

Blame the Students . . .

One upshot of the current interest in the problem of the Temple theater seems to be that certain members of the administration are accusing faculty members in the speech department of inciting student action.

This is wholly untrue—a fact which should be made known to all. As a matter of fact, the speech department faculty should be hailed by the administration for delaying student action as long as it was delayed.

Last December when the fire marshal pronounced his verdict, many student members were ready to go to bat then to get something done. One of the students, in a position to play the matter to the hilt in *The Daily Nebraskan*, was told to let the thing ride because action was forthcoming. And the faculty was being sincere. It actually believed that every immediate possible measure would be taken to render the Temple theater "okay" for further activity.

After the ensuing months of inactivity, student action was inevitable. Speech department faculty members themselves could not get any answers to the question, "what is to be done?" and consequently were unable to answer the same question when asked by students.

Concerning questions asked and not answered, probably the most ironical one was posed by the administration to speech faculty members when the Temple was first condemned. The administration was asking, "What are YOU going to do about it?" If the administration really thought the problem was one to be handled by the department of speech, then our understanding of the operations of the university is slightly erroneous. It would be pleasant to think that the speech department on its own could rebuild the theater, or build a brand new auditorium, or pay rental to a down-town theater for using its facilities for next year's productions. But it would be grossly ridiculous.

It is time that the administration realize the importance of the Temple theater and make an honest effort to do something about it so that the whole structure of the drama department and activities of the fine arts school are not shattered completely. If nothing can be done about it, the student body should be informed.

No Answer . . .

Will we make the minor repairs necessary for the Temple to meet the minimum requirements of the state fire marshal.

Or will we make a complete renovation for the homeless theater?

When will we know which of these two alternatives the administration will take?

What will the Fine Arts department do in the meantime?

No one has as yet answered these questions. Mr. Charles Fowler, director of the Building and Grounds department doesn't know, either.

Mr. Fowler says that architects are now determining what to do with our delapidated Temple. They will report sometime in the future, how much it would cost to meet the minimum standards. And the architects may also get around to determining the cost of making the building really worthy of being called the "Temple."

When the architects have finally come forth with some concrete figures, what alternative will be taken? Mr. Fowler can't make any definite statement about that, either.

Mr. Fowler personally favors starting from scratch. We have been making minimum repairs too long, he says. That's why the Temple is in the shape it's in now. Mr. Fowler agrees with the fire marshal's diagnosis of the Theater's condition. It seems to me that anyone who had ever stepped foot inside the Temple could have diagnosed the situation at a glance. But fire standards were lower a few years ago, and we let the thing go so long that it's beyond recovery now.

Meanwhile, the Fine Arts school sits back and hopes and waits. While we are making up our minds, what do we expect the theater to do? You can't expect construction companies to come at your beckon, says Mr. Fowler. Has anybody beckoned? Perhaps University officials will meet with Mr. Laase to hear his suggestions and to try to solve the dilemma. Sometime in the future, that is.

Mr. Fowler doesn't want to do anything contrary to student opinion. The students just want something done. Above all, Mr. Fowler doesn't want to spend University money foolishly. Who has spent any money besides that paid the architects who ambled down to our rickety, run-down theater to tell us that we needed repairs? Is the theater a foolish way to spend money? Isn't it one of the most important parts of the University? Won't it be a drawing card for students?

Well, we'll wait. In the meantime, the theater will go without.

SUSIE REED.

As I Was Saying . . .

BY PAT NORDIN

Spring Song—"Won't you wear my pin"—isn't very popular lately. Pins are flying to and fro—Sig Alph **George Dudley** hung his pin on Delta Gamma **Ruth Jewett** two weeks ago and paid the consequences with cigars and candy Monday night. He was taken by surprise at the Theta house where he buses when he was hailed from the vicinity of the kitchen for congratulations from the Theta chapter.

Marbon Spiece passed candy Monday night, too, announcing her pinning to **George Reid** of Omaha U.

Along with spring, picnic season is here to stay and the Phi Deltas, campus outdoor boys, are planning a big one for Saturday afternoon which should continue on to . . . Then of course there are the Betas who don't mind the stormy weather—they can still picnic as long as they keep their increasing supply of convertibles.

Speaking of Betas, they serenaded the Pi Phis Monday evening at a candy passing. Yes—**John Cullen** and **Marilyn Legge** finally took the big step. **John** pinned **Marilyn** while she was still under the influence of anaesthesia after having undergone an operation recently. In her weakened condition—or was it his—she was unable to refuse it.

The ATO's are still suffering from the effects of the Story Book ball . . . and hunting for the person who ran away with the golden slipper. It might have been **Cub Clem**; nobody's too sure when he did return from the party.

A Western Round-Up house party is on the agenda for the Alpha Chis Saturday night. Might be the round-up of a pin or two—just how much longer **Jack Selzer** is going to hang on to his pin is the question of the day. Then, there is that other ATO active and a newly initiated Alpha Chi who have been going steady for more than five months. **Ann Webster** and her new steady **Chuck Hemmingsen**, "man of distinction," will be on hand to round-up some fun.

Big news—**Keith O'Bannon** needs only 12 more votes to take the BODC title. Why not just pledge the DU house for their support.

