

The Nebraskan

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR

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'Too Much Power' . . .

There is need for drastic revision in the organization of the AWS board, supreme governing body for all women students on the university campus. Wide-sweeping reforms are in order, reforms which will bring the entire AWS organization into much closer accord with the principles of democratic government.

Under present conditions, the AWS board wields overcoeds the three basic powers of government: (1) the power to make laws, (2) the power to administer laws, and (3) the power to pass judgment on cases which involve the alleged breaking of those laws. In other words, the legislative, administrative, and judicial functions of coed government are all concentrated in the hands of a single body, the AWS board.

Such policy is obviously not in accord with democratic principles. In the government of the United States, these three functions are handled by three separate, distinct governmental branches: the Congress, the Administration, and the courts. Such a division of power is the basis of the democratic system of checks and balances, wherein each branch of the government serves as a watchdog on the actions of the other branches. Thus no one branch gains too much power; government is not concentrated in the hands of the few.

And yet on the Nebraska campus, theoretically a testing ground for training in democratic government, the lives of the women students are regulated by a single board which exercises all three functions, legislative, administrative, judicial. The incongruity of this situation need hardly be pointed out. It is as though the president and his cabinet were to abolish congress and the courts, taking upon themselves the sole responsibility for governing the United States.

What is the solution? How can the AWS board be reorganized along truly democratic lines? The answer is simple: Create three separately-elected AWS boards, each to exercise one, and only one, of the governmental functions. Women students would vote for members of each of the three boards with the assurance that the powers of coed government would be safely divided, that no one group of students could completely dominate the entire AWS organization. The time-tested principle of division of power would be applied to the government of women students on the Nebraska campus.

Some such drastic revision must be made if the AWS board is to preserve its integrity, its effectiveness, its prestige in the eyes of coeds. Women students, those whose daily lives are regulated by AWS regulations, are coming more and more to regard the board as a mere rubber-stamp, yielding time and again to pressure brought from above. Coeds' criticisms of the board are becoming increasingly bitter.

These criticisms are justified. Coeds are right when they charge that the AWS board, elected for the ostensible purpose of protecting their rights, is in fact sacrificing these rights willy-nilly whenever higher-ups tighten the screws, is concentrating too much power in too few hands.

Women students have a right to representative, democratic self-government. How much longer will this right be denied them?

Army Methods Have Influence On Education

ACP—The United States Army, today the largest educational institution in the world, has brought about a revolution in teaching methods that will exert a growing influence upon civilian schools and colleges. Professor William S. Lynch, head of the Department of Humanities in the Cooper Union School of Engineering, says in a study of "What is Education Doing?"

"There is almost unanimous agreement that the Army and the Navy have done an excellent job in training for their definite purposes," according to Professor Lynch. "They have had to do their work in a very brief period and they have been obliged to teach everything from spelling to Japanese decoding.

"In their teaching they have relied upon two main props—standardization and visualization. Standardization has made it possible to economize in teacher training and has assured the authorities that individual courses will cover exactly what they are meant to. Visualization has meant that content material has been

presented with dispatch and clarity.

"The result will be unquestionably a great reliance on films, records, exploded drawings, slides, and all the other visual and auditory impediments which a technological and ingenious people will be able to devise. In this connection it undoubtedly will take time before a balanced attitude toward these tools is realized. A safe prophecy would be that twenty-five years from now every school will have in its attic a pile of discarded and expensive projectors, voice recorders, graphophones, etc. The fact that much of this type of Army surplus materials will go to schools and colleges after the war will reduce the burden to the taxpayers.

"Radio, television, the movies have a great deal to offer as instructional aids, but they are not going to replace the teacher. On the contrary, they are going to call for the best teachers. They are not easy to use. If they seem to be, then something's wrong. They tend to run away with the show if not kept under close control and once they have done that then the schoolhouse has become a movie theater—a not unpleasant place to be, but one where the emphasis is on different things.

"We are going to be gadget-minded enough after this war. But the gadgets by themselves are of

LETTERIP

To the Nebraskan and the Student Council:

My attention has been called to the editorial "Every Indication" in the Sunday, February 4, issue of the Nebraskan, concerning the progress being made with reference to the survey being conducted concerning the Student Health Service.

I do not know the nature of the survey and have not seen the questionnaire which has been submitted to the student body. I wish to say to the Nebraskan, the Student Council and the student body, that the University Student Health committee will welcome any constructive criticism that comes to it from any university student or any student group and will give them any consideration possible.

Furthermore, I wish to say that after an experience covering forty years as an administrator, I have acquired great respect for and confidence in the judgment of the student body of this University. In all these years I have never found the student body anything but sympathetic and cooperative when that body has understood all the problems involved including the limitations of the service to the funds that are available.

Even in these days of war when almost half of the normal number of doctors in this city are in the Armed Forces, throwing a tremendous strain upon our doctors who are in civilian practice, I have found the students generous in their attitude toward any irregularities in these services which has resulted from civilian practice as a result of the war and because the Health Service has had to care for a large number of soldiers in training on the university campus. This attitude on the part of the student has made it possible for us in one way or another to take care of all cases and no case of injury to the student, so far as we know, has resulted because of neglect.

If there has been any neglect, we want to know it.

Sincerely,
R. A. LYMAN, Director
Student Health Service.

