of the gridiron right now.

But are these the team? For the game is said to be between two teams, not between two groups of men. What of the men down in the line? What are they for? What are they doing while the more spectacular heroes thrill the customers?

Well, ask a football coach. Ask a sports writer. C. E. McBride, sports authority of the Kansas City Star and probably the keenest observer of football in the middle west, writing after the Kansas-Nebraska game at Lawrence a week ago Saturday, credited to the charging Nebraska forward wall the disappointment suffered on the K. U. campus Saturday night.

Yet who got the cheers, the fraternity table praise from those who saw, or thought they saw, that game. The answer is obvious—the backs and ends. And anyone will admit that the backs and ends did their part.

But a football team is made up of eleven men, not four or even six. Down there in the line, face to face with their opponents, are the men who win—or lose—football games. There are the "stage hands" who arrange the setting for the more spectacular display of the ball carriers. There are the men to whom football is a game played for the team, not for individual display for the grandstand.

Ag Campus Democracy.

FRIDAY was overall an apron day on the college of agriculture campus. This custom, followed annually as a public measure for the Farmer's Forum, may have some deeper significance. Is it possible that this tradition is an inevitable outgrowth of that democratic spirit which prevails among the rural element?

"Civilization begins and ends with the plow." Thus spoke the fiery Daniel Webster those many years ago, himself certainly no farmer. In that statement may there not be some key to the present troubles of the world? And likewise might not Webster's statement also be paraphrased to read, "Democracy begins and ends with the plow"?

If one will take the time, most any day now, to pick up some small town paper the chances are very likely that he will see a news item of this nature: "Friends of Art Johnson, who is ill with pneumonia, spent Thursday husking his corn crop for him. The whole job was accomplished in about eight hours and afterwards he was presented with a round robin letter wishing him a speedy recovery."

It should take no great stretch of the imagination to deduce that there may be some connection between this spirit of the rural regions and that ag campus action of wearing overalls and aprons as a sort of symbolism.

American Aristocracy.

A LONG time ago old John Adams, historic distrustful of the capability of the whole people to rule themselves, defined an aristocrat as anyone who could control another vote besides his own. Last week the command went out from employer to employe—the few that still have jobs—over the industrial domain of this free country, ordering worker votes in accordance with the political sympathies of the boss.

Concluded Henry Ford's letter to each of his hundreds of men: "President Hoover must be elected." Democratic Mayor Curley of Boston promised a municipal pay cut in the event of a republican victory. The press reported seaboard mill tycoons "putting the screws" to their workers to keep the present administration in office.

A year or so ago a writer enumerated the fifty-four men who rule the United States. He was right. A half hundred men, through prestige, wealth and power over those dependent upon their whim for a day-to-day living, control the voting decision of this country.

History books, etc., to the contrary notwithstanding, America is ruled by a select few—an American aristocracy, based primarily on wealth, and this wealth often on birth.

As a New York paper commented recently, the burlesque shows have been closed but we still have government by the people.

CLUB PLANS PUMPKIN PARTY

Baptist Student Group to Hold Hallowe'en Party On Friday. The annual Baptist Hallowe'en pumpkin party will be held this Friday at the First Baptist church. Doctor Baker of New York and the Lincoln pastors will be introduced as the guests of the evening.

Several committees have been appointed to plan for the party. Those on the publicity committee are: June Elrod, chairman; Barbara Abbott, Myron Jenkins, and Virginia Larson.

STRING QUARTET TO PLAY

Will Appear on Program of Fifth School of Music Convocation. The fifth convocation of the School of Music will be given Wednesday in the Temple Theater at 4 o'clock by a string quartette composed of Louise Shaddock Zabriskie, first violin; Louise Schaubert Sumner, second violin; Bettie Zabriskie, violoncello. They will play three quartettes in F major; Allegro Adagio, Minuetto, Allegro, by Mozart; Allegro non plus lent by Ravel; Op. 18 No. 1 by Beethoven and Allegro, Adagio ma non troppo by Scherzo.

Contemporary Comment

Crisis: First Call.

Such challenging articles as "Wanted: A Dictator," "If I Were Dictator" and the more recent "Are We Ripe for a Revolution?" are subtle hints that talk of drastic and not altogether bloodless alteration of national government is not without some grounds. To assume that the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave faces violent renovation in fundamental principles of governmental, economic and social institutions constitutes virtual heresy in this liberal land of patriotic tyranny. Yet certain sages are brazen enough to admit the possibility of a shakeup in a time when their judiciousness is acceptable to one and all.

