

The Daily Nebraskan

Station A, Lincoln, Nebraska
 OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION
 UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
 Associated Collegiate Press
 1933 (National) 1934 (Local)

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
 \$1.50 a semester mailed

Under direction of the Student Publication Board.
 Editorial Office—University Hall 4
 Business Office—University Hall 4
 Telephone—Day: B-6891; Night: B-6882; B-3333 (Journal)
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As for Being Hurt.

IN Ann Bridges' recent novel, "The Pekin Picnic," is brought to light a new slant on what is commonly known as people's being "hurt." This author opens her discussion of the topic by wondering whether or not it is possible to keep people from being hurt. After considering the subject, she concludes that if it were within human power to do this, it would not be a wise thing to do.

It is so often the case that the richest and most valuable experiences are mixed up, somehow or another, with being hurt. How dreadfully it may have hurt when semester finances made it necessary to stay out of school. Then there are the disappointments concerned with grades, anticipated honors, elections and so forth which meant a great deal at

the time, but seem minor now. Everyone has at some time had a pal who besides giving him immeasurable pleasure, has also handed some pretty bad slaps in the face. And what a pang separations from family and friends cause.

From overcoming these hurts, it seems, spring so many of the qualities which are valued most in ourselves and others. So often they give one needed courage, a measure of insight and self-knowledge. With downing a difficulty comes the secret sense of strength of the indestructibility of human spirit in the face of disasters. And, after all, these would be listed among the most precious possessions of character and personality.

While Ann Bridges' book is merely a story and her opinion that of one woman only, there are some ideas presented which merit a few minutes consideration. If a person is made of the right stuff, hurts will serve to help rather than to hinder development. Here is to more and harder knocks!

A Chance To Aid.

WITH Christmas just twelve days away, the down district is fairly shouting the season's greeting. Students in organized houses are planning all sorts of social functions prior to departure for their various homes. One can very well say that "Merry Christmas" is close at hand.

The "Merry" will probably be lacking in some homes this year for there are still needy people. Realizing that many Lincoln children have not sufficient clothing for winter, The Daily Nebraskan announces in today's issue that it will co-operate with relief agencies of Lincoln to help secure old clothes for the poor. All contributions brought to this office will be delivered to welfare bureaus in the city.

It would not be unfitting for Nebraska students to pause in their pre-Christmas haste long enough to consider how fortunate they are. During this pause they might carefully look around in their closets for old shoes, coats, suits, trousers, and dresses which they can no longer use. The old, old "Drop in the Bucket" may turn out to be a big splash, if correctly used.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

An students organization of faculty groups desiring to publish notices of meetings in other information of numbers may have them printed by calling the Daily Nebraskan office.

Sophomore Commission.
 Sophomore Commission will meet Friday at 5 in Ellen Smith hall. Elizabeth Shearer will lead the discussion on Cuba.

Barb Meeting.
 The Barb meeting, under the sponsorship of Margaret Medlar, will be held Monday, Dec. 18, at Ellen Smith hall at 5 p. m.

Social Dancing.
 The second beginning dancing lesson will be held Friday evening at 7 o'clock in the Armory. Social dancing hour will begin at 7:30.

CLUB WILL MEET.
 Tankardettes will hold an open meeting Thursday evening at 8 o'clock at the swimming pool. All girls planning on entering the meet Dec. 14 can have the time in which they swim a relay taken.

Ag Fresh Council.
 Prof. T. A. Gooding will speak at the freshmen council of the Ag Y. Thursday evening at 7 o'clock in room 302 of Ag Hall. His topic will be "The Place of Church in the Life of the Student."

All men interested in working on the business staff of the Awgwan meet with the business manager at the Awgwan office in U hall Thursday, Dec. 14 at 7:30. Carlyle Sorenson, Bus. Mgr.

GERMAN CLUB.
 There will be a German club meeting Friday afternoon in Gallery B, Morrill hall, from 4 to 6 o'clock. A varied program will be offered and refreshments served.

BARB COUNCIL.
 There will be a meeting of the Barb Council Wednesday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock in room 105 of Social Sciences building.

The regular monthly meeting of Pi Lambda Theta scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 14, has been postponed until after the holidays. Helen Nesbit.

