

on all sides of a subject, and, furthermore, students heads should not be bothered with such things.—A bit of applicable irony from the Oklahoma Daily.

However slow recovery in general may be, the financial recuperation of the nation's schools and colleges will lag behind the general trend. State and public institutions which await annual allocations by legislative bodies are among the last to recover. It is particularly unfortunate that salaries of those on the public tax pay roll lag behind in times of mounting costs and larger budgets.

At the University of Illinois, for example, the actual purchasing power of faculty salaries in 1913 was only regained after 16 years, altho during this period of slight salary increases were made regularly. Since above-high-school education is the common denominator of every man's and every woman's ambition, it becomes an ideal that will not be easily surrendered. Legislators might do well to take this into consideration when planning what functions of government shall be curtailed.—Los Angeles Junior Collegian.

Continual insertion of the faculty wage scale in the mire of politics can have only ultimate result. It will bring about intellectual sterility by so harassing and terrifying the instructors that the majority of them will hesitate to express their honest convictions and sincere beliefs. There is no doubt that a noteworthy faculty personnel is one of the greatest assets a university can enjoy. Oregon is fortunate in being in that position at present. It is to be hoped that the legislature is sufficiently aware of this fact. Discretion must be observed at Salem in future legislation regarding higher education.—Oregon Emerald.

Some of our eminent law-makers are doing their utmost to revive the dark ages. The legislature has recommended that Chancellor Kerr's salary be reduced 50 percent. In the same recommendation, it was reported that the national guard appropriations were to sustain a tremendous reduction of from \$198,937 way down to \$186,383.

It does seem a bitter shame that the national guard will lose \$12,554. This deplorable fact appears even more tragic when one realizes that the higher educational system has suffered a cut of only \$1,107,000.—Oregon Emerald.

There is something sinister and foreboding in the spirit exhibited in the appropriations measure just passed by the South Dakota legislature. In some of its details, it is a bitter, prejudiced attack on education, particularly at State college. This saving to the taxpayers of South Dakota will mean too little to deserve serious consideration. In its effect on the educational institutions of the state, it is deplorably crippling, and a distinct backward step.—Brookings County Press.

Reducing faculty salaries requires no thought, no effort, no re-organization. It can be done by anybody who understands the rudiments of arithmetic. But it is in my opinion the stupidest and most short-sighted means of cutting the cost of education.—Robert M. Hutchins, president of Chicago university, in an article from the Rotarian.

A Minneapolis tax-payer recently estimated that he would save 15 cents on his total tax bill of \$171 if the budgets for the state teachers colleges, and University of Minnesota were slashed as suggested by the legislature. It is becoming increasingly evident that there are men in our legislative halls who are going to sacrifice the opportunities for higher education in order to save 15 cents on the average Minneapolis taxpayer's bill.

Our elders are going to save 15 cents on their tax bills, but we'll spend dollars to replace their self-leveled exemptions.—Minnesota Daily.

### Contemporary Comment

#### The University and The Graduate College.

CAN the state, through its state university, afford to support research? In these days of economies the public is rightly asking what public expenses can be eliminated. One that seems most obvious to many is the expense of research fostered by our graduate college. It is readily said that the state owes no one education beyond the baccalaureate degree.

It may be true that a state does not owe anyone even a bachelor's degree, and yet it may owe society things that it does not owe to any individual. The original research done by graduates in our graduate schools is in the nature of broadening the fields of knowledge.

The graduate student works only a very small field—seldom if ever enough to make a saleable discovery. His contribution is often in the nature of explanatory experimentation which is only valuable in guiding the director or other scholars in discovery of new truths. This work while it has no monetary value to the student is of immense value to society. Much of the progress of modern medicine, applied agriculture, and more efficient industry is based upon the efforts of these humble researchers.

It should also be borne in mind that the purpose of the "Land Grant Act," under which the University of Nebraska was organized, was for the promotion and advancement of knowledge. This does not mean a mere teaching institution. Yet one might question whether any teacher can reach his maximum teaching efficiency until he has done a creditable piece of research. It is through the confidence that comes from complete knowledge of some subject that the teacher blossoms into full competence.

It should be borne in mind that the graduate college is not on the same footing with other professional schools. Students in the professional schools make no research contribution to social progress and they enter professions where the public fixes no limit on their compensation whereas the graduate student will go largely into public callings in which there are very definite legal limitations upon his remuneration.

It is needless to speak of the effect of the graduate college upon the teaching staff of the University. Every prominent educator has recognized the graduate college as a sort of cambium layer of the university where growth takes place.

One might well ask: Can the state afford not to support and encourage graduate research? J. L. BELLERS, Professor of History.

## The University and the Legislature

By James E. Lawrence

(Continued from Page 1.)

Other ways to exercise functions that are properly the business of the board of regents. Such tasks are administrative and should be undertaken only after careful study of conditions and a full knowledge of all the factors involved. The regents and university heads are constantly making that study and possess that knowledge. The legislature could act only blindly.

