

# The Daily Nebraskan

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## "The Fleet's Out" For Naval Cadets

Its "sailing, sailing, over the bounding main" for some 50 NROTC students from the university, who will spend six weeks this summer aboard ship.

Forty-five sophomores and seniors will come back shell-backs from their cruise to Panama, after being duly initiated in a traditional ceremony upon crossing the equator. They are scheduled to

report in San Francisco June 13 for a trip south via Long Beach, San Diego and the Galapagos islands. They will attend classes as they sail on US cruisers and destroyers.

Four other students will also go to Panama on their contract cruise of the Atlantic. Thirty-five juniors, meanwhile, will be spending six weeks on air indoctrination at Pensacola, Fla. before going to Little Creek, Va. for their amphibious training. Six more will take their marine indoctrination at Quantico, Va.

## Pardon Us If . . .

We appear to snicker up our proverbial sleeve. But we are forced to chuckle slightly at a story on today's front page. They're at it again.

By "they" we mean the solid citizens of our state and their typically mid-western attitude, which has forced the faculty to come out with the childish document which appears on page one.

With this point of view in mind, government, politics and opinion seem to fall into two categories. What's good is American and what's not good is "communistic."

We feel certain that a vast majority of those who cry "communism" at the drop of a hat could not adequately define the term. Everything from liberalism to socialism has at one time or another come in for a dose of being labeled "red."

We hasten to state that an aggressive communistic policy, such as that now practiced by Russia—a program which incidentally is not true communism—certainly does not meet with our approval. Like our republican forebears we heartily condemn it.

But—there is such a thing as bending so far over backwards that one loses one's equilibrium. In the words of the faculty resolution "We believe . . . those basic principles of academic freedom which permit and encourage the free, honest and impartial discussion and analysis of the various forms of government are essential . . ."

From the time he is first exposed to an American history lesson every U. S. citizen has a large dose of propaganda—propaganda can be good as well as bad. The somewhat biased attitude of early textbooks inevitably led the American youth to believe that every act committed by his government was altruistic and benevolent or, at least, justifiable. This same American tripped, triumphantly out of grade school believing that America was virtually called upon by heaven to enter every war in which she has ever engaged. The U. S. an aggressor nation?—perish the thought.

This type of slanted history is, of course, not peculiar to the U. S. but is found all over the world.

Sooner or later, however, Junior is bound to be exposed to the political facts of life. When this time comes—and it seems to come more often than not with a college education—some one has to be blamed for the rude awakening. This scapegoat is currently, the college professor. The prof who attempts to explain to Junior that all nations are guilty, at one time or another, of encroaching upon their fellow nations; he who attempts to say that world peace is achieved only through understanding; he who attempts to impart that understanding—he, is guilty of the most heinous of all crimes.

We, in America, profess to believe in the United Nations. We claim to want to get along with all the nations of the world—if that can be done without giving up some of our cherished national pride. We want to get along with other nations by converting them to our political principles. America says: "We want to get along with you, but since our way is the only way we can never have real harmony until you accept our beliefs."

So Mamma and Papa send Junior to college to learn to live in a world of men. For all intents and purposes it is presumed that they intend that he should become a man—a man who can live with and understand his fellow man. But there must be a fallacy in this premise. Junior is to become a man, but a man with his prejudices nicely set out for him.

THE NEBRASKAN believes that democracy is the finest form of government so far evolved by mankind. Mamma and Papa believe it, too. These then are reasons that Junior should believe it?

If this thing we call democracy is logically and ideally the finest form of government existing, a fair comparison of all political ideas will certainly expose the fact.

The nation has the jitters and Nebraska is no exception. Suddenly it is as afraid of the truth about world politics as a two year old is of the dark. America is a young nation; perhaps it is time it grew up.

We said at the outset of this tirade, that we snickered. We do. For we know that in spite of the scrap of paper, the truly intelligent members of the faculty—and there are many—will continue to teach the truth as they understand it. We feel certain, too, that the solid citizens on the main streets all over Nebraska will continue to cry that our university is "communist-infiltrated"—although the scrap of paper may soothe their troubled minds for a time.

America contends that it is the champion of world peace and the UN, but as long as university faculty members must waste their valuable time compiling testimonies on loyalty to soothe the nerves of an unenlightened citizenry we shudder for its success.

## 'Tention . . .



HOLDING A PLAQUE, at left, is Cadet Lt. Dana B. Rasmussen. The plaque was awarded by the provost marshal general's office in Washington for an outstanding academic record as a second year advanced ROTC student. Rasmussen is a senior in the School of Fine Arts and a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. He is a member of the ROTC military police section.

## Lutherans . . .

Lutheran Student Association meets Tuesday at 5:30 p. m. at the Student House, 1440. Pastor Alvin M. Petersen, Lutheran pastor for students will be the speaker. There will be a picnic supper, recreation, and a devotional program. Summer school students are cordially invited.

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