

Editorial

Comment

Bulletin

Research now! No 'if's' then!

Chamber of Commerce leaders all over Nebraska are deploring the fact that so little defense money is coming into this state. And as one or two industries which they felt we might have had are going elsewhere, these men are resorting to the proverbial 'if'?

• If Nebraskans had started work on a suitable plastic material five years ago, in all probability the refrigeration industry would be setting up plants in Fremont, Grand Island or other Nebraska towns today. For the limitations on aluminum imposed by the defense commission, are forcing industrialists to seek out substitutes for metal and even for rubber ice trays.

• If a slightly different plastic made from corn stalks had likewise been perfected, and there are indications that such plastics are feasible, we would have far better chances now of getting aircraft industries in the state.

Yet no such discoveries were made, and 'if' now gets our chambers of commerce no results. The placement of defense contracts elsewhere has however brought it to the minds of these leaders that Nebraskans can't just sit back and watch farm income decline, watch the population drift to other states where industries are expanding, and just hope that sometime someone will give to this state a few goodwill defense contracts.

Thinkers are beginning to say that if Nebraska is ever to get the revitalization it needs, it must find better utilization for its resources, and develop new products from the materials it now has.

There is no institution in the state so peculiarly adapted to doing this necessary work as is the university. It has the men, it has the equipment. Its record of important agricultural developments in the past, shows the potentialities it has for the future. It has increased farm yields and has made possible hog raising in the state without the danger of disease. There is now every reason to believe that the men in this university could likewise blaze a trail in industrial expansion.

This university however didn't do the necessary work on plastics which would have been so essential to the state today. The reason that such work was not done was that the university had no funds to do it with. Legislatures in the past few years have cut appropriations to education again and again, and since enrollments have continued to rise, the incidence of these cuts has fallen upon research activities. Until today such activities are almost negligible. At the time when the state most needs the experimentation of educated men, it has cast that experimentation aside.

When a man crossing a desert is no longer able to carry his full pack, he must of necessity cast a part of it aside. But surely when his strength fails him, he would not cast off his food supply; for that food supply is the source of the strength he will need to carry him through.

The analogy is obvious. Nebraska is depressed; it lacks the necessary funds to carry all its load. Because the population is leaving the state and farm incomes have dropped to practically nothing it is necessary for the legislature to cast something aside.

In the past it has cut the university appropriations; and in so doing has cut the source of strength which can bring new vitality and new industries and developments to the state. If any substantial recognition is made in

Remember ASCAP?

It looks like the ASCAP-NAB battle royal is at an end, and ASCAP music will once again be on the air. A federal court last week ruled that the association and its managers were guilty of 10 violations of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, the main one of which was conspiracy to monopolize desirable copyright material.

The decision of the court shows clearly that justice in America is "the will of the people." Though presumably an author should not be compelled to sell or rent what he produces and is protected by his copyright, it appears that where enough other people want a thing, it is monopoly to refuse to sell for the price that they set. And for attempting this kind of "monopolistic control" ASCAP must now pay a heavy penalty.

The \$35,250 fines and the losses in revenue from broadcasting studios in the past few months has made the battle an expensive episode. The success of BMI in catching the fancy of the public furthermore makes it appear doubtful that ASCAP will ever reach the position of prominence it held last year.

Only time will tell how seriously this fight has crippled the organization. ASCAP shouldn't be worried about how many people will remember its battle. The studio disput will be talked of for months to come. But what should worry these authors now is...

How many people remember ASCAP?

The Daily Nebraskan

Official Newspaper of More Than 7,000 Students

FORTIETH YEAR.

Subscription Rates are \$1.00 Per Semester or \$1.50 for the College Year. \$2.50 Mailed. Single copy, 5 Cents. 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 September 30, 1938.

Nebraska certainly a greater premium will be placed upon educators, scientists and research men than ever before.

It is useless now to say "if." The die has been cast and our mistakes have been made. Our present deficiencies in defense appropriations are a hard but perhaps needed lesson. It is for us now however to set ourselves right, that the "ifs" will not be sounded in the future.

Too many cooks?

The World Student Service Fund drive is over. In the space of three weeks that organization raised one and one-half times its \$500 goal and tripled the amount secured by it last year. Certainly the Religious Welfare Council is to be congratulated for its efforts and the students for their generosity in meeting a critical need.

With the success of this organization fresh in our minds, however, it is easy to see where the uncontrolled solicitations of the 300 similar organizations in the United States might lead. Should they all cover the same territory, and it is conceivable that they might, we could expect a different group to approach this school every day of the school year with the same noble purpose and with the same sizable need. Where would the end be?

So many overlapping groups can neither collect the money efficiently, nor expend it economically where it is needed most, for without organization none will know where needs have not been filled, and what parts of the country have not been touched.

President Roosevelt's announcement Friday therefore that he would set up a committee to coordinate the work of all these organizations is a step in the right direction. The Americans have shown their desire to help by contributing so liberally. To administer such a program though is a job bigger than anything individuals can handle. It is therefore essential that the government does organize and actively participate in the work. That economy and effectiveness may characterize the distribution of funds.

