

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

## Beginning of Lent . . .

Today we enter again that gracious time of the year known as Lent. We urge you to survey carefully your devotional life and, more specifically, your church attendance during this period.

## What is Lent?

It is the period of days set aside for fasting in commemoration of the suffering of Christ. Since the 7th Century, this period has included the forty days, exclusive of Sundays, before Easter.

But is that all it is? Is it just a span of days, however closely those days may be connected with life's supreme triumph. Is it merely a period of penitence and preparation through acts of self-denial? It has been called the gateway to Easter. Is it merely that? Is it only a preparation for something else?

No, Lent is more, and what's more, the very word itself tells us, for the old Anglo-Saxon, word, *Lent*, means Spring.

## What is Lent?

Lent is in truth a spiritual Spring. Any sensi-

tive person knows that the soul of man has seasonal cycles; seasons of bleakness, of barrenness, of cold darkness; seasons of renewing, of fruitfulness, of warming hope. We need Spring, just as it seems that Winter has settled with frightening permanence on the life of us all.

Lent is the season of repentance, when ploughshares go deep in the soil, breaking furrows to receive new seed. Lent is the season of decision, when fields are planted, weeded, cultivated. Lent is the season of awakening, when leaden skies open into vistas of blue, when the Sun calls forth to new life the sleeping seeds of Goodness.

Lent is at least this. And if we would have it so, by the plentiful of our Christian gospel, it can mean so much more and even a spiritual renaissance for which the whole world is yearning.

We enter today this gracious period. Again we urge you to survey carefully your devotional life, your church attendance, indeed your every approach to this appealing period, that you might find guidance into and through it.

## Hope for Good Vision . . .

Once upon a time there was a little gangster. He traveled all over the country committing his robberies and burglaries. But one time he ventured into the borders of the state of Nebraska where he met his doom. For his chief method of get-aways was to get in a "borrowed" car and take-off. But in Nebraska, 1950, he no sooner got outside the city limits when he was spotted and identified by a patrol car, overtaken and thrown in jail. What was the clue? The license plate of course.

For the authorities knew the license number, were watching for it and found it. This was in 1950. The scene is now 1951, the criminal escapes from jail in a stolen car, zooms by the patrol while the confused patrolmen fumble with binoculars in hopes of eventually reading the license number.

The author of Friday's Lettertip in The Daily Nebraskan condemning Nebraska's new license plates was quite emphatic in her criticism of them. She hopes the state legislature will "junk this new, confusing, uncomprehensible, expensive system." She is particularly literal when she defined the new plates as "uncomprehensible."

Of course once you get it branded into your head that the letter preceding any number on the plate stands for the county from which the car comes and that if there are two letters it means simply that there is more than one county begin-

ning with the original letter. Then, of course, you gradually realize that the 1950 county number which preceded the dash on the "outdated" plates no longer exists. This eliminates some of the confusion. Then you must grasp the fact that letters following the digits are not to further identify the county letters which precede the numbers. These represent 1,000, 2,000, 3,000 and so on with "A" denoting 1,000. The numbers squeezed between the alphabet represent any other part of the number belonging to the original. Of course you soon learn about the exceptions.

For example, Omaha cars are not preceded by "D" for Dodge or O for Omaha, but rather "X." It is quite easy to understand just why Omaha was given "X."

However, if you have 20/20 vision plus and the eye specialist will guarantee no glasses for at least a year, or if you have five minutes to watch the car in front of you before it passes out of sight, or if your glasses have hidden binoculars enclosed in the lenses, you'll fare alright with the new plates.

If you don't have these qualities, at least you can hope that Scottsbluff and Gage county residents are resting peacefully now at night. If none of these remedies suffice may we suggest purchasing a bicycle?—J. K.

## POUPOURRI

## Symphony of Satire Program Presents World Hit Parade

By Marylou Luther

Some of the chords (and discords) in the world medley already have a striking resemblance to at least the titles of a few top tunes—past and present.

It is natural then, that any world "hit parade" would become something more than a symphony of satire.

