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Placing Blame Where It Belongs.

THE Nebraska supreme court recently upheld a decision convicting a citizen of this state for manslaughter as a result of an automobile accident which occurred when the driver of the car was under the influence of intoxicating liquor. The driver attempted to prove that the accident was not a result of his intoxication, but the court held that the evidence was sufficient to show that the driver was intoxicated.

The decision is a constructive one at this time when the fervor for repeal of prohibition laws has become so general that people have been inclined to entirely forget that there might have been some reasons in the first place for enacting prohibition legislation. A number of the strong advocates of prohibition base their opinions on the belief that absolute prohibition is the only method of preventing just such accidents as the one involved in the case before the court.

It may well be that absolute prohibition legislation is unwise. It is apparently now taken as a demonstrated fact that prohibition legislation is difficult to enforce and has been relatively ineffective. But it is also still true that alcoholic liquor has the effect of making some individuals to a large degree and all individuals to some degree less able to perform their physical activities in a normal manner.

THE question of the inherent morality or immorality of

drinking alcoholic liquor is absolutely irrelevant so far as reaching an intelligent decision as to the interests of the public. The simple facts are that when an individual under the influence of liquor drives a car he is, or may be, a menace to other users of the highway.

If under such conditions he has an accident in which property or life is destroyed, it seems reasonable that society should exact a severe penalty for his act. His action is a result of gross negligence no less than as if he had knowingly driven his car on a public highway when he knew that the brakes would not work.

There should be no disposition to excuse the actions of drunken individuals on the grounds that they were not responsible for what they do. In a civilization as complex as ours it is essential that everyone be responsible for what he does. If the results of the actions of an "irresponsible" person are harmful to society, steps of a vigorous nature must be taken to protect society.

But while opinion is as it is, recognition should certainly be given to the fact that the actions of a drunken person are as thoroughly reprehensible when their effects are detrimental as are those of a sober person. The full penalty of the law should be exacted from drunken drivers.

Pathetic Seekers After Truth.

A PLEA for a collegiate sense of humor is sounded by an editorial writer in the Syracuse Daily Orange. This search for the serious truths, he intimates, is a bit ridiculous, and he appends to his comment an astoundingly original philosophical utterance: "Real perspective requires that life be taken with a grain of salt and a sense of humor."

All of this is very fine, and the leaven of a sense of humor is certainly to be desired, but the Syracuse writer, in adjuring his fellows to lighten their loads is asking too much. Never were undergraduates known to view life with

the much desired "perspective." Indeed, we might almost go so far as to say that undergraduates do not view life with any kind of perspective—they are inclined to shut themselves away from real life as thoroughly as possible.

The spectacle of "hordes of upperclassmen plodding after life's great truths," seems to the Daily Orange writer somewhat pathetic, and perhaps it is, at Syracuse. At Nebraska, it would be distinctly heartening. If someone should be so daring as to begin the search for even a small truth perhaps we should find out some very desirable things. Perhaps then we should have enough information to be able to discard our laughter,

which we find convenient to cloak ignorance.

TOURNAMENT TO CONTINUE

Third Round of Girls Ping Pong Tourney to Finish
March 11.

The third round of the ping pong tournament, sponsored by W. A. A., is now being played and will continue until Saturday, March 11. Miss Clarice McDonald, physical education instructor in charge of intramural activities, urges girls to complete matches of the second round which have not been played.

If these matches are not played immediately, the third round will be held up. Contestants are requested to play their matches as soon as their opponents are ready. Games must be kept up to date.



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