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EDITORIAL PAGE

Nebraska Compromise

Through the recommendations of what might in future generations be appropriately called a "compromise committee" the Student Council voted down quite decisively Wednesday afternoon a by-law amendment which would rule ticket-elections off our campus. The Council's considerations seemed based on two questions—considered by the committee that was formed only to draw out the opinions of various affected organizations on the anti-ticket-balling move.

One consideration was that the Council has the legal right to regulate activities, including elections, of all campus organizations, but the question arose as to whether they have the moral right to interfere in organizational election procedures.

Through the entire text of a council member's report ran the strong suggestion of a compromise solution. After several questions from Council members and guests, the statement was made that the proposal came from the committee as a consensus from the persons interviewed and from members of the committee themselves.

The committee heard the organizations that are financially affected by the anti-ticket-balling move. Strongest in voicing their disapproval of the plan were members of Kosmet Klub. It was told the Council that most organizations interviewed favored the compromise plan and would comply with any action of the Council.

The compromise plan is that ticket-elections would still be allowed. However, a student iden-

tification card would be required, each student could vote only once and the ballots would not be part of each ticket.

Such a proposal has merit, without question. But it entails the very error in principle that the originators of this entire movement were trying to make illegal on our campus. Under the compromise plan, the system of ticket-balling still continues. The only difference is that it has been restricted to one ticket per person, which means one vote, and only University students will be allowed to vote.

The Council will vote on this compromise at its next meeting. Many things can be said on behalf of any compromise plan. However, it's extremely disillusioning to this writer to see the beginning of progress in student government relax into a plan that keeps the very essence of what was objected to in the first place.

The backers of the initial petition are still able, under student government law, to appeal the Council's decision on their by-law to the appropriate faculty committee. This they may do. In the meantime, the Nebraska Compromise will be up for vote at the next Council meeting.

This writer was disappointed at the committee's report and with the Council's ensuing vote. But if anybody finds the answer to our election systems in the haze of this current situation, it will be worth the effort and extremely gratifying.—R. R.

1,400 Signatures

Your Student Council voted—20-3—Wednesday evening to give the Junior-Senior Class Board a chance to show its stuff.

Board members asked the Council for help Wednesday because its treasury held only a few cents over \$7 and the Junior-Senior Prom was coming up. The Board feels that it is its responsibility to give the students a prom, but without some financial help, it simply would not be possible. Therefore, as a result of a life-or-death meeting Tuesday, the Board brought its troubles to the Council.

The Council came through, after a great deal of discussion, with a motion promising the Board a \$500 loan if—and this is a very important "if"—because it has to do with student desire for a prom—the Board could get 1,400 students to underwrite the event. To get the \$500 loan the

Council would have to submit a supplementary budget to Dean W. C. Harper's Student Activity Office. Since that office has not yet been contacted on the subject, the Council's promise is not official. Furthermore, it will not be official unless the Board can prove what it said Wednesday—that it is an enthusiastic group of students determined to give the campus a successful prom and get 1,400 signatures.

To get that many students to underwrite the prom would be a man-sized job for a group much larger than the Board. It would also be a big job for a group with much wider student acceptance. But the Board has promised The Nebraskan that it is going into this thing with its eyes wide open and will do everything in its power to get even more than 1,400 signatures.

Getting these signatures is only the first part of the battle because it will mean that the Board has the Council's and the students' approval to put on a prom. Putting the prom on is a huge problem in itself. Immediately after the Council decision, three members of the Board went to the office of Duane Lake, Student Union director, and asked if he would recommend to the Union Student Activities Committee that that committee go in with the Board on the prom. This would mean, Lake said, that a good band would have to play for the event because the Union wouldn't have anything to do with the prom on any other conditions. It would also mean that the show-producing knowledge of the Union would be thrown behind the event. Furthermore, it would mean that the Union would accept half the responsibility and the 1,400 students would be underwriting only half the possible loss.

