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The Politicians Petition.

THE so-called campus politicians are at it again. This time they seek reform in the student government and the management of student activities.

Just how they intend doing it is the substance of two petitions which were circulated among the student body for the past few days. Specifically the two measures proposed first, that "the personnel of the junior senior prom committee should be changed from six men and six women in the junior class to three men and three women from each of the junior and senior classes." The second petition, which would amend the constitution of the student council, states that "a standing committee will be appointed from among the faculty to supervise the balloting and counting of the votes in each and every campus election, whatever the office or honorary position being voted upon."

Neither proposal will perform completely the miracles which its authors declare it will toward cleaning up campus political corruption. This is unfortunate, however, for something is needed to throttle the office grabbing activity men at whom the petitions are purposely directed.

A look at the facts reveals rather plainly that the junior senior prom committee has been mainly a political football. It has been a stepping stone for embryo activity men and women to reach an obvious goal—membership in Mortar Board or Innocents society. Students selected to the committee, as a rule, were recognized for "pull" or political affiliation and not actual merit. As such, the committee serves only one purpose: It labels its members with the pedigree of senior honoraries.

As such, the first proposal appeared to be nothing short of a political maneuver. Coming as it did on the eve of student council election the petitions smacked—even reeked—of the thing that it pretends to eliminate.

The sudden altruism of university seniors was little short of startling. But here altruism deserves serious consideration for one reason: It eliminates the number of pedigrees that will be handed out to junior men and women. Equal representation of juniors and seniors should be adopted if the affair is to be known technically as the junior senior prom. The prolific discussions waged over this issue were little short of monumental stupidity. The prom committee has never had, and probably never will have a function worthy of the name.

THE second proposal merits more than a passing glance. Faculty supervision of elections indicates rather obviously that there is sufficient evidence to support the charge of "dirty work at the polls." Such an accusation, however, is not startling.

Elections on the university campus obviously are far from spotless. No one will deny that ballot boxes have been stuffed. No one will deny that tabulations have been distorted. Those in the seats of power have consistently declared that such is not the case. They have, however, failed to produce evidence to support their statements.

For many years Nebraska students have charged campus elections with being "corrupt." For many years nothing has been done about it. Thus, we consider the second proposal.

We question whether a faculty committee would clean up the election. The university pedagogues with few exceptions, display little interest in student enterprise. Even if the council should be so fortunate as to find interested faculty members there is no evidence to bolster the claim that they would "clean up" elections.

There is one thing certain, however, which was brought to light in this proposal. The student governing body has failed rather pathetically to stand on its own feet and represent the best interests of the institution. Rather has it been a body composed for the most part of politicians and hopefuls, hopelessly entangled with vested interests and political affiliations. Most needed, then, is reorganization of the council, such a reform based primarily upon removal of that body from political machinations. As such, the faculty supervision of student enterprise finds little sympathy.

Neither provision can be adopted immediately, parliamentary procedure preventing such action. Council members might well see in these proposals, however, advance warnings that bode ill for their own well-being.

One thing is clear: Students of the university will no longer tolerate the obnoxious display of clumsy politics as has characterized, for the most part, student activities on the Nebraska campus.

The Greeks Set a Price.

NO amount of ballyhoo and propaganda by the Interfraternity council concerning the forthcoming ball can alter the thinking student's notion of what a fair price of admission should be.

The \$1.50 which the Greeks named as the admission price, can in no conceivable manner be justified. It is too high.

Always an affair greatly anticipated by the prom trotters of the university, the Interfraternity ball ranks well up among the bigger affairs on the campus social calendar. As we understand it, the ball is supposed to be an all-university event, open to all students of the campus who choose to attend. In addition, it represents one of the two co-operative enterprises carried on by Nebraska fraternities. The other is the interfraternity banquet held each spring.

As the system has actually worked out the Interfraternity ball caters only to the upper crust, the socially minded students of the university—most of whom are Greeks. This discrimination has been effected simply enough, by the prohibitive price

charged the student body. Even in the rah rah days the Greeks kept the price ridiculously high.

Evidently they intend doing the same thing this year.

It goes without saying that the brothers of the jeweled pin overlooked two important items before setting a price. First, there is a depression among university students much the same as there has been among the men on the street. Students do not, as a rule, have sufficient money to spend promiscuously on social affairs.

In addition, many university students refuse to be swabbed into attending these affairs purely on the strength of orchestra ballyhoo. We question seriously whether the band playing for this event, or any others, merits the propaganda that is flaunted before the student population.

