

### No Politicians Allowed, Eh!

News dispatches bring us word that Thomas E. Dewey, most youthful of material for the republican presidential nomination, will speak in the university coliseum as part of a G. O. P. Founders' day get-together in Lincoln March 1. These facts are not surprising. Republicans in the state have always managed to get one of their national big-wigs, like Col. Frank Knox or Dr. Glen Frank, here about this time of the year. Furthermore, they have always engaged the university's coliseum, Lincoln's only excuse for an auditorium.

But it seems almost necessary, however, that these facts bring to light the surprising situation several weeks ago when Student Union officials had to tell Senator Edward R. Burke, after having invited him, that it would be impossible and inadvisable for him to appear before the student body in the Union building. We learned from reliable sources in Omaha that Senator Burke, who was elected on the democratic ticket six years ago and is presently entering a stiff race for re-election, had begun preparation of an address that was to "contain no political propaganda or campaign comment but pure observation and knowledge of the national and international situation" as had been requested in the invitation. It is believed refusal to permit his appearance came from officials high in Union administration—from officials higher in the administration than those who put in their appearance at the Union daily to do their work.

Senator Burke, at least, was afforded more courtesy than that given Mr. Earl Browder at several eastern colleges where the communist was not permitted to make his appearance. Nice words were spoken when Senator Burke was told that his request address here would have to be canceled. No publicity was given the cancellation because of the fact, according to sources, that one member of the Union board of control thought it improper to have "a politician" speak before the students of the University of Nebraska.

The entire incident raises many questions. The thought that the university was playing factional politics is completely out of question since the scheduled appearance of Dewey and the canceled appearance of Burke have to do with different circumstances completely. It leads one to wonder, however, when a man of politics IS a politician and when he IS NOT. It asks whether or not men of university affairs consider a man of political affairs inferior and his words "degrading" upon young political minds. It makes one wonder if the university has any constructive idea of attempting to recapture student interest in politics, public affairs, and down-to-earth, first-hand problems concerning national problems. It imposes the question whether or not Nebraska students, who are fortunate in being able to witness a unique state legislature function, should concern itself at all with politics.

We've heard our foreign exiles who do their duty of predicting international affairs at the tune of \$300 or so per appearance. Why not hear our own men for a change?

Why not hear those men upon whose compromises and political juggling the grants for construction of the Union building itself—and the athletic field house—depended.

### Regent Action . . . Brings Housing to a Head

Action by the Board of Regents yesterday in reducing women's dormitory rates brings the women's housing problem to a head.

We have known for some time that the new dean of women had been informed of the women's housing investigation carried on during the past two years on the campus. It was probably this knowledge that prompted her to take steps to remedy the situation before any unfavorable publicity could be smuggled into the newspapers and besmirch the elaborate build-up given Love hall at the time of dedication.

We have known for some time, also, that altho Raymond, Love, and Northeast halls accommodate 370 girls, there are only 190 girls occupying rooms. Northeast hall is completely vacant. At the beginning of the second semester this number will be reduced to about 160, taking into account about 30 girls who will move into sorority houses. This leaves room for a little more than 200 girls next semester.

The action of the board of regents yesterday reduced dormitory rates beginning second semester from the present rate of \$152 to \$144 with the yearly rate, effective Sept. 1, 1940, scaled down from the present \$304 to \$270. Provision was also made whereby girls who are working for meals outside the halls may rent rooms there for \$10 a month.

Thus it is assumed that there are 200 girls now living in university-approved rooming houses working outside for their meals who will be in a position to move into the dorms next semester, but a look at some figures will disprove this possibility. According to average figures compiled last spring, there are approximately 160 girls living in ten houses, that do not provide meals, at a cost of \$7.50

to \$11.00 a room per month. At least one-third of these girls are engaged in light housekeeping, with an average cost of a little less than \$10. This leaves about 100 girls whose average room cost is \$8.50. These are the girls that are to be encouraged to move into the dorms where they will pay \$10 per month for a room.

This leads to two conclusions: If a girl can have light housekeeping privileges for less than \$10 and if another girl can live in a room for \$8.50 a month, why should either of them move into the dorms where they would be obliged to pay \$10 for a room and where there are no provisions for light housekeeping?

And still the dorm lacks 100 girls. Are they to come from the more than 100 girls who live in the seven other university approved houses and pay an average of \$24, per month for board and room when it would cost them \$36 a month in the dorms?

And this question of bearable living quarters for more than 250 girls now living in "university-approved rooming and boarding houses" becomes more serious as more money is put into beautifully built, but empty dormitories. An investigation of more than half of these houses last spring showed that if any authorized investigation had ever been made by the university, two of the houses, from the standpoint of decent living quarters, could never have been approved. Yet these houses house about 25 girls. Of the remaining 15, five could almost be considered in excellent condition, with the exception of one that presents somewhat of a fire hazard because of too high light voltage on one outlet.

Of course, the university does not own these houses, but merely approves them with evidently a cursory investigation of their condition, according to reliable information gathered in the recent investigation.

The situation sums itself up into this one regrettable conclusion: "The university is barking up the wrong tree." For the action of the board of regents, which we believe may be credited mostly to the sincere efforts Dean Hosp, while it does reduce the cost of living in the dorm, does not yet meet the existing costs of living in rooming and boarding houses, nor provide for those girls who desire light housekeeping privileges. There is no provision made for the fact that all girls do not work for all their meals, nor do they work all the time.

