

# The Daily Nebraskan

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

Associated Collegiate Press  
1933

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

Single Copy 5 cents \$1.00 a semester \$2.50 a year mailed \$3.50 a semester mailed \$7.50 a year mailed

Under direction of the Student Publication Board.  
Editorial Office—University Hall 4  
Business Office—University Hall 4A  
Telephone—Day: B-6891; Night: B-6882; B-3333 (Journal)  
Telegrams—Day: B-6891; Night: B-6882; B-3333 (Journal)  
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## For Thirteen Senior Men.

THOROUGHLY disgusted, not to say burned up, might very well describe the contributor signing herself "Irritated" in this morning's Student Pulse column. The burden of the complaint is a vigorous denunciation of the spineless attitude that prevailed among cheer leaders at Saturday's game, and the denunciation is brought to a close with a question that is almost embarrassing in its directness: "Now I ask you, are they cheer leaders . . . or merely members of another political body?"

It is with a realization of the gravity of the charges—for the correspondent is very evidently sincere—that the Nebraskan is forced to say that to date there has been every indication to substantiate that conclusion, and only a vast improvement before the next game would serve to justify the recent selections.

In order to understand more thoroughly the process by which cheer leaders are chosen, in the hope that some light may thereby be thrown on the conditions of apathy which "Irritated" laments so forcefully, it is necessary to remember that the men's senior honorary, the Innocents society, is in charge of cheer leader selections. Each year some member, or members, of the honorary are delegated as a committee to help with the training of applicants and to make the final choice of the men who are to serve for one year as leaders of yells.

So far, so good. The system operates with a minimum of friction, and although it is probably not the best way of insuring efficient cheer leaders, it has, at least, worked well enough. Unfortunately certain complications arose this year, as a result of undeniable political pettiness among certain members of the present Innocents society (who are supposed, on attaining the position of member in that guiding honorary, to put aside their early training in the skulduggery of "activities") and the outcome was, to say the least, somewhat of a mess.

WHAT actually occurred was that the aroused society, after seeing the results of its committee's yell leader selections, stepped in and declared them invalid, withholding publication of the tryout results until a second, less partisan tryout could be held before the whole society.

The results of this second tryout were choice of the "yell kings" football fans saw in action, or rather, without action last Saturday.

The issue, as the Nebraskan sees it, is not whether the present cheer leaders are figureheads, for there is always the possibility that the inexperienced new men will improve before they are next

seen at work. It is certain that they do need considerable prodding if they are to do any sort of satisfactory work, and it is not amiss to disclose to the often too-smug thirteen seniors that theirs is the responsibility of guaranteeing the necessary improvement.

There is little reason to doubt that the effort to seek that improvement will not be forthcoming, and the Nebraskan is glad that the cheer-leader complexities have been afforded the chance of being aired.

## Capabilities Of Collegians.

IN a plea for higher intellectual standards among college graduates, the Miami university president, Dr. Alfred H. Upham, has put forward the suggestion that a degree of Master Citizen be given young college alumni who "make good in public life."

"To my mind the gravest reflection on our American education is the pitifully small number of our graduates who continue to lead anything like an intellectual life," the educator declared in his opening address to Miami students, and through his remarks Dr. Oldham stressed the need for more revision of university curricula.

All this, of course, is very fine as reflecting the recognition of a need for educational changes, but it is not at all amiss to suggest that Dr. Oldham gets no further than the stove-league baseball fan he decries when he proposes a new brand of college degree as a means of raising the low intellectual levels of American college graduates. How can a superficiality remedy difficulties that go to the very roots of education?

The words "superficiality remedy" are used advisedly, for they reflect the Nebraskan's belief that Dr. Oldham's suggestion assumes the present method of mass education for anyone and everyone is satisfactory, whereas there is more than a little evidence to show that it is that very assumption which lies at the heart of many major educational troubles in American colleges and universities. The men of Dr. Oldham's stamp are so fixed in their reverence of the power of education per se that they overlook some rather fundamental considerations that only recently have gained enough support to throw off the weight of the American tradition of "democracy" in education.