As such, fraternity men on the Nebraska campus would be much the wiser if they reduced their price within the means of the average student's pocketbook. The profit-making motive has no place in this enterprise. If the Greek would live up to the democratic principles which this university was founded upon—which their own organizations were founded upon—the Interfraternity ball would be more of an all university party, and not an affair for the prom trotters alone.

Misdirected Patriotism.

UNIVERSITY students had their fling at what is known as pure garden variety American patriotism Tuesday night when many of them attended the president's ball at the Coliseum. For many students, and many others, attendance at this affair meant loyalty to the nation's liberal minded chief, and duty to their "God and country."

The party held on this campus, similar to those held throughout the nation, had a dual function to perform: First, to celebrate the president's birthday, and second, to raise funds for the Warm Springs, Ga., infantile paralysis foundation.

There will be no question but what popular sentiment justified a birthday party in honor of the president. The foundation fund, for which 2 million dollars was netted, was presumably a success. Unfortunately, however, a very small percent of this fund will ever be realized by the inmates of this institution.

Such a monumental piece of hypocrisy as were the 6,000 balls held throughout the land deserves little praise. The thousands of people, large and small, who participated in this debacle were evidently guided by a perverted notion of what is better known to politicians and statesmen as "patriotism."

Our government would be more of the democracy that it is purported to be, if these same people would spend as much time, money, and effort in the interest of better government as they do in the success of "birthday parties."

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 accepted do not necessarily indicate the editorial policy of this paper.

A Student Speaks His Mind.

TO THE EDITOR:
The University of Nebraska is supposed to be an institution of higher learning. Its curriculum contains courses pertaining to everything from art to engineering and from medicine to business administration. In the midst of such an enlightened institution, does it not seem queer that student organizations will permit external commercial interests to repeatedly take advantage of them?

Does it not seem strange that whenever a presumably big orchestra is imported for a university function, the university is expected to pay an enormous fee for its services and a few evenings later it will play at a local or Omaha dance hall for a fraction of the cost? A pitiful state of affairs is evident when the students must pay twice as much to dance to an orchestra at a university function as they would have to pay elsewhere. Are the students so childish simple that they will permit such a condition to go unchallenged?

It is indeed a reflection upon the university if its leaders can not operate more efficiently than to be repeatedly "sucked in" on as obvious an injustice. Perhaps it is too much to ask of as irresponsible groups as the university organizations but most certainly if these groups wish to attract crowds to their functions, they should strike better bargains in the future. J. T. P.

We Agree With You.

TO THE EDITOR:
After reading the editorial, "A Convocation or an Absurdity?" which appeared in Wednesday's issue of the Daily Nebraskan, I wish to voice my whole-hearted approval of the article. It seems to me that the university authorities believe that the students are interested in the type of convocations which have been held recently, even in face of the fact that only about four-tenths of 1 percent of the students attend them.

If the interest in convocations is accurately shown by the number of students who attend them, then they are a waste of time for both the students and speakers. Why not abolish them altogether if we cannot have speakers who will interest a large number of the students? Is it because the university is putting up a front to deceive the rest of the world? Maybe we have convocations so that we can tell all of our friends who are not in the university, "Of course we have convocation very often."

Other than that we should have convocations to appear well in the eyes of the world, there is no reason for staging "farce" convocations. Couldn't the money used on the convocations be spent to a better advantage? The university might buy some radios so that the students could listen to some good speakers once in a while at least.

Last semester some one suggested in this column, that some local talent might be used in convocations instead of the usual "unknowns" which might be of interest to the students and then have a well known speaker at a convocation once or twice a year. Why can't we have some action in that direction? Even if the university could not afford to present a well known speaker more than twice a year, the students would get something from it. They also would get a chance to hear some of their own talent, and that wouldn't hurt anyone. In fact, it probably would create much interest. On the other hand, with the present system of presenting convocations, the students are getting nothing from them.

This mess of convocations with mediocre talent is beginning to bore the students. If something isn't done soon, the interest of the students in them will be lost altogether. I would like to see some action concerning the convocation situation. F. U. M.

Husker Swimmers Splash to Victory Tuesday



Starting their 1934 season with a narrow 43 to 41 win over Gustavus Adolphus college of St. Peterburg, Minn., Tuesday afternoon, the Nebraska mermen pictured above now face a four meet schedule topped off with the Big Six competition March 10. Last year the team tied with Iowa State 44 to 44 in the Big Six meet, and this season looks for some more stiff competition from the Cyclone splashers.

