

# Editorially Speaking

## What's Wrong With Nebraska?

Inspired by Editor William Allen White's Twentieth century editorial classic, "What's Wrong with Kansas," every other editor, who may never hope to be a William Allen White, still has the burning desire to turn out a similar masterpiece on perhaps a lesser scale. Pounding out this grandiose recapitulation is difficult to do in one's last editorial. Maudlin sentimentality is so easy to creep innocently into these last lines. But, thankfully, sentiment is hard to muster in a new place like this Student Union. If we were back in cockroach-infested U hall, traditional home of "Rag" editors, it would be a simple task to pull out the plugs of deep regret, after seven semesters, let our hair down and have a good cry over what's wrong with Nebraska.

When we label our last editorial "What's Wrong with Nebraska?" we are biting off a huge chunk, if we attempt to analyze thoroughly every thing that goes to make up Nebraska, the state, and Nebraska, the state university. But the title intrigued us. It also gave us an opening wedge to delve into Nebraska's problems and touch upon those most vital to us as students, future alumni and citizens-to-be of the Nebraska commonwealth.

### The State

Despite the glowing pictures of Nebraska as a well-to-do state painted nationally by the "white spot" anti-tax interests, Nebraska is far from being well off. For five consecutive years, Nebraska agriculture has taken a sound beating. Drouth has all but impoverished the state, draining good, fertile land of its productive value and making of agriculture, the state's No. 1 activity, a puny means of support for an inland subdivision of the United States.

Talk of new taxes to make up for agriculture's unavoidable deficit cannot be substantiated by facts. New taxes would only plunge the people in deeper. Tax delinquencies for 1938 have been huge, for when people don't have money to pay their taxes—one of their first obligations to their government—conditions must be bad.

But this year, 1939, hasn't had a fair chance yet. Its newness hasn't quite worn off. Common hope is that 1939 will blot out some of the past's headaches and heartaches. This year should be one of challenge, rather than another year of admitted defeat.

### The University

This past semester will go down in the annals as one of the university's most revolutionary terms. Within the short span of a semester, a new chancellor has made sweeping administrative and intellectual changes that bespeak even more sweeping revisions of the university. What has been done so far is for the good of the university as a whole, bringing it more up-to-date and co-ordinating it with modern educational advancements.

During this next semester, we look forward to more progress along the lines of this semester. Their findings are bound to result in more changes around this university. To meet the problem of increasing enrollment, a lower division study plan is being investigated many obstacles to hinder this plan, but as to its feasibility at Nebraska. There are many obstacles to hinder this plan, but certainly some plan must be devised soon to correlate an insufficient budget with an increasing enrollment. We don't pretend the lower division plan is the cure-all for this trouble. It is going to take all the skill of modern scientific education to appraise the situation and find, bit by bit, the answer that will make the University of Nebraska the greatest state university this side of the Mississippi.

Chancellor Boucher and the regents cannot possibly achieve their purposes without having the full cooperation of the faculty and students. The entire "university family" must pitch in with contributions, small as they might be, to aid in the university's rejuvenation.

### The Campus

Perhaps as adage "familiarity breeds contempt" holds particular truth when applied by a Daily Nebraskan editor to the campus. Scholarship, activities, politics, society, textbooks, publicity and countless other campus fixtures are clearly in the ken of a campus editor who daily comes in contact with problems arising out of these fixtures. But we have noticed this semester a depreciable de-emphasis of campus activities, a trend not easily accounted for. Scholarship has not soared to new heights. Social life runs along in the same vein. Why the lack of activity interest?

Election reforms have wiped any and all attempts at "dirty politics." Thus, campus elections have lost their appeal to the many campus men and women who take sheer delight in doing what they are not supposed to do. Campus "shots," men and women alike, have been burdened with several activities which do not permit the complete success of any one. Interest in the sen-

ior honoraries has waned, largely because they have become do-nothing organizations, basking only in the reflected glory of past years. The second semester must see some minor changes in the women's point system and some drastic revamping in the new, but as yet unoperating, men's point system, if campus activities are to continue to mean something.

