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Examining Council Reorganization.

THE actual outcome of the student council reorganization movement was expressed Wednesday when it was announced that a slight revision would be made in the present system of student representation.

In reality the revision consists in changing the number of holdover junior members from four to eight. Under the present constitution the following membership is provided for: 10 junior men and 10 junior women elected from the various colleges on the campus; four seniors, two men and two women, elected from the student body at large; one graduate; four seniors, two men and two women, elected from the junior members of that body to serve the following year. Under the new proposal membership will consist of one graduate, 12 seniors, and 20 juniors.

Obviously the change is designed to give the senior class more representation in the council. In reality this move was probably the result of a suggestion made during reorganization sessions held earlier this year. It was pointed out then, that the few senior members in the council actually accomplished the work completed by the council during the year.

Junior members, it was pointed out, fall rather completely in recognizing the responsibility they incur when elected to council membership. As a matter of record this indictment seems to be true.

Viewed in this light the proposed change should accomplish some good. Indeed it should place in the student governing body individuals recognizing the great possibilities of a functioning council. While the proposal will obviously increase the council's size to thirty-three members, The Nebraskan feels that the probability of increased activity far outweighs the problem of the council becoming too unwieldy.

The additional proposal to add four seniors-at-large had some merit. It must be noted that additional members will increase council membership to thirty-seven. The Nebraskan feels that an equalization in representation of the two classes is desirable, but not at the expense of much needed efficiency.

The council's proposal passed for the first time Wednesday night should merit the favor of student voters this spring. The proposal should be adopted if for no other reason than to increase senior representation and subsequently increase its activity.

DURING the entire course of the council reorganization movement much criticism has been directed at the council mainly on the score that it does not represent campus extra-curricular life. The Nebraskan has pointed out that councilmen represent colleges and as such do not effectively represent the best interests of the student body. For it must be remembered that essentially the student council's duties are centered about regulation of student activities. As such, the Nebraskan maintains that the council should represent activities and not colleges. Under this plan councilmen would represent an active constituency. At present many members of the council do not realize what interests they represent, and have no incentive to actively participate in council functions.

Members of the council have admitted the existence of this glaring deficiency in student representation. It was apparently their opinion that this was the basic evil. But according to them the biggest obstacle in the path of council reorganization is the faculty senate committee. It is the Nebraskan's understanding that this group has been largely instrumental in blocking any scheme which would eliminate college representation.

As yet, however, we have failed to find any justification for this stand. As a possible solution of this campus bugaboo, a proposal was brought forward during reorganization sessions that provides for the creation of committees in the various colleges. These committees would represent the functioning activity groups and vested interests of each college. Representatives to the student council would be elected by this committee.

Under this set up council representatives would obviously represent the best interests of the college. At the same time councilmen would be responsible to a definite active constituency. In addition it would foster the remote possibility of making the council representative of an all-student vote, thus taking elections out of the hands of petty factions. As a valuable by-product it would probably stimulate interest in student activities of the individual colleges.

The refusal of the faculty senate to consider revision in the system of student representation has all but stopped efforts to reorganize. The Nebraskan, however, feels that this enterprise should not be relegated to the well known ash heap. Indeed it would be well worth the time and effort of the new council to build up a case against the present system of college representation.

cept the revision proposed by the council Wednesday. The probable increase in council activity, as a valuable by-product of the change is too promising to escape the attention of thinking students.

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.

Jonah Asks A Question.

TO THE EDITOR:

Underneath the surface of this campus underground political maneuverings will soon be taking place, with the politicians arranging for placements on the Student council, which has been given so much publicity and incentive in the columns of the Nebraskan this semester. The elections of the new members of the council, activity men and women with ambitions to scale the heights, will be held on April 3.

Those elected will hope that there is no work connected with the office, and will later see to it that labor is kept down to the minimum, as student council activities, or lack of such, constantly show. The winning party will crow, and the losing one will immediately start on a campaign of reform, their attitude being wholly altruistic in every way.

Year after year there is a campaign for reform of politics on the campus, and year after year nothing is done. But this winter and so far this spring there have been signs of more activity in the direction of bringing about alterations in the activities pattern. There have been many words produced, and I hope not wasted. Mass meetings, organization heads' gatherings, and secret political sessions behind closed doors have added to the confusion.

But can't something be done to make some change effective? So far only words have been offered. Is the student council actually considering reorganization? What about this constitution business carried on by the student council? Does it really mean anything or is the council merely attempting to establish the semblance of doing something?

It would be great to see something actually explode for a change instead of merely threaten to. —JONAH.

Contemporary Comment

Following Roosevelt Leadership.

"None goes so far as he who knows not whither he is going," Oliver Cromwell. During the past week America has cast a few reflective glances back over the events which have occurred since March 4, 1933. Perhaps the most critical peace-time year in the existence of the ment which on the surface seems a convenient assumed historic stature.

To the man who would write, or even attempt to understand, history in the making, these have been difficult, though fascinating days. Out of the confusion of possible interpretations of the new deal, emerges with great certainty one time-tried axiom of universal history.

