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THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR

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Orator Bares Needs of University

Editor's note: Following is in part the address which Frank E. Landis delivered at the traditional Ivy Day oration yesterday morning.

Friends of the University and fellow students:

Ivy day is one of the University's finest traditions. This is the day when the alumni, faculty and friends of the University gather on the campus to renew old friendships, and to take stock of the University's progress. In castings about for a topic suitable to this occasion, I could think of no better subject than a student's idea of the University, her needs and her relation to the state.

Fundamentally, the character of this institution should reflect the heritage and minds of the citizens of the state. Unfortunately, our agricultural heritage has been made the butt of many jokes. I have heard many scoffers who sneer at Nebraskan methods, at her people and at her accomplishments. But I for one am proud of my Nebraskan heritage. It takes a magnificent race of men and women to accomplish what our forebears have accomplished.

The University of Nebraska with its sometimes intangible effects, has been a vital force in the shaping of Nebraska destinies. The impact of this force has been felt in every phase of Nebraska life. And what is the relation of the University to the well-being of the state? The answer is simple enough. Nebraska graduates, as individuals, set the pace of the state's accomplishment. Out from this campus go all types and manners of men—University trained. These graduates heal our sick, teach our children, build our bridges, irrigate our land; they define our equities in the courts of law, care for our dental well being, and pass the laws that govern our very life. The standard of every profession in the state is set in these very buildings around us, and on that standard depend our physical well being and happiness. From a social standpoint, a basic factor in building a well balanced, alert and intelligent citizen is the school and University training he receives. Thus while it is true that the benefits of the University are sometimes intangible, they are none the less real, and they are of vital importance in the preservation of our heritage and culture.

And what has the state done to preserve this vital factor in her own well being? I say to you that the state is allowing the well spring to become clogged. The burdens put upon the University in the past six years have been unbearable. The result has been that instead of a well ordered educational house, the entire University system has been subjected to the inevitable consequences of poverty and educational destitution. The minimum needs of this University have grown to an appalling magnitude because of the neglect, and because of the limited aid that the state has given it. Past legislatures have consistently refused to give the proper recognition to the University's place in the scheme of Nebraska's cultural and professional life.

And so today, the University is in dire need, and these minimum needs fall roughly into two classes. First there is the problem of the physical plant and secondly there is the problem of the personnel. At present building program for the University is imperative. The enrollment of the University is now larger than at any other time in her history. No major classrooms have been built in the past eight years. Constant depreciation has made two of those now used, actually unsafe for classroom purposes and but a few of Nebraska's more urgent building needs. And I submit to you that these needs have not arisen suddenly. They have grown steadily over a period of years. One legislature after another has stubbornly repressed the school by allocating to it only the barest of running expenses. The net result of such a policy has been to overcrowd and make antiquated the majority of the present physical plant. Further, the legislature's unwillingness to meet the present exigency is costing the taxpayer actual money. The cost of building materials has risen 15 to 25 percent in the past two years, and is still rising. By the time the legislature is shocked into a recognition of the University's needs, the improvements which must be added if Nebraska is to retain her standing will cost the taxpayer 30 percent more than should have been necessary. But so much for the physical plant.

The second great need of the University is in the personnel of its instructors. Brains are just as much of a competitive commodity, bought and sold in the open market, as is steel. The higher type of professor and the more capable instructors are attracted to the better salaried institutions. Of the 51 land grant Universities in the U. S., Nebraska pays her full professors \$352 below the general average, associate professors \$265 below the general average, and the assistant professors \$230 below the average. But this is not the complete picture. Of the 600 approved colleges and Universities in the U. S., Nebraska ranks 16th from the point of enrollment. Only three schools west of the Mississippi are large, and those are Texas, Washington and California. So in relation to its enrollment ranking, Nebraska pays far below the average of the larger and higher class schools in the country. The result of the slash in salaries at the beginning of the depression, which the faculty accepted very gracefully, has proved to be a measure of false economy. By the legislature's failure to make a restoration of these cuts, the University has been subjected to a drain of teachers of proven ability, experience and teaching capacity. By losing key men of national fame and reputation, and recruiting new staffs of inexperienced instructors, the average teaching power in the University has gone down. In truth the University of Nebraska

has become a mere proving ground for older and richer institutions, which, in need of distinctive talents, plunder the intellects from our school with the offer of more tempting salaries.

