

Editorial

Comment

Bulletin

The Daily Nebraskan

FORTY-FIRST YEAR.

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In the Mail

Two letters in this week's mail seem to deserve a little attention from the editor's desk. We print the first in order to clear up any misunderstanding in regard to the university's policy on athletic eligibility and we print the second as a commentary on Daily Nebraskan reporting.

Vike Francis

Dear Editor:

A week or two ago, the Daily Nebraskan carried a story to the effect that Vike Francis was ineligible for athletic competition. The ineligibility, it was stated, was because of the fact that his work in a geography course did not reach a passing standard. The Sunday Daily mentions Vike Francis' playing in the Iowa-Nebraska game of last Saturday. From that we may deduce that Francis' eligibility status has been altered.

It is stated in the university catalog that instructors are required to send reports of the scholastic status of students at the end of the sixth week, the end of the twelfth week and at the end of the semester. However, all of this has happened during the second six weeks' period. From that, we may deduce that an eligibility status may change during, as well as at the end of, the six weeks' period.

The Daily of a week or two ago mentioned the fact that Francis failed to pass one makeup examination given by the department of geography. Evidently there has been at least one examination since that time.

The whole question resolves itself into this: If a student is scholastically ineligible at the end of a six weeks' period, it is either the option, or the duty of the instructor to give makeup exams as necessary for the student to change his eligibility status?

Since this is a matter of general university policy, and the Daily is the official news organ of the campus, it would seem perhaps fitting for the Daily to publish a statement of the official university policy relative to the matter.

Yours very truly,
Donald C. Moore,
Arts and Sciences '42.

Ed. Note: We think Mr. Moore has stated the university policy in his letter so that the Daily does not have to publish a statement. He has made a great deduction when he says that Vike Francis' status must have changed and his work in Geography raised to passing. Each instructor has complete charge over the scholastic status of each of his students and can declare a student passing when he feels that student's work is up. Not too difficult to understand, is it?

Nebraskan Reporting

Dear Editor:

It's not amazing! I won't believe it! It isn't true!

Your paper is guilty of disseminating false information to the unsuspecting student body of this institution of higher learning. (From now on many will suspect much.) In today's (Nov. 20) "Rag" there appears an article that purports to give statistical information on the number of cokes consumed in the Student Union grill during a school year. The number of cokes, 250,000, may be correct, but it is absurd to say that 250,000 would reach 20 miles into the stratosphere. I haven't the energy to calculate the actual height, but I'll wager that they would reach less than 15 miles into the stratosphere. It is manifestly absurd to say that 390 barrels will fill the Student Union building. If the Union were a cube 25 feet on a side, it would contain 15,625 cubic feet, a number equal to the number of gallons of coke mentioned in the article. There are 7.5 gallons in a cubic foot. Incidentally, 15,625 gallons is equal to far more than 390 barrels. There are 31.5 gallons in a barrel. (See page 1732 of the 21st edition of the Handbook of Chemistry and Physics.) I would estimate off-hand, that the answer is between 495 and 500 barrels.

The other statistics mentioned in the article may be quite correct, but all the world suspects their inaccuracy because of the profound errors extant in the examples cited above.

Yours for the truth in the press,
Timothy G. Higgins.

Ed. Note: Thank you, Mr. Higgins, for your interest and your astute analysis of our very great error. Hereafter, we shall consult the Daily's department of highly specialized physical

scientists on a matter of such great moment as the number of cokes consumed in the Union grill. Even if you are spoiling our fun, we think you hit the nail on the head when you said that our article was "manifestly absurd." To be "manifestly absurd" was our only intention when we planned, plotted and printed the article.

From My Bookcase

By H. Jayne Lynn

The Survivor, by Dennis Parry, (Henry Holt).