"One doubts, for example, whether it would be wise to limit any university salary to that paid any state official. Positions for which one may qualify only by years of study and preparation are not on a par with those gained by political luck. Nothing would undermine the usefulness and value of the university more than to drive its best professors into other schools. Nebraska university has ordered salary cuts in keeping with the times, and is prepared to order more. It must arrange its budget in conformity with whatever total sum is appropriated for the coming biennium, but it should be permitted to make the specific savings for itself, and not under the hasty dictation of an uninformed legislature."

No matter how well meant the committee's findings and recommendations are, they are a plain deliberate violation of both the spirit and the express wording of the statutes.

The fear that bungling would result from the effort of any group not intimately schooled in the exact problems of the university is justified by the report which has been made. The committee recommendations show that were its budget for the biennium should be \$6,270,661. Instead of that, however, the report insists that Governor Bryan's figures of \$6,129,661 should be reduced by \$385,000. This would give the university but \$5,774,661, which is \$526,000 less than is justified on the basis of the committee findings.

The explanation of this inconsistency, or error, is found in the failure of the committee to take into account the decline in the cash funds of the university. Their action was not willful. The chairman of the house committee admitted that the factor of a decline in cash funds was not taken in making the recommendations, but instead the committee proceeded on the theory that they would be the same in 1933-1935 as they were in 1931-1933. Any study of the question would convince the legislators that the cash funds of the university inevitably will be reduced considerably during the coming biennium.

Nor is that the only thing in which experience is reflected. In the higher salary brackets, reductions are applied in such a way that recognition which the regents have given properly to merit, and years of service, will be overturned. As a specific example, the educator now drawing \$3,200 annually, under the program adopted by the committee will draw considerably less than the professor who is receiving now \$3,000. It was this situation, which Representative C. F. Beushausen, of Loup City, wisely attempted to point out to the legislature last week, when it was considering salary reductions for county officials, but the majority refused to recognize the point.

In the same manner, the committee closed its eyes to the specific requirements which must be met in the federal aid funds extended to the University of Nebraska. Under the grant by the federal government, the purposes for which these funds may be spent are defined specifically. The committee took no account of whether salaries were paid entirely by the state or partly by the state and partly by the federal government.

For the past several months, education in general, and the University of Nebraska particularly, has been under the drum fire of a small group of noisy agitators. It is not surprising that their clamor should find ready soil, because educational costs, specifically with reference to the public schools, are heavy.

The committee, after weeks of inquiry, reports the University of Nebraska has been managed excellently and is worthy of the pride which its citizens possess for it.

The fact that has been overlooked is that school boards and the management of the University of Nebraska, recognizing the imperative needs for economy, have proceeded to slash wherever possible. In the case of the university, a 10 percent salary reduction was ordered a year ago. Before this legislative session opened, the board of regents proposed a still further reduction in funds in appreciation of the conditions confronting the taxpayers. That reduction was one of the few voluntary cuts taken by spending agencies of the state. The budget drafted by the governor necessitated a salary cut of 20 percent, but ignoring it, and ignoring the leadership of the democratic party, the democratic majorities have proceeded in their own way. It is not common sense and it deserves the stern rebuke of the people of

the state. Too much in sacrifice has gone into the university to permit it to be torn down thru unthinking action. Thousands of Nebraskans, who have spent large sums of money to complete their course of study at the university, do not deserve having that investment destroyed by converting their alma mater into a political football to sink to the ranks of an obscure and second rate educational institution. Thousands more Nebraskans, contemplating the education of their children in years to come, are entitled to an institution which commands their respect. For if it is not provided in Nebraska, they will send their boys and girls elsewhere, even at greatly added cost. Does any one believe the state will not suffer if that takes place? That is the challenge which confronts the state university.

### DEBATE OPENS ON FINANCE MEASURE

(Continued from Page 1.)  
Off agricultural extension, \$17,350.  
Off conservation and survey, \$32,000.  
The addition of a \$4,000 appropriation to repair hail loss at the North Platte agricultural experiment station completes the appropriations proposed by the finance committee.

Wells Satisfied.  
Chairman Frank Wells of the house finance committee which drew up the appropriation measure expressed himself as completely satisfied with the bill. "I feel that the appropriation measure is the best that could have been submitted under existing conditions," he said. He refused to comment on any specific part of the bill.

Speaker O'Malley of the house, on the other hand, declared that "some appropriations are too high, while others are entirely too low to permit efficient performance of the functions required of them."  
He saw little hope, however, of the house increasing the committee's proposal for the university, declaring that Wednesday morning's 81 to 1 vote of approval to the special committee report showed the house backing any economy move almost to a man.

He added that this vote indicated that the entire appropriation bill would be put thru the house in record time. "House sentiment strongly favors the recommendations of the finance committee," he declared.

### PBK, SIGMA XI TO RECOGNIZE HONOR SENIORS JOINTLY

(Continued from Page 1.)  
ures in the field of educational psychology in the United States, according to Prof. Clifford M. Hicks, secretary of the local chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa.  
Serving formerly as professor of

psychology and director of the psychological laboratory at Yale, Dr. Judd has been more recently dean of the school of education at the University of Chicago. Among his contributions in research are those in the study of the nature of reading and in the study of the nature of numbers. These contributions have been embodied, in part, in school text books, one of the most outstanding of which is his "Psychology of High School Subjects," known in its more recent revised form as "The Psychology of Secondary Education."