Ag College

By Carlyle Hodgkin

CONVOCATION.
 Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock comes the third of the student-faculty sponsored convocations. The place is Ag hall auditorium. Two important features are in store for the students who attend.

Dr. Bengston, chairman of the Geography department, will discuss "Life and Industry in Venezuela," and the 1934 Junior Farmers' board will be announced. Dr. Bengston's discussion, thinks Committee President Roy Blaser, will be one of the good convocation programs of the year. Dr. Bengston has studied geographical conditions in numerous countries of South America, and in Norway, Sweden, England and Denmark. He speaks from his own observations, and his lecture will be illustrated.

Venezuela, according to Blaser's report, is a country that has been "ruled efficiently without liberty." It will be interesting to hear Dr. Bengston describe such a situation. His discussion will also deal with the development of that country's industries and politics. The student-faculty committee has set up as their goal a series of

WHAT'S DOING

Wednesday.
 Faculty Women's club, meeting at Ellen Smith hall.
 Miss Irene Baker and Mrs. Carl J. Olson, 6:30 supper for Miss Ruth Holmes.
 Sigma Alpha Iota, Christmas party, 7 o'clock at the home of Miss Ruth Hill.

Thursday.
 Mrs. C. J. Rouze, party for Miss Ruth Holmes, at 8 o'clock.
 Chi Phi auxiliary, annual Christmas party, chapter house, 1:30 o'clock.
 Delta Zeta alumnae, annual Christmas party, at the home of Mrs. Lawrence Pike.
 Newman Mothers club, covered dish luncheon, club rooms at 1 o'clock.
 Zeta Tau Alpha alumnae, buffet supper at chapter house.
 Social Science graduate tea, 4:30 at Ellen Smith hall.

Friday.
 Mrs. P. L. Baldwin, party for Miss Jean Field, 8 o'clock.
 Mortar Board party, collision.
 Chi Omega formal, Cornhusker.
 Epworth League, Christmas party, 8 o'clock at St. Paul's church.
 Mortar Board dinner at the University club.

Saturday.
 Phi Alpha Delta formal, Cornhusker.

broad, cultural programs for Ag students. No convocation will be made compulsory, for they hope to make the programs valuable enough that the students will feel it worth their while to attend. Both of the first two convocations were well attended. How the record holds up will be seen Thursday. An extra spark of interest in Thursday's convocation is the announcement of the Junior Farmers' Fair Board. Three men and three women are chosen for the positions. Eligibility for Farmers' Fair Board calls first for consistent work of reasonable high quality in classes. Over and above that, it calls for a positive attitude toward activities and interests on the campus, and especially toward Farmers' Fair. (Remember this, freshmen, the one who works hard on Farmers' Fair is the one who will get the job that takes a lot of hard work. It works either way.)

Abstractly, election to Farmers' Fair Board is based entirely on ability to serve as a board member. But actually students look upon election to the position as a reward for past interest and hard work. That is why a large number of students will go to the convocation to see who get the positions.

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Interviews With Ghosts

by Maurice Johnson

JEFFERSON.
 WHEN I came upon two bearded, gentlemanly phantoms in conversation, I paused to hear them.

"I do not regret my death," said the first. "The sword's thrust may have been premature—I may have died young—but it was in defending what I thought was right."

"Ah, Alexander," said the second, "if I had died young I would never have established my university."

"Here," I thought, "is one with good material for an interview!"

And so, when the other ghost had moved away, I approached him saying:

"Thomas Jefferson, I presume?"

"I am what is left of President Jefferson," he said.

"I heard you speak of your university," I told him. "I should like to hear you talk about it."

He said: "I was the father of the University of Virginia. In it I attempted to found the ideal in education, and I practically built it myself. I was not only the architect of the University of Virginia, but I laid down its lines of organization and educational policy, and directed the assembling of the faculty. I intended that its professors should be of the first order procurable on either side of the Atlantic. For that reason, most of them were foreigners."

"All this must have taken a long time to carry out," I said.

"Six years," he told me.

"And just what was the educational policy you spoke of?" I asked.

"There were some novelties in the University of Virginia," Jefferson said. "And there were founded in the rights of man. This hobby of my old age was based on the limitless freedom of the human mind to explore and expose every subject susceptible of its contemplation."

"That's a rather grand statement, Mr. President," I observed. "Did it appeal to your students?"