FOR a long, long time higher education in the United States has built its structures on the theory that every applicant for enrollment is equally fitted to receive education, but—if it is within the province of the Nebraskan to point it out—the facts do not bear out that assumption with any degree of certainty. Individual capabilities vary so greatly that to subject all candidates for information and learning to the same type of instruction is to handicap educational purposes from the start.

The results, as so painfully evident on every hand, and as Dr. Oldham points out, are to cast grave reflections on American education.

There are encouraging signs of change, however, with an evident trend in the direction of segregating students according to their abilities and a general raising of entrance requirement standards. Perhaps the proposal for a Master Citizen degree should be classed among those encouraging signs, but the Nebraskan does not think so; that particular plan seems more in a class with projects like "Hello Day" on our own campus.

The problem goes deeper than consideration of the kinds of citizens universities turn out, and certainly there can be no sure-fire remedy for increasing the value of education and raising the intellectual level of college graduates. Attempts are being made in many places to rub out the noble but mistaken attitude that every student should receive the same kind of instruction, and eventually, perhaps, the much-needed American educational changes will be accomplished, but it will only be after a long, gradual development.

## Ag College

By Carlyle Hodakin

### DISCOURSE ON AG CLUB.

When George Round was editor of the Cornhusker some three or four years ago, he editorialized on the need of bringing Ag club back to life or having it abolished. The status of that club seems to be today about what it was when Round made that subject a part of his editorial campaign on the student monthly magazine. Probably the Ag club has been a problem longer than that, probably before my time or before Round's.

Today the Ag club is as much of a problem as ever. It is dead, the spirit and enthusiasm of the group is practically nil. Nobody seems interested in Ag club. The students would rather do something else than go to Ag club meeting. The membership is small, and the students who do belong don't go regularly.

In past semesters the club officers have sometimes gone to considerable trouble to secure interesting speakers for the meetings. And the officers pay usually consisted of being embarrassed at having to introduce the speaker to so small a crowd. And other times the officers have not been so concerned about the programs they arranged for the meetings, and there was not much of worth for the students who did attend.

So it has been. No particular spirit, no goal to work toward, no major activities that challenged best efforts of the club and made membership in it seem a really worthwhile activity for the students.

The decline of Ag club (I assume that it once flourished) many think can be attributed to the rise of the departmental clubs. Block and Bridle, the Dairy Club, newly formed Tri K Club, and others. And with that idea in mind Vernon Filley, once an officer in Ag club, has brought forward a plan to bring Ag club back to life.

### Filley's Plan.

The Plan is this: Let a student belong to one department club only. Let membership to a department club automatically become a member of Ag club. Thus all Ag club members would be department club members, and all department club members would belong to Ag club. Ag club would be the co-ordination center for the activities of all the other clubs, might be assigned to have charge of the program at each Ag club meeting. Ag club would meet monthly; so would the department clubs, but not on the same night. Ag club's night would be the "big night."

As a means of revitalizing Ag club, the plan seems workable. But officers of the department clubs are likely to view it with apprehension. They are likely to ask why they should merge their own club with Ag club when they are very well satisfied with their club as it is. It is likely to seem to them that they are sacrificing their own department club for the good of Ag club, and many will not approve.

The problem is up for consideration at the next meetings of all the clubs involved, and now seems to be an opportune time for a look at the purposes of the clubs and their relations to each other. The purpose of Ag club as outlined in its constitution is to cultivate ability in agricultural organization, to perfect and maintain a permanent organization of value to the university, and to facilitate social contacts not possible in the class room.

The purpose of the department clubs is in general the same. But specifically the department clubs are designed to further the interests of students in some particular department. And the students who join them do so because of that specific interest.

Now while a department club is furthering the interests of students in one subject, it is at the same time doing all the things that the Ag club has as its purpose—cultivating ability in agricultural organization, perfecting and maintaining an organization of value to the university, and facilitating social contacts not possible in the class room. It may be then that in a very large measure the need that was responsible for the creation of Ag club is now being filled by the department clubs, and that, just to that extent, Ag club has come to be without a vital purpose.

