

# The Daily Nebraskan

Member  
Intercollegiate Press

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR

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Subscription rates are \$2.00 per semester, \$2.50 per semester mailed, or \$3.00 for the college year, \$4.00 mailed. Single copy 5c. Published daily during the school year except Mondays and Saturdays, vacations and examination periods, by the University of Nebraska under the supervision of the Publications Board. Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office 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 10, 1922.

EDITORIAL

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BUSINESS

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## As Seen From The Cloister

By Fritz Picard

From time to time I read filler items in the newspapers that amuse me. Some of them go like this: "The Russian press now claims that the Soviets invented baseball at Tomsk on May Day, 1919." Or, "Pravda has called for a European boycott of Jane Russell pictures because of the 'obvious misrepresentations of the exploiting American capitalists.' ists."

If at any time prior to Feb. 19, 1950, I had read that the comic strip "Orphan Annie" was being denounced in the Soviet press as "an instrument of warmongering American reactionaries designed to blind the beleaguered American public," I should have shrugged that one off, too. But only if I had read it prior to Feb. 19, for on that day Oliver (Daddy) Warbucks reappeared on the pages of the so-called "comic" sections of our leading newspapers.

Although I don't want to deny Abner Doubleday's claim to the great American game, and I certainly don't want to depreciate Miss Russell's outstanding charms, today, I should be forced to agree that for once the Russian press was dead right. (Sen. McCarthy: please note. I am not now, nor have I ever been a member of . . .)

Anyway, to get a clearer idea of what I mean, let's take a look at what's been happening to Annie and Daddy the past few months. The issue in which Daddy returns finds Annie and Sandy, her understanding and ageless dog, watching a darkened ship (obviously Russian) lying off shore. Annie, lying on shore, says, "Dark! Can't see their flag now. Huh! Real 'Mericans never could 'see' that flag or the fear and horror under it." After Daddy swims to shore and Annie recognizes him, we are shown a tender scene in which Daddy and Annie are reunited.

By March 19, Dan Drift, the ne'er-do-well owner of the house where Annie and Daddy are lodged, has found that the Asp has liquidated a prowler who had learned Daddy's identity. Although Dan says, "I should report you to the police," the Asp, as Daddy's right-hand man and a true defender of the democratic way of life, says, while clutching Dan's lapel, "Talk, my friend, can be fatal. Life is sweet, is it not? Try to remember that through an open mouth life may easily escape—your life, chum!" So, I guess that it isn't quite cricket to report a murder, especially when the murderer is on "our" side—at least not in Daddy's scheme of things.

Later Daddy tells Annie that his enemy, Ivan, (that one is hard to figure out) can never become really strong because he, Daddy, will never sell him the guns he needs. He winds up by saying that "Only little people will sell out their country, their friends, for money."

However, as Daddy light-heartedly says in reply to Annie's statement that he has mines, oil wells, factories, ships, and railroads, "Oh, those things." He elaborates on this complex view of life by pointing out that his empire is strictly bush-league, "Only a tool to keep me and my people free."

As Daddy's limousine rolls toward his castle-like summer home, Annie exclaims, "Leapin' Lizards! What a layout!"

"Hmmm," says Oliver, "more like a monument. It was built by a man who had made millions in business. It stands as a monument to a way of life. Those were the days when our great railroad systems were built, our vast land became rich farms, and thousands of fine colleges were founded and

## NU Journalism Staff Appoints N. B. Blumberg

Nathan B. Blumberg, Rhodes scholar and former staff member of the University of Colorado at Boulder, will join the University School of Journalism faculty Sept. 1, as an assistant professor of journalism.

He holds both a bachelor of arts and a master degree from the University of Colorado. He is now in England, completing work on his Ph. D. degree which he will receive from Oxford university this summer.

Blumberg's professional experience includes work for the Rocky Mountain News in Denver and for the Associated Press. He will replace George S. Turnbull, of Eugene, Oregon, a visiting professor, who concluded his service at the university this month.

He will teach history and principles of journalism and labs in news editing.

## Union Sponsors Marriage Talks Next Wednesday

A new venture in activities will be offered Wednesday, June 21, when the first in a series of informal discussions on marriage problems will be held in the Union Main Lounge from 1:30 to 3 p. m.