### The Library

If the Daily Nebraskan this semester has served to rekindle a spark of interest among students, faculty and state officials regarding the emergency need of the library, the retiring editor feels his staff has made some tangible contribution to the eventual construction of a new library building. An \$800,000 library is a huge project for a university, and one that requires a great deal of time. Nearly a decade ago, the library issue was started, and each year it has snowballed into an issue of prime importance.

We feel the library is due, if not overdue. While we realize the state's conditions, our immediate interest as students is the library project. An alert undergraduate class before us pushed thru a Student Union project, the fruits of which we are enjoying. Few of them have ever made use of the Union, but their efforts are indelibly written in the pages of campus history. We can duplicate their efforts by showing the people of the state our unflagging interest in a university library.

### The "Rag"

The same campus-wide disinterest in activities apparently has reached the Daily Nebraskan. While we of the staff are prone to romanticize our work, filings for next semester's staff positions clearly showing a falling off in interest. It is true there is a lot missing from the old "Rag," quartered in the squalor of old U hall, where eccentricities and a strange camaraderie existed. Newness of the Union doesn't make up for this old-time spirit; there are too many other attractions in the Union to distract from the "Rag."

The "Rag" has tried its damndest to keep from going high hat among the Union splendors of new desks, swivel chairs with soft cushions, and lots of telephones. It would be unjust to accuse the "Rag" of doing nothing more than being a service outlet for the faculty and administration. The "Rag" has stuck with the football team all season "win, lose or draw" because it understood the status quo. It would be easy to berate the team and coaches for the season's losses; a lot of nice publicity would come our way. But we didn't want it. The "Rag" pounded home the university's case charges of textbook discrepancies, demanded election reforms and did its best—by taking students out of their sheltered campus existence—to show that "life is real, life is earnest" in a foreboding world.

Next semester's editor and staff members will fall heir to these ever-present campus problems. Every new staff takes office with a lot of enthusiasm which only naturally falls off as the problems pile up. Every new editor sees a lot of changes he or she would have made, many of them radical. But on closer examination, the difficulties make themselves felt.

The traditional advice a retiring editor passes on to his successor is that if he or she gets the university plant some tries on a barren mall, to get a class dismissed for a holiday, to compel more courteous and prompt university telephone service, to force professors into a more personal interest in the students, etc., the new editor can point with pride to a job well done.

Next semester's editor will have a ticklish problem in dealing with the state legislature. Next week, the university budget for the 1939-41 biennium will be presented by the governor to the legislature for approval. Since the university asked for an increase, there should be considerable interest. Then comes the matter of the state planning board and its recommendation for a new library as the ninth state project in importance, and the proposed consolidated board of education.

You can neither browbeat nor ridicule Nebraska's 43 state senators into acceptance of university demands. A sane exposition of the university's needs, based entirely upon facts, is the only manner of impressing the solons. They get enough "pressure" from the various lobbyists, each with an axe to grind. The Daily Nebraskan can champion the university's cause best by a dispassionate presentation of the facts, rather than a schoolboy version of a college newspaper editor trying to run all state institutions into the ground. To the new editor and staff members, this retiring editor—who suddenly feels as if he were a gray-beard—wishes the very best of luck, happiness and success in the discharge of their duties. May you ever be guided by the Cornhuskers' traditional "There Is No Place Like Nebraska!"

MORRIS J. LIPP  
Editor

## MUSICAL LETTER

New York, January 8.  
Dear Mr. Frank:

This Christmas season produced a new trio-improvised by three top artists for the benefit of German and Austrian refugees. Held at Carnegie hall, the concert was a huge success both financially and socially. A varied assortment of socialites came to hear Governor Lehman speak, Hulda Lushanska sing, and Mischa Elman, Emanuel Feuerman and Rudolph Serkin play trios. This last was not only a novelty but a special treat—for not often are we privileged to hear our chamber music performed by musicians of such stature.