And so the two great needs of our University are new buildings, which the Board of Regents estimated would have to be 12 in number, and a better salaried personnel. The only way the University can properly be taken care of is by a more generous legislature and larger appropriations.

However, an adequate financing program raises the all important aspect of money and taxation.

It is unfortunate that Nebraska has had to suffer from three years of dust and drought, not only because of the actual hardship levied by it on the citizens, but also because it has made tremendous inroads on the morale of the middlewestern farmer. The rigorous burdens which have resulted from the dust and drought cannot be questioned, but the resultant psychology of it has been far out of proportion to the actual physical burdens imposed. Every dust storm that has blown across this grassland has left an indelible mark on the minds of the citizens. It has led to a defeatist philosophy of such pessimistic proportions that many people have actually left this country. Their faith in the future of Nebraska has been destroyed. This unwarranted psychology on the part of the citizens has been a major factor in the growth of the University needs.

A good example of the working of this psychology can be seen in the present unicameral.

During the last few weeks a levy bill was before the unicameral which directly affected the University, and while I listened to the debate on it I was convinced of its early passage. The bill itself was designed to meet the building needs of not only the University, but it also included provisions affecting other social institutions in the state. During the cheery, wet spring weather we were having at that time, Senator after Senator spoke in the bill's favor, presenting incontrovertible proof of the needs to be effected. But when the day for final action came, the warm spring weather was changed by a dust storm. In the all pervasive gloom and darkness of that dust storm the senate voted on this important measure, and it was defeated by but one vote. I honestly believe that the psychology blown up by that dust storm was directly responsible for the bill's defeat. This gloom is not confined alone to the senate chamber, but it has permeated the entire state. Such gloom is not warranted by the facts. It cannot be questioned that the farm income has steadily increased from the depth year of 1933, that land prices have materially risen, that investing capital has loosened, and that values of Nebraska commodities have taken a sharp turn upward. The stringency we once knew has eased its hold on our economic system. In the face of a rising price level, the burden of taxation is easier to bear. Even assuming that there will be a slight tax increase, it is still apparent that the University is not getting its fair share of the Nebraska tax dollar. Out of every dollar paid in state taxes last year, while the local schools took 44 percent of it, county governments 21 percent of it, and city government 22 percent, the University of Nebraska, with its all important relation to the state, received only 3 percent of it.

The most feasible plan for meeting the needs of the University is in the form of the building levy. Through such a plan, each citizen would pay a tax in support of the University equivalent to the tax he pays on 4 gallons of gasoline, or just 20 cents on each \$1,000 of tangible property evaluation. This tax in 10 years time will build an adequate physical plant. This levy, supplementing an increase appropriation to care for the personnel needs, will alleviate the strain under which the present University administration is laboring. Further income could be realized from an endowment drive, and by revamping our system to meet certain standards, funds from several distinguished Eastern foundations would be available. And so the University can be adequately taken care of without placing undue strain on the Nebraska taxpayer.

Today the University stands squarely at the crossroads. Its needs are well defined, and this description of them can be corroborated by the last regent's report to the legislature, the bursar or the chancellor. Yet the ultimate destiny of the University is in the hands of the legislature. If we as citizens want a second rate educational plant for the training of our children, if we would reduce the standards and learning of the men who govern our every phase of life, if we would choke off the intellectual and cultural influences that flow from this institution to every corner of the state, then I say to you that this will be achieved by the present policy of the governor and legislature.

Most of us are familiar with the capital building of this state. It cost the taxpayers millions of dollars and it has been designated as one of America's finest architectural accomplishments. But to me it stands as a monument to the stupidity and ignorance of the past legislatures who have dared to endanger the integrity of our Nebraskan professions, our culture and our heritage, by starving the very source of their well being.

If we would maintain the standards of the past and prepare for the progress which is the inevitable due of this state, then I say to you that as intelligent citizens of a progressive commonwealth, we must give adequate financial support to this our institution.

"There seems to be an increasing awareness that a person should not only possess information, but that he should be able to use the information for discussion and exchange of ideas. The day of the poor speaker is coming to a close. America has tolerated more than its share of bad speaking." Northwestern university's Dr. Clarence Simon, professor of speech re-education, spells "finis" for "abem-ing and hawing."

LITERARY MEN MEET FOR FURTHERANCE OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDY

First Session of 26th Annual Meeting to Open in Andrews Hall.