Commentorials

... from our readers

Why wasn't Ruth Clark's picture in Friday's paper

Dear Editor:

We should like to have an explanation as to why Ruth Clark's picture was omitted in the DAILY NEBRASKAN's recent publication of the candidates for May Queen.

Knowing that her picture has been used in the DAILY and other publications, we are sure it was available, and therefore feel the omission is unexcusable.

We do not like to feel that this was a discrimination against our candidate, but under the existing circumstances, we cannot believe otherwise.

Alpha Xi Delta.

Ed. Miss Clark's picture has somehow or other been misplaced. Knowing that it had been used, and that it should be in the Journal morgue, the staff made no provision for securing a new picture of Ruth for her May Queen candidacy. It was not until our news editor went to the Journal Thursday night to "put the paper to bed" that he found the picture missing.

Possibly none of the pictures should have been run since the one was missing, but it was felt that a special notation at the bottom would attract as much attention as a picture.

Time gives evidence of German assistance

Dear Editor:

As one who sees your paper daily, and admires your courage in defending what you believe to be right, I submit the following from Time, March 17: "In January Herbert Hoover submitted a plan. The Belgians promptly said yes. The Germans said yes, and shipped 800,000 bushels of grain into Belgium, and prepared to ship 3,000,000,000 more. The English said NO."

In this connection, the following from H. G. Wells Outline of History, page 1134, is interesting. "In 1921... a frightful disaster for this tragic people (Russia)... the crops failed completely, and the most terrible famine in the whole recorded history of our race ensued. Millions perished... horrible suffering... the government could not cope with this monstrous disaster... An American commission was formed... supplies sent... The British government, which had spent a hundred millions in illegitimate military operations against her former ally smirched the good name of Britain in the world by refusing any contribution to the work of relief."

Some things are wrong, no matter who does it. As Stanley Jones said the last time he was here, this weapon will act as a boomerang on any nation that tries it.

More power to you!

A Friend.



Atlantic counterblockade

The German counterblockade against England is now being pressed with a furious vigor hitherto unknown. In the heaviest mass bombing attack of the current year the German luftwaffe assaulted the great docks and shipyards of Glaswog, Scotland, throughout most of Thursday night. In successive attacks since then the ports of Hull, Liverpool, Bristol, London and others have been severely bombed.

The Germans claim that the damage wreaked at Glasgow makes the devastation effected at Coventry last fall seem moderate in comparison. The English say that the damage was relatively minor, and stress the strength of their night defenses that brought down 13 of the night raiders engaged in the Glasgow raid. Clear moonlight as an aid in locating the attackers plus the use of special night interceptor planes equipped with powerful searchlights are the reason for this unusual success in defense against night attack.

Also the Germans released figures claiming to have destroyed over 9,000,000 tons of English shipping since the war began. Usually the tonnage of ships admitted last by the English has run about 50 percent of the nazi claims. However, even if the nazi claims are halved there is still a huge loss of English shipping. Special observer Harry Hopkins has reported to the President that the most urgent need of Britain is cargo ships. Prime Minister Winston Churchill recently said that the most effective way that American aid under the lend-lease legislation could be given was in furnishing shipping.

That U. S. authorities plan action to counteract the menace of insufficient vessels is apparent from the request for Congressional authorization of almost \$700,000,000 for shipping to carry out the policy of the lease-lend bill.

Scrap Irony

By Chris Petersen

OF THINGS ON SUNDAY.

On this morning, we shall consider things in general and the message we just received from the office carrier pigeon who delivers and remarks, "Here's a message for you, Garcia."

Let us write in paragraph style a bit of free verse. I write free verse because nobody will pay for it.

Well, reader, I guess you wonder where I've been. I guess you're in a fix without someone to ring your typewriter bell when you get to the end of the line. You'll have to struggle along without me because I'm in the army. I'm not sure what army it is but I'm in it. You know, reader, I sometimes wonder if this is a free country anymore. In fact, I sometimes wonder if this is a country anymore. But what the hell, reader, as long as there is wine women and song a man can stand a lot if he doesn't weaken and there's even something to be said for weakening. But it's a hell of a note to have to bottle your impulses, inhibitions, etc. that's what I told them in the army but they just said shut up and peel those potatoes, you dirty red. Now reader I'm not a red. My complexion is peaches and cream except where it is sort of weatherbeaten.

But all of this is beside the point if there is a point. What I'm objecting to is all this regimentation. It's getting so a man can't do anything he wants to such as raising a little general devilment without someone making him stop. Just for instance I was walking down the street the other day and two men who looked like stand-ins for gorillas came up and said where are you going.

What the hell pals I said a street car is waiting for me down the street. This is a free country isn't it. You dirty red they said don't get subversive. I just have an appointment with a street car I said. I'm not subversive. I don't have an appointment with a submarine. But they picked me up and put me in a sack and took me to a fate worse than death or words to that effect.

And here I am peeling potatoes in a uniform. Me in the uniform and not the potatoes, I mean. What the hell I say what is this. This is conscription they said. Thank the lord I said. I thought it was the draft.

Well readers, here I am the unknown soldier and all I can say is what the hell, if you don't want to get in the army get married and have a baby or better yet be a baby.

To be candid, Stackpole, all this conscription talk has me worried.