

Editorial — Comment — Bulletin

We're for giving anything a try, but . . .

The opinion of the DAILY is that sorority girls and incoming freshmen are in for a lot of heartaches by the application of the new quota system for sorority houses.

Chivalry or some other noble principle may suggest protecting the weaker houses and equalizing the prestige of all sororities in this manner. But even university freshmen are human and all the chivalry in the world isn't going to soften the pain in the hearts of those kept from their sorority choice by this system.

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This is America remember. And one of the cardinal principles of the democratic American system is to think of the individual as the entity to be protected, rather than to be enslaved in the interests of the group. We usually say protect the rights of the individual first, and through that protection and the satisfaction derived from that protection, serve the more general interests of the group.

We don't say forget the sorority system and the fact that it is somewhat unbalanced; we say rather that in curing the diseases of that system, consider the effect the reforms will have on the individuals.

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The restrictions imposed by the new system will undoubtedly fill up the dormitories. Chalk that up in its favor. It will undoubtedly strengthen the weaker sororities. Again it scores a hit. But with each hit it scores a hardship; with each popular girl forced into a poorer group, and thereby strengthening that group, that same girl is being kept out of another sorority, the one of her choice, the one she will always think of as the one where she belonged.

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Questions keep popping up in our minds; questions that only a trial can answer.

•What's going to happen when a sorority's quota is so limited that a girl must see a lifelong chum kept out of her group.

•What's going to happen when legacies stand in the way of pledging girls which are wanted rather badly by a particular sorority.

•And how can a girl be enthusiastic in one group when many of her best friends are in another, and she must constantly feel that her sorority is not the one of her original choice.

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But on the other hand . . .

Perhaps our fears are unfounded. The system has worked on a number of campuses. It is true that the reduced membership in the houses, and the scarcity of weak chapters are the only criteria for indicating the satisfaction of the girls for the system. But perhaps the victory of these two ends warrant the unrest and heartaches necessary to get a new system in motion.

Its good points may outweigh its bad. We hope so. We're for giving it a chance; more than that we will give it all the support we can to give it a fair start. But as we look at its prospects now— . . . we have our fears.

Our duty to democracy To educate ourselves

With the slogan, "Defenders of Democracy Enlist," college students all over the country are organizing propogandizing organizations for democracy. Arising from the realization that threats to the American way of life from without can be countered only by organization from within, the movement seeks to stem the tides of nazism and communism, to preserve the principles of democracy in practice and to instruct America's youth in what democracy means to them.

The fall of the French government before a machine of regimented German youth, the infiltration of bund organizations into the hearts of vanquished Belgium and Holland and the rumors of such infiltration into the United States itself certainly justifies activity of this sort. It justifies it where there is a threat.

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Yet we can be proud that no organized democratic movement has arisen on this campus; we can be proud that here there is no need. We won't soon forget the fact that federal agents omitted the name of this institution from their sizable list of colleges and universities where subversive nazi and communist activities exists.

We cannot be lax, however, we cannot let our security poison us within for it is thru laxity and unawareness that diseases of this kind take root. We do have a duty to democracy; that duty is to become informed. That thru an understanding of the evils threatening our way of life, we can better arm ourselves against them.

Towards this end the university library is providing pamphlets and books on American government and Dangers to Democracy for student use. Fifty pamphlets published by the American Library Association on what can be done to alleviate the dangers to democracy will be given away free by the reference librarian.

For the same purpose a great number of books dealing with American foreign policies and other aspects of world affairs have been placed on the Home Reading Shelf.

Let schools where a threat is imminent do the organizing. Let us make use of the facilities offered to learn what democracy means to us. And thru education present a need for organization from arising here.

That we may profit . . .

The Student Union has placed files of the leading All American and Big Six college newspapers in the book nook for student use. But from all indications they are not being used to the extent that they should be, possibly because of the ignorance of most people that they are there.

The problems of other schools are the same as ours. Yet the organization of their activities, their political factions and their class schedules are somewhat different. A study in the way they meet their problems will give us constructive ideas for meeting ours.

We cannot live to ourselves. Here is the first opportunity offered Nebraska students to learn what other schools are doing.



