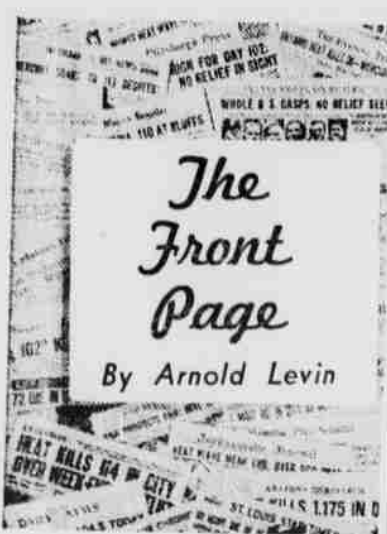


# Editorially Speaking



## The Front Page

By Arnold Levin

Senator George Norris, Franklin Roosevelt's favorite independent supporter, shocked the administration slightly by declaring he would support Supreme Court reform only as a last resort.

Democratic leaders had hoped the veteran Nebraskan, head of the conference on constitutional amendment which meets next month, would hop on the president's bandwagon, but he professed to see "danger" in the practice of a president's creating a new court overnight. He hastened to add, however, that the "danger" was a problem of the far future, and not anything for which F. D. R. is responsible.

Norris believes a constitutional amendment is too uncertain and too slow of enactment to meet the present situation. His remedy is legislation requiring that more than a majority vote in the supreme court be required to hold laws unconstitutional. His native Nebraska, example, requires a five to two vote of the state supreme court to declare a law invalid.

Meanwhile, supporters of the president gave unofficial notice that there would be no compromise—the president is intent on his 15 judges and intends to stick to his guns until he gets them or no.

Just how serious the congressional opposition to this scheme may be is now impossible to estimate. Senator Norris' hesitancy is a boon to anti-Rooseveltians. If they can win him over to active participation in their cause against court enlargement, they will split the "solid" front in the senate. Such a contingency, however, is only remotely possible. The president and senator each needs the other, and the Norris opposition probably will be erased over the white house coffee cups.

The president himself, meanwhile, remained silent. Questioned at his semi-weekly press conference, Mr. Roosevelt smilingly replied he would rather not discuss any national problems at the moment.

Instead, he motored to the Lincoln memorial where he participated in the exercises commemorating the great emancipator's birth, placing a wreath of palm leaves at the statue's base.

In Washington, Representative Robinson, fiery Kentucky republican, called for preservation of the principles of freedom laid down by Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln. "Our country is the great hope of democracy in the world," he thundered, as he castigated communism and fascism as the enemies of free government.



Boy! Oh! Boy!

the food at the

**Y.M.C.A.**

Is Sure Good

Save by Buying

5.50 Meal Ticket for 5.00

2.70 Meal Ticket 2.50

## Have We Forgotten How To Dream?

The men who first broke Nebraska's plains were adventurers, but not the irresponsible "gentlemen of fortune" who viewed the lawless west as fertile field for exploitation. Nebraska's pioneers saw the fertile fields as an opportunity to build a midwestern civilization, a chance to develop the frontiers of a progressive nation.

These men were dreamers. They left their homes in Ohio and Pennsylvania and the seaboard states because they had ideals and believed in a better future. Men who have neither strength, courage nor imagination are not pioneers.

Nebraska, the state, was but two years old in 1869, its barren prairies dotted only with stone and sod farmhouses. Cities were no more than clusters of frame dwellings around the few, scattered trading posts. Education had yet to take its important place in America's conception of democracy, and even the eastern states had not convinced themselves of the value of the state university as an institution.

Yet on Feb. 15, 1869, senate file No. 86, introduced by E. E. Cunningham, legislator from Richardson county, was passed on the third reading, after rules had been suspended to insure speedy action. On the last day of the legislative session, Governor Butler signed the bill, which provided:

"That there shall be established in this state an institution under the name and style of 'The University of Nebraska.' The object of such institution shall be to afford the inhabitants of the state the means of acquiring a thoro knowledge of the various branches of literature, science, and the arts."

Our pioneers not dreamers? Imagine the campus in its early years. University hall, until 1886, was the only building, located on four blocks of prairie bordering Salt creek, far from the settled district of Lincoln. As Edna Bullock wrote of its history:

"Citizens tethered their family cows on the campus, children picked violets and buffalo beans there. Chancellor Benton's first report describes plans for walks, drives, and tree planting, and mentions consultations with landscape artists in Chicago, and the final selection of home talent for the purpose. . . . In the chancellor's report in June, 1875, it is stated that the professor and students of the agricultural college had planted trees all around the campus with great care and that the janitor had admirably tended the grounds, tho the floral part had several times been cut down by locusts. Graveled walks led from the streets to the building, and the grounds were partially enclosed at one time by a board fence. As years went on board walks consisting of two parallel planks about a foot apart were laid—a contribution to the gaiety of the campus literature, as examination of the Hesperian files on the subject of "coeducational sidewalks," will attest."

Students and faculty alike were a hardy lot.

With no system of secondary schools to offer preparation that the university now demands, Professor Woodberry, acting as examiner, is said to have asked an applicant for admission, "Can you read?" On receiving an affirmative reply, the professor opened the door to higher learning for the young man with the simple statement, "You pass."