Especially outstanding in the meet with the northerners was the work of Harry Kuklin, who won in the fancy diving event from Hergiv, nationally famed Gustavus Adolphus diver. Kuklin won by the narrow margin of 103 1/2 to 108. This is Coach Sutherland's first year in the role of mentor of the swimming team, Rudy Vogeler having tutored the mermen last season, when they tied for the conference title.

CONTEMPORARY COMMENT

Samuel Johnson: A Remembrance.

Beginning with the time he came to London with a letter of recommendation and a three act tragedy under his arm, Samuel Johnson, famed lexicographer and literary lion whose 224th birth anniversary was observed this week, lived a life that fulfilled the popular conception of the eccentric man of letters. His life was a series of strange paradoxes; he was a friend of the poor and he rebuked the patronage of Lord Chesterfield; his dress was usually slovenly, his speech and behavior was blunt and queer, and yet his social and affectionate nature and keen wit gave him entrance to the best society of his period.

Robert Lynd, in his book, "Dr. Johnson and Company," describes him thus: "Poor, repulsively ugly, uncouth, with disgusting table manners, surly, irascible, a bully, intolerant, dirty, slovenly and ridiculous in dress, eccentric, unhealthy, morbid and gloomy, haunted by a bad conscience, tormented by the fear of insanity and death—one would say it was the portrait of a sour misanthrope, doomed to avoid and be avoided by his fellow-man."

What a mountain of defects for a man to conquer! And yet Johnson's virtues counterbalanced his faults, for he became the center of a group of the most brilliant men in the England of his time, and his personality had such a deep effect on the period's literature that his name has been accepted as a convenient guide mark to the literary output of the eighteenth century.

Boswell, the famed chronicler of Johnson, often used to arouse the Sage's ire by his repeated desire to know the why and how around everything that went on around about him. Once he exploded, "I will not be baited with the what and why: What is this? What is that? Why is a cow's tail long? Why is a fox's tail bushy?" Another time he said, "Sir, you have but two topics, yourself and me. I am sick of both."

There was about Johnson a childish spirit that remained with him until his death. If, while he was walking through a park with some friends, someone in his party should happen to point out a tree that he climbed as a boy, Johnson would immediately cry, "Why, I can swim it now," and would start off to prove his boast. He would often startle his admirers by climbing gates and going other agile feats, even when he was quite advanced in years. Once, upon finding a rail which he used to vault over as a youth, Johnson peeled off his coat and wig and jumped over the fence twice, although he was seventy years old at the time.

It is hard to reconcile the moments of deep depression which Johnson suffered with the moments at which his volatile spirits soared to their highest. Miss Reynolds describes a foot race he once ran against a young lady who had boasted that she could run better than anybody. The two set off, and Miss Reynolds, in relating the contest, says, "The lady had the advantage at first, but Dr. Johnson, happening to have slippers on such too small for his feet, kicked them up into the air, and ran a great length without them, leaving the lady far behind him, and having won the victory, he returned, leading her by the hands with looks of high exaltation and delight." Another time, not having had, as he described it, a "roll" for a long time, he emptied his pockets of the trinkets they contained and turned somersaults down the entire length of a hill upon which he happened to be standing when struck by his whimsy.

It was this very flair for the unexpected that made Johnson one of the greatest comic figures of literature. Dr. Johnson is now so well recognized as a wit that his slightest remark is a cause for laughter. One writer sums up the great lexicographer thus: "He is almost unique as a comic character: no other comic character is at once so loved for his good heart and so admired for his good sense. Other comic characters are most amusing in their misadventures; Johnson is amusing in his triumphs."

—Daily Trojan.

Ag College

By CARLYLE HODGKIN

ONE SIDE ONLY
Not half a dozen times in all the

Undergraduate Ends Old Water Problem; Returns to College

AMES, Iowa, Jan. 30.—A widely awake application of a partially completed college engineering course provided Rollin Bohning of Clear Lake a job last spring and summer and solved a drinking water problem for the city of Clear Lake.

Bohning, now a senior in chemical engineering at Iowa State college, majoring in water purification, recently revealed how his efforts during a year's vacation from college had eliminated the "fishy" taste from the Clear Lake water supply. He knew from laboratory experiments performed here what activated carbons can do in ridding water of disagreeable tastes and odors that are especially noticeable in the summer. So he asked the city council for permission to work on the problem that had been puzzling them for some time.