Leading the discussion on "What You Bring to Marriage" will be Mrs. Angeline Anderson, assistant professor of home economics. The film, "It Takes All Kinds," one of the Mc-Graw-Hill marriage series, will be shown preceding the discussion.

Publicity chairman for the event is Eleanor Erickson, and the committee is Ralph Hannaman, Jan Zlomke, Mary Hubka, and Eugene Sibson.

endowed. Peace and prosperity—a golden age of equal opportunity for all, Annie."

Shades of Jim Fiske and Daniel Drew! So did Lucky Luciano make millions in business. Sure railroads were built; so were fortunes by controlled legislatures and watered stock deals. The prairie did become rich farmland, but in less than two generations it also became the dust bowl.

Now that we've given "Orphan Annie" a sort of spot-check, we begin to see what it stands for. Warbucks (and the name is all too apt) stands for more than big business, unrestricted "free" enterprise, and isolationism. He does more than try to lure us back to the defunct political ideas of a non-existent "golden age," in which the Rockefellers, Morgans and Vanderbilts amassed millions at the expense of the public. His bias toward Russia, the lies and half-truths about her political system, her way of life, her economic status; all are mere background for his extremely dangerous attitude toward a war with the Soviet Union.

It may seem silly to attack so vehemently a mere "comic" strip, but this type of propaganda can fowl us up much faster than the bushy-bearded agents of Ivan that Warbucks and McCarthy profess to see lurking behind every tree, lamp-post, and filing cabinet.

I heartily recommend any or all of the following measures for Daddy Warbucks: (1) that he spend ten consecutive semesters in Education 30 (2) that he eat the complete works of Horatio Alger, page by page (3) that he diet on Hadacol and bock beer exclusively and (4) that he, Sen. McCarthy and Sen. Wherry be set adrift in a leaky life-raft on the upper Volga with megaphones instead of cars.

## Union Plans Ground Breaking For Addition by Summer '51

Work on the recently approved Union addition will begin next summer if present plans are carried out, according to Duane Lake, Union director.

The Union addition was insured when the Board of Regents approved a \$3 per semester per student increase in Union fees last month. It was first thought that the wing could not be built until 1952.

Though no actual plans have been drawn up as yet, Lake said Michael Hare, consulting architect for the association of College Unions will survey the present Union and make recommendations for the addition in the near future.

### Ag Union

The Ag campus Union will be started at the same time if the master plan for expanding the Ag campus is approved by then. The proposed ranch type structure cannot be built until it is decided where the building will fit in best with the Ag architectural plan.

The addition to the city Union will be built onto the west wing of the present building, extending into the parking lot on the north.

The fee increase, which will go into effect in the fall semester, will be used to increase the budget of the Activities committee to approximately \$9,000; for operating costs; and for a renovation and alteration fund. The latter fund will be used to make changes on the present Union structure in co-ordinating it with the addition.

### Working Plans

By early next fall, according to

Lake, it is hoped to have some working drawings prepared for the wing. A survey of student opinion similar to the one taken last spring will be obtained. This survey will insure that the Union will contain the features students feel are most necessary and desirable.

In the report of the Union expansion committee to the Board of Regents the following facilities were mentioned as possible features of the new wing:

"1. Recreation Facilities—bowling alleys and supplementary facilities; properly equipped billiard room; ping pong room with a minimum of eight tables; game room equipped for leisure time table games; recreation room. The present Crib area could be readily devoted to a much needed social-recreation room. Offering social dancing to recorded music, television, and limited refreshment service. This area could also serve as a commuters lunch room during the noon hour.

"2. Cultural enrichment facilities—informal recital-reception room of studio design with small stage for piano and instrumental recitals etc.; wall inset display cases along corridors for exhibiting art objects, handicraft and departmental works.

### Service Facilities

"3. Service facilities considered:

a. fountain service—more adequate facilities to replace present Crib, properly designed for efficient operation and expendable service. An adjoining outdoor ter-

race could be incorporated for use when weather conditions permit.

b. multiple purpose conference-dining rooms—arranged as a unit of six with expandable partitions. Each area to accommodate meetings of approximately 35.

c. student organizations offices and file room—arranged as units of small offices with conference rooms adjoining each unit.

d. suitable offices and service area for Union activities. This could be arranged as a suite with inner office for Activities Director, outer office for Activities Committee headquarters and a small conference room adjoining.