While the titles may not always seem to harmonize and there may be some sour notes, it might be well to remember that's also the case in world affairs.

## Now let's look at some of the musical notes:

## On the International Scene.

"That's My Desire"—Stalin on Korea.  
"Happy Talk"—United Nations sessions.  
"Always True To You In My Fashion"—Tito to Stalin.  
"Too Dam Hot"—Germany.  
"Red Sails in the Sunset"—Chiang Kai-shek in Formosa.

"There are Such Things"—Peace.  
"I'm Beginning to See the Light"—The North Koreans.  
"One Meat Ball"—A sign of the times.  
On the National Scene.  
"Sam's Song"—The draft board's sonata.  
"Temptation"—The hoarder's theme song.  
"Why Can't You Behave?"—Truman to his Cabinet.  
"Holiday for Strings"—Government regulations and red tape.  
"That Old Black Magic"—Ralph Bunche.  
"Everybody Knew But Me"—Truman on Louis Johnson.  
"It's Been A Long, Long Time"—"Ike Eisenhower."  
"Are These Really Mine?"—Truman to the Dixiecrats.  
"Whispering"—Some senators after 20 hours of filibustering.

## All Nebraska 'Annie Oakleys' Eligible for WAA Rifle Club

Annie Oakley started it. Women have been learning ever since. They just hit the bullseye! Rifle club has used this motto since it was first organized in 1923.

Twenty girls banded together to form the first rifle club. The Women's Athletic association purchased three lightweight rifles for the group so coeds could learn to shoot kneeling, sitting, and standing as well as prone. The girls were given instruction by some of the men in the military department and other men interested in shooting. WAA still sponsors the group.

## Crack Shots.

During its second year of organization, Rifle club won 27 out of 33 inter-collegiate matches. Two girls emerged crack shots with averages of 96. The shooting matches with other schools in 1924 did not come out as well. Nebraska shot their way to eight victories but suffered 11 defeats. The highest score of the season was recorded as 299. The scorers arrived at this figure by taking the ten highest averages of the team.

Later, inter-collegiate matches for women were banned. The

club then resorted to interclub, intramural and postal shooting contests. The latter contest involves competition with other schools. The averages are computed and the schools exchange scores. The highest score wins.

Rifle club disbanded when the second World War started. The group was reorganized in 1947. The purpose of the club was to learn the fundamentals of shooting the mechanics of a rifle. They began prone shooting. In 1948, membership totaled 129.

## Membership Open.

The membership now is approximately 25. The club is open for new members. Club members are instructed by Sergeant Kissack. The military department furnishes the rifles. Each girl buys her own ammunition at one cent a round. Charlotte Duff is the faculty sponsor. Molly Brittenham is Rifle club president, at present the only officer of the club.

Rifle club meets every Friday in the Military and Naval Science shooting gallery between 4 and 6 p. m. The girls will begin interclub tournaments on Feb. 16. WAA may sponsor an intramural

tournament later in the season. The girls keep right on hitting the bullseye and becoming amateur marksmen. Some of them have graduated from the prone position and can now shoot kneeling or standing. It takes practice and good judgment. Any girl interested has a chance to learn.

## New PBK's Awarded Keys At Banquet

The Phi Beta Kappa Key was awarded to 14 new members at a dinner meeting at 6 p. m. Tuesday in the Union.

Boyd Carter, vice president of the chapter, presided at the meeting and presented the keys. Carter has been in charge of the affairs of the chapter since President Harold Manter received a Fulbright scholarship and sailed for New Zealand to conduct research.

"Abroad in the Land" was the topic of the talk given by Lane Lancaster, political science professor at the University. Lancaster returned to the University this year after a three-year leave of absence. He served at Yale university and the University of California at Berkeley during these years.

New members, who were named in November, are: William Edmondson, Audrey Flood, Albert Herman, Dorothy Kurth, Marylou Luther, Richard McDonald, John Mills, Charles H. Newell, Jr., John O'Neal, Peter M. Peterson, Fritz Picard, Nancy Porter, Susan Reed, and Dan Lee Richmond.

