

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Loyalty Oath . . .

The loyalty oath bugaboo has returned to haunt the Nebraska state legislators in the form of a "loyalty" oath proposed by Sen. W. J. Williams. The proposed bill would require all college and university teachers, public school teachers and county officers and employees to declare loyalty to the constitution of the United States and of Nebraska. Though Sen. Williams' bill does not specifically mention the communist party, the effect would be the creation of an anti-communist oath.

So we are back to the old question of academic freedom, and whether the requirement of such oaths represent an infringement on the constitutionally established freedom of political belief and thought.

The controversy of loyalty oaths is not a new one to the nation's universities. At the University of California, a battle has been going on since the Spring of 1949 over a requirement by the Cal Board of Regents that faculty members sign an oath declaring they are not members of the communist party. The controversy has resulted in bitter attacks on the part of the faculty members, the Regents, and newspapers, in a general name calling campaign. And the result has been that a handful of California faculty members have been dismissed because of their refusal to sign the oath.

The question to consider is not whether there are communists in state positions, but rather whether the signing of the loyalty oath would accomplish its purpose in bringing subversive elements out into the open. It is a long established tradition that freedom of thought is basic to the academic freedom of the schools of the United States. If such a loyalty oath as Sen. Williams proposes is adopted, it would represent a restriction on that right to private political belief.

As A. T. Anderson, a University professor, points out in a column on this page, "According to supposedly accurate F.B.I. estimates the communists comprise far less than one percent of the population of the United States . . . probably 99 percent of the communists are known to the proper authorities." Even this 99 percent represents a minute portion of the American population. The tactics of the communist party have been shown to be based for the most part on infiltration rather than outright declaration of their stand.

It is ridiculous to assume that by enacting a loyalty oath the state of Nebraska could uncover the reds (if there are any), in its government and institutions. It is more than likely that the communists which do exist would be among the first to sign the oath, since to them the honor on which the oath is based is of no significance. It is the people who honestly believe in freedom of expression as established in the principle of academic freedom who would suffer from such an oath. And even if everyone signed the oath, what would be proved? Simply that the people in the colleges, universities and governmental offices of the state cannot be trusted to be loyal without signing an oath.

The danger of such an oath lies in its possible effect on the integrity of the institutions whose members are forced to sign it. As some faculty members of the University of California have said, "The damage is greater than the loss of these men (the faculty members fired by the Cal Regents), whose efforts to defend academic freedom have cost them their jobs. Far greater damage is represented by a faculty so intimidated that, contrary to their principles they accept the policy which the oath is designed to implement, and in addition assume the responsibility of enforcing the policy. A great university has been transformed into an institution where intimidation and suspicion are stifling free inquiry and proper instruction."

It is not an exaggeration to say the same situation might arise at the University of Nebraska if the legislature votes to enact the Williams "loyalty" oath.

If the legislature wants to weed out the communists from the state, they should attack the problem from another position. A loyalty oath is not the answer.—n.c.

NU Bulletin Board

Thursday
Religious Welfare Council meeting, 6 p.m. in Colonial Room, YMCA.

Ag Ec club meeting, 7:30 p.m., Rec. Room, Ag Union.

Tri-K club meeting 7:30 p.m. Crops Lab.

Bloek and Bridle club meeting, 7:15 p.m., 208 Animal Husbandry Hall.

Von Ag Ass'n. meeting, 7:30 p.m., 303 Ag Hall. Constitution will be approved and keys awarded.

Inter Varsity Fellowship, X meeting, 7:30 p.m. Room 313, Union.

Society of American Military Engineers meeting previously announced for tonight at 7:30 p.m. has been cancelled.

Friday

Square Dance Club, 7-8 p.m. Ag College Activities.

Syracuse Probes Honor Exam Use

The establishment of a student honor system as a remedy for cheating is being considered at Syracuse university.