### Without a Purpose.

If that is true, then it is an organization without a need, and the only reason for its existence is that it is like all organizations—once set in motion they tend to perpetuate themselves without regard for the needs that first set them in motion. If that is true, then all the efforts of students to bring the club to life and get it going again are futile. If that is true, the department clubs stand to gain nothing and lose everything by merging with Ag club, for they would carry the central club alone, in membership and activity while the central club would have nothing to give in return; Ag club as a co-ordinat-

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## The Christopher Bean

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UNIVERSITY PLAYERS

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ing center for all the campus department clubs, would be simply a figurehead.

Whether Ag club has sacrificed its usefulness to the department clubs depends entirely upon the students. It depends upon how much use they wish to make of that "cultivate ability in organization" clause, in other words, how much practice they want in organizing and governing themselves. The department clubs offer that practice, and more. Ag club offers that practice, at least. One purpose of all college clubs, looking at them in a larger sense, is simply to give students practice in organization, and self-government, and leadership. The amount of that sort of training that sort of training that students want will determine how many clubs they will want to maintain.

The department clubs seem to have a first lien on the students because of their interest in that specific subject. There is a place for Ag club if the students want to make use of the what it has to offer. The question of merging the two, ultimately to be decided by members of all the clubs, looks now like a far better proposition for the Ag club than for the others.

## MUSIC NOTES

The organ program scheduled last week to be given by Edith Suringing Ross, professor of organ and piano, was postponed and will be given this week over KFAR at 2:30 Tuesday.

Alma Wagner will come to

her students this afternoon (Sunday) at 3 o'clock. A musical program will be given by a number of the students. Marcelle Laux and Merritt Wells, assisted by Wilma Eddy with several piano numbers, presented a program at the tea given by the Woman's department of the Baptist church at the home of Mrs. John P. Williams. Merritt Wells sang at a meeting of the Co-operative club at the Lincoln hotel, Thursday noon. These are students with Miss Wagner.

Mary Hall Thomas will direct the Hartley P. T. A. glee choir and the Warren M. E. church choir the coming year. Mrs. Thomas and students took part in the following activities during the past week: Russell Cummings gave a program Thursday afternoon at the U. M. E. church; Gerald Mott was soloist for the Clatonia church services Sunday. Marian Williamson and Lester Rumbaugh were soloists for the Sunday morning service at Warren M. E. church.

A trio, directed by Ethel Owen, will furnish music during Chancellor and Mrs. Burnett's reception to the faculty at Carrie Belle Raymond hall Friday evening. Miss Owen has charge of the City Wide Tabernacle orchestra for the coming year. She played a violin solo for their evening service Sunday. Several students with Miss Owen will present a program for the breakfast of the university students of St. Paul's church to day.

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## OFFICIAL BULLETIN

All student organizations of campus groups desiring to publish notices of meetings or other information in the Bulletin may have them printed by calling the Daily Nebraskan office.

### Economics Club.

There will be a reading Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock in Social Science 205 for all students interested in the formation of a club for discussion of economic and political questions.

### Picnic.

The Kappa Phi Phi Tau Theta picnic will be held Friday, October 13, at Epworth Lake park. All Methodist students who wish to attend are invited to meet at Wesley House, 1417 R St., at 5:30.

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BOOTH IN SOCIAL SCIENCE

## 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.

### Cheers and Goans.

TO THE EDITOR:

It isn't often that I am moved to openly accuse anyone, but after the disappointing, disheartening, dispirited and certainly unsatisfactory attempt, and I don't mean attempts of the so-called cheer leaders at Saturday's game I cannot refrain from saying something. I absolutely do not believe the half-hearted cheering was the fault of the student body and I have heard the same thing from many students, graduates and townspeople. There are a few times when the students want to yell, really enjoy it, and Saturday was one of those times, especially during the first half hour of play. The cheer leaders were asked to give yells repeatedly and the answer was a wave at the crowd or something equally unnecessary.

It is the duty of the cheer leaders to keep up the enthusiasm during the whole game, win or lose. Now I ask you are they cheer leaders, or rather will they be, or are they merely members of another political body? —IRRITATED.