Future events include the Triad formal April 8. This is presented annually by the Sigma Chis, Betas and Phi Delta Thetas.

Engaged: **Gene Deeter** and **Jackie Wightman**.

Pinned: **Betty Swift** and **Harold Engstrom**.

Going steady: **Danna Ruddock** and **Tommy Donahoe**.

Unpinned: **Ray Biemond** and **Cay Worcester**.

IVCF to Discuss Foreign Missions

Bob Gruber, Arts and Science junior, will speak to the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship Thursday at 7:30 p. m. in Room 315, Student Union.

Gruber's topic will be "Why I Am Going to the Foreign Mission Field." Special music will include a flute solo by Francis Swartwood.

Saturday.

Canterbury Crew landscaping party Saturday 9 a. m.

Canterbury Club meet in club room at 12 noon for trip to Arbor Lodge, Nebraska City.

Red Cross First Aid class meets 7 p. m. Friday in Room 313, Union, instead of Thursday night this week.

The Daily Nebraskan

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University Bases Budget Raise On Greater Maintenance Costs

The University has based its proposed budget increase in part on rising costs of maintenance.

University land, buildings and equipment are valued at over 17 million dollars. A continuing program of upkeep, repair and maintenance is necessary for such a large investment.

During the past two years the departments which perform these necessary functions have been completely reorganized and streamlined. In addition, much of the day to day maintenance of building and grounds has been mechanized. This means that labor costs will be reduced because new machines are now doing the job formerly performed by several men.

BUT THE increase in wages for labor and in the cost of equipment and supplies have increased maintenance costs in spite of these improvements. Labor wages have risen 45 per cent since 1940. In 1940, a janitor received an average hourly wage of 40 cents. In 1946 he receive 65 cents, and in 1948 he was paid 80 cents.

Wages for other employes also rose during this period: Auto mechanic, 60 cents, 90 cents, \$1.20; carpenter, 74 cents, 92 cents, \$1.24; electrician, 74 cents, \$1, \$1.20; laborer, 40 cents, 60 cents, 75 cents; pressman, 80 cents, \$1.20, \$1.82½.

THE COST of equipment and supplies has increased 55 per cent since 1946. In that year, coal (plus freight) cost \$3.95. In 1947 it cost \$5.55, and in 1948 it increased to \$9.30. Filing cabinets cost \$29.50 in 1946, \$45.32 in 1947 and \$53.50 in 1948.

The cost of stationary increased from \$8 in 1946 to \$10.50 in 1947 to \$15.35 in 1948. Two-inch galvanized pipe could be purchased for \$17.64 in 1946. In 1947 it cost \$23.25, and in 1948, \$36.03.

FLOOR TILE cost 19 cents in 1946, 22 cents in 1947 and 34 cents in 1948. The cost of dry cell batteries has risen from 21 cents in 1946 to 35 cents in 1947 to 50 cents in 1948.

The size of Nebraska's physical plant has also grown since 1946.

BABW Chooses Six New Officers

BABW members elected officers for the coming year at their meeting Monday. In addition to president Joann Learning and vice president Jean Peterson, who were chosen in the all-women election, the following officers have been chosen: Annette Stoppkotte, secretary; Marjorie Wilburn, treasurer; Frances Rogers, historian; Norma Chubbuck, publicity chairman; Ardath Wilcox, social chairman; Jean Stoppkotte, activities chairman.

otherby increasing maintenance costs. There has been a 16 per cent increase in floor space per square foot since that year. Heating space has gained 22 per cent in cubic feet since 1946.

From the Front Page

BY BRUCE KENNEDY.
NEBRASKA'S worst winter may have turned into its worst spring as far as the road situation is concerned. Four towns have been isolated by mud in much the same way as the snow did last month. The melting snow has caused the roads around these towns to be impassable, even to tractors.

Bloomfield was about the hardest hit and other Nebraska communities, Crofton, Winside, and Hoskins, were isolated. What was responsible for the bad roads was the lack of highways or even graveled roads. Bulldozers of the Operation Snowbound removed the snow but also removed the gravel.

GENERAL Clayton L. Bissell, of the United States Air Force, faces unknown charges in Germany. The Army did not disclose the nature of the charges, but an investigation is now being conducted to determine whether Bissell will have a trial by court martial.

BRITISH Foreign Secretary Bevin received a "royal" welcome in New York Wednesday. Accompanied by three other European diplomats, Bevin is on the United States to sign the Atlantic Pact. Eggs and tomatoes were hurled from a crowd of about five hundred pickets in protest of Britain's policy toward Israel.

THE SYRIAN government changed hands Wednesday and Brigadier Hosny el Zaim, commander of the Syrian Army, took over the government. Reasons for the coup d'etat the commander said were ill treatment of the Army officers and discontent among the people.

Coed Would Like 'Home on Range'

It's happened again! Another co-ed trying to gain admission to an all male school! A New York miss recently requested admission to Texas A&M school of agriculture.

The New Yorker received a bulletin from A&M. In her letter asking for admission, she said A&M "was just the school I was looking for—just what I needed to realize my dream of being a Texas cattle rancher."