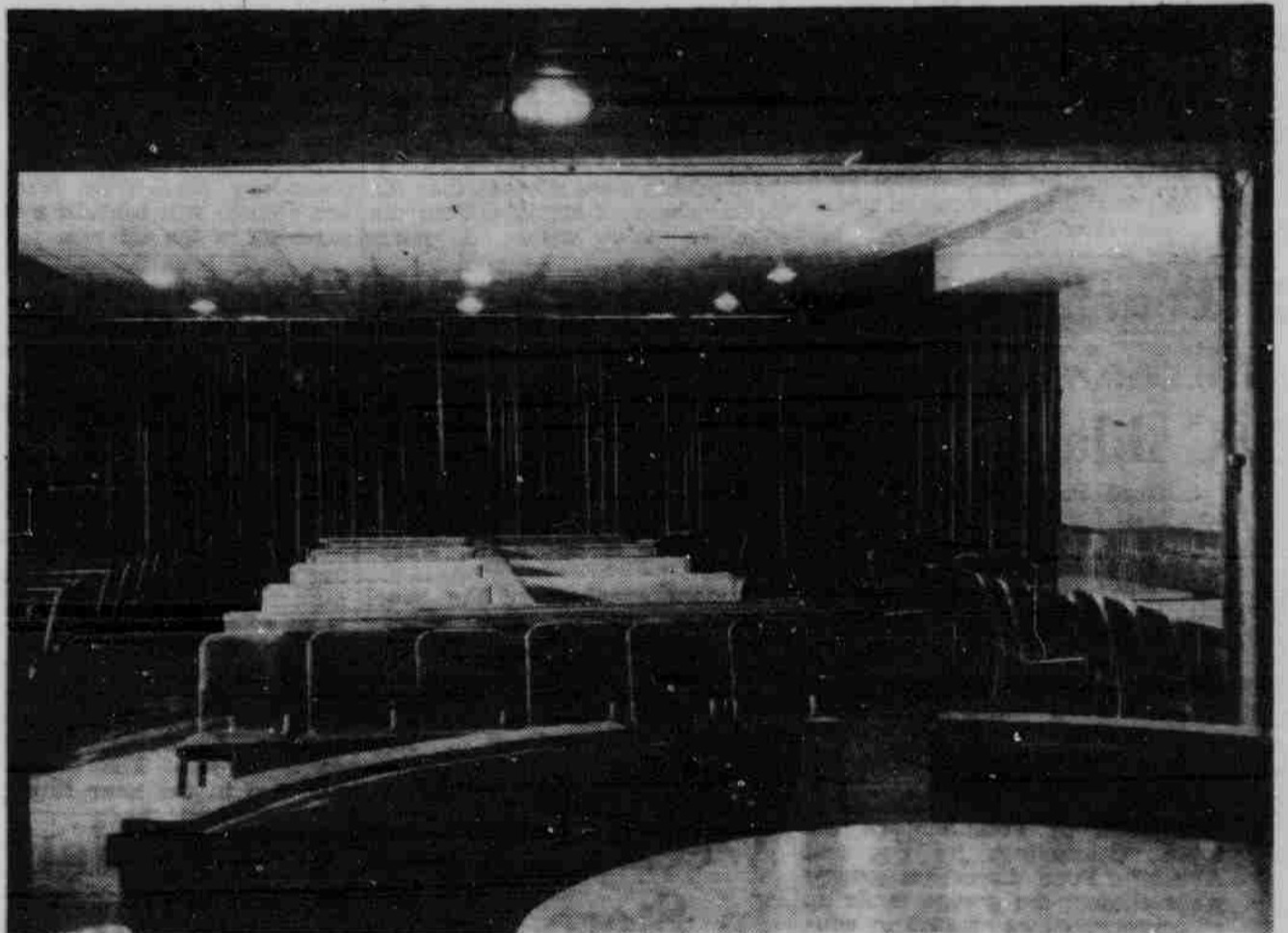
e. commuters lunch room—equipped with small lockers for storage of lunches and provision for hot beverages. This facility could be readily located in the present Crib space.

f. craft and hobby shop—facilities could be established in area presently assigned for ping pong, but which is not suitable for this activity.