### Judd Member Both Societies.

Dr. Judd is a member of both Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi. Altho no scale of grade averages has been announced for the new members of the two organizations, they will probably closely follow the standard set in other years. In the year 1928, forty-one members were admitted to P. B. K. with the high average at 94.30, and the low at 87.73. Fifty members in 1929 set the grades at 94.87 high, and 88.00 low. In 1930 fifty-two members with averages ranging from high at 93.87, to low at 88.54. A high average of 93.87 and a low of 88.57 admitted forty-six members in 1931. Last year the high average was 95.45 and the low

88.10. Forty-five members qualified.  
Dr. Winona M. Berry, professor of education at psychology and measurements, local president of Phi Beta Kappa, will preside at the meeting, Chancellor E. A. Burnett will introduce the main speaker.

### HOWE HEADS PALLADIAN

Graham Howe is the new president of Palladian literary society for the spring term. It was announced Wednesday. Officers elected also include Lucie Starr, vice president; Margaret Reedy, critic; Marjorie Filley, recording secretary; Leona Geiger, corresponding secretary; Helen Still, program secretary, and Elwood W. Camp, historian. The officers will serve for the months of April, May and June.

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## Democratic Autocracy.

THE Daily Nebraskan has no intention of trying to tell the legislature that it is a bunch of saps-heads" and to dictate to it what it should do, as was charged by C. F. Beushausen of Loup City on the floor of the house Tuesday. The Daily Nebraskan has disagreed with the committee report, and Mr. Beushausen suggests that the Board of Regents abolish the organ of student expression. Its attitude, says Mr. Beushausen, "is nothing short of a disgrace."

We are wondering, in all seriousness, if the legislature, because it was elected by popular vote and entrusted with the function of passing laws for the state and with providing for reductions in state costs is thereby justified in stopping its ears to the requests of some people, and incidentally of the Daily Nebraskan, that other points of view be considered.

The Daily Nebraskan is not necessarily hostile to the legislature. We believe that the members are acting in good faith, trying to reduce taxes because they realize the dire straits of citizens of the state. But we do believe that they are overdoing the matter. There is an attitude of autocracy which fails to consider things in any but one light.

WE see in the fact that the Nebraskan has pointed out objections to the committee report, nothing disgraceful whatsoever. We reiterate our opinions of the report and believe that the legislature is unwise in attempting to control policies which by their very nature are administrative. We would say the same thing if the legislature were composed of the most highly educated experts in the country.

The Nebraskan also feels that the tendency of the Nebraska legislature to slash everything has been taken without due consideration of the relative benefits to be derived from the respective cuts as opposed to the amount of damage which may be done as a result of the cuts. Intelligent legislation must take into account the future as well as the present regardless of the exigencies of the situation to be met.

After all, the Daily Nebraskan is but one means of expressing public opinion. Far more intelligent and experienced editorial writers than are represented on the Nebraskan, however, have pointed out similar and even identical criticisms of the legislature. If all these various opinions are taken as personal antagonistic propaganda against the legislature, the purpose of these criticisms is defeated. And if the legislature chooses to ignore every sentiment except what is expressed in committee rooms, caucuses, and on the floor, then it is an autocratic agency of government no less obnoxious than the most dictatorial kingship ever in existence.

## What Other Editors Think.

THE Daily Nebraskan, it seems, despite its "disgraceful attitude," is not the only college paper in the country, to say nothing of the "legitimate" press which feels justified in calling to the attention of legislators the fallacy in making education bear the brunt of government cost reductions. We are printing a few editorial opinions from these other papers.

They indicate, not alone that universities are defending themselves, but that there is a widespread feeling on the part of legislators favoring pitching on education. This attitude is born of an unthinking spirit of panic and is not worthy of the American people and their chosen legislators.

It is an ironic indictment of our legislators that during times of depression they should attempt to economize drastically in one of the institutions that should prove of value in preventing similar occurrences. The first thing that came to the minds of the California law makers as apparently the safest thing in which to cut expenses and still please their most important vote supporters was the state educational system.—California Daily Trojan.

The legislators who insisted upon limiting all deans and department heads to fixed salaries, instead of allowing regents to adjust salaries according to case-study justification, had night-mare ideas that the new regents might "go wild." The salary limit clause is inconsistent with other action of the legislators, inasmuch as no similar measures were added to appropriation bills outside the education field.—University of Washington Daily.

It is unnecessary, we believe, to make any plea to the legislature for funds with which to continue adequately the work of the university. It is equally fruitless to ask for any special favors in the matter of finances during these times. We are assured that we shall have the just and equitable consideration of both the house and senate.—Utah Chronicle.

The affront of college students, to imagine that they have a right to read, think or write about questions that are before the public today! We must not encourage the idea of getting information

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