

The Nebraskan

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR

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'Politician' and 'Politics'

James Hilton, noted author, recently wrote an article appearing in the Washington Sunday Star in which he deplored the fact that at the present time the words "politician" and "politics" are well on their way down hill. "Already," he says, "they are not complimentary; soon, at their present rate, they will be the sort of thing you could sue about."

Continuing, Mr. Hilton asserts that this degrading connotation of these two words "reflects a trend of vital importance in our national life, and potentially one also of great damage. For politics, by definition is the art of government; and that means the art, of all arts, that humanity will most depend on during the difficult (post-war) years ahead. And it is odd—to say the least—that at a time when we are fighting a war to preserve, among other things, the ideas and ideals of democracy, we should think so little of the practical job of making it work.

"Somehow we must break away... from this, because it is essential, if we are to remain democrats, that democracy should have first pick of all the first-rate minds that are now reaching maturity. How can we tempt youth, honor, idealism, and intelligence into the job of jobs—which is, and will be for as long as we can look ahead, that of bringing the art and science of government up to the level to which human brains have already brought so many other arts and sciences? If we fail, civilization itself will go down in ruins."

Altho Mr. Hilton was speaking of the national political situation, he might very well have applied these same words to the University of Nebraska campus. Here, too, the word "politics" has travelled so far from its original meaning, "the art of government," that it is synonymous with "faction." And on the campus the word "faction" connotes to the majority of students a secret, dictatorial social organization whose purpose is to keep barbs or unaffiliates out of elective offices, or an all-barb organization united by antagonism toward the Greeks and whose purpose is to gain control of campus elective offices because of mutual spite and distrust of both groups. The word "politician" has fallen from its primary meaning, "one experienced in the art of government" until at present on the campus it generally means a ward-healing, selfish, party boss who directs the underhanded methods of a faction to further his own ends.

It is an exceedingly unfortunate development at UN that the above labels of condemnation are applied by the general student body to all party members and party meetings, regardless of any party's sincerity of purpose and attempts to better the political situation of the party. If a student is in politics, he or she is branded as a "politician" in the worst sense of the word; if a political party is formed, it is immediately accused of indulging in "politics" or dictatorial machinations.

The political party system of nominating candidates for office is not provided for in any formal constitution of government but merely grew up as the most logical and efficient method in a democracy of electing the best qualified man to office. If a candidate is condemned as a politician before he ever tries for office, how can a student body expect to elect a person of integrity and strength to office? The best qualified men and women for any office, knowing they have little chance of election without the organized backing of a party, either have the choice of not running for office or of the cold shoulder of their non-political friends.

The Student Council has taken the fundamental steps in correcting this attitude of the student body by forcing the reorganization of the existing political parties on a sounder basis than previously. But in the last analysis of the problem, the solution rests with the students themselves, who must pledge themselves to weight carefully any new or old party formed this year, in respect to its organizational set-up, its platform of principles, its fairness of method of electing officers and candidates, and method of representation.

Students will soon be called upon to declare their allegiance to some one party. If enough students show enough interest to get into politics and better whichever party to which they belong, they would realize the party's responsibilities in carrying on a fair, democratic government, and the word "politics" will lose its stigma, and return to its original, rightful meaning.

Ratings

(Continued from Page 1.)

Kappa Kappa Gamma	81.57
Chi Omega	81.54
Delta Gamma	81.33
Pi Beta Phi	80.78
Alpha Chi Omega	80.36
Sigma Delta Tau	79.79
Alpha Omicron Pi	79.78
Gamma Phi Beta	79.75
Alpha Xi Delta	77.96
Sigma Kappa	74.41

PROFESSIONAL FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES.	
Omicron Nu	85.00
Phi Upsilon Omicron	85.00
Phi Epsilon	85.00
Phi Mu Alpha	85.00
Phi Chi Theta	85.00
Theta Sigma Phi	85.00
Delta Sigma Phi	85.00
Delta Sigma Delta	85.00
Sigma Alpha Eta	85.00
OTHER ORGANIZED GROUPS.	
Howard Hall	84.71

Palladian	82.44
Wilson Hall	81.82
Love Memorial Hall	81.32
Loonnie Hall	81.04
Non-Sorority	80.76
All Women	80.08
All Sorority	80.54
Residence Hall	80.52
Raymond Hall	79.92
All Students	79.83
Bouton Hall	78.55
Non-Fraternity	79.09
All Men	75.89
All Fraternity	74.96

Free Variety Show

Charles Loughton and Maureen O'Hara

'The Hunchback of Notre Dame'

3:00 P. M., SUN., NOV. 12

UNION BALLROOM

Les Said The Better

By Les Glatfally

Things are happening on the Nebraska campus, things that haven't happened since we have been here—all three long years. Consequently, we think everyone ought to sit up and take notice. OK, so we're going to talk about politics. The very word is enough to make lots of people stop reading right here, but stick it out. There are two new political parties being formed on this campus, and maybe more. At any rate, for the first time in a heck of a long time, the students are going to get a chance to see what they are voting for. Last night and tonight respectively, the two new parties, the Progressive and the Student Party for Democratic Government, are having open meetings to explain as best they can their policies, their organizational plan and what not. Whether you vote or not, whether you vote because you have to, or whether you don't care what happens in elections at all, you should still make an effort to find out what the two new parties stand for.