This is another of the Henry Holt "books for the imagination." The story is not exactly "super natural," but it is definitely not conventional or ordinary. Modern psychologists, confronted with this situation in real life, might take refuge in long scientific terms and pretend to give an explanation; I doubt, however, that even the most accomplished and erudite psychologist would explain it to himself any differently than does the reader who allows Mr. Parry's restraint to convince him.

James Marshall, eminent British physician, has an acid tongue, no particular code of morality, and a will to live. Even his indomitable desire for living fails him, however, when he comes out of his retirement to fight an epidemic of an uncatalogued form of influenza. He succumbs to his life-long enemy, death, and the story begins.

James' "adopted" daughter, Olive, is the most important living character. What happens to Olive used to be called "demoniac possession." To state it barefacedly, James Marshall's spirit takes intermittent possession of Olive's body. From this point on, the book is intensely fascinating. Mr. Parry's restrained handling of horror makes it so much more effective—he writes in accordance with the theory that, in a haunted house, a whisper is infinitely more terrifying than a scream. I would rank *The Survivor* beside Henry James' *The Turn of the Screw*.

One rather beautiful subtle refinement is accomplished in the story. Olive's fiance, a clergyman of the Church of England, is asked to exorcise James' spirit from Olive's body. This he is unable to do, because the Church of England does not recognize demoniac possession.

3 *Lord Peter Mysteries*, by Dorothy L. Sayers, (Harcourt Brace).

One of my favorite mystery writers has written a trilogy. Lord Peter Wimsey unravels the threads of circumstances in three complete novels. "Whose Body," "The Unpleasantness at the Bellona Club," and "Suspicious Characters" are three good stories. They are not Miss Sayers' best writing, but they are still far above the run-of-the-mill mysteries. As usual, Miss Sayers astonishes her readers with her fund of technical knowledge, and baffles her readers with her intricate and clever plot construction. She also has a pleasant faculty for amusing all comers with her pleasing characterizations.

All in all, this particular book keeps Miss Sayers on the list of my three favorite mystery writers.

What Other Editors Say

I Want to be American

Editor's note: We picked this up from the *Rafu Shimpō*, a Japanese newspaper published in Los Angeles. We think it is timely considering the current state of negotiations between Japan and the United States.

Secretary of War Henry Stimson has asked American-born Japanese for an all-out severance of ties with Japan.

You are either an American, or you are not. There is no middle of the road for any of us today. Occasion for his message is the war department's proposed amendment to the nationality act which will clarify the dual citizenship problem.

Dual citizenship among the nisei has no justification, moral, legal or otherwise. If and where it exists, let's get rid of it immediately.

American-born Japanese have welcomed Stimson's message.

Two thousand of their number now serve in the U. S. army, faithfully, with the conviction that they are every bit a part of America. They are not blind to the imminent possibility that Japan may be the country against which they shall bear their arms.

It takes more than nisei effort alone, however, to achieve lasting results.

It requires a better understanding of their position and an acceptance of their loyalty to America by the vast body of fellow Americans.

In a word, there is a responsibility resting on the shoulders of all Americans today.

The Saturday Letter

THE RIGHT ANSWERS.

Most of those who yell, "Kill the umpire," mean, "Slap him on the wrist." Most of those who yell, "Knock 'em cold," mean, "Play strenuously, but fairly." Most of those who say vehemently, "Go to hell," mean, "Please go away and stop annoying me."

It seems logical, therefore, to assume that the persons who say, "Shoot 'em down like dogs," are the same persons who will (about 1944) donate their shirts and large sums of money to send food and clothing to those they now put into the dog classification. We may also assume that altho we (all of us) agree that the bully of Europe must be stopped we also agree that we are terribly saddened by the death and suffering resulting from the wars.

Most of those who are now yelling, "Kill," are intelligent, cultured and kindly persons who men, "We must prepare for our own defense and we must aid those who are attacked by the bully." Not one of these yellers (those who shout for death) would calmly and deliberately swing a club with intent to bat the brains from out the head of a storekeeper or from out the head of the storekeeper's 20 year old son. Not one would cause another human being to be cruelly hurt if injury could be avoided.

