

Daily Nebraskan

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



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.

Does Americanism Exclude Justice?

A contributor to Thursday's Student Pulse column waves the flag of the United States of America and the banner of rugged individualism, and at the same time insults his country. He declares that it is un-American to act, that it is against the principles and practices of this nation to attempt to solve problems obviously facing it.

True, it isn't desirable that the old-age pension be established as a permanent relief institution, but it is necessary that something in the way of emergency relief be devised and applied until the time when the causes of old-age pauperism are at least partially eliminated.

Legion Berates College Youth.

Are college pacifists as superficial and silly as they are said to be in the editorial clipped from The Nebraska Legionnaire and reprinted in today's Contemporary Comment column? The editor of that publication accuses the former of being postoffice and bridge players, and finding as their chief occupations cheering of football teams, and loafing in luxurious fraternity houses.

By educating ourselves in the subject of war, its causes, results, and general futility we of the younger generation hope to avoid being deceived. Our hats are off to you former service men. You fought because your ideals told you to.

Write for Absent Voters' Ballots.

Hearts of members of the campus Young Republican and Young Democratic clubs have been gladdened by a bit of co-operation from the Lincoln junior chamber of commerce. The latter organization has issued a bulletin to students of the university urging them to use their voting power in the election of Nov. 6.

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.

Old Age and Flag-Waving.

I can't understand the type of reasoning that prompted L. A. H. to write his letter in Sunday's Student Pulse column. He seems to be extremely grieved because the Board of Regents has seen fit to forget John (one of the old janitors) and let him go.

Does L. A. H. in his sentimental sympathy for the "janitors" expect the University of Nebraska to become an asylum for old people that are no longer employable. Must the university become a victim of all these new-fangled, unstable schemes of old age pensions, permanency of jobs and other Don-Quixotic methods of taxing the thrifty to support the shiftless.

Next thing, another kind-hearted sentimentalist (and there are legions of them everywhere, especially in dealing with other people's money) like L. A. H. would want to look into the matter of wages paid to the "poor" janitors and scrubwomen and possibly find faults or even "injustices" there too.

As I see it the university must be a leader and guiding example for all to follow. If it inaugurates the so-called old age pensions for everybody and introduces other similar socialistic schemes to eat up the taxpayers' money, it will indirectly contribute towards the weakening of our social structure which is based on individualism and personal responsibility.

As Mark Sullivan has been brilliantly saying again and again, all these "new deal" social schemes are merely antagonistic to our age-old American traditions, and they are driving us toward a species of Moscow collectivism. We certainly don't want our university to become enmeshed in such un-American ideas and policies.

I must end with a quotation from "Challenge of Liberty" by our great humanitarian former President Herbert Hoover. He said in that article, "We would secure food, as to talk of abolishing individualism as a basis of successful society. For at least the next several generations we dare not abandon self-interest as a component of motive forces to initiative, to enterprise, to leadership."

CONTEMPORARY COMMENT

War Prevention Or Slacking?

Enough publicity has been given during the past year to the universal draft proposal of the American Legion to let people know that the World War veterans in the organization have no love for war and are proposing a plan which would do much to prevent it.

war. Being a slacker never stopped any war, and as the World-Herald points out, the adoption of resolutions as those which the Epworth league has been passing in Nebraska and elsewhere is only an idle gesture, as no nation would permit its stalwart youth to stay out of action.

With much of the World-Herald's editorial, the average Legionnaire will agree, but the Omaha editor slipped when he made this statement: "Yet the Methodist pledge indicates that the rising generation is wiser, perhaps, than the departing one in its full appreciation of the folly of warfare."

Presumably, since the article deals with a comparison of the Legion and the Methodist youth, the members of the Legion form the "departing" generation referred to by the World-Herald—the generation that isn't so wise in its full appreciation of the folly of warfare.

It is to be believed, then, that a better understanding of the folly of war is to be gained in luxurious fraternity houses, in classic college halls, in high school classrooms, at church social functions and the like rather than in stinking, filthy, rat-infested trenches, in uncomfortable camps, in sinking ships?

Can a nice social evening spent in playing any game from "postoffice" to bridge better fit a young person to hate war and understand its folly than seeing a comrade blown to bits, burying the decomposed body of a man, suffering the agonies of a wound, or going thru the many other horrors that members of the Legion faced daily?

Does cheering the football team teach the folly of war to a greater extent than the visits paid by Legionnaires to broken buddies in the hospitals of this country? Are we to presume that failure to be pledged to a fraternity fits one to understand the folly of war better than fighting for ideals only to see groups of all kinds try to throw these same ideals over the transom years later, while the countries you tried to help refuse to repay their just debts to you?

Last spring, when the Epworth Herald, publication of the Epworth league, published the seditious article on "A Decision Must Be Made"—an article which advocated everything from being a slacker to overthrowing the present order of things—the Legion condemned it but most Legionnaires believed it was too radical for any people with sane reasoning to believe. Evidently, the Legion was mistaken.

judging by the action of the Nebraska Epworth league and that in other states.—The Nebraska Legionnaire.

Fraternities Again In The Spotlight.