Here we could see what three great artists, with but a few rehearsals, can do with a trio. How smoothly they play together, how beautifully their individual styles blend, melt into a perfect whole. One, not knowing, might have taken this for one of our foremost chamber groups, who practise and play together every day. The Tschakovsky trio and the Mendelssohn trio in D minor must have a similar meaning for each of these three men, for not once did either work get out of hand—no once was there too much cello, too little violin, or that lack of balance of which even experienced ensembles often are guilty.

Your correspondent could not attend this superb performance. How, then, is she so certain that Elman plus Feuerman plus Serkin equal one glorious ensemble? Has she such faith in the critics as to accept, without question, their glowing criticisms? Is she so easily impressed by the reports of friends who heard the concert? No—it is simply this—that she had the good fortune to assist at one of the few rehearsals. Specifically, she turned pages for Mr. Serkin!

No youthful aspiring musician could ever have suffered more than your friend did on that thrilling occasion. She learned then, at first hand, how nicely pain and joy can meet and mingle in us, turn us inside out and upside down, and leave us bewildered and thrilled, exhilarated and weak all at the same time. She was exhausted, too, for she wanted to watch Serkin's fingers, to note his peddling, etc., while hearing Elman's rich singing tone, while marveling at Feuerman's smoothness. But you can believe me, Mr. Frank, your friend heard very little of the trios or the individual instruments in her anxiety to connect the musical score with Serkin's sounds and thus keep the music going.

Never before have I so fully comprehended the responsibility of the poor page turner who hides modestly behind the artists and, almost apologetically, slips on and off the stage. Henceforth, my applause will have to be shared by the artist with his page turner, whenever there is one. In fact I dedicate myself from this time on to applaud only for the page turner—and let the rest of the audience acclaim the artists!

FLORENCE KAYSOR.

## Welfare Director Talks At Vespers

YW Members to Help With Social Service

Dr. Harry Becker of the State Welfare society presented a vivid picture of the need of the dependent children of Nebraska to the meeting of the Y. W. C. A. Vespers Tuesday. Dr. Becker is the director of the state department of child welfare and, among other things, is responsible for relief work among children.

As a result of this talk, the Y. W. C. A. members are invited to talk to Miss Ostlund at the Y. W. C. A. office in Ellen Smith hall in regard to doing some specific social service work. This work would be excellent training for prospective teachers.

## Prof. Weiland Returns From Detroit Convention

Prof. W. F. Weiland of the mechanical engineering department attended the recent meetings of the Crank Case Oil Stability committee of the Society of Automotive Engineers held at Detroit. Meetings were held in conjunction with the annual convention of the society.

Professor Weiland has done considerable research with lubricating oils, his results indicating that it is possible to predict the useful life of an oil with a reasonable degree of certainty. He presented some of his work at the committee hearings.

Princeton university has received a special grant to finance a study of the effects of the Orson Welles broadcast of the invasion from Mars.

Davey O'Brien, Texas Christian university All American grid player, received more than 2,000 letters and cards from fans during the 1938 season.

Cornell university has been given a collection of early American fire fighting relics numbering 50 pieces.

The 160 freshmen and sophomores at Goucher college follow no less than 114 different personal curricula.

Harvard university has established 20 scholarships of \$500 each for refugees from Germany.

The state of Indiana has refused to take over the control and financing of Evansville college, now supported by the Methodist Episcopal church.

The University of Texas drama loan library last year provided Texas high school students with copies of 20,000 plays.

# Ben Simon & Sons

## REMOVAL SALE



*Just In Time for the Cold Weather*

## Comes a 25% to 40% Saving on Overcoats



Balmacaan  
1/2 Belt Raglan Full Belts  
Ulsters  
D. B. Dress  
S. B. Mens

\$ 20

Sizes 34 to 50

Regulars, Shorts  
Longs

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Fleeces  
Cashmeres  
Tweeds  
Haircloths  
Kerseyes  
Metcalfs

\$ 29

Hart Schaffner & Marx  
Better Coats

\$ 34

The newspaper couldn't carry a message of more importance to men than does this advertisement. Here's a call to participate in an Overcoat Sale that will save you as much as 40% on Hart Schaffner & Marx and other fine coats. You will be sure to find the coat you want, in your favorite style . . . at the lowest price ever.