History teaches us that the man, issue, or movement which on the surface seems to convenient black or white, is much more likely to turn out to be a dirty, intermediate gray.

If we are pleased with the economic liberalism of the Roosevelt regime, we must also admit our disappointment at its unenlightened foreign policy. With the elimination of child labor, the reduction of working hours, and the acknowledgement of the general principle of industrial democracy, we must pair off America's sabotage of the London economic conference, our entrance into dangerous naval armament race, and our cowardly denial of the doctrine that world leadership in peace and disarmament and peace belongs to the United States.

If we glow with satisfaction at the recognition of Russia, we must also confess our disgust with the administration's dollar diplomacy in Cuba. We may praise the elimination and celebrate the repeal of the 18th amendment, but we must also deplore the utter inadequacy and frequent stupidity of the liquor legislation which has followed prohibition.

On one account, however, we can escape this endless balancing of good and bad. In the temperament of the President himself we find the most encouraging aspect of the present situation. Mr. Roosevelt has repeatedly shown himself favorable to experiment. On frequent occasions, he has acted with rare courage and disregard for precedent. He has made undeniable mistakes, but his very willingness to risk an error seems to promise well. He may be feeling his way. He may lead America farther and farther from past traditions in his tireless search for recovery. But the country, responding to the thrill of vital and colorful leadership, seems happy to follow and eager to take a chance.

Minnesota Daily.

Ag College

By Carlyle Hodgkin

INSIDE THE CORNERSTONE.

The southwest cornerstone of the animal pathology building is hollow. The workmen, back in 1919 when the building was constructed, purposefully made it hollow, for Dr. Van Es had so instructed them.

Inside that hollow cornerstone is a steel box, and inside that box are newspapers of that day, pictures of the animal pathology department, records, test tubes, and other articles which, two or three hundred years from now when that building is torn down, will be extremely interesting.

Most interesting, perhaps, of all the articles residing there in that hollow cornerstone will be two test tubes, one inside the other. For inside one of them are spores of the livestock disease known as anthrax, spores which Dr. Van Es says "will live forever." If they won't live forever, Dr. Van Es thinks it would be at least be interesting to discover how long they will live.

The spores were put in one test tube and the other tube slipped over it and sealed by means of a flame. Between the two tubes is a slip of paper on which Dr. Van Es has written something to this general effect: When this box is opened, will the spores give this tube to a bacteriologist. And will the bacteriologist please make a culture of the

contents of the tube and inject guinea pigs with the culture to determine the status of the anthrax spores.

Are living spores likely to live sealed in a test tube sealed in a stone wall for two or three hundred years? Well, no one knows. But these two instances of how long spores have lived Dr. Van Es does know. Once in England following an acute outbreak of anthrax a number of cattle that had died of the disease were buried together. For twenty-five to fifty years there was no more anthrax in that locality. Then some workmen laying a sewer pipe dug up the bones of those cattle, left them lay scattered around in the pasture. And shortly after that came another outbreak of anthrax.

The other instance was of a bacteriologist who dipped a silk thread in the blood of an animal that had died from anthrax. For twenty-five years or more he kept that thread. He sent a small piece of the thread one time of Dr. Van Es, who promptly soaked it in a solution, prepared a culture, and injected some guinea pigs. They died within twenty-four hours.

Whether the spores sealed in the cornerstone will ever kill guinea pigs will be left to the great, great grandson of some Ag student who goes to college and becomes head of the animal pathology department.

BOW TIES AND EAR RINGS.

Here and there on Ag campus Thursday one would spot a big husky Farm House boy wearing a flowery bow tie and a pair of long, dangly ear rings. They were wearing them, so the story goes,

as a part of the necessary sacrifice involved in being transformed from a pledge to an active.

The first thought one has at sight of a student wearing a pink or baby blue bow tie and flashy ear rings while he is overhauling tractors, grading hay, planting a student garden, studying farm accounts, or judging hogs is that it is silly business. And then after a moment's reflection, one says, "What if it is silly?"

Perhaps we take too many things too seriously and it would be better if there were more silly things, more things that were just for fun. Or again, perhaps after all everything is silly, and one thing happens to be just enough sillier than all the others that it comes to our attention.

Then the thought will probably come along that such business is too silly for college men to be wasting their time and energy with, and that it looks like they would start to grow up and realize that this world is no garden of roses where big men have time to fool around with pink bow ties and green ear rings. Then to answer that promptly comes the thought that they will finish college and be put out in the big, cold, hard, cruel world soon enough, and that the proper thing for them to do is have their fun while they can.

And then one decides that all these are only transient thoughts that float through peoples' heads for want of something better, that at best the amount of truth in any of them is small, that nothing about any of them is certain.

But one thing about ear rings and pink ties does seem certain: their actual function is to make women more attractive. In that they are successful. But when they are hung on a big, corn-fed farm boy, their effect is decidedly the opposite.

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