## Daily Nebraskan

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## Faculty-Student Relations.

ALWAYS present and at times quite troublesome is the many-sided problem of faculty-student relations on the campus.

As a matter of custom at this university most faculty members take little interest in student affairs and activities except in cases where they are obliged to. Students also, to a great degree, are uninterested in faculty members and their work, and because of that attitude shun opportunities such as they never again will meet.

It is a fact that numerous faculty members have asked recently what they can do to become better acquainted with university students. They recognize that friendlier connections with students would be far better than the present aloofness. Many of these inquirers are inclined to look down on student activities as trivialities and general wasters of time. But it is a fact, nevertheless, that students will take part in activities no matter what their older contemporaries on the campus say. So it would seem logical for these faculty members, whether or not they want to do so, to take more interest in student activities. In that way they could get in closer bond with their pupils.

If student activities are actually over-emphasized at the expense of curricular work professors and instructors, by taking more personal interest in students and individuals, might be able to correct the situation thru personal influence. They could bring about a change by pointing out the value of studying and book-learning as compared with the worth of extra-curricular activities, in that way creating a better balance than now exists.

Another angle from which one can approach the problem of which far too few are aware is that concerning faculty supervision of student activities. Many of both groups on the campus are advocates of close supervision, and others are proponents of the hands-off theory.

There are those who contend that participation in student activities trains one to cooperate in civic life after he graduates. If that is the case it seems that students should be given virtual free rein in running their own elections of student councils and superfluous and queenly royalty. After one graduates he finds no Gods to substitute for faculty and administrative members in his work with other peo-

But a hands-off policy would hardly be approprists in the university. Officials of a school can't allow a student body, which is temporary, to bring about undesirable permanent situations in the extra-curricular field. Overdone student unrest, controversy, and animosity isn't good for any school.

Because it seems to be for the best interests of the university, faculty advisors should be quite active and use foresight in advising in regard to student functions.

There is one practice prevalent in class-rooms that many educators consider very undesirable. That is what we shall term the Parrot System.

The Parret System works in this way. Freshmen come to the university presumably ready and sager to learn. They go to class, listen to a professor lecture for an hour, come the next day and repeat what he said, thus testing their memories, and whetting their curiosities not at all. If curiosities

BOARD MEMBER

are whetted they some day become intellectual curiosities

Everything in a student's course is related to that glorious degree, the key to success. Courses are now so much hay to be consumed before one is eligible to receive a diploma. Each one is forgotten, as the Carnegie report indicates, as soon as the student finishes the semester's parroting.

Because of this existing set of conditions there is great conflict that can be summed up as-intellectual curiosity vs. sole desire to pass, with the latter on the winning side. Lying latent in most minds is the desire to reach out for the cultural influence and cultural subjects that are in the environment waiting to be acquired.

Professors and instructors are capable of doing much more for students than they now do. A few, but far too few, of them, strive to relate their subjects to the many others included on the university

It would be a bit hard on most of us students, but it probably would be best, if professors would make their knowledge a little harder to obtain, in that way forcing students to ask the questions. They are the logical ones to perform the duty, since they either want to find facts or are not students.

In summary, it seems that faculty members should take more interest in student activities, in that way becoming acquainted with their pupils, and placing themselves in a much better position to influence students along curricular lines.

It is best that faculty members retain supervisory powers over student activities as advisors. As shown above such advisory control is for the best of the university.

If possible professors and instructors should try to point in a stronger way than before the relation of knowledge to life, even to student life, and as for questions, students should ask more of them than they do now. It is up to faculty members to force them to.

## Helping

Strangers.

Freshmen women at the university, during the first few days of their attendance here, are given a splendid opportunity to become acquainted with women's extracurricular activities and to make contacts which will be of great value to them thruout their college careers. Nebraska's Big Sister board, A. W. S. board, W. A. A., Y. W. C. A., and A. W. S. league are among the women's organizations performing a great service for freshmen women every fall.

Many students starting in school this fall came on the campus unacquainted, unbefriended, and timid. Upperclass-women immediately took new women in hand, introduced them to campus leaders, faculty members, and made them thoroughly acquainted with the university. Responsible for this was the Big Sister board. An organization with such a function certainly proves itself worth-while both to the school and new students.

In the campus Y. W. C. A. organization are freshmen commission groups, meeting at various times during the week under the supervision of junior and senior leaders of the association. These groups discuss problems of college women, and serve as a medium thru which new students can strike up acquaintances with older students.

No system such as that discussed and commended above has been instituted by the male population of the school. Boys who are newcomers to the campus have to use their own initiative in many cases, and it is hard to use ones own initiative when one isn't acquainted with his environment.

#### CONTEMPORARY COMMENT

The Eagle Plucked.

It was some fourteen months ago that General Hugh Johnson made a dramatic entrance into the Washington merry-go-round. Now after repeated whisperings that he was to be consigned to the limbo of the "forgotten men," his exit takes place. accompanied by no outstanding theatrics but by what appears on the surface to be a general feeling of goodwill.