A study of "student feeling" on campus matters is being made by the University Senate Committee on Student Morale. The committee believes that as students do not really want to cheat, the honor system might be a solution to the problem.

Mere policing, they believe, can't eliminate all cheating, but it can discourage it by making it hard to do.

The Daily Nebraskan

Member
Intercollegiate Press

FOURTY-EIGHTH YEAR

The Daily Nebraskan is published by the students & the University of Nebraska. It is the expression of students' news and opinions only. According to Article II of the By Laws governing student publications and administered by the Board of Publications, "It is the declared policy of the Board that publications under its jurisdiction shall not be issued from time to time on the part of the Board or on behalf of any member of the faculty or of the University but members of the staff of The Daily Nebraskan are personally responsible for what they say or do or cause to be printed."

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EDITORIAL

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Council Writes Letter To Dean T. J. Thompson

Dr. T. J. Thompson
Dean of Student Affairs
University of Nebraska
Dear Sir:

The University moral code is real and important to all students. It sets up the limits and measures of University conduct. It is in force with the approval of the highest law-making bodies responsible for this institution.

Therefore, the University of Nebraska Student Council urges you and your staff to continue to enforce rigidly, by every means at your disposal, those laws which deal with student conduct.

We urge you to continue your attempts to ferret out and deal harshly with members of such organizations as T.N.E. and Red Dot. We urge you, for the good of the student body and the future of this University, to ignore pressures within and without this University which seek to coddle such organizations, to protect their members and to belittle their violations of acceptable organizations whose national constitutions prohibit membership in such groups by helping them to find and reveal members involved in such activities.

Furthermore, we recommend permanent expulsion for those students judged guilty by appropriate faculty bodies of such violations as physical violence, cheating, drunkenness, destruction of property; and membership or perpetuation of such groups as T.N.E. and Red Dot.

The student body will no longer tolerate such violations. They have only served to cheapen the reputation that a fine University has earned throughout the past years. They have been damaging to the prestige and character of our state educational institution.

Members of the Student Council

Registration Routine Simplified by Hoover

In going through the never-ending routine of semester registration many students see only the confusion, think only of their individual problems and never stop to understand the mechanism required for so complex a procedure.

Little do students realize how fortunate they are in comparison with students registering in 1946. Those were the days when the process took from four to six weeks.

In '46 Dr. Hoover, assistant Registrar, took over the registration procedure. After surveying the situation, Dr. Hoover became aware that "University students were being pushed around during registration."

It is Dr. Hoover's contention that students should be treated as future state taxpayers, future members of the Board of Regents, future University professors and as potential directors of all University activities and policies.

Unfortunate Attitude.

The general attitude of most universities towards students is considered "unfortunate" by Dr. Hoover. This attitude is one of disinterest regarding students and their problems.

Dr. Hoover feels the Nebraska students are served well by the University agencies and served courteously.

This semester's registration went very well, according to Dr. Hoover. The assignment committee extended every possible courtesy to the students and very few students were discourteous or lost their tempers during the procedure.

"The student should be treated as a customer of the University, and treated at any reputable concern in downtown Lincoln would treat their customers," said Dr. Hoover.

Retaliation.

The University's policy of courtesy towards the students has resulted, said Dr. Hoover, in a direct retaliation of the same courtesy by the students towards faculty members, registration officials and administration officials.

The assignment committee, which is composed of Lincoln housewives, mostly faculty wives, has a keen appreciation and understanding of the problems that confront the University and its students, Hoover commented.

The registration efficiency resulting from Dr. Hoover's interest and research on the problem has been stepped up considerably during the past four years.

During his first year of handling the job, Dr. Hoover designed new equipment, worked on specific problems and made plans to revise the whole system the following year.

Specialized Equipment.

Most of the counters, stools, chairs, tables have been designed by Dr. Hoover to make the work easier for the assignment committee.

Any person who hands out the class cards never has to leave his stool or to reach very far in order to hand a card to a student.