Willkie will testify

By the time this is in print Wendell Willkie may be on the Lisbon clipper winging his way westward across the Atlantic to tell the senate foreign relations committee and the American people what he saw in his whirlwind tour of Great Britain.

The former republican presidential candidate left London Wednesday, flying to Lisbon where he planned to take the first plane home.

The two weeks tour which has taken him from bomb shelters to Buckingham Palace was climaxed Tuesday with a flying visit to Dublin to confer with Eamon de Valera, prime minister of Eire. The purpose of the visit was to talk with De Valera regarding Eire's neutral bases. What he learned is unknown, though it is believed that he will be willing to discuss his Dublin visit before the foreign relations committee, if he is asked.

Willkie undoubtedly will have much to tell when he goes upon the stand. He saw everything he wanted to see and talked to many of the important personages in the government, including Prime Minister Churchill. In addition to the government-arranged visits, he often went out privately, appearing at unannounced places.

Though Willkie's return and his testimony are awaited with great interest by the rank and file of both political parties, it is becoming increasingly uncertain just how he will be received by the leaders of the republican party.

While no definite action has been taken by official groups within the party, it is well known that his whole attitude on the lease-lend bill is not approved by many of the republican leaders; and there are rumors that there is a movement on foot to oust him from his place of influence.

At the Chicago and Omaha meetings of G. O. P. chieftains, Willkie is supposed to have come in for some exceedingly severe criticism. At Omaha a gag rule was applied to keep any conclusions that might have been reached from the public.

The Federation of Young Republicans meeting in Des Moines, considered several resolutions repudiating Willkie as their leader, but, upon the advice of party chairman Joe Martin, did nothing about it.

However, they did pass a resolution inviting the Willkie clubs, led by Oren Root, to get back into the party.

Balanced against these expressions of disfavor from party leaders is the fact that the 1940 standard bearer continues to remain popular with the rank and file, and continues to have considerable influence with the independent voter.

Council-

(Continued From Page 1.)

problems, each school will make out a mimeographed outline of their subject to be handed out at registration.

Thursday night the first dinner will be held with Chancellor Boucher and Dean Thompson as guests. Friday is the night of Kansas university's dinner meeting, and Saturday night the delegates will be guests at an informal dinner in the Cornhusker, following which they will attend the Interfraternity Council Ball en masse.

Chairmen for the committees in charge of the convention are Lodging, Ray Murray and Ruth Iverson; Registration, Ruth Ann Sheldon; Welcome and Publicity, Dale Theobald; Discussion Group Leaders, Burton Thiel; Thursday night dinner, Mary Rosborough; Saturday night dinner, Marian Cramer; Nebraska discussion

meeting, Kenneth Holland; and General meeting, John Mason. Bus Knight will direct a tour through Lincoln and the city and ag campuses Friday afternoon.

All meetings, luncheons, and dinners with the exception of the dinner at the Cornhusker Saturday will be in the Union.

Quota-

(Continued From Page 1.) board of regents these women will be forced to spend their first year in the university women's residence halls—but whether they will be allowed to pledge, or if, when pledged, they will be counted in the house quota still remains to be determined.

Further, the status of alumni and inactive members living in the houses has not yet been adequately explained, according to a group of sorority women polled yesterday afternoon by the DAILY.

To assuage the fears of Greek women who fear arbitrary chang-

Bulletin

INTERHOUSE COUNCIL.

Interhouse Council will meet today at 7 p. m. in the Barb office.

Phi Sigma Iota will meet today at 5 p. m. in the Union ballroom today at 5 p. m. Present identification cards for admittance, at 5 p. m. today in room 210 of NEPPERCLASS AWS.

Upperclass AWS will meet at 5 p. m. today in Ellen Smith. New committees will be assigned.

ing of a house's quota, Helen Higgins, Sigma Kappa president of the Panhellenic Council reminds that the Panhellenic Council makes its own rules and is not subject to university interference as long as it stays within bounds. Lincoln girls will not count in a house's quota.

Other schools using this quota system are Drake university, Iowa State at Ames and several of the colleges in Missouri.

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