The picturesque general has had many critics and enemies during his stormy tenure of office, and not without reason, for strong language and oratorical splender to the contrary, he vacillated on almost every issue that came under his province. He was for "selfgovernment in industry" but constantly lambasted it for failure to cooperate in his program. His indelicately worded tirades against labor made the workers his most bitter enemies, yet he incessantly urged business men to deal with and recognize the unions. He was going to protect the consumer and have price-fixing at the same time, but the trouble lay in the fact that the protection was verbal, and the price-fixing actual. Industry soon saw that the claws of the eagle had been filed by its keeper, and that its barking watch-dog had

shouted out his store-teeth. Whatever were his faults as an administrator and a judge of men, one must give ample praise to his unwavering devotion to the cause as he conceived it, and to his absolute willingness to accept

as his own doing all the faults of NRA. That does not alter the fact, however, that men of different temperament and sounder economic and social theory are needed if anything of permanent value is to be salvaged from the present confusion into which the NRA seems to have plunged .- Daily Prince-

Grading System Deemed Obsolete.

Last week we took up the cudgels against the reward system in education and the evils which it has fostered, without prescribing any remedy. To fill that void, we present a proposal conceived by Prof. A. N. Topping, a member of the University electrical engineering faculty, which appeared in the April issue of the Journal of Engineering Education.

His proposal is to adolish the H. A. B. P. C. D classification of scholastic excellence and to do away with pigeonholing such and such a subject in a specified semester. We quote, "Instead, let us fix no quitting point, i. e., graduation point for any student, but let him continue to study so long as it appears to him and the University profitable and desirable to do so, and let him cease his university effort as soon as it appears that it is no longer possible or profitable for him to continue. . . . It seems that the present system of artificial and traditional time limits exerts a deadening influence, and makes of the student's effort, scholarship, and attainment a more or less perfunctory thing the educational process should be."

The misconcepts entertained under the present system of grading are only too evident. A grade is a symbol, and in itself is not harmful, but when the student moulds his education about a symbol, forgetting entirely the structure behind the token, the result is tragic. We would be willing to wager that each senior enrolled in the university has, at some time during the past two weeks, totalled up his or her hours of B and P, and at the same gloating or mourning, as the case may be, over the abundance or lack of B's, without once contemplating just how much intellectual advancement he or she had realized in three years of university training.

"The glare of the grade, the brilliance of distinction, and the degree blind him to the real purpose for which he is spending the good years of his life. And so he is content with the instructor's and the university's superficial measure of him as a substitute for real achievement. . . He acquires the habit of valuing himself and his achievements through the eyes of others instead of as he truly is."

Factors contributing to the idealization of the B are too strong to allow even the student who realizes the puffed-up value of grades to pursue the educational will-'o-the-wisp in a sanely intellectual manner. The university, perhaps unconsciously, aids and abets in the attempt to cut a whetstone with a razor by encouraging the public recognition of scholastic honors, lists of distinguished students, and scholarships. Were these devices discarded, the idea that graduation assures a happy and successful life afterwards would not be so prevalent.

To expound further on the proposal itself. If tomorrow, no grades were forthcoming, the uproar would be immense. Students have become accustomed to keeping a detailed account of every grade in order to have a clear picture of just what grade test number seven requires for a B in a course. If, tration, heads the university sechowever, the proposed system were to be put into effect gradually over a period of years, we venture that a diploma would be a record of intellectual training and accomplishment, not a symbol.

The complaint has been raised by employers that college graduates have been taught an accumulation of facts, not the thinking processes by which those facts are deduced. Under a non-artificial system, a college would be a poor institutition indeed to give a student a diploma unless it was satisfied that the candidate was fully acquainted with the pudding and not just the proof.

Today, the university is practically forced to give a candidate his diploma if he has his required quota of B hours, even though it may realize that his eye is more powerful than his intellect.

A symbol is usually considered stuff that dreams are made of, but the hard, crystallized symbol that is the grading system of today is out of place in education.-Purdue Exponent.

CAMPUS CHEST DRIVE TOTALS SHOW BIG GAIN

Dean LeRossignol Predicts Increased Faculty Donations.

Contributions of \$2,568 in the university division of the annual Community Chest drive are somewhat higher than at the mid-way point in last year's campaign and point toward an increased faculty donations this year, Dean J. E. Le-Rossignol announced Wednesday,

Members of the university faculty are giving their assistance to the city of Lincoln in its yearly campaign to raise subscriptions for charity and welfare associa-tions, Prof. J. E. LeRossignol, dean of the college of business administion of the campaign with captains in each building on the campus. M. J. Blish, professor of agri-cultural chemistry and chemist of the experiment station, is leader of the Chest drive on the agricultural college campus.

#### FIRST SIGMA DELTA CHI 3MOKER OCT. 11

Sigma Delta Chi. professional journalism fraternity, will meet Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the Awgwan offices to discuss plans for its first smoker to be held Thursday, Oct. 11.

The group will also consider sending of delegates to the national convention this month and will formulate plans for an advertising campaign for the Awg-



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COUNCIL ELECTS

DAVIES ATHLETIC

(Continued from Page 1). gaulgations that relinquished the

Petitions from the Party.

Petitions from the Young Democrats and Young Republicans clubs for recognition as campus organ-

inclions were considered and will be voted upon after inspection of their constitutions. The student

activity tax was discussed and

plans made for consideration at the

next moeting. Fresident Fischer instructed the election committee to investigate the vacancy on the publications board left by student member John Howell

Whether organized bouses will erficipate in a contest for the best

ng day will be decided at the next ting after a report from the trations committee, Roma De-wn and Frank Crabill.

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