

The Daily Nebraskan

Station A, Lincoln, Nebraska
OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

Entered as second-class matter at the postoffice in Lincoln, Nebraska, under act of congress, March 3, 1879, and at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, act of October 3, 1917, authorized January 20, 1922.

THIRTY-THIRD YEAR

Published Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday mornings during the academic year.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE

\$1.50 a year Single Copy 5 cents \$1.00 a semester
\$2.50 a year mailed \$1.50 a semester mailed
Under direction of the Student Publication Board.

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Business Office—University Hall 4A.
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Considered, And Rejected.

RAISING the question of the advisability of the "closed night" custom, obviously as it applies to the annual all-university church night, a contributor to this morning's Student Pulse column advances some pertinent arguments about student self-determination.

Declaring that the closed night rule has no place on a campus where "students are at least supposed to be capable of making decisions for themselves," Contributor "Boetia" follows up with spirited charges that the practice is "undemocratic....in opposition to the spirit of higher education" and "an affront to the intelligence of the student body." The entire letter, in fact, is dominated by a note of righteous indignation hard to mistake.

As far as the Nebraskan is concerned, the traditional all-university church night for which the social task has been cleared this evening is neither a thing of surpassing value nor a custom to justify the vilification it receives at Boetia's hands. We have no convictions on the matter. It is a custom, to be respected—or if that is impossible, at least tolerated—as quietly as possible.

High praise for any sort of institutionalized religion is certainly to be leavened with the realization that it often falls short of its objectives, but, on the other hand, church services and church word do fill a definite place in the lives of many people and as such ought to be immune from bitter condemnation.

THE points which Boetia raises, however, go deeper than all-university church night alone. His

thesis seems to embrace the whole question of the administration of student affairs.

It is, in fact, the familiar conflict between university control of students and undergraduate "independence" that the letter brings to the fore. Boetia reveals himself a spirited advocate of greater student freedom, and the tone of his letter indicates a feeling that undergraduates are not given enough opportunities to exercise their ability to guide their own lives and make their own decisions.

The charges are not new, but their age does not make them particularly effective as embodiments of truth. The whole question, indeed, ultimately revolves itself into a discussion of where the line between student "freedom" and administrative control should be drawn, for even the most rabid advocate of liberalism will admit that it must be drawn somewhere.

To resolve the difficulties, to reach a decision satisfactory to both those of Boetia's beliefs and those opposed to them, would require a great deal more pedagogical skill than the Nebraskan claims to possess but we have no hesitation in pointing out that in the past undergraduates have seldom shown themselves capable of handling even the responsibilities they already are privileged to carry. Discussion of proposals to extend those responsibilities seems a little out of place under the circumstances.

When undergraduates can present their arguments for additional privileges on the basis of past efficiency in dealing with the problems that have been left them to solve, that is the time to seriously consider the request. Until then, "Scram!" is the only word for the malcontents.

The Student Pulse

Brief, concise contributions pertinent to matters of student life and the university are welcomed by this department, under the usual restrictions of sound newspaper practice, which excludes all libelous matter and personal attacks. Letters must be signed, but names will be withheld from publication if so desired.

'Everywhere in Chains.'

TO THE EDITOR:

When more than a thousand freshmen were officially ushered into Cornhuskerdom at an initiation ceremony Thursday morning, they were given to understand that they had reached a juncture in their lives when the responsibilities of their careers were at last placed in their hands. They were led to believe that upon their decisions and judgment rests the success of their college education. They were charged with this responsibility to themselves, to their family, to their friends and to their school. It is only by such responsibility that they can develop and achieve the fullest benefits of higher education.

It is cogent, if such were really the case, that they should be allowed to make the decisions regarding their activities on the

campus without excessive and unwarranted compulsion.

In the matter of their academic education and their general good citizenship it is reasonable that there should be regulations. Yet, hardly before the coliseum had ceased to reverberate with their youthful voices taking the oath, an element of excessive and unwarranted compulsion is introduced into their lives.

This inhuman element of which I speak is a sort of skulduggery that is known as "closed night." In other words, it is an attempt to force students into a certain activity by barring them from any other activity. The principle of the "closed night" rule is in complete opposition to the spirit of higher education.

The "closed night" rule has no place on a campus, where the students are at least supposed to be capable of making decisions for themselves. It is not only undemocratic and in opposition to the spirit of higher education, but an affront to the intelligence of the student body.

It is unnecessary to point out the futility of such a rule, for anyone realizes that human nature is not amenable to such compulsion as this rule inflicts. The eighteenth amendment in its dying gasps is

sufficient evidence that people cannot be forced to do things that their intelligence does not approve. Any organization or activity that stoops to the trickery of the "closed night" deserves the unadulterated contempt of the student body.

MANAGERIAL JOBS ARE OPEN

Clemens Urges Sophomores To Report at Once For Tryouts.

A call has just been issued by head student football manager Clemens for more sophomore men to fill managerial positions. There are still seven or eight openings for second year men who might be interested. Juniors have already been picked.

All sophomores who wish to try

out should report to him at the stadium between the hours of four and six. This should be done immediately.

AG COLLEGE FACULTY WELCOMES STUDENTS

(Continued on Page 2.) and faculty get acquainted. There will be a wide variety of kinds of dances including plenty of tags and ladies choice numbers to mix up the crowd. The high spot of the dancing, the committee said, will be a grand march led by Dean and Mrs. Burr. During the grand march, partners will be chosen for special entertainments downstairs.

Party Gowns, Tuxedos—

WHEN THEY NEED CLEANING AND PRESSING—YOU WANT THEM TO HAVE THE BEST OF CARE—JUST CALL F2377.

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"29th Year in Lincoln"

and for lunch. Tickets for all ag men are available at the Voc. Ed office in Ag hall and tickets for the women may be had at the home economic offices, according to the report. The reception committee stated that there would be nearly 500 ag college people at the reception Saturday night.

Dancing Tonight

Tonight may be a closed night for some things, but for dancing at the Park we've declared "open season." Come out to the Park tonight and dance to Leo J. Beck and his orchestra. You'll see the college crowd at the Park.

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