After Bohning had finished tinkering in a homemade laboratory the city added activated carbon to its water according to his directions. The objectionable odors and tastes disappeared. The treatment was pronounced effective last summer and fall and will be resumed again this spring.

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Corn Cobs.

Corn Cobs will meet at 7:30 Thursday evening in the Temple building. Spring party plans will be discussed. All members must be present. Corn Cobs wishing emblems may purchase them at Lawlor's sporting goods store for \$1.40.

Dramatic Club.

Dramatic Club meets this evening at 7:15, room 302 Temple. All members must be present. Continued absence will constitute drop of members from the roll.

FRED NICKLAS, President.

Barb A. W. S. League.

A mass meeting of the Barb A. W. S. League will be held Thursday at 5 p. m. at Ellen Smith hall. All unaffiliated girls are urged to attend.

Lutheran Club.

The Lutheran Student club will hold its monthly meeting Friday, Feb. 2, at 8:15 in the Temple building, room 203.

Social Dancing.

The Social Dancing class will meet in Grant Memorial hall at 7:30 Friday evening. Instruction will be given from 7 to 7:30 preceding the regular dancing period.

TASSELS MAY PLACE ORDERS FOR EMBLEM

Girl Pepsters Plan Skit to Be Presented at Game Saturday Night.

Anne Bunting, president of Tassels, girls pep club announced Wednesday that a picture of the new Phi Sigma Chi pins has been received, and that orders for the emblems may be submitted at any time by Tassels members. Phi Sigma Chi is the name of the national women's pep organization of which Tassels is a chapter.

The motto for the Kansas Aggie basketball game, which will be played in the coliseum this week end, is "Kover Kaggies," and has been printed on the cards which will be distributed soon.

At the Kansas State game this Saturday night, the Tassels will present a skit. A practice is set for Saturday afternoon in the coliseum. Miss Bunting also announced that the pep group members are expected to usher at the Glee club concert which will be given Feb. 18th.

"The Tassels are behind the team 100 percent," stated the club president, "and we want the students to show much better spirit from now on than they have so far this season."

FIFTH VARSITY PARTY WILL BE FEBRUARY 17

Two Others Will Complete
Series of Events on
March 10, 31.

The fifth All-University party of the school year will be held on Feb. 17 at the Coliseum. The four previous parties were held on September 16 and 30, October 25, and December 8.

There will be two more parties following the one to be held Feb. 17, one on March 10, and the final one on March 31. These will be

A most unusual story told in a new and most unusual fashion. Different from anything you have ever seen.



Nebraska Typewriter Co.
130 No. 12 St. B2157

held in the Activities Building on the Ag campus.

The selection of the orchestra will be announced soon. The committee in charge of these parties is the Barb Council, members of which are Burton Marvin, chairman; Wilbur Erickson, orchestra chairman; Margaret Medlar, chaperon; and Vernon Filley, in charge of decorations.

ANNUAL EDITOR CLOSES JUNIOR CLASS SECTION

Magee Announces to Be No
More Photographs in
That Division.

SENIORS GET MORE TIME

Fraternities and Sororities
Must Finish Panels by
February 10.

As a definite step towards the completion of the 1934 edition of the Cornhusker, editor Woodrow Magee, yesterday declared the junior class section closed. All junior students who failed to have their pictures taken before yesterday will not be included in the class panels.

"The co-operation of the junior class, whose section we have just closed, has been very good this year," Magee stated, "and we are well satisfied with the final result." The junior section in the new edition will be 35 percent larger than the group of last year.

Senior Section Open.
The senior section however, is not as complete as the junior division and it will remain open for a short time, all seniors who have not had their pictures taken are urged to do so as soon as possible. The date for the closing of this section will be announced later.

The deadline for fraternity and sorority sections has been set for Saturday, Feb. 10, and all pictures must be in by that time. While this section is practically complete, there are a few organizations that are poorly represented. "It is a decided benefit to an organization to have a complete section," Magee said, "and they should strive to complete their group if they have not already done so."

Better Representation.

At present, with the exception of the junior class which is much larger, the number of pictures is approximately the same as in the yearbook of last year. Within this remaining time the number is expected to surpass last year's considerably. With this in view the new edition of the Cornhusker will approach a 100 percent representation of the student body more closely than any of the editions in recent years.

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