

The Daily Nebraskan

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Something to Shout About . . .

When N. U. alums from all over the West gather with students on the campus to honor a faculty member celebrating his 25th year the University, one is prompted to consider the accomplishments of the man. The man in case is Dwight Kirsch, director of the University Art Galleries, and his accomplishments are too numerous to mention within the limitations of one editorial.

Alums from such points as Chicago, Iowa City, St. Louis, Denver and Phillips, Texas, along with other alums in the Nebraska area and students on the campus were on hand last week-end for the art alumni banquet which paid tribute to a man who joined the art faculty in 1924, served as departmental chairman from 1931 to 1947 and is now the director of the Art Galleries.

Over 100 alums, artists, gallery directors and critics, throughout the nation who were informed of the banquet but who were unable to be present responded with letters telegrams and which unquestionably verify the honors bestowed upon Dwight Kirsch. One wire reads, "Congratulations on one-quarter century of inspiring work in developing and encouraging art in the Middle West. My particular congratulations on the excellent collection of American painting and sculpture."

From the department of art at another state university, "I join with members of the staff . . . in congratulating you upon the magnificent job you have done for your institution, for your state, for the Middle West. Yes, indeed for America." A third, "May I speak for the thousands on these great plains who cannot be with you on this day to salute and thank you for your continuous and vigorous assistance toward our greater esthetic achievement . . ."

Those with even the slightest acquaintance with art in the Middle West know that Dwight Kirsch is not only an able teacher and critic of art and a prominent figure in art circles but a leading artist as well. A recent exhibition at the Joslyn Memorial in Omaha bears this out. Featuring more than seventy works of art, the exhibition was a one-man show, consisting entirely of the works of Dwight Kirsch. The exhibit ranged from oil, tempera and watercolor to serigraph, monotype, drawing and collage. One needs to look no further than the columns of the art critics to discover that Kirsch succeeds as much in the ceation of art as in the teaching of it.

It is gratifying to know that the 25 years of effort and achievement of Dwight Kirsch have not passed without due recognition. What is even more gratifying is the realization that Mr. Kirsch, just fifty, may well spend twenty five more years contributing to the field of art.

Two others who were given due recognition at the banquet were Miss Gertrude Moore, retired assistant professor of the History and Criticism of the Fine Arts, and Miss Kady Faulkner, member of the art faculty since 1930. Miss Moore served on the art faculty from 1917 until her retirement last year, making art history a lively subject for her many students. Miss Faulkner has shown a never-ending interest in art itself and the work of her students. She now is the national president of Delta Phi Delta, national art honorary.

With three faculty members having been limelighted for their contributions to art at the University of Nebraska, it would do well for students to pay a visit to the current exhibition in the Art Galleries to see for themselves what are the results of these years of hard work. We wager to say that few will go away wondering why an occasion of honoring the Galleries' director and two of the art faculty came into being.

Letterip

OF NEBRASKA:

Three months ago, the Temple theatre was condemned as unsafe for public gatherings.

Three months ago, University officials promised a solution.

Theatre personnel confidently believed that immediate action would be taken to alleviate this condition which seriously impaired not only the functions of the University Theatre but also the activities of the School of Music and other organizations which utilized the building's facilities.

Three months have passed.

What has been done?

Refunds were made on season tickets held by persons onconvenieniced by the closing of the theatre.

The two remaining plays of the current season were cancelled and substitutes offered which demand less technical production.

The generosity of Dr. Enid Miller Hoffman made possible the use of the stage of Wesleyan University's Plainsman Theatre.

But according to Mrs. Margaret Denton, business manager of the University Theatre, an estimated 450 persons saw the first show presented by this University on the Wesleyan stage. When one considers that the average attendance per show at the Temple theatre last season was 1,655 persons, it is painfully evident that the use of the Plainsman Theatre is, at best, a temporary substitute for our home facilities.

Today—there are no plans submitted for next year's theatre season, simply because of the absence of a suitable place for staging plays. A number of students already have transferred to other universities which offer more positive theatre activities.

Few are aware that the University of Nebraska theatre is the second oldest university theatre to be organized in the United States. Few realize that this theatre is one of the few campus institutions which is almost self-supporting. Few know that most theatre equipment, provided by meager box-office profits, makes possible a curriculum in stagecraft, theatre laboratory, and play production.

Although production standards in the University Theatre have progressively improved, audiences have diminished because of the Temple is obviously unsafe for public gatherings.

The inevitable has happened. It was not unexpected. The Temple theatre is closed—powerless to help itself, unable to re-open until renovation has been made as specified by the State Fire Marshall's ruling. Unless something is done, and soon, the theatre at the University of Nebraska is doomed to eventual disappearance as a campus activity.

