

Editorial

Comment

Bulletin

Develop state? Sure—but why duplicate jobs?

Recognizing that an emergency in the state exists and that action must be taken immediately to develop new industries, and to advertise Nebraska and its products over the nation, the legislature is debating in appropriations committee Monday L. B. 281 setting up a Nebraska Agricultural and Industrial Development Commission and allotting to it \$100,000 dollars annually for the next two years.

Aggressive action comes at last. The policy of "waiting and hoping" and wishfully thinking that better times are on their way finally gives way to a realization that the old era of dirt farming is dying; and to bring prosperity to this state, new uses for our resources must be devised. For only with "better mouse traps being built will the world make a beaten path to our door."

With the passage of this bill the process of rejuvenation will begin. And economic reorganization will be

necessary on a large, scale so large in fact that all institutions in the state must work cooperatively to achieve its ends.

Where any large program is being plotted however, it is essential in the interests of economy and good results to allocate to each organization that type of work for which it is best prepared.

This proposed commission for instance is needed primarily as a state wide chamber of commerce, not as a research department duplicating the activities of the university.

So let the commission plan as extensive an advertising program as it thinks prudent. But shear it of its funds earmarked for "research" and its powers to "conduct researches into agricultural and industrial conditions" and give these funds to professional and learned university research men.

The university has the facilities and the men necessary to make the required studies. Already Prof. W. A.

Spurr and his statistics staff is studying the comparative advantages and disadvantages of all types of industry that might be profitable in Nebraska. And men in other departments are studying oils, grasses and animal disease control. But most of these men are now being handicapped in carrying on essentially the type of study needed because of lack of funds.

So long as the university can do the research and is unable to do it now because its funds for this particular type of work are so limited, to set up another research commission would be like taking money out of one pocket and putting it in another.

In the interest of economy therefore let the commission do the advertising and let the university have the funds to do the research with. For if the university is not given assignments of this kind; and if it is necessary as the provisions in the bill suggest, to hire outside men whenever state wide research problems arise, outsiders are left wondering...what the university is for.

Despite aging equipment, physics staff keeps instruction up-to-date

Once again the DAILY brings its readers an inside story of departmental activities, this time a sketch of the physics department as seen by its chairman of 18 years service, Dr. H. H. Marvin. —Editor.

BY DR. H. H. MARVIN.
Chairman of physics department.

The teaching program of the physics department is planned to meet the needs of three groups of students. The largest group includes students of agriculture, architecture, chemistry, dentistry, engineering, geology, home economics, and medicine, who are required to take one or more courses in physics. Another group is made up of students who take it as an elective subject. The third, and by far the smallest, consists of those students who intend to specialize in physics.

Enough advanced and graduate courses are offered so that a graduate student may earn the master's degree or he may complete a minor in physics for the Ph. D. But the teaching staff is too small to offer the number and variety of graduate courses which would be required for the Ph. D. degree in physics, and this degree is not offered.

Those who have earned the master's degree

find jobs in the research or development laboratories of industrial concerns, in the scientific or technical bureaus of the national government, or occasionally in junior colleges or high schools. About half of our students continue their graduate studies in other universities as candidates for the Ph. D. degree.

Our library facilities have been maintained well during the depression. Subscriptions to scientific and technical journals have been continued, and the funds provided have been sufficient for the purchase of the more important books which have been published. Funds for the purchase of laboratory equipment and apparatus have been so reduced, of necessity, that we are behind the times and lack some items which are needed today in a laboratory which is active in research.

Our well-equipped physics shop enables us to keep our apparatus in good repair, for the most part, but evidences of obsolescence are becoming more and more noticeable as the years pass. These conditions are to be found everywhere in the university, of course, and no one can do much about them until the state recovers some measure of its former prosperity.



Behind the News



Ordal
Olson

Heaviest of year

London received its worst bombing of 1941, Wednesday night as 600 German planes were reported to have dropped 10,000 fire and explosive bombs in a violent six-hour barrage.

Berlin sources declared that the attack was unprecedented in severity, "far exceeding Coventry," and nazi pilots claimed to have spread destruction among the docks along the Thames river bend, damaging particularly the great Albert and King George V docks.

The British in their turn, said that five hospitals were hit, public service disrupted and whole blocks of residences blown to bits by the high-explosive bombs.

The London raid, following closely upon the bombardment of Liverpool, Glasgow and Hull emphasizes the fact that Hitler is speeding up his offensive in order to pack it as full of punch as possible before the full effect of American aid is felt.

Observers who believe this, point to the fact that this year's heavy offensive is starting a month before that of a year ago when the Germans did not move into high gear until April.

Meanwhile, in this country, Congress continues to give evidence that it means to use all possible speed in providing the funds for the all-out British aid made possible by the lease-lend bill.

