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Starting a Fund For a Student Union.

ONE of the items to be included on the ballot for the activity tax plan has as yet received no explanation. This item will be listed on the ballot as a fifteen cent annual fee for a student union building fund.

Two years ago, before the full effects of the economic landslide were being felt very much, there was a great deal of talk among students on this campus about starting a campaign for a student union building. Much enthusiasm was engendered, and the student body in general was quite well informed as to what a student union building was, and what its advantages would be.

The Nebraskan feels that nearly every student knows what a student union building is. There are few universities or colleges in the country that do not have such a building with facilities for all sorts of student gatherings, organizations, and social events. At Nebraska, on the other hand, there is no common meeting place for students. There is no place where students may go for recreation of various kinds. There isn't even any place where students may loaf comfortably when they have the time and inclination.

IF Nebraska university ever has such a building, the students will have to pay for it themselves, and they should. Despite the fact that this seems an inauspicious time to launch such a project, the Student council felt that if the activity tax plan gains the support of the students, that a very small fee might well be included to give the student union building fund a small start.

It would be unjust to ask students now in school who have small prospects for realizing the benefits of such a building to pay very much toward its cost. But as the years pass, and the fund grows, the annual fee should be raised so that the students who will enjoy the benefits of the building will be paying more for it.

When the stadium was built a number of years ago, students and alumni paid for it. But that project was not financed in an equitable manner. Those who were in school when the campaign was launched were literally sucked in for large subscriptions that many could not afford. A recurrence of that method of financing should be avoided in planning for a student union building. The student activity tax plan will afford an admirable vehicle for financing a student union building, without burdening any student, by distributing the cost over a considerable length of time.

EVEN though you as students would have no hope of realizing any benefits from a student union building while you are in school, the Nebraskan hopes that

you will approve the fifteen cent tax for starting this fund. You are enjoying the benefits of several things on this campus that were paid for by your predecessors. Surely you can afford fifteen cents a year to provide a lasting improvement on this campus for your own successors, which will be of almost incalculable benefit to them.

Council Filings Close This Noon.

AMONG all the student organizations on the campus which have potentialities for development the Student council stands pre-eminent. Its record in the past as an agency for expression and formulation of student opinion, and for the accomplishment of projects in the interests of students, has been none too impressive. But its possibilities for the future are unlimited.

For a long time, the council has been just another organization. It has been hedged in by all sorts of restrictions, and more important still, it has not been supported to any great extent by the student body. As a matter of fact many of its own members have always been more or less indifferent about what it has done or tried to do.

But gradually in the last few years, especially since the adoption of its new constitution two years ago, the council has been reaching out into new fields and attempting to make for itself the place on the campus that it should have, namely the supreme student organization. But as yet it has merely skimmed the surface of the things it can accomplish in really adding to the student life on the campus. As yet it has only begun to stand out as the organization to which students will turn for leadership in the things they want done.

FRIDAY afternoon when the deadline closed for filing for positions on next year's council, many positions had only one applicant, and some had none. Perhaps the press of other functions had obliterated from the memories of students the fact that an election was in the offing. At any rate the filing deadline has been extended until today at 12 o'clock.

If the absence of filings betokens an absence of interest in the council, the students may expect that the few individuals who are interested enough to seek and secure office in this organization will never accomplish much. Council members will never feel themselves under any particular obligation to do anything unless the students want them to do something. And the students, of course, will never be interested in the council if the council doesn't do anything that really is of significance to the student body.

This seems like a vicious circle of indifference. One way to break it is for the student body in general to manifest interest in the election. Further than this, there must be a good selection of candidates to choose from. If these two factors are supplied, it may be fairly assumed that the new members of the council will carry on toward the goal of making the Student council more and more an

organ of student expression to accomplish the objects desired by the student body.

Youth and Senator Norris.

"I AM getting lots of letters these days from college students. I think young men are becoming more and more interested in politics."