"Well, I must admit," he said, "that my attempt ran afoul of so many personal views and so much ignorance, that I changed somewhat in my views."

"I nodded.

"But remember this!" Jefferson said, raising his voice a little. "I still contend that the mass of mankind was not born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few bootied and spurred. And there should be equality, democracy in a university."

Dr. J. F. Donebo, an alumnus of Washington and Jefferson has seen the last 201 football games played by teams representing his alma mater.

+ Contemporary Comment +

More About Those Grades.

In an institution of advanced education, is it desirable that students should be subjected to the measuring rod of grades? We believe not. We believe that grades do not measure inherent intelligence, but only the ability to pass quizzes. Yet quizzes do not always prove very much. Consider the instance where a student made "A" in his freshman math courses, although he admits he now remembers practically nothing of the courses. His grade was not an accurate measurement. Again, when the same course is offered by more than one professor, all of whom have varying standards, the grade the student receives from one professor may have been entirely different had he been under a different man. Grades, therefore, are inadequate as a measuring rod.

But in spite of its obvious faults, does the grade system nevertheless have an indispensable function? Are grades a necessary stimulus to make students work? Yes and no, depending, of course, upon the student. In many cases it is conceivable that the student would get more satisfaction from his work if the bogey of grades did not exist. The answer to the problem seems to lie in a modified grade system in which only three grades would be given—"Honor," "Pass," and "Fail." The first would make the recipient a candidate for Phi Beta Kappa; the second would be the average student; the third would be the student who failed.

The system here proposed would have the threefold advantage of (1) acting as a stimulus to the student, (2) rewarding the honor student, and (3) at the same time not making a fine distinction between grades as to make the grade the only aim of the student; rather, it would allow him to see deeper into the course than mere marks. Study for study's sake, not for the grade's sake!—Daily Tar Heel.

What About This Plan?

An innovation in the teaching of English, especially creative writing and criticism, is announced by New York university. From November until next April a limited group of 100 students majoring in English will have an opportunity in the classroom to meet, hear and question authors as well as read their works. Twelve speakers will discuss the technique of the writing craft. They will include poets, dramatists, novelists, essayists, magazine writers, biographers, and publishers. After each speaker has talked informally on the technique of his craft the students may ask questions and participate

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in the discussion. The idea is not wholly new. Robert Frost has served as "resident poet" in more than one institution, and many colleges have invited to their platforms significant living writers of prose and verse. The novelty of the idea as planned by the English department of New York university lies in the variety and informality of contacts, and providing for such contacts in a regular course.

The question arises: Will authors shrink or grow in student estimation as a result of close contact? Even so genial a philosopher and writer as David Grayson in his "Friendly Road" warned against such familiarity thus:

The poet sings his song and goes his way. If we sought him out how horribly disappointed we might be. We might find him shaving or eating sausage. We might find him shaggy and unkempt where we imagined him beautiful, weak where we thought him strong, dull where we thought him brilliant. Take then the vintage of his heart and let him go.

But the roster of authors chosen to give the course makes it unlikely that the students will see any of them shaggy or unkempt or eating sausage. They include Lawrence Langner, Gilbert Seldes, James Stephens, Horace Gregory, Katherine Fullerton Gerould, Eda Lou Walton, Hal White, John Varney, Kenneth Burke, Elmer Adler, Frederick L. Allen and John Farrar.

White it is true that the most vital part of a writer's contribution is usually found in his or her writings, most college courses in English composition provide at best only laboratory drill in writing, and courses in English literature can do little more than direct the students' reading. Therefore Dr. Homer A. Watt, of the N. Y. U. English department, holds that the teacher should act as a mediator between student and literary artist. He believes the student needs to hear the creative artist who speaks not merely as a scribe but as one having authority. He hopes that from free and easy contact with writers, students will obtain a more vivid understanding of the literary art than in the formal atmosphere of classroom lectures by teachers who, while versed in their subject, are not usually creative artists.

The experiment is worth following. It may be that students, after a peep back stage, will turn to their instructors with appetites whetted and mentalities more understanding and alert.—The Christian Monitor.

WEDNESDAY LUNCH MENU

- Chicken Noodle Soup 10c
- Pan Fried Steak 30c
- Fried Calves' Liver and Bacon 30c
- Mock Sweet Breads with Cream 25c
- Home Baked Beans 25c
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- Dessert

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