Therefore, since the populations of all European nations are made up in large measure of sane, reasonable and decent individuals, why must there be these terrible catastrophies which involve millions? Why are mad men allowed to control governments and go thru with such terrible orgies of conquest?

We think we know the right answers but we also thought we knew the answers in 1920. We probably do know some of the right answers and we probably did know some of the right answers in 1920. Involved somewhere are attitudes toward values of a human life. You parents who are now so hopefully planning a future for that baby in the crib are simply wasting your time unless we do know the answers because otherwise that baby will spend the next 20 years getting ready to say, "Goodbye, mother, dear, I'm off for the slaughter."

Is there any hope? I would say, "Yes," just because most of us don't want the umpire killed, the players knocked cold or the boys of other parents shot down like dogs. Most of us are at least fairly decent so you young parents may (if you have a little faith) go ahead with the idea of naming the eight pounder, John Henry III, and also with the notion of starting a savings account to send him thru college. At least he (the pride and joy) has a better chance than has the proverbial snowball and we may get something done by 1960 within the field of mad-dog-dictator control.

Very truly
Raymond E. Manchester,
Dean of Men,
Kent State University.

Behind the News

German Label

Labeling the American move into Dutch Guiana the "first military attack by the United States on South America" and indicating that the action was directed against French colonial possessions in the western hemisphere, Germany branded it as an aggressive move and indicated that the greatest attention was being given to the question of Berlin.

It is quite possible that the sending of troops to the little Dutch colony was to do more than just protect the bauxite deposits there. It may be a step to forestall the threat that may arise to that portion of the western hemisphere if Germany succeeds in getting control of French North Africa and particularly the west African port of Dakar. Also there has been considerable unrest in Dutch Guiana about the number of French convicts kept in French Guiana who have been kept unfed and are separated from the Dutch by nothing more formidable than a narrow river and a few hundred Dutch soldiers.

At any rate the move made with the approval of Brazil does in no way indicate an attack upon South America by the U. S. Such an assertion by Berlin is an absurdity, but characteristic. Suffice it to say

Peterson Speaks At Faculty Forum On Farm Prices

Dr. Arthur Peterson of the rural economics department told members of the faculty forum last Friday that a flexible dollar would equalize the disparity between the farmer's income and his expenditures in times of an economic upset.

The talk was a continuation of a discussion of rises in farm prices and means of stabilizing price trends in relation to the gold content of the dollar. The particular problem discussed was the varying increase in prices as it occurs among various commodities in a period of inflation.

Dr. Karl Arndt will continue the discussion at the next meeting on Dec. 5.

that we cannot afford to risk any interference from any source whatsoever with the bauxite deposits there that provide the U. S. with 60 percent of its aluminum.

Any and all legislation that may be forthcoming on the troublesome strike problem and general defense stoppages will come from the initiative of congress. This much was indicated as President Roosevelt Tuesday told congress that the executive branch had no recommendations to make on the subject other than the fact that it was time to do something about it. This policy of letting congress determine the measures to be taken on the subject is rather an innovation with the president. Had the coal strike continued and the emergency created by it not been averted quite so soon, we might well have seen administrative recommendations for legislation this time as well. Inasmuch as it is no longer a matter requiring immediate action, it is well that the problem be given to congress for deliberation.

The problem of dealing with labor is one which demands the utmost consideration and full cooperation of public opinion which is most capably represented in congress at this time. It is a good deal more likely that organized labor will accept action by congress with more grace than mere administrative action. At any rate the opportunities for rash and unjust criticism will be restricted if it is done by the popularly elected representatives.

HEY, HEADING FOR HOME?

Start right and easy! Send your luggage round-trip by trusty, low-cost RAILWAY EXPRESS, and take your train with peace of mind. We pick-up and deliver, remember, at no extra charge within our regular vehicle limits in all cities and principal towns. You merely phone

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