Stuart Chase in an article in The Nation propounding the theme "If I Were Dictator" makes little bones of the situation suggesting his remedy for national ailment should be called upon to guide the destinies of a nation despairing of present institutions. A certain vein of good natured jollity pervades the article, but Chase is undoubtedly sincere in his expression of the seriousness of the situation and the necessary remedies equally adaptable to the present situation or one that might occur should the nation find itself in the throes of civil conflict.

Jay Franklin tells us in "Are We Ripe for a Revolution?" (Liberty, Oct. 8.) that "There never was a real revolution that started out to be one." And further, "If there is any lesson in history it is that we should go to the operating room quickly if we wish to keep our political institutions from taking a trip to the morgue."

Are we ripe for revolution? Someone points out that if all the railroad workers in the country declared a strike forbidding the passage of freight cars carrying perishable goods, the population would perish in a few short days through starvation and cold. Such things as strikes are minor issues in the everyday life of the average person, yet how profoundly one of such a nature would affect should it become a reality. The powder is short and matches are plentiful. Daily Tar Heel.

Research, Religion Reconciled.

That there is no insurmountable barrier between the modern physical scientist and the staunch religionist was made very plain by Dr. Robert A. Millikan, eminent American physicist, in a recent address at Winnipeg, Manitoba. In fact,

The Student Pulse

Brief, concise contributions pertinent to matters of student life and interest are welcomed by this department, under the usual restrictions of sound newspaper practice, which excludes all libelous matter and personal attacks. Letters must be signed, but names will be withheld from publication if so desired.

Cobs Say: We're O. K.

Why is the editor of the Daily Nebraskan so opposed to the Corn Cobs? The purpose of the organization is to promote the place where organization is really needed is at the rallies before games. This year the rallies have been considered good by the innocents in charge. At least that is what they have told us and they do not ordinarily give out unmerited compliments.

Even the editor of the Nebraskan granted that the last home game was very dull to watch and that the action on the field amounted to no pep in the crowd. We contend, and truthfully we think, that much of the yelling that was done was done by the Cobs.

The constitution of the Corn Cobs has never hinted that the organization should enforce the freshman cap tradition. That tradition has always been handled by the innocents and they have never in any manner given any power of enforcement of it to the Cobs. If they should ever decide for our helping enforcing it or assuming responsibility for its enforcement, we would not hesitate to do everything in our power to make it a lasting tradition.

The Corn Cobs are self supporting. They depend on no outside source for power on which to exist and have been doing everything in their power to promote spirit on the Nebraska campus and would appreciate the support of all of its organizations and members.

Chaperons Are Human.

A couple who chaperoned a recent university party was heard to say, "In all the time we have acted as chaperons for parties, we never before have been treated so courteously."

At the same time some students were heard to express the opinion that the chaperons had not received the attention to which they were entitled. If this were true, how much more regrettable is the lack of respect shown them at many functions.

It so happens that the party at which these remarks were made was a barb party. This might be construed to mean that fraternities are the guilty ones in regard to chaperon treatment. And undoubtedly many of them are. But the barbs, too, have been guilty of the same thing time and time again. So it is a general condition to be considered.

University rules require that student functions have present some adults, usually faculty members, who are responsible for the conduct of the party. Accordingly, chaperons are picked, invited, received, placed in a corner, and promptly forgotten. Perhaps the fact that a "university rule" requires their presence may account for the treatment they receive.

VIEWS AND REVIEWS

FRATERNITY MURDER MYSTERY.

It is seldom, I confess, that I find time to read the type of murder mystery which is so popular today at rental libraries. Such works do, however, constitute almost the complete reading diet for many people. This is not to be generally deplored, for if they did not read this type of book they would probably read something even less worthwhile.

Recently I ran across a volume in one of the rental libraries entitled, "The Student Fraternity Murder," which attracted my attention thru its name alone. The last time I had gone in for murder mysteries was when Mignon Eberhard's work first became popular, so I decided to give the book a try.

I worried thru the volume with considerable effort and in the end felt as Gregg McBride did the time he struggled up the treacherous ascent of a Mexican pyramid, only to find that on another side were steps. I was convinced that my effort had been equally as useless.

