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Struggling Against Inertia.

THE Minnesota Daily has not relaxed the vigorous fight it has been carrying on all year against compulsory R. O. T. C. training in its university. Scathing denunciations have appeared in nearly every issue of the paper, and despite the wrath of all the patriotic organizations which are waving their flags the more violently at Minnesota, the Daily is still at it.

In the course of the systematic program of criticism of R. O. T. C. work which has been conducted, the editor took time to give a good roasting to the Nebraska unit for its concentration on exploiting "comely coeds" as honorary colonels and company sponsors. "Instead of trying to make the R. O. T. C. of sufficient value to the country to be worth a tenth of its cost (assuming such a feat to be possible) the department spends additional time and money for propaganda in an attempt to put a favorable light on its operations," says the Minnesota paper.

In the last three years the faculty of the liberal arts college at Minnesota has voted twice with no dissenting opinion to favor option-

al drill, the daily points out. The National Education association, department of superintendence, has gone on record as saying that claims that military training is "the best method of training pupils in obedience, promptness, truthfulness, industry and other desirable traits, have no justification." The World Federation of Educational Associations resolved that "an endeavor be made to secure that systematic military training shall not be given in civil education institutions."

WHAT then is the weight of inertia which keeps this strange requirement in our universities and colleges? It is not, as so many people still think, the necessity of securing federal funds for land grant colleges. That idea has been effectively dispelled since an opinion given by Attorney General Mitchell in 1930 stating that "It does not appear from the federal legislation that instruction in military tactics is any more obligatory on the individual student than is instruction in agriculture or mechanic arts. The statutes nowhere specifically require that the offered course in military tactics must be compulsory."

We can't answer very briefly what this force of inertia is. We know some of its important constituents, however, such as the vested interests of the army officials and all their wives, relatives, and friends.

Our sincere sympathies we extend to the Minnesota paper. We doubt if during the administration of the present editor there will be any substantial progress. We doubt if at the end of the year, the editor will be able to claim a victory in the abolition of compulsory drill from the Minnesota campus.

But even though this constant harping on the subject seems to most people like batting one's head against a stone wall, we believe the Minnesota paper is doing a good work. It is going to take a lot of batting of heads against stone walls to make an impression. But that impression is going to be made eventually, and every head bashed is at least a slight contribution to the process of making a dent in the wall of conservatism which refuses to think or advance beyond the short sighted policy of: "In time of peace, prepare for war."

What's the Odds?

By Artemus

WHILE every one has been getting worked up about the proposed slashes in appropriations, calling indignation meetings and passing out pat phrases involving the inviolability of the administrator's position in this governmental system of ours, I've been peacefully pursuing my own course. No incense-burner for me; what comes must come. Seelab!

Having nothing better to do, I have, as a consequence, taken to improving my, alas too feeble, mind. And so I came upon that newspaper of all newspapers—The New York Times. Imagine my confusion to discover therein the pronouncement of an old friend and dean in that institution which protected me during four years and one half they had had no unfortunate happenings to any feminine member of the undergraduate body.

Now the strangeness of all this is that the school in question has no restrictions concerning the nocturnal perambulations of the fairer sex. They come and go at will; the only requirement is that they pass thru an entrance which is locked and in charge of an attendant, and that they sign in and out.

Can such things be? Very obviously they cannot. There's a mistake somewhere, for doesn't the dean of women state very emphatically that the comings and goings at the University of Nebraska must be regulated? Anything after 12:30 is socially and morally taboo? The reasoning, I presume, is that otherwise young, unprotected "co-eds" would be endangered. (The nature of the endangering boogey man has not, however, been made exactly clear.)

There was another statement in

this article; i. e., smoking was permitted in the dormitories by women. Tsk tsk! Very evidently here is moral disintegration. Else, here at this institution we too would allow smoking in dormitories and in sororities—I mean it would be openly allowed. I have not the slightest doubt the reason for this ruling is that the mothers and fathers of our unsophisticates would object to their smoking. So we set up policewomen.

These minions of the administrative law conform with the letter of that law. The girls can't smoke in the sororities they do, on occasion hang out a window. So, of an evening, in the springtime, the girls adjourn to the front porches, there to indulge their nerves with a "cig." This is not objectionable. It isn't done in the house, the parents can't be offended.

Cigaret smoking just isn't done. Long live cigaret smoking (on the front porch).

Professor Speaks to Parent Teacher Group

Dr. Charles Fordyce, chairman of the department of educational psychology and measurements, addressed the members of the Parent-Teachers association of the Elliott school Tuesday evening on

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Aylsworth Will Speak At Y. M. Forum Today

Professor L. E. Aylsworth of the political science department will speak for the proposed change in the city government of Lincoln at a meeting of the Y. M. C. A. men's forum at 3 o'clock today. F. A. Good will take the negative side of the question.

Where the Crowd Goes

These Sunday night dances at Pla-Mor have met with hearty approval among the U. of N. students.

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Ministers Sign Appeal Opposing Proposed Cut in Appropriations

Pastors Express Confidence And Regard for State University.

By signing an appeal directed to the churches in the state, an appeal opposing the proposed reduction in appropriations by the legislature for the university, eight Lincoln ministers Friday came to the support of students and friends of the university fighting the measure.

The appeal expressed the belief that the proposed reduction in the university budget is unfairly applied to the departments and that such drastic cuts are destructive to the policy of free education in Nebraska.

The ministers also voiced their confidence and trust in the character and seriousness of the student body and their regard for the members of the faculty. Following is the text of the appeal, which was signed by: Rev. Ray Hunt, Rev. Walter Aitken, Rev. Ben Wyland, Rev. Paul Johnston, Rev. Ervine Inglis, Rev. Paul Calhoun, Rev. Clifton Walcott and Rev. G. Keller Rubrecht.

Certain false and hurtful statements concerning the character and patriotism of university students and faculty have been circulated in connection with consideration of the budget by the legislature for the university.

We believe the university student body is representative of the best of our youth. They are an earnest, sober and courteous group of young people. Many of them are working long hours at low wages to supplement allowances from their families. They are open minded and critical of some of our social and political life, the same as many preach-

ers are, but they are loyal American citizens worthy of their heritage.

We hold the members of the faculty in high regard. A large percentage of them are loyal members of our churches and many of them are officers in the church and leaders in Bible schools and church work.

We cannot withhold our testimony as to their Christian integrity and loyal citizenship, for irreparable harm would follow any loss of confidence in either their character or citizenship in this moment when political partisanship has entered the discussion of the state budget for the university.

We feel that the proposed reduction in the university budget is unfairly applied to departments and that such drastic reductions are destructive to the policy of free education in Nebraska. If students are asked to assume a considerable part of the proposed reduction by way of increased fees, then state education will be available only to the few who have more than average income.

Professor Talks to 250 Fillmore 4-H Clubmen

W. H. Brokaw, director of extension activities, made a short talk to more than 250 girl and boy members of the Fillmore county 4-H clubs who spent Thursday morning visiting the state capitol.

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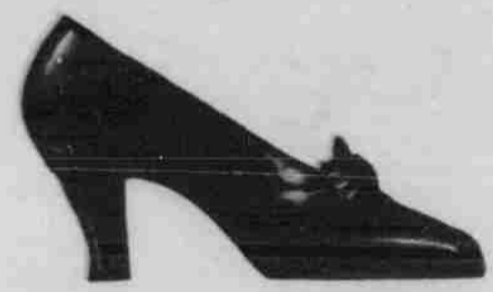
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