Dr. Hoover believes that one of

Fee Payment Schedules Announced

Because of the new Veterans Administration law, all students who wish to add or drop subjects must do so before noon on Wednesday, Feb. 17. Previously one could add or drop at any time during the semester.

Also if a student must gain admission to a particular class which is closed, he must obtain special permission and a card from the instructor of the course.

Payment of fees will be in Grant Memorial hall on Jan. 22 for A to L and Jan. 23 for M to Z. Jan. 29 has been set aside for dropping and adding hours at the Military and Naval Science building. Students need only the written permission of their advisers and can complete the procedure in a short time.

After that date it will be necessary to see one's adviser, dean of his college and finally, the Registrar. The fee for dropping or adding is the same—\$2.50.

In discussing the new ruling, Dr. Floyd Hoover, assistant registrar and director of admissions, said that "whatever applies to the veteran must also apply to the non-vets in school."

The second machine will go to the Law college; the third, Military Science building; fourth, Burnett hall; and fifth, Men's dorm.

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

hayseed and haywire

By Bossy

Something new has been added around the Ag Campus. I, Bossy the cow, am now writing my own column, for one day, at least.

First, let me tell you how I got this wonderful opportunity.

I was standing around in my own cozy stall, minding my own business, when my keeper came around, and like all keepers around here, started talking to me.

After we revived him, he gasped, "What did you say?"

I again replied, "What's a' mazin', ya crazy or something? I told you I was just fine."

Then, there was really excitement! Everyone came around to look at me, because, after all, I was a celebrity, wasn't I?



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Talent scouts, press agents, reporters, all sorts of famous people came to see me. I was really becoming a wheel on campus.

My social life really zoomed to a mazin' high too. At the Farm and Home show out here to Ag, I was the biggest success of all. But, I was utterly disgusted at how jealous some of my girl friends took my success.

I went to the Sno-Ball with a celebrity too. Elmer, the famous mouse, took me. We had a fabulouss time and we were the hits of the dance. Ah, it's wonderfull to be different.

Success has made me more conscious of my looks than ever before. I am now wearing my tail in a feather bob with a little pink ribbon to emphasize my beautiful coif. I get a weekly manicure and finger wave now too. I'm really becoming a well dressed personality around these parts.

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I have been initiated into our exclusive animal sorority out here. It's called the Pi Iota Gamma house—or the PIG house to those who know us familiarly.

Like all other houses, we have our parties and social functions. We had a little get-together last month that turned out to be a howling success. We danced to the "Cow-Cow Boogie," and had our favorite food to eat: alfalfa on rye, corn fritters, and of course, our favorite thirst-quencher, water (fooled ya', didn't I?).

Well, I'm off again to the social whirl. I'm going skating with Ferdinand out here at the Tractor Testing grounds along with some of our mutual farm yard friends.

So until next time you're out at Ag, or the next time you hear from me (via columm or otherwise), I'll be seeing you.

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Two Engineers Read Papers About Tunnels

Keith Cossairt and John Nixon, mechanical engineering students, presented a student paper on the "Aero-Dynamic Smoke Tunnel."

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Mitchell System

The games were played from 4 to 6 p.m. and every hand dealt was played. Contestants followed the Mitchell System of rules and players set hands.

Prior to the tourney, tournament director gave bridge instructions to those who were just learning or who wanted to improve their game of bridge. The tournament is sponsored by the Union Recreation committee.

Winners will be chosen according to the team getting the highest score, rather than single winners. The University is in the Western zone of the national tourney. On completion of this tournament there will be an opportunity to submit entries to the Big Seven tourment.

Colorado Champs.

Last year the Intercollegiate Bridge Tournament was won by the University of Colorado. Ned Atkinson and Steven Plansburg were the Nebraska winners.

The Intercollegiate Contract Bridge Tournament originated on the east coast in 1940, and it is now a nation-wide program culminating in the awarding of a national championship title annually.

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