For years UN has been running elections on the old affiliated-unaffiliated stand. Now we get a chance to break away from those out-dated and foolish standards. Whether or not the new parties will be any better and whether or not they will be able to solve any of the old problems remains to be seen. But, they are making an honest and determined attempt to DO something. They are setting down in black and white what they stand for, how they propose to run party caucusses, how they want to determine representation, and all the other little things that have been kept in the dark for too long in the past. Lots of us never vote, but the fact remains that the people the parties nominate and eventually elect are going to be running the campus. Too many students feel that because they aren't in activities, they have no cause to be interested in politics or what goes on in elections. Many students don't vote or take an interest in these matters because they think that their one "cry in the wilderness" would be ignored, or that things are so messed up that an honest person hasn't got a chance.

All right, no matter what the reasons are for either being interested or not being interested in politics, the new set-ups are giving us a chance to look them over, make our own decisions, protest if we don't like what they stand for or how they work,

LETTERIP

Dear Editor:

"First come, first serve" is a good old adage any day, and it has come to us as a shock that there are students on the campus who have forgotten both the saying and their manners. It seems that the "Campus-line" is being mobbed by the students who hold places for their chums and who ruin the order of the line and the temper of the other customers who are patiently awaiting their turn. It's a fact that every customer can be served by the cafeteria and be finished with his lunch by 12:50.

We hope that perhaps an expression of editorial opinion combined with firmness from customers in the line toward persons mobbing the line, will correct this fault. A little of the attitude of the typical New Yorker toward anyone crashing a line anywhere would serve to dampen the spirits of the bold, and a little more patience on the part of everyone will solve the problem.

Pat Lahr
Director, Student Union.

(Editor's Note: The "expression of editorial opinion" which Miss Lahr hoped for is merely an extension of advise to those pushed around in the "Campus-line" line to use the terribly effective "Brooklyn elbow." Results are guaranteed for life!)

and most of all, by these open party meetings, we have a chance for the first time to actually see who is doing what, and to how our heads off where it will do some good. Take a good look, kids, whether you give a darn or not. There is nothing to lose in just looking!

Incidentally, in looking through the Student Council constitution we noticed a bit of an omission. Under Section IV, Election Rules, there is a conspicuous blank with only the two words, "See Harnsberger" printed therein. Now Harnsberger is undoubtedly a fine fellow, but the fact remains that he has not been in school since spring of 1943 and is now in the army somewhere. Consequently "seeing Harnsberger" about election rules might be a bit of a problem. We suggest that either the Student Council print these election rules and have them added to their printed constitution or that the new parties add them as plank in the platform, or something—just so we don't have to chase Harnsberger from pillar to post looking for the rules and regulations.

Religious Week Begins Nov. 12 On UN Campus

Nationally prominent Christian leaders will headline Religious Emphasis week on UN campus, Nov. 12, 13 and 14.

Sponsored jointly by the university religious welfare council and the convocation committee, the discussions center on the theme "What—for Tomorrow?" Rev. Ralph Douglas Hyslop, minister for student life, division of Christian education, will initiate the week in his address, "How We as Students Pay the Price of a New World," at 8 p. m., Nov. 12.

Editor Speaks
Dr. Joseph Sittler, jr., editor of Credo Ecclesiam, theological quarterly, speaks on "Postwar Religious Education" at the faculty luncheon Monday.

Mortar Boards are sponsoring the student leaders' luncheon on Tuesday, at which Rev. Mr. Hyslop will discuss the kind of campus life we must develop to prepare students for world citizenship.

Forty-Three Air Corps Reserves Swell UN Ranks

Forty-three Air Corps Enlisted Reserves and Army Specialized Training Reserves, representing most of the states in the Seventh Service Command, arrived at the University of Nebraska this week, and will begin class work Nov. 6, Col. J. P. Murphy, commandant of military units on the campus, announced today.

The total number of 17-year-old reservists now on the campus is 245, which is near the maximum quota for the university. Trainees will be given a program along conventional academic lines, stressing the basic sciences. Placement tests were begun on Friday afternoon.

Twelve of the trainees are from Iowa, 12 from Missouri, six from Kansas, six from Minnesota, four from Nebraska, two from North

Dakota, and one from Colorado. The four from Nebraska are: Jimmie D. Farber, Lyons; William E. Hare, Broken Bow; Francis J. Schaaf, Atkinson, and Warren M. Wiley, jr., Venango.

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Convocation

LEWIS BROWNE

"WHAT WENT WRONG WITH CIVILIZATION?"

11:00 A. M., THURS., NOV. 9

First of This Year's Series

UNION BALLROOM

WELCOME

CHRIS' GOOD EATS

244 N. 13th