### 'Dutch' Dates.

For a long time we have recognized the existence of a sort of social plane, at the two extremities of which the gigois and the gold-digger were placed. The gigois, far from being revered at first, has gradually become society's idea of a prideless scoundrel. He was ridiculed in thought, in speech, and finally in writing. He is now on his way to extinction, and nurses his last wounds in the shadows of the larger cities.

The gold-digger was launched upon her career with considerable discredit. She dug her way up to a height in the social scheme that the gigois never saw, and the public found itself laughing along with her in triumph. It excused her mercenary successes saying that men really enjoyed having their purses taken for a ride if the process were a pleasant one.

That the coed gold-digger doesn't especially need a bothersome old conscience is almost settled. The type of pang that makes her wonder if her date were that frazzled-looking shirt (which wasn't supposed to show much) in order to treat her table d'hôte, why that would be called nutty by some. She wouldn't dare stop to think that maybe Johnny's dad back

home had to sell his prize Angus to meet his last allowance. For all we know, or can predict, she may be "getting hers" before many moons. Or maybe there won't be so many of those romantic moons when she has to pay half the gas to witness them at their best. Campuseers may enter into the proposed bargain in a spirit of fun and find the idea soon an institutionalized part of its social structure. They might give it a try. —ONE OF THE GALS.

## CONTEMPORARY COMMENT

### Revolt and The Student.

Mr. Thomas S. Baker, president of the Carnegie Institute of Technology, recently returned from a series of lectures at the larger German universities, has reported his finding in a very pessimistic article. Men are graduating from universities three times as fast as positions are opening for them. It is this surplus of academically trained men, which is increasing every year, to which Hitler directly owes his recent rise to power. Hitler has appealed to the youth of the nation and it has welcomed the opportunity to show that it is capable of doing something definite. It is better to be active than to be a useless parasite, even when the activity takes the form of the espousal of the cause of culture, the very mention of which causes the naively sophisticated American student to blush. The recent barbaric treatment of the Jews in Germany with which the German student has often been directly connected is of course reprehensible, but it is direct proof that the students do have energy which only needs the right kind of leadership to be turned into something worth while.

Political unrest in Germany has had a very bad effect on the German universities. Calm, studious scholarship is impossible under a continuous threat of political interference, but what the German student has lost in actual knowledge he has more than compensated for by increased, unashamed interest in national affairs, both political and cultural.

Mr. Baker bases his lack of optimism for the future of German youth on the fact that "the present student body is being trained in an atmosphere of revolt." The German student is just as industrious and serious in his efforts as the American student. Though the percentage of students failing to secure positions after graduation is smaller here than in Germany, the fact that practically all American students are either lacking in

or afraid to admit, any interests above the grade of the Saturday Evening Post and musical comedy shows them to be in much greater need of sympathy than the much harassed but mentally alive German. —Lehigh Brown and White.

### The Whorship Of Things.

Is America turning its back on materialism? President Roosevelt believes that this nation is again seeking spiritual values, for in his New York talk before the National Conference of Catholic Charities he said, ". . . the people of the United States still recognize and, I believe, recognize with firmer faith than ever before, that spiritual values count in the long run more than material values."

But is Roosevelt correct? A survey of our entire recovery plan from the RFC to the NRA shows that our entire effort is aimed to bring back the flesh pots of the twenties. Americans are still dreaming of the two-car garage and they are measuring happiness in dollars and cents. The president, to say the least, is a bit optimistic when he says that Americans are placing more worth on the spiritual values. Ask the man on the charity rolls whether he would rather have a clearer conception of God or a five-dollar-a-day job. Ask your fellow student if he would rather be a missionary in Tibet at \$500 a year or a second lieutenant in Wall street at \$5,000.

Maybe we misinterpret the president when he refers to things spiritual; perhaps he means only the rekindling of our pioneering spirit. If that is his measure of things spiritual he has chosen a poor ideal for his purpose, because our recovery program forces the people to forget the individual urge of the pioneer. The rallying word is co-operation and every effort is made to curb the selfish individualism of the pioneer.

Roosevelt is wrong. America puts its real faith in these material things which in the past decade have brought not happiness, but a gigantic bellyache. —Minnesota Daily.