

# The Nebraskan

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Dorothy Bentz ..... Editor.  
Jane Walcott ..... Associate Editor.  
Robert Wadhams ..... Business Manager.

## An Education

### From Shakespeare

"Revolving years have flitted on,  
Corroding time has done its worst,  
Pilgrim and worshipper have gone  
From Avon's shrine to shrines of dust;  
But Shakespeare lives unrivall'd still  
And unapproach'd by mortal mind,  
The giant of Parnassus' hill,  
The pride, the monarch of mankind."

Renewed interest in the life and character of England's greatest poet and, perhaps, the world's greatest poet, has been aroused by the recent publication of "William Shakespeare, a Critical Study," written by George Brandes. The book is, in the opinion of Columnist Arthur Brisbane, the best ever written concerning the great English dramatist. Brandes, a Danish-born Jew, writes in an interesting manner of Shakespeare's life, observing in him the power of genius to foresee truths unknown to others.

Such a book is beneficial if for no other reason that that it inspires readers with a desire to study Shakespeare's works, writings which many of the foremost critics claim to be the greatest ever composed. Such inspiration is admirable; surely no one can pretend to be educated who is not familiar with at least the greatest of the works of this genius of Stratford-on-Avon.

Brandes work, Mr. Brisbane declares, "is not written for the sophisticated that can rattle off a few of Shakespeare's best known lines and believe that they know him." It is rather, in his opinion, "a reminder for America's young and old, willing to devote time and thought to the works of the greatest, noblest imagination that has ever appeared among men."

The Nebraskan feels that, altho it is perhaps not justifiable to place Shakespeare at the top of the list of the world's great writers, he should by all means be included in the list of the five greatest literary figures.

New thoughts and new ideas come with the reading of "Macbeth," "Hamlet," "King Lear," and "The Tempest"—these and other of the great dramatist's tragedies. George Brandes asserts that Shakespeare combines, in himself, the greatest qualities of the greatest Italian and Spanish geniuses. This is a high tribute, the highest perhaps that could be paid to any writer. For the possession of the capacity of a Cervantes to create humor and at the same time the power to write with the grandeur and tragic sublimity of a Dante or a Michael Angelo indicates the extent of his genius.

Many critics feel that Shakespeare's writing is too dispassionate, that it lacks the personal touch of the author. Such a claim is true to a certain extent. Shakespeare did not put himself into his writing as did the poet Dante. For this reason, the reader does not feel that he knows the author when he has completed the reading of his works. The great English genius kept himself apart from his work, although the sad life which he led, his many disappointments, including the early loss of his only son, have undoubtedly left their imprint upon his writings.

Brandes denies the "silly suggestion that Bacon wrote Shakespeare's plays." "Who alleges that Bacon wrote Shakespeare's works proves that he has never read Bacon or Shakespeare, or that he is incapable of understanding either," Mr. Brisbane declares, in seconding Mr. Brandes' annihilation of the theory that Shakespeare did not write the works accredited to him.

Bacon, Mr. Brandes says, wrote

concisely, with extreme care, thought little of the English language that Shakespeare recreated, and wrote his most important and now little read work the "Novum Organum" in Latin, believing that Latin would outlive English, as the language of educated men. Shakespeare, on the other hand, did not care for exactitude. He never read a proof, and after his plays were written, he lost interest in them. Brandes asks whether the meticulous Bacon could have been "responsible for the publication of these 36 plays (of Shakespeare's), which swarm with misreadings and contain about 20,000 errors of the press."

The Nebraskan believes with Brandes that Shakespeare must have actually written the plays accredited to him. The proof has not been definitely established, however, and it is impossible to be certain. At any rate, it is certain that the dramas were written, and the unestimable qualities of the 36 plays will cause all truly educated people to study them for years to come, even tho the identity of their author is somewhat vague.

## The Old Order Changeth.

King Arthur's words have great significance today; probably even greater than they did in the days of the Round Table. The old order gives place to the new. It has done so in the past and today it must continue to do so.

The University of today, the part that recognizes a need for the new to replace the old, has long seen the need for a new library. A complaint appears today about the inefficiency and inadequacy of the old library. Eventually it must give way to the new.

M. L. is justified, the Nebraskan believes, in his desire to browse thru the books in the University library. The 300,000 volumes, of which the library boasts, are owned for the benefit of students. It should be the student's privilege to choose from among them those which he wishes to read.