"If you are a congenial 'snob,' if you are inter-

ested in demonstrating your "social superiority" over the fellow next door, if you are determined to avoid any semblance of serious thought during your four years of college as merely a place to dance, drink, dawdle, if you believe that you must pay several hundred dollars to meet the people you would like as friends—

Then join a fraternity." That is the opinion expressed in the Columbia Spectator of the fraternity system, and it is not a true estimate of the place of fraternities on most campuses.

However, it is true that Greek-letter houses reached the apex in the era of "collegiateness" when the college boys were just that and nothing else. This era has been termed as "the mirror of a soaring, expanding, speculative society."

For this reason the fraternity system is not quite as compatible with the present economic trend. When most fraternities began their chapters in the large midwestern institutions it was because the student body had increased so rapidly that the university authorities made no attempts to try to house the students in dormitories. The building of dormitories was neglected in the appropriations and village residents bought cheap rooming houses and prepared to make a profit.

Small chapter houses were first erected and proved to be popular with the students who were looking for a decent place in which to live. Then during the Coolidge and Hoover eras enthusiastic alumni began a competitive race to determine who could build the biggest house. The usual cost of such houses is between \$60,000 and \$150,000.

Now we have Spanish villas, imitations of old Spain, and Grecian models. As one authority said, "The larger the house the more it cost; but the more men you could put in the house, the more revenue you would receive and thus you could pay off your first and second mortgage more quickly."

Figures indicate that the value of property owned by Greek letter societies in 1915 was \$13,485,815. In 1929 the figure was \$90,678,434, an increase of almost 700 percent.

How does all this affect the fraternity system at the University of Illinois? Does it mean that it is a failure? It does mean that as a part of the huge fraternity system which embraces 925 fraternities, the Illinois fraternities are responsible for something of cultural worth to the student.

The fraternities of today will have to prove that the building boom was not a total failure. They will have to prove that they have outgrown "collegiateness."—The Daily Illini.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Tap Dancing Class. Regular meeting of the tap dancing class of the Big Sister Board will be held in Ellen Smith Hall Thursday, Nov. 1, at 7 o'clock. Lois Rathburn announced Monday. Those attending are requested to bring low heeled shoes.

Dean Foster Addresses Civil Engineers' Meeting

Outlining the need for a broader cultural education among engineers, in his talk on "Configuration of the Law in Engineering College," Dean Henry H. Foster of the Nebraska law school spoke to a gathering of civil engineers Wednesday evening in the Mechanic Arts building.

CHANTS BY CHANCE.

We noticed that the "Prologue," official organ of the University Players has increased, in fact, doubled in size. In the current issue is news of new plays in New York and those on tour; a letter to the patrons of the Temple theater from H. Alice Howell, head of the dramatics department; acknowledgements; bits about the members of the cast; and last but not least, the program itself. This publication was edited under the direction of Ralph R. Reeder of the university news bureau, and has set a high standard for future publications of the Players.

Lutheran Students Hear Professor Alexis Friday

One of the chief cogs in the necessary back-stage line-ups is William Witt, Negro student enrolled in the university, who is majoring in dramatics. This versatile young man not only plays the saxophone, likes ballroom dancing and blues singing, but also does professional tap dancing. He has danced at the Kappa Sig house with Marion Rice's orchestra here in Lincoln and been in minstrel shows here and in his home town, Cheyenne, Wyo.

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WEST COAST DAILIES CHARGE NON-SUPPORT

California College Editors Blame Students for Teams' Ill Luck.

While Pacific coast gridrons re-sounded with the din of brawny battle over week-end, typewriters defiantly clicked their own war from editorial offices of at least three large college "dailies."

The "Daily Trojan," student paper of the University of Southern California, followed up their blast at the "Hollywood" football team, and editorial retaliation to Berkeley's "hi-jacking" charges, which flowered last week, with a withering fire directed at the student body in general.

In an editorial entitled "Blame the Rooters—not the Team," students were charged with non-support of the hard-luck eleven. It also quoted Capt. Julie Beskos as refusing to appear at a rally with the words, "No, I don't like the attitude of the student body."

What he really said was: "I don't like the attitude of our student paper," the grid leader claims, and "sure, I'll speak at the rally and I'll have something to tell them!"

At loss for a snappy comeback when Trojan Editor Jack Frankish closed the U. S. S. Parkley feud with appropriate balm, Walter Christie, Jr., editor of the University of California's Daily Californian, this week had received "disloyalty" charges directed at the student body by Coach Bill Ingram and passed them to the Alumni association with a line about their being "poor losers."

"Betting alumni, piqued over lost football wagers, stir up disension among the students," he editorialized. "The football team would be a lot better off if the alumni would keep their noses out of student affairs," he added, rebuking Ingram for "washing dirty linen in public."

Not to be outdone, the Stanford Daily this week attacked the "hypocrisy connected with subsidizing athletes in all Pacific coast colleges."

Under the heading "Just How Much is Football Worth?" the editorial said: "There is not a university on the Pacific coast which does not aid its athletes in some way. Isn't it about time that somebody put an end to all this hypocrisy?"

The editorial proposed that the Pacific coast conference meeting take up plans for waiving tuition or providing work for board and room for worthy students.

AT THE STUDIO THURSDAY.

11:50 a. m.—Alpha Kappa Psi. 11:50 a. m.—Swimming team. 2 p. m.—Daily Nebraskan Editorial staff. All men are requested to wear suits.

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