

Editorial - - Comment - - Bulletin

On the A.S.U.— a peculiar animal

The American Student Union, an institution which seems to exist only for the purpose of evoking enmity and criticism toward its members, has taken its stand, as everyone expected, against conscription.

The supreme collegiate embodiment of those who believe democracy in America hangs by a thread over the boiling fires of chaos, this Student Union, labelling itself, so all-conclusively, promoted a "walkout on war" Oct. 10 at 110 different colleges throughout the country... or so its publicity releases said. We failed to read anywhere of how the walkout fared.

The union bulletins contained the following paragraph recently:

"Specific mention, made in the Student Union Call, lists as 'efforts to involve the nation in war—the plan to train Canadian air pilots on American soil, the proposed sale of flying fortresses to Great Britain, and the recent dispatch of 50 naval destroyers for combat service in England. On the campus the war moves cited include numerous instances of administrative reprisals threatened against any student or faculty critic of the national defense program, the institution of compulsory ROTC on new campuses, the military-service pledge now required of students in the CAA pilot training program, and the curtailment of curriculum.

This militarization, says the Student Union, is an "attempt to degrade American education to the same savage level to which Hitler reduced the fascist universities."

But: All of this argument is necessarily based on the premise that American democracy and free educational systems are so near to being blighted that these last named activities are the culmination of a series of restrictions and enforcements.

We differ at this point, and because the difference is at this point, we would contend that the Student Union's argument is either premature or entirely out of place.

To begin with, there are no signs, no reason for thinking that constitutional guarantees as they pertain to education and its ramifications are undergoing or have undergone any curtailment. Laws passed by congress, which are upheld as constitutional and which affect the activities of groups who seek to institute a different form of government in this country still have never deprived any minority from seeking a change in governing methods through constitutional channels. Pure criticism of the law is not and never has been, except in times of war, curtailed. Active opposition to the enforcement or application of any law passed by congress or by a state is logically and rightfully a disobedience of law and should be punishable. The fundamental right is preserved in every case, and this is the case now... the case which the American Student Union in its desire either to attract attention or to stir up needless and troublesome commotion, has failed to understand.

Compulsory military education, as it exists, carries no threat of compulsory military service. The CAA training program requires that if its trainees are drafted in the regular method or do enlist in the army, they shall be transferred to the air service because of their special training and tested ability. Naturally, once a person is in military service he is subject to commands of superiors or the whole military system would be a farce.

The American Student Union may be sincere and honest in everything it says or does. On the other hand, it may be dishonest and it may have concealed motives behind its activities.

What it seems to forget entirely in its accusations and its warnings is that those constitutional guarantees it claims are threatened and being curtailed are the very guarantees under which it operates so freely and extensively. Freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom of assembly give the A. S. U. its very life. So far, it has not disobeyed the law and has been operating within its fundamental rights.

One thing seems sure. It could help maintain those fundamental rights, if they ever do become endangered, much more by recognizing its own useless hysteria as the rightful object of its censoring attitude than by criticizing the machinery of democracy when it is undergoing the most crucial test it has ever faced.

On The Side

by Bob Aldrich

We are not overly addicted to murder mysteries but a few of them have drifted our way lately and, rather than idle away our time with such poppycock as studying, we have been reading the fool things.

After absorbing a number of these "Whodunnits" it has occurred to us that murder story writers have just about reached the end of their rope. Not that they have run out of ways to kill people or ways to uncover the foul deed but the reactions of the people involved have gotten more and more sophisticated until one wonders if finding a dead man in your closet is considered cause for more than a yawn these days.

In the murder yarn which we plan to write this technique of boredom among the characters will be carried to a new high. "The Doing-in of Lady Murgatroyd" starts out on a mild day in spring (it is always a mild day in spring when things begin). The characters are all guests of Lady Murgatroyd's estate at Upperywind-pipe-on-the-Thames and a duller bunch of people we never saw in one chapter.

It is almost time for tea when one of the servants finds Lady Murgatroyd hanging in her closet (that is, all of her except what is in the trunk in the attic.) She has been shot, stabbed, hung, poisoned, and generally quite badly mistreated.

When the guests are informed there is some consternation.

"Dear, dear," murmurs Sir Reginald Whiffletree (son of Lord Baggeyes Whiffletree of his Majesty's Royal Hussars), "and just at tea time too. I take three lumps, thank you, and kindly pass the crumpets."

"You'd think," chimes in Countess Worcestershire, washing down her crumpet with eight fingers of beer, "the old girl would be more thoughtful than to get herself done in before dinner. A murder always takes the edge off one's appetite so, don't you think?"

"I suppose," sighs the fourth Earl of Blickingham, "we shall all be detained for questioning. And I hoped to get out for a bit of golf before the end of the third chapter."

"One must expect these things," says the countess philosophically. "I was in an Ellery Queen story once where we did nothing at all but listen to some bloody fool ask idiotic questions until all hours. Really, it was most distressing!"

Just then the butler (Heeves),

Dear Editor: is it called a rally if no one comes?

Surprise! We had a rally... The cheer leaders, the band, the Tassels, the Corn Cobs, the bell were there. They worked hard. The cheerleaders led yells. The band played. The pep clubs cheered. The bell rang. It was a good rally... only nobody came.

Spirit is a great thing. Spirit is an intangible thing. Spirit didn't come to the rally, either.

Cheer leaders are leaders of cheers. Cheer leaders do not lead cheers for themselves.

Nebraska cheer leaders are your cheer leaders.

A few of us were there, but where were you?

Jo Belle Duree.

pops in with a hot flash from upstairs. It seems that pieces of Lord Murgatroyd, who hasn't been heard from since he and Lady Murgatroyd had a spat on the eve of their wedding, have just been found floating in the swimming pool.

