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We Do Not Publish Fire and Sword.

LETTERS of criticism of the policy pursued by the University Players in selecting faculty members for leading parts have been dribbling into the Daily Nebraskan office for some time. It is impossible to publish many of these criticisms because the authors refuse to sign their names. From the student point of view the letters deserve to be published as they present an apparently sincere criticism. The Daily Nebraskan guarantees that criticisms of this nature when signed will be kept strictly confidential, but it cannot publish such material unless the editor knows who the author of the opinion is. The editor is responsible for what appears, even through written by someone else.

The letters on this subject are deserving of full discussion. The University Players have built a very fine reputation and are able to finance themselves perhaps, largely because the quality of their play is such as to draw crowds to their performances. It may fairly be assumed that part of the reason for the excellence of their productions is based on the fact that they present experienced actors in the heavy roles.

On the other hand the students have a well-taken point in asserting that the Players should be utilized to give those who are preparing for dramatic careers experience in carrying leading parts. When all the leading parts are handed out to faculty members, the experience-seeking students are left with the parts of maids, butlers, and voices off-stage. How they can get much experience from such parts is the question which they are asking.

The Nebraskan will gladly print opinions on the subject, but we reiterate; they must be signed.

Ambitious Drones.

ANOTHER political plum is ripening and dangling before the eyes of the politically ambitious. Applications for the committee to arrange the Junior-Senior prom are being received and the Student council will pick from the applications five men and six women to serve on the committee under the chairmanship of the junior president.

Traditionally regarded as an important scalp to have dangling at the belt of an individual with aspirations to be chosen to either of the senior honorary societies, a place on the prom committee affords much the same sort of opportunity for publicity and fame as most of the other recognized steps to senior supremacy. Likewise a place on the prom committee affords an opportunity for real thought, ingenuity, and work. But if an individual can't work, he can at least get publicity, which after all is the important consideration to some.

The seekers for such positions are far from being condemned by their display of ambition in filing for these offices. But it should be pointed out that the appointments to be distributed are not exclusively open to those ambitious for future preferment. It should furthermore be noted that the appointment to such positions should

be regarded as an opportunity for demonstrating ability for future preferment rather than as an indication in itself of the existence of such ability.

ALWAYS there appear on such committees certain drones who feel happy once they have secured the appointment and consider the possession of the office sufficient boost to their reputation so that they can ignore the work involved and allow someone more conscientious to secure the honey.

Though it may be trite, it is none the less pertinent to again mention that the value involved in an election to the prom committee like any other activity lies in the opportunity to make friendly contacts and to realize the satisfaction of accomplishing something. The work involved may be an end in itself and will be worth more if so considered than if it is merely serving as a stepping stone. Whether future preferment in the shape of selection to a senior honorary comes or not should not detract from the value of the satisfaction which may be had from serving on this important committee.

If anyone has no future aspirations to be an Innocent or a Mortar Board, let him not be deterred from filing for the prom committee if he feels the urge. And on the other hand, if anyone feels it a necessity to file in order to secure later recognition, despite limitations on time or the fact that he feels little inclination to do work involved, let him hesitate long before applying for a job to which he is not prepared to devote time and energy.

If You're Lost In the Bog of Exams.

IN the whirlwind of preparations for finals, it is bolstering to notice that there is a part of the educational world which is not subject to the semi-annual storm and strife of examination. Evidences of that world of calm intellectual filtration were to the fore in Thursday's Daily Nebraskan when several stories emphasized extra-curricular educational activities.

Perhaps foremost was a story dealing with Kirby Page, first speaker in the new series of luncheon-lectures being sponsored by the Student Forum. In addition, the convocation committee and the Religious Welfare council revealed Dr. Charles Beaven, president of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ, as the convocation speaker next week.

In another column, Sigma Delta Chi, professional journalism fraternity, announced plans for an informal professional program at which Robert Burlingame, Vanity Fair satirist, was to be the featured speaker.

Another story mentioned publication of French-Canadian fiction by Dean LeRossignol of the Business Administration college; another, that the Dean of the Agriculture college, W. W. Burr, was participating in arrangements for Nebraska's exhibit at the Century of Progress exposition in Chicago this summer.