## Wrecking Prices on Men's Suits

# \$13 - \$15 - \$20 - \$24

### MUNSING UNION SUITS

Irregulars



Light and medium weight cottons and medium weight wool Munsingwear union suits for men, in short sleeve, ankle length; short sleeve, three-quarter length, and long sleeve, ankle length styles.

1/2 Price

\$1.35 Suits 68c  
\$1.50 Suits 75c  
\$1.95 Suits 98c  
\$3 Suits...\$1.50

### MEN'S SHIRTS

Our Regular Stock

# \$1.38

This Removal Sale really brings you fine shirts. There is a large assortment of the winter season's newest patterns and colors, in all sizes and all sleeve lengths. We are also including our SIM WHITE Shirts.

## Removal Sale Men's Pajamas

In this removal sale we are including our entire stock of men's fine pajamas. A very desirable selection of patterns and fabrics in all styles.

\$1.65 Pajamas \$1.29 \$2 & \$2.50 Pajamas \$1.49  
\$3.50 Pajamas \$2.49

### Men's \$3.95 Fur Lined Gloves

Here are fine cape leather and mocha dress gloves that are warmly fur lined. All sizes . . . . .

# \$1.98

### \$8.95 to \$12.95 SUEDE JACKETS

Genuine suede leather and cape leather coats and jackets. Zipper and button closing, two and four pocket styles and belted models in browns and tans . . . . .

# \$6.95

### Men's \$1 Neckwear

In this sale you have your choice of our entire stock of regular \$1 neckwear, at only 50c . . . . .

# 59c

### Men's \$5 HATS

All standard make hats . . . . .

# \$3.33

\$5 to \$6.85 MEN'S SHOES \$3.85  
All House Slippers Reduced.

**Daily Nebraskan**  
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, 1932.

**New Clothing Service Organized at Skidmore**  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y. (ACP). Science has come to the aid of fashion-conscious students—and those who are not so clothes minded, too.  
At least it has at Skidmore college where home economics students have organized the Skidmore Clothing Service to aid undergraduates and faculty members to select clothes to fit the personality of the individual.  
This new extra curricular service will advise its clients on textiles styles and the proper accessories to make a complete ensemble which will express the personality of the wearer. Style advice is given free, but standardized rates are charged for alterations and repairs.

## Opposes College Standardization

COLUMBIA, S. C. (AP). Discussing "Standardizing Agencies and Their Interference With Normal University Development," J. Rion McKlasick, president of the University of South Carolina, declared that "I favor reasonable standards for colleges and universities, but I am opposed to excessive and oppressive standardization which invades the sovereignty of colleges and universities and assumes dictatorial powers over their administration."  
"Some of these standardizing agencies do not properly take into account the vast differences in financial resources of colleges and universities. Some of the standardizing agencies compel financially poor colleges and universities to spend the same minimum for certain purposes as are required of tremendously wealthy institutions like Harvard, Yale and Columbia."  
"Some colleges and universities have already refused to submit

further to the dictatorship of such standardizing agencies."  
"Some time ago I presented certain aspects of this problem to our board of trustees. Upon my recommendation, that body adopted a resolution deferring any new or additional compliance with the requirements of standardizing agencies until after the annual meeting of the National Association of State Universities and the Land Grant College association in Chicago."

"Modern youth has many good qualities that the youth of other periods possessed and, in addition, good qualities that were not conspicuous in the youth of the past. But it is clear to me that the youth of today, both men and women, are not the equals of earlier generations in elegance, in manner, or in ease in behavior." Dean J. T. Madden, New York University, believes you, and you, and you should brush up on your manners a bit.

Oldest person represented in the Who's Who of America is Dr. C. W. Super, former president of Ohio University.