Mortar Boards ignore positions in picking qualified successors

Dear Editor:

Knowing you did not intentionally misrepresent Mortar Board requirements in your "Horse Before the Buggy Always" editorial, we feel certain that you will be glad to help us clarify the exact qualifications of Mortar Board.

The purpose of Mortar Board is to provide for the cooperation between societies, to promote college loyalty, to advance the spirit of service and fellowship among university women, to maintain a high standard of scholarship, to recognize and encourage leadership, and to stimulate and develop a finer type of college woman.

The specific requirements for Mortar Board on this campus are: A scholastic average at least three points above the all university average. Black Masque chapter has set this standard at a weighted eighty. Not what position a girl is going to hold in a woman's organization her senior year but the quality of service and leadership she has developed during her freshman, sophomore, and junior years. Officer or not, a girl who has done good work for three years is going to continue doing so not only her senior year but the rest of her life. You can easily see that this qualification makes what office a girl holds one of the last things to consider.

Usually girls eligible for Mortar Board are the same girls eligible for and capable of filling offices in women's organizations; however, the office they hold in such organizations is not what makes them eligible. The same qualities that make a girl eligible to be an officer or member of organizations are those same qualities we look for in future Mortar Boards.

Officership in organizations is no guarantee of election to Mortar Board. A girl is elected for scholarship, service and leadership. All of these qualities are not considered for some officerships, e. g. scholarship, therefore some officers are those girls who are not satisfactory candidates for Mortar Board whereas some non-officers are those qualified.

Student Council is not a woman's activity and sometimes the members are elected on popularity in preference to merit; however, when a girl does her work well it is noted and recognized. And again it is not necessary to know her potential office holding for her senior year since we go on past records.

Commentorials

... from our readers

Relief commission papers favorable to Hoover plan

Dear Editor:

Dr. Gray, in his letters to the DAILY, has tragically misrepresented the facts pertaining to the distribution of foodstuffs to the people of occupied Belgium and Northern France during the World war, and has confused the issues involved in the present proposed plan of supplying food to the small democracies. It is difficult to blankly denounce a warm friend and learned man; but it seems from his definite attitude toward this plan that he has either overlooked a sizeable amount of material disproving his attitude or he has deliberately camouflaged his preconceived prejudices behind pseudo-arguments.

I refer, specifically, to his statement in his earlier letter that "England is being asked to repeat her experiences of the last war, when the tin cans that carried American food to Belgium were used to make German hand grenades, when German generals after having eaten relief supplies had the effrontery to congratulate American officials upon its quality." In a later letter: "One of these (objections) is concerned with German misuses of relief supplies in 1914-18."

That there was some leakage of relief supplies is undeniable, after a careful examination of the documents of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, I fail to find the semblance of conclusive proof that the German officials played any part in these deceptive transactions.

I quote, from this source, a letter refuting these alleged violations: "... Judging by the instances which our people have been able to trace down, it appears that a good deal less than one-half could have come from imported material... some of the local committees, finding the fabulous prices at which they could sell rice, have done so in innocence... it appears that all this stuff was gath-

ered up by one German firm... the German authorities, in order to show fair play, are putting this firm out of action."

The commission reports further: "... That leakages from our imported foodstuffs are extraordinarily small, and, in any event, the bulk of the leakages arise from Belgian causes as distinguished from German causes... the Germans put into force a complete prohibition on all food exports, and they are enforcing it vigorously... I can only reiterate that there have been no leakages in our imports worth mention."

These phrases are extracts from the exchanges of communication between the C. R. B. and the British, and are, I believe, more reliable than Dr. Gray's generalizations, which, by their sensational character, approach the atrocity story technique. If Dr. Gray, or any other champion of the "let them starve" attitude can quote a more reliable source than the reports of the commission itself, I will readily retract my critical statements; but until more definite proof can be produced, the unbiased documents of the C. R. B. must be taken over one man's opinion.

Critically,

ROY BYROM.

Pro and con

Certainly the documents of the Commission for Relief in Belgium should carry weight in a discussion of the success of the "soup kitchen" program in the last war. To these documents could be added the signed statements of Perrin C. Galpin on the Brussels staff, and W. Hallam Tuck, Maurice Pate and Milton M. Brown, all members of the 1914-1919 relief commission. Their statements point out particularly that supplies leaking out (possibly to this German company referred to above) were returned by Germany to the complete satisfaction of the British.

Your statements, however, that Dr. Gray's stand is based upon opinion alone drives me somewhat to his defence. For he too possesses evidence on his side of the question. Of most importance is the statement he has of Topping, a man who worked under Hoover in Belgium, declaring that food passed regularly into the hands of the German high command during the last year of the war.

Editor.