Thus the dorms cannot yet be filled, unless the university in desperation, requires all freshman women to live in them within the near future. In the meantime a sufficient number of rooming houses could be made satisfactory for living. But perhaps it is to the university's advantage not to remedy existing conditions but to concentrate instead on filling the dorms. For with the gradual increase in emphasis on the dorms and the consequent lack of unfavorable publicity on the rooming houses, it is not too impossible that these later may become, more and more, unpleasant places for girls to live. Those girls who wish to attend university will be forced to live in the dorms. This will raise the cost of living. Less girls will be able to afford to attend university. Perhaps this is one way of restricting enrollment, a subtle way.

### News Roundup By Davis, Loos, Mahnken

#### SUBVERSIVE HOUSEWIVES.

A report of the Dies committee made public during the past fortnight reveals that of the 4,751 members of the communist party registered in California, housewives comprise the largest single occupational group. The assertions of those who saw in the longshoremen and agricultural laborers hotbeds of communism have been proven nothing but a smokescreen thrown up to becloud the opposition to the economic demands of these elements, for the combined membership of these groups is less than 200.

Rather, it is the feminine hand that is rocking the cradle of the infant red party. Overlooking the fact that probably the greater share of this group possesses no full and complete understanding of what communism implies, we may pause and view with mock alarm, and pose the question—When "comes the revolution" will it be led by grim-eyed refugees from the kitchen who have forsaken skillet and broom for the hammer and sickle?

Meanwhile the committee has asked congress to extend its life for another year, that the subversive elements may be turned into complete rout. Congressmen who read the committee's report will certainly not feel inclined to do so. For the report is an admission of the failure of the group. The net result of the committee has been nil; nothing was unearthed that persons who keep abreast of current events had not long known.

If our congressional representatives are sincere in their desire to economize and eliminate unnecessary appendages, no better beginning can be made than by assigning the Dies committee to the political graveyard and leaving the investigation of un-American activities to the department of justice.

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### UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA OFFICIAL BULLETIN

This bulletin is for the use of campus organizations, students and faculty members. Announcements of meetings or other notices for the bulletin may be submitted at the NEBRASKAN office by 5 p. m. the day of publication or at the registrar's office by 4 p. m. on week-days and 11 a. m. on Saturday. Notices must be typed or legibly written and signed by someone with the authority to have the notice published. The bulletin will appear daily, except Monday and Saturday, on page two of the NEBRASKAN.

#### SYMPHONY PROGRAMS.

Fairfax C of the Union will be open Sunday at 3 p. m. to students wishing to hear the Sunday afternoon symphony broadcasts.

#### VARIETY MATINEE

The Union will present a free variety matinee Sunday afternoon in the ballroom at 4 p. m. Included in the program are vaudeville acts and a full length movie "East Meets West."

#### YWCA VESPERS

Mrs. C. E. Rosenquist will speak on "Religion in the Home" at Vespers Tuesday at 8 p. m. in Ellen Smith. Mary Babcock will lead devotions.

#### VESPER CHOIR

Y W Vesperchoir rehearsal will be Monday at 8 p. m. in Ellen Smith.

#### SIGMA Upsilon

The Wordsmith chapter of Sigma Upsilon, honorary literary fraternity, announces

the election of new officers. They are: Smith B. Davis, president, and Emory F. Burnett, secretary-treasurer. Installation will be at the next meeting, to be held Sunday, January 7, 8 p. m. at 602 North 15th St.

Two students have been elected to membership this year: Frank J. Botandig and F. Hamilton Reed.

#### PRE-SOCIAL WORK LUNCHEON

Judge John L. Polk will address the Pre-Social Work Majors on the subject, "The Juvenile Court," at their monthly luncheon to be held January 9 in Room 216 of the Union at 11:35.

#### CONGREGATIONAL DINNER

The Congregational students of the university will have dinner in Fairfax X and Y of the Student Union Tuesday, January 8, at 6. Dr. John M. Phillips of the First Central Congregational Church of Omaha will be the speaker. All Congregational students are welcome. Phone your reservations to Doris Ripley 3-8044 or to the Congregational office, 5-4889.

## Grad school gets \$4,642

Relief funds to be used for worthy students

Graduate School of Social Work has received \$4,642 from the Nebraska Emergency Relief Administration, to be used in assisting worthy students in the school, Director Frank Z. Glick, announced. This is the sum remaining after liquidation of the state administration some time ago.

When the work of the federal emergency relief administration was concluded, the government decided that the states which still possessed relief funds should keep and spend them as they saw fit. The Nebraska agency had approximately five thousand remaining, which has now been turned over to the university to be used for scholarships and assistantships, beginning next year.

Recipients of the grants must have demonstrated their scholastic ability and must show that they cannot continue their graduate study without financial assistance, according to the social work head.

According to the provisions agreed upon, one or more of scholarships of not less than \$250 each will be awarded, plus free tuition, and at least one graduate assistantship of an amount commensurate with the quality and quantity of service the student is able to render.

### English instructors attend holiday meetings

Dr. T. M. Raysor, chairman of the department of English, and several members of the English faculty, Miss Louise Pound, Miss Mamie Meredith, Miss Ruth Odell, Miss Margaret Cannell, Miss Mabel Strong, Kenneth Forward, and Ray Frantz attended the Christmas meetings of the Modern Language Association and the American Association of University Professors at New Orleans.

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