Coming from as farsighted a man as Nebraska's Senator George W. Norris, these words are distinctly encouraging. If they indicate that American youth is at least about to awaken from its twentieth century slumber, they should be heralded in every college newspaper of the land as introducing a new act in the political pageant.

It is fitting, too, that Norris should be among the first to give official cognizance of the new awakening. For thirty years in congress, often almost alone, he has been the precursor of a new, youthful regime, and it is only in recent years that the full significance of his liberal policy has been brought home to the people of the nation.

AS the American magazine points out in its May article, he is "The Man We Forgot to Hate":

"Three of his 'lost causes', ridiculed just a few years ago, are turning into personal triumphs. His views on water power and the government development of Muscle Shoals are essentially those of the new administration. His fight to prevent the use of federal injunctions to break up strikes was won with legislation passed by congress last year.

"And his ten year struggle to abolish the futile lame duck sessions of congress, of which this year saw the last, ended victoriously with the recent passage of the twentieth amendment to the constitution."

NORRIS' crusades on these issues alone would insure him a place of importance on the national roll of honor, but they do not begin to include all the many liberal projects he has sponsored.

At the outbreak of war in 1917, he and five other senators were alone brave enough and intelligent enough to cast their ballots against the declaration of war. Now, seeing the havoc war has caused, Norris must feel completely justified in that action—and he continues the fight against militarism, arms lobbies, nationalistic propaganda, and all the other paraphernalia of war.

Youth, and white haired Senator

Norris. They look well together. If out of the ranks of youth a spirit of political liberalism grows up emulating the spirit that has animated Norris, collegians will

have indeed found a standard around which to rally.

Drys at Oklahoma A. & M. recently won a one vote victory over the wets in a straw vote on beer conducted by the student paper.



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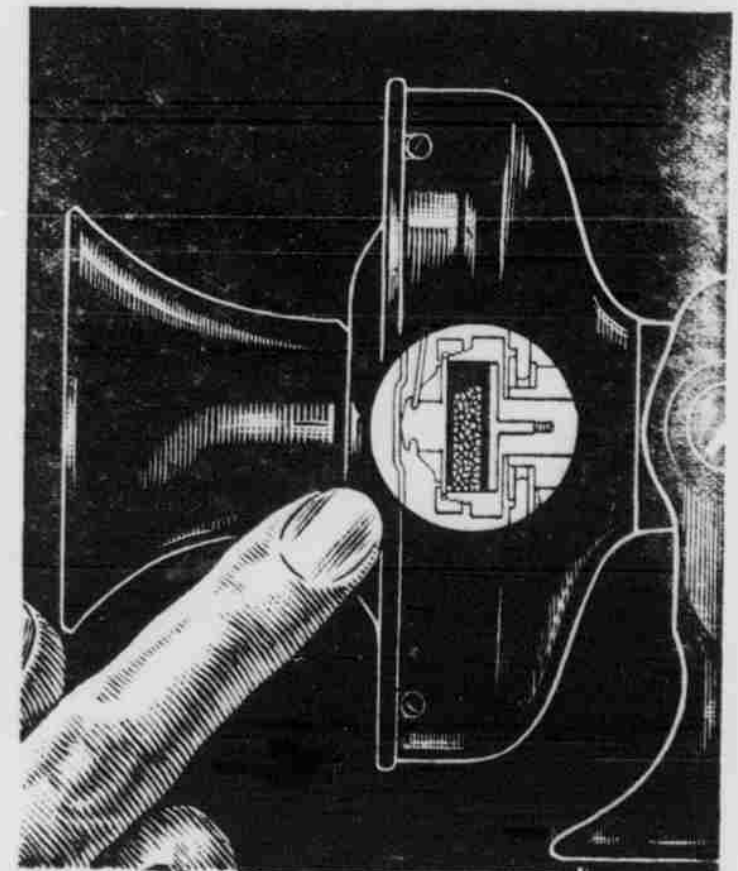
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