That Miss Laura B. Pfeiffer, of the history department faculty and executive secretary of the Nebraska League of Nations association is to attend a national meeting in the interest of the League is revealed in another story.

Music comes in for its share of attention with the announcement of a concert by the pianist Egon Petri.

FROM this short survey the truth in the oft-repeated statement of the value of extra-curricular educational activities is strikingly apparent. Here, in a single issue of the Nebraskan, are stories embracing cultural, philosophical, professional and social problems, and all are in the extra-curricular field.

Education is continually lambasted by attack, but the campus critics should be stilled, at least temporarily, by this revelation of the scope of "unofficial" education

thru lectures, professional programs, and so on.

And to the student harassed by last-of-the-semester chaos, to the student who feels himself abused—let him reflect and be cheered. After all, outside the whirlwind, there is a still lagoon, of intellectual satisfaction, unchanging, unruffled, in spite of chaos.

The path to the lagoon, however, lies thru scholastic woods, so hit the books, but don't despair.

BURLINGAME TALKS ABOUT VANITY FAIR ARTICLES AT DINNER

(Continued from Page 1.)

received from a friend, Wayne Gard, present International News Service correspondent who was acting on the editorial board of Vanity Fair during the summer. Data was obtained from personal clipping files which he kept as a hobby, from some twelve or fourteen issues of the Nebraska Blue Book, and from personal observations during two years of residence in the state.

The manner of the article's construction, the change of its title by the editors of Vanity Fair, the question of use of a pseudonym, and characteristic reactions of Nebraska newspapers and Nebraska people to the article was explained and estimated by "Young Squirt" Burlingame as a small town journal classified him.

That the article was written in two days and submitted for suggestion to a colleague, a university faculty member, and a Lincoln business man before being dispatched to the Eastern magazine was brought out in the talk. The author has not seen the article in print—his last glimpse being his scanning of the galley proofs in July—nor has he had occasion to examine personally most of the newspaper reactions to it, Burlingame said.

Argument ad Hominem.

It was brought out that certain state papers replied with "argument ad hominem" while others confined their estimates of its truth or comprehension to the contents of the article itself.

"It should be perfectly obvious," Burlingame remarked, "that any article written for Vanity Fair is not an exact representation of a general situation, but rather a satire, a caricature. The value of such a procedure was aptly put by an editor of the London Punch who said, 'the value of satire and humor is that they are solvents of human sham and hypocrisy.' In this case I should say that the value of the article rested, not in the article itself, but in the reaction of Nebraska to the article."

Burlingame explained one point in which the article had been misinterpreted, due to his own oversight in phraseology during its hasty construction. This point dealt with his comment that the Nebraska State Capitol would be just as much in place on the plains of Mesopotamia.

"It came to me by good authority," he declared, "that during his contemplation of architectural plans for the state edifice here, Bertram Grosevnor Goodhue, the architect, was traveling in the Near East thru Assyria and Mesopotamia, the cradle of this world's civilization. The plains topography in that region, near the valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates region, symbolized to him, a virtual counterpart of Nebraska's rolling prairies. It was in this regard, I understand, that the general plan of Nebraska's house of state was conceived. Consequently in making that allusion in my article, I intended a compliment which, due

largely to poor craftsmanship, was construed as an insult."

University.
Likewise Burlingame pointed out that his references to the University of Nebraska as a stadium surrounded by a few scattered academic barracks was not a personal estimate but rather an expression of what seemed to be a popular "image" of the institution. For in reality, he declared, the state university has made a distinct contribution to the status of the state and in the football regard as much could be said of numerous other state universities.

That Nebraska with a diversified population including such various nationalities as the Czechs, Poles, Germans, Irish, Scandinavians, Russians and others, should have made such inestimable contributions to the civilization of

America is one of the highest tributes which might be paid to the state, he emphasized. In conjunction he cited the contrast this state presents in relation to Kansas which is made up of a more or less heterogeneous population. The speaker was introduced by Jack Erickson, member of Sigma Delta Chi in charge of arrangements for the dinner and round table session of alumni and actives of the organization.

AT THE STUDIO.

Friday.

Sigma Tau, 12.
Gamma Lambda, 12:05.

Kitty: Did you ever walk in your sleep?
Betty: Yes, once, I dreamed I went for an auto ride.

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