

# The Nebraskan

FOURTY-FOURTH YEAR

Published three times weekly on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday during school 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, 1922.

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## Dark or Bright . . .

Tomorrow, Feb. 15, the University celebrates Charter Day, the 76th anniversary of its founding. It was on Feb. 15, 1869 that the legislature of the young state of Nebraska issued a charter for a state-supported institution of higher learning and the University of Nebraska came into being.

As the University enters its 76th year, it faces an uncertain future—a future which may be either dark or bright, according to the policies which the University elects to follow during the years just ahead.

If that future is to be bright, if the University of Nebraska is to prosper, two basic policies must be adopted: (1) faculty members' salaries must be raised to a level commensurate with the size of and rank of the University, and (2) an intelligent, extensive postwar building program must be carried out.

Faculty members are underpaid. There are few who will dispute that statement, for the constant emigration of outstanding teachers from Nebraska to schools which offer better-paying positions offers clear proof that the statement is true, that the UN faculty is indeed underpaid.

Clearly, salaries must be raised. If the University is to maintain a good faculty, if it is to hold its outstanding professors, it must pay its teaching staff the salaries which they deserve, salaries at least equal to those paid by other universities of comparable size and standing.

One need only to look around the campus to find proof for the need of an extensive postwar building program. Such ramshackle eye-sores as Pharmacy Hall, Nebraska Hall, the Mechanics Arts building, University Hall, and the former museum obviously should be torn down, to be replaced by modern, attractive buildings with adequate up-to-date facilities. New buildings—perhaps among them a large, adequately-staffed infirmary—should be built to care for the constantly-expanding needs of a constantly expanding university.

To carry these policies into effect, the University needs more money, a larger appropriation from the state. When its appropriation is increased, when it receives the sorely-needed funds, the University will be able to pay its faculty adequate salaries, will be able to launch an extensive postwar building program. Then, and only then, will the future be bright for the University of Nebraska.

## Peace Conference Previews

### THE MINORITIES QUESTION.

J. O. Hertzler.

The minorities question usually arises from the fact that some groups within or part of a larger group having real or imagined linguistic, racial, religious, nationality or some other cultural uniqueness considers itself to be disadvantageously treated by the larger group.

The main areas presenting minorities problems at the peace conference will be central and southeastern Europe (as of old) and south and southeastern Asia; there may be reverberations from elsewhere, notably South Africa.

The main difficulties in the past have arisen from the fact that the majorities attempted to force cultural conformity, political submission, and often also economic subjugation and exploitation upon the minorities. The minorities usually have sought cultural, political and economic opportunity; frequently also political autonomy.

### Cultural Autonomy.

Both the experience of the past, calmly assayed, and humane thinking, point to cultural autonomy accompanied by unobstructed cultural intercourse, free economic opportunity, and the fullest political participation compatible with the degree of political

competence of the minorities as the basic considerations in the treatment of minorities.

No single set of principles or mode of treatment can be universally applied among the varied minority situations the world over. Among the procedures which have functioned more or less well in one or more particular instances the following are noteworthy:

### Principles.

1. "Home Rule," as in the case of Ireland since 1921.
2. "Bills of Rights" effectively guaranteed by some potent international organization, such as those voiced in the ten "Minorities Treaties" and the five "Declarations" of 1919.
3. Cultural self-determination within wider political and economic unions ("federations") for enclaves (pocketed minorities) as in Switzerland most of the time for centuries and the Soviet Union progressively for a quarter of a century; anticipated in degree in the proposed Czecho-

## Les Said The Better

By Les Giotfelty

There is an old theory about the groundhog popping out of the ground in February, seeing his shadow and immediately disappearing again until the next February. On a ground hog it looks good. The Student Council, however, is a different kind of animal. In January the council popped up into the lime-light with a proposed investigation of the university student health. A questionnaire was sent around to all organized houses for compiling of complaints about or merits of the health service. The questionnaires were returned to the Student Council committee which was set up for the investigation has disappeared back into a deep, dark hole.

Now it certainly is not up to us to say whether the health service needs investigation or not, or whether the survey of student opinion was a success, but we would like to know what in heck happened. Is the investigation still in process? What was the student opinion voiced in the questionnaires?

slovak-Polish (Jan. 23, 1942) and Yugoslav-Grecian (Jan. 15, 1942) federations; and occasionally mentioned for the Danube valley.

4. Plebiscites for the relocation of boundaries for irredenta (the spilled over boundaries) minorities, as in the case of the Saar (1935).

5. The heroic procedure of voluntary and jointly agreed upon compulsory exchange of populations where other means seem to be unworkable, such as the Turkish-Greco Convention and the resultant exchanges beginning in 1923.

Combinations of these and others are possible, and new procedures will doubtless have to be developed to meet these problems in this present "interlocking" world.

Settlement in "home lands," sometimes proposed, offers innumerable and apparently insuperable problems of transfer, legal settlement, dislocation of economies both in the departing and receiving areas, and new minority, often including racial, clashes, not to mention to each other as they come together from their former places of residence where they have developed various class, educational, economic and other persistent cultural diversities and even biological blendings.

We are pretty well caught up!

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## UNION BALLROOM

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## V . . . — Mail Clippings

Harold Harshaw, Censor

"Bud" Bierman, Phi Gam, writes from Great Lakes, Ill., that he is in the Great Lakes Bluejacket Naval Choir. "Bud" is a Hospital Attendant, 2nd Class.

Ensign Willis Ferguson, '43, received his commission in the Naval Air Corp at Pensacola, Fla., on Feb. 6, 1945.

"Hank" Greene, Phi Delt, is in Lincoln on furlough. He served with General Patton in France and was wounded in France.

Lt. Bill Robinson, Kappa Sig, is home on furlough after spending several months overseas. Bill has the ribbon for serving with the British army under General Montgomery and the purple heart for being wounded at Bastogne. Lieutenant Robinson was with the 101st airborne group and made 3 combat jumps. He graduated from the College of Business Administration in 1943.

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