Les Said The Better

By Les Glotfelty

After the big furor of late concerning the new AWS rules, it is really a case of less said the better. However, just another thing or two, mostly to try to justify the somewhat unfortunate position we got ourselves into. First, never, in the year we have been writing a column, have we ever given an opinion, good or bad, on anything when it was our own personal opinion and not that of anyone else. More clearly, before we write anything, we have always checked with as representative a group as possible to see if that mysterious thing called "public opinion" was with us.

Of course, anything we print comes up under our name and consequently we get blamed. Now that is as it should be as long as we are crazy enough to stick out the proverbial neck. But, the fact remains that we get awfully tired of taking the blame for everything we say when it is majority opinion, not just the opinion of one Leslie Jean Glotfelty.

Incidentally, after some of the tales we have been hearing about things that have happened to university coeds this year, and things university women have done this year, we are beginning to think AWS had some justification for the new regulations. Also, the housemothers themselves requested some rulings to force coeds to be more definite about their whereabouts since the housemothers are responsible for the women they chaperone and since it is often necessary to get in touch with a coed in one big hurry.

As for the special permission slips—granted it may often be difficult to get hold of a senior AWS board member to get her signature—they do help the AWS keep track of special permission. It has been, in the past, nothing unusual for people to call AWS proxy Dorothy Carnahan at two a. m. to ask for a permission. Furthermore, when coeds just had to call Carny for permission, neither AWS or the housemothers had any record of the fact that the coeds had gotten special permission.

Could be we brought it on ourselves, huh?

Peace Conference Previews

International Trade After the War

KARL M. ARNDT.

International trade after the war will be powerfully conditioned by governmental actions and decisions that may easily become so repressive that the older system of high protective tariffs will be viewed in retrospect as something close to free trade. So great even in peace was the snarl and tangle of controls that it appeared that the only way to get away from them was to have higher and more complex controls. The reasons for even more

little avail. Without a warm human being to control them and keep them in their place, they become just so much junk.

"Besides the current excitement about visual aids, there are a number of other quickenings of interest that are largely the result of the military's way of doing things. One of the most interesting of these has to do with the teaching of languages. Thousands of men and women have been taught to speak an amazing array of languages in a period of time astonishingly brief by the standards of conventional high school and college teaching. It is not surprising therefore to see high schools and colleges revamping their linguistic methods."

That's One Way!

ACP—If you're worried about not getting a husband because of the current man-power shortage, consult Prof. E. N. Banzet at Michigan State College. In an introductory sociology class Banzet produced a matrimonial bureau gazette and proceeded to read the various advertisements.

Not only did the coeds gasp with amusement and amazement, but one coed remarked to her friend as they were leaving the room, "Take out your pencil; we'll have to get that address."

A total of 62,862 academic degrees have been granted by the University of Wisconsin since the first class was graduated in 1854.

government manipulations in international business after the war are many.

First of all, economic nationalism will be very much alive, and nations with old industrial histories, as well as their younger rivals, will be ready as ever to employ such ancient devices as tariffs and import quotas to sustain past investments and to encourage new ones. And the spirit of self-reliance in industry will not be dead, especially among those economic empires the cartels, which will find good opportunity in the uncertain conditions of the postwar years to spread their own restrictions throughout the markets of the world.

Financial Strangulation

There may be strangulation also from financial curbs invented to replace the wrecked machinery that formerly maintained a balance in the flow of international payments. For as long as many national currencies exist it is necessary that there be equality between money paid by one country to all others, and by all others to it. At one time gold moved freely over the earth to adjust differences in the international books of account; but gold has given up travel to settle down in retirement in the United States. At one time, too, central banks tried to maintain an equilibrium in the inflow and outflow of funds by tempting loan money back and forth across boundaries with the bait of higher interest rates. But finance capital has proved at times too sluggish, and at others too flighty for these acrobatics. And therefore nation after nation has applied the obvious fact that one way to balance payments is to control all the transactions involved. That means controlling all international loans, trade and travel, so that not a dollar can leave home unless another one enters. No gold is needed to settle balances when imports of goods equal exports by command; but the government sits in on every business deal.

Lastly, governments may throttle foreign business as a result of their own domestic economic poli-

Postpone Ag Box Social, Valentine Dance to Feb. 16

The Ag Valentine dance and box social, which was to be held in the Ag College activities building Friday, Feb. 9, has been postponed until Friday, Feb. 16 because of district basketball tournament, according to Edith Pumphrey, chairman of dance committee.

Pictures of candidates for the Queen and King of Hearts may be submitted to the finance office in ag hall, Julia Crom or Edith Pumphrey. Those attending the dance will vote on candidates at the door the night of the dance.

Social dancing, a stage show and skits will furnish the entertainment for the evening. No admission will be charged, but boxes will be sold at the end of the evening.

Prices, wages, national income, production and employment will not be left to the mercy of so-called natural forces after the war and more than they were just before it. But if the United States, for example, acts to sustain wages and prices, it will run the risk of lifting commodities out of the reach of foreign buyers who have little interest in underwriting our prosperity.

Postwar Market

And yet, though every nation has already piled obstacles in the way of trade, nearly every nation protests that after the war it must have an expanding foreign market. The chances are that if it acts alone to gain its share, it will do little more than aggravate the trade paralysis. The objective of freer trade seems beyond the power of any individual country. If nationalism is to be restrained, if foreign business is to be harmonized with domestic, if a workable plan to pay for foreign purchases is to be found, if controls are to be eliminated, or even moderated, international economic cooperation is essential. Free trade, once thought to exist when individual governments did nothing, may now be approximated only by tremendous effort on the part of all.