"Dash it!" cried Millicent Mitheringwell. "And Freddy Blithers and I were planning a bit of a swim before dinner. But one can't really, with one's host floating about. I mean its wouldn't be thought quite nice and all that!"

"At least," says the ever-complacent countess, "we all have dinner to look forward to. What a blessing a good meal is when one is floundering in a sea of utterly boresome murders!"

Just then a shot is heard from the kitchen. Back comes Heeves.

"I beg your pardon," he says, stifling a yawn, "but the cook has just been done in. And dinner has not been prepared."

"Oh, zounds!" cries Sir Reginald, losing his temper. "There ought to be a law! I shall see my P. M. the moment I get back to London."

And they all leave for the nearest hamburger shoppe, cursing bitterly.

Awgwan-

(Continued from page 1.)

during those dark moments. Pictures of the sorority freshmen appear, and 1940 being a year of political importance, a roving cameraman followed the liberal faction and took pictures while the campus politicians were enjoying themselves at a picnic.

Humor will be given ample space to make the magazine the most universal of its kind any place at any time.

Subscriptions to the Flash shall be handed in to Gerald Spahn, business manager of the publication, at the old Awgwan office,

Scrap Irony

By Chris Petersen

ALL IN THE FAMILY.

I was having a coke with a favorite woman the other day and we spent much time talking about her "brother," whom it appears is the sap of the family tree.

She was in the confidential mood and got quite off on a tangent about "Brother." Her conversation concerning "Brother" ran something like this:

"The other day we just sat down at the dinner table when mother said, 'I've just learned that brother is bugs about a waitress.' 'Brother's' love life is an awful problem. Take this waitress for instance. She's vice versa. She smokes too much and nacks too much and like she told mother, she can't decide which vice is versa. 'Brother is a good kid but he's so mixed up that he just doesn't know which way to turn. I wish you would give him some advice sometime.' I said that I would. So far, about all that I know to tell 'Brother' is that people who don't know which way to turn have no business in a revolving door.

Anyhow, the lass went on. "'Brother' is very quick though. Take last night for instance. He had a wreck with the family car and when the cop came up and asked who was driving, 'Brother' said, 'No one, we were all in the back seat.' The policeman didn't know what to do so he had to let 'Brother' go. 'Brother' was always kinda quick on the trigger until a street car conductor crushed his spirit. The other day, 'Brother' got on this street car and said to this conductor, Hello, Noah, the ark filled yet?' And then this mean conductor said, Nope, still got room for one more jackass. 'Brother' still isn't over it. He just hates to be beaten to the punch—especially if it's spiked."

I was wondering about "Brother's" finances so I asked, "What's 'Brother's' average income?" "Oh, about 2 in the morning, came the answer.

I decided there was no hope for brother and besides this favorite woman's kisses speak the language of love and I was anxious to get a little of that kind of conversation.

Schmidt talks at meet

Prof. A. B. Schmidt will speak to the Nebraska Library association convention this morning at 9:45 at the Cornhusker Hotel on the subject "Government and Finance."

Huskers coeds... Learn how to live the hard way on ag

If you enjoy seeing people work take a trip out to the ag campus where girls' Campcraft groups are taking their practical courses this week.

Altho some work like seasoned veterans, it is distressing to see a few of the more delicate coeds struggling with an ax or hatchet as they chop the daily requirement of wood.

Some of the most fastidious of Husker coeds were spied kneeling on the ground, their skirts covered with dust, scowls creasing their foreheads, muttering softly to themselves as they became initiated into the art of firebuilding.

But it's a great life if you can take it! And these fair coeds who come home every night tired and aching will have acquired by the end of this week's training, knowledge which will give them pleasure for many years.

Methodist group offers classes for uni students

Judge Bayard H. Paine of the Nebraska supreme court and the Rev. Robert E. Drew, director of the Wesley Foundation, will lead, respectively, a group for upper classmen studying the Gospel of Luke, and a class for freshmen studying and discussing the general theme, "What Religion Is and Does," at the St. Paul Methodist church, 12th and M, at 10 a. m., Sunday.

Also offered to university students is an evening program including a fellowship and a luncheon period from 6:30 to 7:30. The latter period for the next six weeks is being devoted to a Bible study unit. Mr. Clement Emerson is president of the evening youth group, and the Rev. Robert Drew, Methodist student pastor, is counselor. Worship services are also held at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. under the direction of the pastor, Dr. Walter Aitken.

Official Daily News Bulletin

BARB DANCE. There will be a barb dance in the Union ballroom from 7 to 8:30 p. m. Friday. Admission is 10 cents a person or one barb activities card a couple.

SIGMA DELTA CHI Members of Sigma Delta Chi will meet at 4:30 p. m. Tuesday, in the Awgwan office. All members are required to attend.

CORN COBS. Corn Cobs wishing tickets to the homecoming party may obtain them by seeing either John Gayer or Chris Peterson in the DAILY office.

GIRL'S RIFLE CLUB. First meeting of the Girl's Rifle Club will be held in Nebraska hall 210, at 5 p. m., Tuesday, October 23. Any uni-

versity girl that is interested is welcome to attend the meeting. Lieutenant Richardson will speak at the meeting.

PALLADIAN LITERARY SOCIETY. Members of the Palladian Literary Society will meet at 9 p. m. Friday in the Temple.

AAUP. The American Association of University Professors will meet at 6:15 p. m. Friday in Parlors X and Y of the Union.

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY. Members of the American Chemical Society will meet at 8 p. m. Friday, in Parlor Z of the Union.

UNION DANCE. Johnny Cox and his orchestra will play for a Union dance tonight at 9 p. m. in the ballroom.

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