Eligible for membership from the junior class are students who are in arts and sciences maintaining a 90 average. Eligible from the senior class are students, elected from the upper ten per cent of the class.

## ASCE to Hear Engineer Prof

James S. Blackman, assistant professor of engineering mechanics at the University, will be the featured speaker at a meeting of the American Society of Civil Engineers tonight at 7:30 p. m.

He will discuss the construction of concrete forms and particularly those used in architectural projects. Blackman was

## Letterip

## Rag Staff Incompetent

To the Editor:

With every change in the staff of The Daily Nebraskan, the readers anxiously await the first edition, only to be confronted by a newly appointed group of incompetent pseudo-journalists.

To many of the students on the campus, the so-called gossip column attracts great interest. "Comedy of Errors" is enjoyable, however, only to the great number of egotists who bask in the limelight of publicity. One could get a better view of what's going on around campus by sitting under a test tube in Avery lab at three o'clock in the morning. And a novel experience can be had by picking up the "Rag" only to discover that one's date for Friday night is stepping out with "another woman" on Saturday night.

Perhaps my tastes are warped, but what possible interest can the fact that "What were Joe and Sue giggling over in the back booth at Dirty Earl's Tuesday morning?" hold for the average student? If it is necessary to print this type of trivia, why not tell us the answers to these "pertinent" questions?

Of greater import perhaps is the fact that an enterprising young girl spent the entirety of Sunday afternoon drinking beer in Roca, or that Bill kissed Sally on their first date on the steps of the dorm.

As for myself, I hope that I speak for the greater number of thinking students on this campus. I feel that the gossip column would be of some worth if it revealed the important social events of the different organizations—who was there, something about the decorations and theme and perhaps a bit of "dark corner" spice.

But tomorrow when I pick up the worthless piece of journalism known as the "Rag," and perhaps of best use as such, I expect to feel complete disgust at the "Comedy of Errors," as it has been so aptly named.

The situation should be remedied.

## BORED.

Editor's note—"Bored" has two alternatives—either to send in suggestions or to quit reading the "Rag."

## Council in Vacuum

To the Editor:

I am happy to see that the Student Council is working in such a constructive manner on the important task of developing a new constitution under which they may effectively govern the student body. It is high time that the Council is organized on a permanent rather than on an interim basis.

At the same time, however, it hardly seems logical that while work proceeds on the new constitution, all other business should be shelved. The Council cannot operate in a vacuum—it must deal with current problems as well as plan for the future. Among these current problems are such things as the fate of ISA on the campus and the plan for a coordinated Freshman Orientation Week. The Council has found the time and energy to deal with these matters.

However, all things which touch our lives—both now and in the future—by no means originate only on the campus. Freshmen may have been a forgotten group (as was stated in an editorial in the Feb. 5th Daily Nebraskan, but in many ways so, also are the members of minority groups who are discriminated against in student, and later, in professional employment. Such matters as the state Fair Employment Practices bill and the McCarran Act will affect our students in important ways. These matters cannot be shelved until the constitutional problems are ironed out—for by that time the Council will have lost important opportunities to act in behalf of the students it represents.

Presumably, one of the purposes of student government is the training—not so much of future politicians—as of citizens. What better way to accomplish this purpose than to realize that we are citizens, not only of the campus, but also of the wider state, national, and international communities—and to recognize our responsibilities in these communities.

SUE ALLEN.

Lincoln Architect To Address AIA

Walter Wilson will speak to the student association chapter of the American Institute of Architects on Feb. 7 at 8 p. m. in Room 225, Burnett hall.

Mr. Wilson is a Lincoln architect and a member of the Associated Architects, which is the group responsible for the proposed Lincoln Municipal auditorium. He will discuss the group and answer questions about the discussion.

The Student AIA will hold a regular business meeting before the program. Refreshments will be served. Any student interested is invited to attend the meeting and participate in the discussion.

formerly employed by the Portland Cement corporation before he came to the University.

Their will be a short business meeting and refreshments will be served.