We cannot believe that the University officials, faculty, student body, and the citizens of this state are indifferent to this situation.

We know that the student body can play an important part in pointing up the necessity for urgent action.

A petition, asking that appropriate consideration be given this matter immediately, will be circulated by members of the Nebraska Masquers, campus honorary dramatic fraternity.

Your support is necessary.

Respectfully,
GAYLORD MARR

Dear Editor:
I would like to comment **The Daily Nebraskan** for its suggestion of an all-student constitutional assembly. As was stated in its front-page story Tuesday, the "Rag" evidently didn't intend to "imply that this is the procedure which should be used." However, the fact that our campus newspaper did bother to plan an actual program, rather than express the usual vague gripes, is a significant thing to me. It is essentially so in this time of great need for more active student in-

terest in the workings of campus government.

If more plans similar to the "Rag's" or even the **Daily Nebraskan** proposal itself were to be seriously considered and produced by Nebraska University students, perhaps a more practical, workable solution could be found for the present general lack of student interest in Student Council operations. Again, **The Daily Nebraskan** is to be applauded for its vision and interest in student affairs.

Sincerely,
NANCY PORTER.

Final Exams . . .

Final examinations at Nebraska University are a farce. They must be surprising, indeed, to a young freshman, just out of high school. He comes to the University hoping to acquire knowledge and understanding which will prepare him for the business and professional future and then is confronted with the sad realization that he is virtually forced to cheat to stay in school.

Why does this situation exist? Primarily, the blame should fall on the students. During final week, "final exam syndicates" are in operation on a campus-wide scale. Some students spend all their time bartering for tests which have in some way, been smuggled out of faculty hands. These "syndicates" do not, by

any means, include all of Nebraska's students, but they do include enough to create a tough problem for the students who do not participate. It's more than discouraging to enter an examination class room realizing that many already know exactly what will be in the test.

Naturally some instructors will say, "Why should I worry? If they want to go through college that way, it's their own tough luck." But it's not as simple as that. American young people, whether they know it or not, are going to have to be well educated to cope with the difficult problems of the future. Competition in the business world is, and will be, plenty stiff with the increased number of college

From the Front Page

BY BRUCE KENNEDY.

THE RENT Control measure was praised by Democratic leaders as being "good" Thursday. The bill was passed by the senate 68-10 but the bill will be sent back to the House for a compromise.

One provision that the Democrats were not in favor of was the home-control clause. This provision would allow the states, cities, and towns to remove or curb rent controls when the state governor approved. But the Democrats say that this will wreck the entire program.

CONGRESS'S 15% cut of appropriations for the Army engineers appeared to be the doom of the Missouri Valley plan. It is expected that the slash would set the project back at least one year if not more. The only thing the plan can hope for now is a lowering of construction costs in 1950.

ARMY RESEARCH received a full attack from the Hoover Commission for "a complete unco-ordinated program." Disagreement between the Joint Chiefs of Staff accounted for a lot of the trouble, the report said. "There seems to be no master plan but just 18 thousand research and development projects."

HOPING to regain the favor of his Communist "buddies," Earl Browder pleaded to appear in defense of the 11 Communist leaders on trial in Washington. The defendants are on trial for intention of overthrowing the government. Browder, deposed secretary of the party in the United States, now says he wants to testify for the Communists.

WINSTON Churchill and his wife arrived in Washington for an eleven-day visit at the White House. Just what Churchill's business in Washington is, nobody knows for sure. But about 175 workers met him at the dock with signs that read: "Churchill wants War; America wants peace." The rest of us who are not quite so sure, will just have to wait and see.

NEWS IN BRIEF—The Navy's last battleship in the Pacific, the Iowa, was retired—John L. Lewis ordered his 460 thousand miners back to work ending the "memorial"—The House Labor Committee swiftly approved a bill to repeal the Taft-Hartley bill.

graduates since the war. Most people won't be able to cheat their way through business. And there is no better time to learn to think for one's self than during college training.

Our final exam system of departmental tests should be eliminated to afford everyone an equal chance. Some students, no doubt, care little whether it is changed, since it's easier to slide through. But the administration should be able to see that existing system is far from beneficial to students.

A possible remedy for the situation might be a plan similar to the one recently inaugurated by Grinnell college in Iowa. This plan calls for four one-hour exams during the semester, with the last exam given on the final day of class. These exams are made up by the individual instructor and not by the department. The instructor may include questions in his tests over any previous material studied during the semester.

If this plan were installed, the student would be more intent upon learning the material taught by his instructor, and he would know that there would be no

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