The University needs new housing for its numerous volumes. The present method by which students must check out books is perhaps justified by the lack of adequate space. It may also be partially justified on another ground: It prevents any students using the library from walking away with books that are not checked out. Deplorable as it may seem, this situation exists in every library where books are made freely available to all comers.

The Nebraskan feels that University students should be trusted in the same manner that men and women who make use of city libraries are trusted. Perhaps all do not live up to their trust; indeed, it is certain that they do not. Nevertheless, there are many who do appreciate the privileges which a library offers and who are willing to abide by the rules as they have been established.

It would be the same on the University campus. Students are anxious to have the privilege of inspecting the books in the library as is indicated by the statement in today's Student Pulse. They would for the most part, appreciate the confidence that the University placed in them in making the books more available for their use, and would not abuse the privilege.

This system, altho it may not be possible to employ it at the present time while the old building is still in use, would not only be beneficial to students, the Nebraskan believes, but it would give them a feeling that they are being trusted and would instill in them a desire to follow the rules.

This idea is not necessarily new; but its application is new. The University should be willing to accept new ideas, schemes that promote the interests of the school and of those for whom the school was founded. The University should seek progress, not only in a material way; but also progress in a way that will make the school a superior one in an intellectual way. The erection of a new building to house the University's books is, of course, of utmost importance. In doing this, the school will also advance the interests of the

students intellectually. The old ideas wear out and decline with the old buildings. Therefore, the Nebraskan favors acquisition of the new.

## STUDENT PULSE

Brief, concise articles pertinent to student life and university matters will be welcome in this column under the rules of sound newspaper practice which exclude all libelous material and personal attacks. Letters must bear the name of the writer which will not be published unless desired. Letters should not exceed two hundred and fifty words.

## A Suggestion For the Library.

TO THE EDITOR:

Why is it that the University library must be different from any others I have ever known, in that we, as students, who want to borrow books to read, are not allowed to look thru the volumes on the shelves ourselves? In place of this, we must pick out only books that we have heard mentioned in a classroom or elsewhere and ask for them at the desk. I enjoy browsing around among the books and picking out the ones that look interesting and inviting to me. I believe this should be one of the privileges of every student attending the University.

The place one gets knowledge is in books, and I believe that one can often get as much knowledge from reading at random as from reading specific books that are assigned for lessons. This is a privilege that is granted in other libraries, and in this school which does possess a large collection of books, I feel that students would appreciate an opportunity to become better acquainted with all that the university has to offer in the way of fine literature.

Especially in the summer is it of value for students to choose books that they want to read, because many students who are carrying a light course of studies, have a great deal of leisure time which could be spent to good advantage in reading. This reading need not be technical; it may be merely instructional and it may be reading that will increase an appreciation of the truly great and artistic things in life.

I plead, therefore, for a library that would make it possible for students to see what they have to choose from in the way of books. In this plea, I am certain that I do not stand alone.

M. L.

## CONDITION OF 1935 CORN AND WEATHER TO SET CORN PRICE

AMES, Iowa, June 15.—Two big uncertainties—the weather and the condition of 1935 corn—will influence the corn price outlook this summer, Iowa State College extension economists said today.

If enough of the 1935 corn on hand is spoiled to result in a shortage along in August, cash prices might rise considerably, the economists explained. Altho it is known that more than the usual amount of corn is damaged this year, more than the normal seasonal rise in cash corn prices seems unlikely at present, they added.

If the weather during the early summer should be such that small grains, hay and pasture are not up to normal, then prices would probably rise sharply, the economists pointed out.

"Assuming that crop conditions are average, there will be plenty of feed this summer," the economists said. "The fact that some corn is moldy is not as serious as tho there were an actual shortage, for some farmers will feed moldy corn."

## SYRACUSE U OFFERS GRADUATE AWARDS

Syracuse university is offering an opportunity for a number of graduate students to act as student counselors. These positions

Visit Allyn and Bacon school book exhibit, Basement University Episcopal church, 13th and R.

Visit Scott Foresman & Co. school book exhibit, Basement University Episcopal church, 13th and R.

provide board, room, and tuition and are open only to men. Counselors are permitted to take approximately half time graduate work. Information for those interested may be obtained from the office of the graduate dean, room 202 of Chemistry hall.

Dr. Clarence Forbes, chairman of the classics department, spoke on "The First New Deal" at a recent meeting of the Classics club.

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