By Rex Messersmith

Luck is not with the judging teams on campus I guess. Ugly rumor has it that there may not be a crops judging contest next year. If the world situation keeps as it is, there is a big chance of that happening. That will be something for those fellows out for the team to look forward to.

The crops judges are not the only ones having trouble finding a place to compete. Seems as how the head of the Animal Husbandry department has issued an ultimatum to the effect that there will be no livestock judging team going to Fort Worth next year. What a shame! Looks to me like this team represents the University in the field of Agriculture on the same scale that any athletic team does in the field of sports, so why must this ban come? Is it because this year's team didn't get the same breaks as they did at Denver?

But, a mere mortal does not know just how much any sort of activities will be carried on if things progress as they do now.

The Rodeo club finally got its constitution ratified. I would like to wager that this group can do a great deal for promotion of the Ag college, not to mention the service rendered to the Farmer's Fair board. Time will tell what these cowboys will do along the line of inducing ranch boys to attend Ag and along the line of putting on a good show come the 25th of April.

Just a reminder that fillings close Saturday for all those wishing to enter in the Junior Ag-Sar-Ben. Remember, file in Room 205 of Animal Husbandry hall for beef cattle, sheep and swine. All you University coeds who have a yen for riding must file in this same office before Feb. 19. If you don't have your own horses, a limited number can be obtained but, as most people know, a horse and rider who are accustomed to each other will make a better showing than a pair who are strangers.

The armed forces draft of young men was much in evidence as the Nebraska Rural Youth organization opened its two-day conference at Ag college last Friday. According to Guy R. Davis, state Rural Youth leader at the University, about 20 per cent of the young men in the organization have been drafted.

There are approximately 3,000 members in the state now, and plans are underway for groups in eight more counties. Discussions on "Officering Your Meeting" and on parliamentary procedure were part of the program. Kenneth Wagner and Joan Harrison, both of Lincoln, were presented with awards Friday for being the state's 4-H champion boy and girl with Holstein dairy projects by the Nebraska Holstein-Friesian association.

Alpha Zeta is working on plans for a proposed "Ag Council" which would be the governing body on Ag with representation from the entire campus through the departmental clubs. This really looks like something that is worth while. Let's get behind this movement, what do you say?

## K-State Statute: 'Do Not Smoke'

Smoking has become quite a problem at Kansas State college. Student council members decided recently that something must be done to stop unauthorized smoking in college buildings.

Under the terms of the student constitution, the student council is responsible for enforcing smoking regulations, but the members do not wish to personally act against smoking. As they expressed it, "Whether officers or members, we're not cops."

## Villainess Enters . . .



ARCH-VILLAINESS—The audience at "Curse You, Jack Dalton," displays response by hissing at the entrance of the arch-villainess, Anna Elvarado, played by Lois Nelson, with obvious relish. Popcorn and peanut shells showered the villainess as she entered.

## Lovers Remorseful . . .



THE LOVERS—Hero Jack Dalton, portrayed by Tom Stimpfle, is overcome with pity after hearing his sweetheart, Bertha Blair, played by Christine Phillips tell of her remorseful past. The audience does not seem to share Jack's sorrow during this supposedly tear-jerking scene.

## Chem Classes Make Aspirin, Anti-Freeze

Did you know that the chemical engineering department over in Avery Lab is capable of brewing a little mountain moonshine?

Well, don't be aghast, because it hasn't been tried yet. But just think of all that equipment going to waste.

The big still and numerous vats that could be so valuable if put to the "right" use have quite another use. It seems that the equipment's main function is to train budding chemical engineers.

The boys over there don't lack any initiative, though. One enterprising group of students is trying to get some aspirin made in time for the finals this semester. Another group of enterprising students decided to make themselves a coat rack. They scoured all the hidden corners of the building for enough pipe to build it, set it up around a pillar, and stepped back to admire their work. Then they found they had built it around one of the main pillars of the building and had to take it down.

Another group hopes to make enough ethylene-glycol to save the expense of buying anti-freeze next winter.

So there you have it men, are we going to do something about it or are we going to let the administration get away with wasting all that equipment?

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