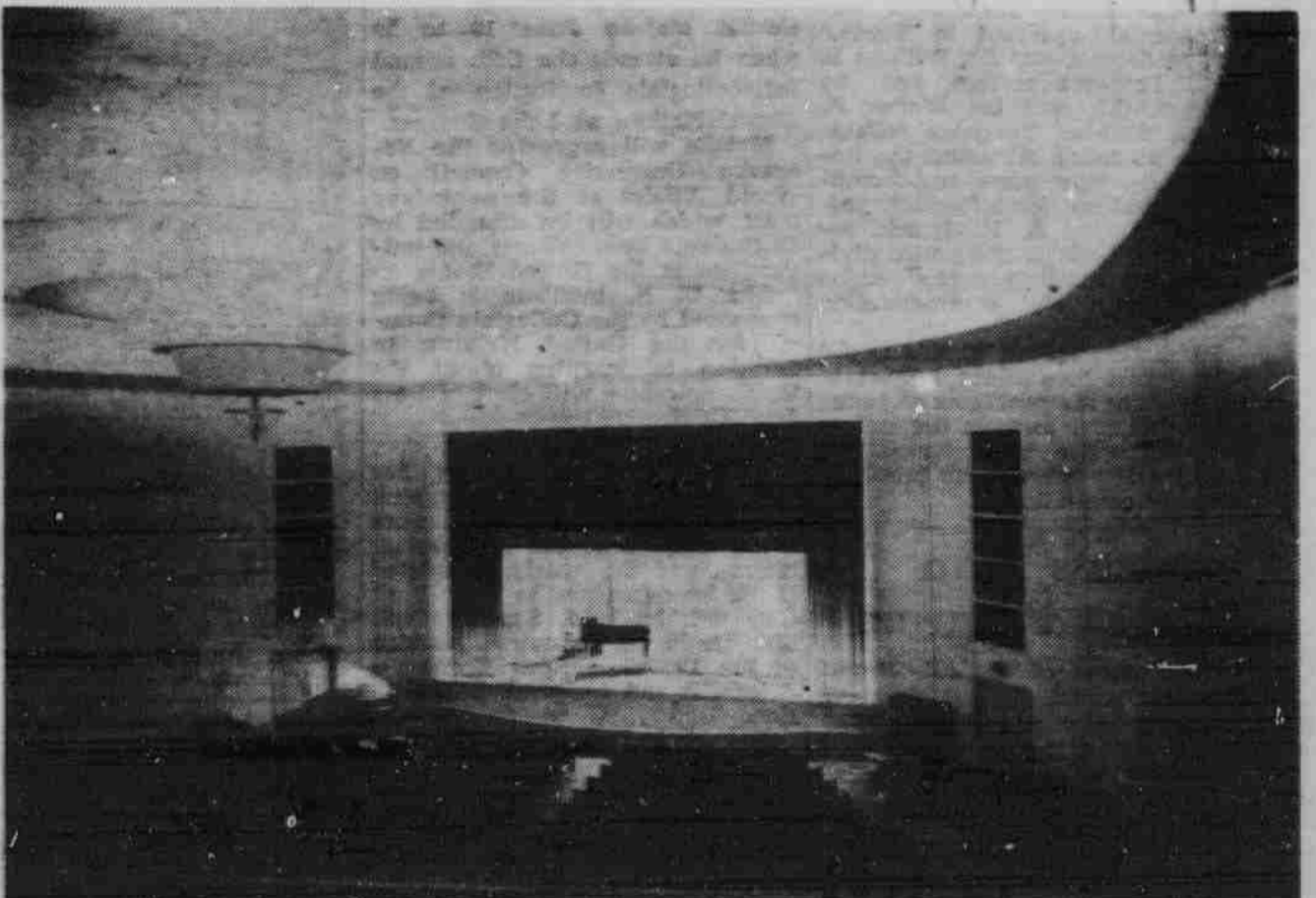
g. Television-audio lounge—designed for maximum view, wide angle television reception in comfortable surroundings.

h. ticket and sales booth near north entrance for ticket sales in advance of events. The present activities office in main lobby could be assigned as temporary headquarters to sponsoring organizations in advance of major activities.

i. Auxiliary checkstand facilities convenient to north entrance and recreation area."



CONCERT ROOM—One of the planned addition room, similar to the one in a university Union shown above. The concert room would be suited for broadcasts, as well as informal speakers and fine arts recitals



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