Featuring addresses by Professors Karl Litzenberg of the University of Michigan, Einar Haugen of the University of Wisconsin and Richard Beck of the University of North Dakota, the first session of the 26th annual meeting of the society for the advancement of Scandinavian study will be held this afternoon in Andrews hall.

Professor Joseph Alexis of the university will address the Friday session on "The Chief Trends in Swedish-American Literature."

Professor Litzenberg will read a paper on "Mr. Thomas Carlyle, Dr. John Carlyle and Scandinavian Literature." Following his speech, Professor Haugen will read his paper on "George Brandes and his American Translators." "Bjarni Thorarensen, Iceland's Pioneer Romanticist" will be the subject of a paper read by Professor Beck.

Following the addresses, committees for the session will be appointed. At 4:30 this afternoon there will be a conducted tour of the state capitol for the attendants at the meeting.

Scandinavian Senators Attend. The annual dinner will be held at the Y. W. C. A., with the Scandinavian members of the unicameral legislature attending as guests of the society. The program will include brief talks by members of the legislature and singing of Scandinavian songs. Prof. George T. Flom will read a paper on "The Drama of Norse Mythology."

The second session to be held Saturday morning will include the reading of two papers, reports by the editor and the secretary-treasurer, a business meeting and election of officers.

Professor A. M. Sturtevant of the University of Kansas will read a paper on "Some Old Norse Etymologies, Poetic Designations for Women." "Earl Hofudlausn Once More" will be the subject of a paper to be read by Professor Lee M. Hollander of the University of Texas.

Retiring officers are: Einar Haugen, president; F. W. Peterson, of the University of Michigan, vice-president; Joseph Alexis, secretary-treasurer and A. M. Sturtevant, editor. Local committee of arrangements includes: A. Louis Elmquist, R. D. Scott and Elmer Larson.

AG COLLEGE GOES ON PARADE

(Continued from Page 1.) after she is crowned Saturday afternoon at two o'clock on the pageant grounds. A program of folk dances will be given, with all the nationalities of Nebraska represented, in which 200 men and women students will take part. Choral singing by the ag chorus under the direction of Mrs. A. Tullis will accompany the dancers. Concluding the program will be a Maypole dance after which Miss Buxman will lead her entourage across campus to close the colorful festival.

Black Sambo Presides. "Little Black Sambo" will act as master of ceremonies for the first Farmers Fair variety show labeled "Cotton Picker's Revue," the first Farmers Fair variety show. Opening the show, 18 farmerettes will do a chorus number, followed by several tap and farmer toe-tap specialty routines by Holdrege street dancers.

A main feature of the show will be the drama "What Price America?" a takeoff on Christopher Columbus. "Home on the Range," another skit, will feature cowboy songs by a quartet. Other highlights of the program will be a band of campus talented members, an acrobatic team, and a novelty number "Poor Old Rastus Twilight."

Managers of the shows are Ogden Riddle and Al Nore, co-chairmen of the show committee; Harriett Martin, chairman of the costume committee, and Mary Carnahan, chairman of the presentation committee.

SHOW FEATURES TEN CLASSES COMPETITION (Continued from Page 1.) Walker of Dunbar, is considered the nation's foremost high school

horse and has been shown all over the United States.

Pony Exhibition. In addition Welby and Sturm of Lincoln will present exhibitions with their famous Shetland pony team and Hackney and Welsh pony outfits. The horses are the pride of the midwest and have been successfully shown in the largest horse shows of the country. Melvin Beerman, a university student, will also contribute to the program with a special rope act. The freshman R. O. T. C. band will furnish the music for the occasion. In all there will be some ten different events what officials predict to be the largest farmers' fair horse show in history. The events consist of a jumping class, open to all; a local ladies seat and hands class; a ladies seat and hand class open to all; a local five gait saddle class; a five gait saddle class open to all; a three gait saddle class open to all; a harness class open to all; the inter sorority ride open to all members of sororities or organized women's houses; the inter fraternity chair class open to all fraternity men; and the modified olympic event open to all entries.

The time for opening has been delayed until 8:30 to allow all students or patrons wishing to attend the Pontiac broadcast to see most of the horse show. Buses will be stationed at the coliseum and will take passengers directly to the state fair grounds coliseum. Admission to the show is 35 cents a person.

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