The plot and situations do not warrant their being related, for they are as trivial as the usual cinema procedure. The very style of the book was the thing that aggravated me most. Detail seemed to be the keynote of the book, for a character could not pass thru a door, without the author giving the reader a complete description and history of the doorway.

Names of well-known writers are not a scarcity today among magazines, and for the publications realize that big names mean circulation to them and the writers in turn realize that the circulation means money to the writer. Nevertheless, I was rather surprised to find stories by Viki Baum, Pearl S. Buck and Willa Cather in the November issue of the Ladies Home Journal.

These three names represent the three foremost women writers of the day. They also represent three varied fields of activity and types of literature.

The work of Viki Baum represents the literature that is being written today in Europe and which is being so well received in this country. Frau Baum delves particularly deep into the psychological aspect of her stories and is capable of presenting powerful dramas.

Pearl S. Buck, also an American by birth, also writes of a foreign field. Her portrayal of modern China is perhaps without parallel in contemporary writing. Both in subject matter and in her unusual style of writing she stands far out in front.

It is needless to mention the work of Willa Cather, for it is nearly considered a sacrifice to speak with anything but the greatest respect for this Nebraska writer. I find my social standing (such as it is) and my reputation as a critic (such as it is) jeopardized every time I so much as question her greatness. She is undoubtedly good, but I believe that she is slightly over-rated.

SHERWOOD ANDERSON'S HOME TOWN.

The second in a series of articles in Golden Book by famous writers in which they tell why they live where they do finds Sherwood Anderson accounting for his habitat. He lives in Marion, Vir., and can state definitely his reason for residing there.

BUT WHY BLUSH?

This is slightly outside of the usual scope of this column, but I should like to relate an amusing incident that occurred during the debate between the student democratic club and the student republican club.

AG WOMEN CHOOSE HELEN LUTE HEAD DISCUSSION GROUP

Agricultural college upperclass commission organized last Thursday with Helen Lute, sophomore, as chairman. Hazel Ingersoll is assistant chairman and Leone Davy secretary and treasurer. The group decided to meet every week on Thursday in the south annex of the home economics parlor.

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YWCA FUND FESTIVAL OPENS WITH DINNER

Lyndell Brumbach Talks on Campaign Problems of Workers.

The Y. W. C. A. fall fund festival opened Friday noon with a luncheon for the workers and captains of the drive which will end Thursday, Nov. 3. The luncheon speakers were Miss Berenice Miller, secretary of the university Y. W. C. A., Evelyn O'Connor, chairman of the drive, and Lyndell Brumbach, graduate student in psychology at Nebraska, who gave a short talk coaching the girls for the fund festival.

Miss Brumbach stated that this was her fifth drive for the Y. W. C. A. and she gave several points to the girls which she had learned during her previous experience. She said that although the drive was a difficult thing to put across it drew the group closer together as a whole.

PLAN MESSIAH PRACTICE

To Rehearse Oratorio Every Monday and Present It December 18.

Howard Kirkpatrick, of the University School of Music, announces special practices of the Messiah every Monday night for the next five weeks from 7:00 to 8:30 o'clock in Morrill hall, room 220. The faculty and all former members of the Choral Union are invited to attend.

The Messiah is an oratorio presented each year by the Choral Union, which is composed of singers from the University School of Music and from the city of Lincoln. It will be held this year on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 18, in collaboration with the Lincoln Symphony orchestra.

ROBB PREPARES TAX EXEMPTION BULLETIN

Rising Taxation Schedule Discussed in Study Pamphlet.

The ever-important subject of tax exemption has reached new significance with the present ever rising burden of taxation, according to a bulletin released recently by the committee on business research of the College of Business Administration. The booklet was prepared under the direction of Prof. T. Bruce Robb.

The study cites the old principle of public finance that the state should not tax itself. The extension of governmental activities, however, has given rise to at least modified theories on the subject, because of the fact that the inequality resulting from the way different individuals benefit from tax exemption has become acute, the bulletin states.

Deans of Women Meet To Elect New Officers

The Nebraska State organization of Deans of Women held a meeting Friday afternoon at Ellen Smith Hall for the purpose of electing new officers. Miss Birdina Donaldson, dean of woman at Doane college, was chosen president and Miss Daisy Spickard, Fremont, is the new secretary-treasurer.

A program followed, on which Miss Mable Lee, director of physical education, gave an address concerning the dean's relation to the physical education program of women and girls.

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