Will Owen Jones, writing about undergraduate life in the early '80s, drew this vivid picture of the hardy, ambitious souls who had registered for Greek, Latin, Old English—even Sanskrit and Gothic, in 1883:

"After a student had provided for his basic living, had scraped together a few books, and had turned over his matriculation fee of \$5, which had to be paid only once, he did not feel uncomfortable if he had nothing left. Life in the university was so simple and poverty was so common that it seemed a perfectly normal condition. Social distractions in the early part of my experience were found mostly in the Friday meetings of the literary societies; in an occasional play at the old Centennial opera house and in a perfect orgy of church attendance on Sunday. I can name student after student who went to two preaching services, two Sunday schools, a Y. M. C. A. session, and the Red Ribbon club every Sunday, from September till June. . . . We indeed were a serious bunch of youngsters. We studied mathematics, the classics, history, and a little science, and then read solid magazine articles for relaxation. I remember that I cut my first debating teeth over an article by a British writer who undertook to show that morality has no scientific basis. At Mrs. Swisher's and later at Mrs. Park's on Q street, we carried civilization up one side and down the other at the dinner table every day, and then gave it a few extra wipes on Sunday. Society was so simple that George McLane, who received \$50 a month for janitoring the university building, was treated as an equal by the professors and as a little more than equal by the students. He had more money than the rest of us and wore better clothes, and the fact that he was making himself round shouldered carrying hods of coal to fill the base burners that stood in each recitation room did not interfere at all with his social eligibility."

Tomorrow the university celebrates its 68th birthday, quite a different institution from the campus with one building that Chancellor Benton knew. It has undergone great changes—outwardly, in a number of new buildings. But that isn't the whole story. Buildings aren't the essential requisite for a university. You can have an institution of learning with Mark Hopkins on one end of a log, and a student on the other.

Have these 68 years produced another kind of a change? Are we, the students of 1937, without the zeal and ambition that characterizes the university's first class of eight? Charter day is an excellent time to examine the traditions of our school, to compare our ideals with those on which the school was founded. There is little in our student life that reflects the imagination of those early students. Have we forgotten how to dream?

## Contemporary Comment

### Cooperatives—The Way Out?

University Daily Kansan  
Mary Rutter, Editor.

Except for a few very outstanding individuals, as Marquis Childs will undoubtedly point out in his lecture "Co-operatives—America's Hope" this evening, rugged individualism went out with the frontier and the coming

of the huge corporation. By himself the average individual is helpless.

Recognition of this fact has been the chief cause of the meteor-like rise of the co-operative movement throughout the world and particularly of consumers' co-operation.

There is nothing undemocratic or alien to American traditions in co-operatives. They are not the "red" institutions business men who are afraid they will lose business to them would have the public believe. They are fundamentally democratic in both spirit and operation.

Nor do co-operatives result in the elimination of private property, as reactionaries thruout America have accused them of doing, but quite the opposite. They make for the more extensive ownership of private property. In Denmark, for example, co-operatives have saved private property for the people and have kept it from being concentrated in the hands of a few multi-millionaires as has happened in many European countries and as is beginning to happen here.

Perhaps co-operatives can also be the American way out.

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THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR

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Meet Your Senator

## Dr. A. L. Miller District 43, Kimball

"American universities are at fault in not preparing graduates for governmental service. We should look to the future and school our legislators."

Dr. A. L. Miller, physician and surgeon from Kimball, and representative of the last of the state's forty-three districts is speaking from broad experience. This is his first term in the legislature, but travel through forty-two states and nations around the world has given him an opportunity for first-hand study of the problems of government.

"We should prepare our men for public office as they do in European countries," he suggested. In referring to the training received by those of the burgo-master rank in Germany and legislators in France, he sees great possibilities for such schooling in this country. "There'll always be a good field for trained men in American government."

Reason for the growing necessity of training lies in the complicated method of living, which is making more demands for the government of the individual and industry, according to Dr. Miller. Accompanying such training, Dr. Miller proposes scientific study of governmental tax agencies. "There are, today, too many overlapping taxing agencies. This has produced an increase in governmental employes which in turn means an increase in taxes. Scientific study would coordinate all these."

To show that he practices what he preaches, Dr. Miller's chief interest in the legislature has been economy where economy is needed. He has prepared a study of all state government employes, their salaries, and classified them according to departments. He also introduced a bill to provide for a non-paid commission which would study the tax situation in the state.

It was Dr. Miller who told the press, upon the introduction of Miss Philbrick's "mercy-killing" legislation, that the bill was "being introduced 25 years too soon." Such a fate he does not predict, however, for the university building program bill. "Most of the legislators believe in a planned program for the university, and I think the bill will receive favorable support."

Dr. Miller's prediction for the future of the unicameral reflected the faith in the system of the entire body. "I think we're all agreed that it's going to work out to the benefit of the state," he declared. "This legislature has been a body of business men, transacting the business of the state, rather than a body of politicians as it has often been before."

## "Lost Horizons"

—By John Hayden—

The most powerful plea "gainst self slaughter" that the modern theatre has produced.

Presented By The University of Nebraska

## University Players

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Reservations at the Temple Box Office—B6891—2 rings on 79  
Evenings 7:30 Saturday Mat. 2:30