Of course, the Union would also partake of half the earnings. There is a great deal more chance of earnings with the Union also behind the function.

The Board is not trying to make the students risk their money by backing the event. What it would actually amount to is this: The students would insure their support of the prom by underwriting it. If they have to pay the loss, they will attend. If they agree to pay the loss, the prom can be well worth coming to. The Nebraskan urges the student body to back up the underwriting campaign when the Board begins it.—D. F.

Margin Notes

Strong AUF

The old and new executive boards of the All University Fund spent all day Saturday interviewing applicants for regular board positions and ended the day by choosing 18 persons to manage the organization for the coming year.

The 18 new AUFers look like good workers, organizers and sincere persons to add to the activity membership roll. The exec boards did a good and thorough job of choosing their new board, and a job that must have been difficult since they had 36 applicants. The Nebraskan wishes the best of success to the new AUF leaders and their capable board.

Good For The Union

Jean Davis, chairman of the Union Conventions Committee, is working industriously to set up a discussion seminar, especially for faculty members and upperclass students for this second semester. "To give faculty and students a chance to gather for an informative discussion of challenging subjects, both current and non-current," is what the purpose of this inaugural seminar is, to be.

It sounds like an excellent idea. It seems to have developed from requests for such a group. Miss Davis has indicated that the plan will succeed on the basis of student and faculty support. The Nebraskan sincerely hopes that such support is forthcoming.

It Might Help

"The Nebraska College of Medicine is below the standard of an acceptable school." Such a report has been publicly indicated by several groups lately, particularly in view of the University's request to the Unicameral for a needed six million dollars to improve the College of Medicine.

Latest group to come with this fact is the House of Delegates of the Nebraska State Medical Association, through the efforts of a report made

by Dr. D. B. Steenburg of Aurora. The House of Delegates—policy-making group for the state—has done something with Dr. Steenburg's findings.

They have adopted a resolution which received much attention in Lincoln and Omaha newspapers requesting the Unicameral to specifically appropriate funds for the College. The Nebraskan is in favor of the legislative appropriation as much financial aid for the University as possible. We are particularly interested in seeing that the med college doesn't lose its accreditation.

This latest resolution to the Unicameral might help. We hope it does.

The Daily Nebraskan

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ELMER DAVIS BROADCASTS

Lincoln's Reaction To Anderson Case Praised As 'Healthy' By Commentator

(Editor's Note: The following is the Dec. 26, 1952 ABC broadcast by commentator Elmer Davis on the subject of academic freedom in general and on the Lincoln Legion—E. N. Anderson case in particular. Monday The Nebraskan published Davis' Dec. 29 broadcast on the subject of academic freedom. Wednesday's mail brought the following article.)

Some things have been happening lately in Lincoln, Nebraska, that are symptomatic of what has been happening in other parts of the country; and the way Lincoln has reacted is very healthy. On December 8 Joe Vinardi of Omaha, Chairman of the state American Legion Committee on un-American activities made a speech to the Legion Post at Lincoln. As reported in the papers, he told them that if they could find some good Communist literature and really fight it, they would get more members. And he went on to give them a lead by saying that a certain professor in the University of Nebraska uses a certain textbook, and the students can't swallow the stuff.

The local Legion Post appointed a committee to look into the matter, and the professor and the textbook were soon identified. I decline to name the professor, because there are many people who regard accusation as equivalent to conviction, and while they didn't call him a Communist, it was insinuated that he was using Communist literature. The book was "The State of Asia," put out by one of the best commercial publishers—but under the

auspices of the Institute of Pacific Relations. It was edited and three of its chapters were written by Lawrence Rosinger, who was attacked as a Communist before the McCarran Committee and according to its report refused to answer questions on the ground of self-incrimination; and one of its chapters had been written by Owen and Eleanor Lattimore. There is no indication that at that time anybody in the Legion had read the book, but the state director of Americanism said he would look with suspicion on any book by the IPR or Lattimore. The campaign against Lattimore has apparently been so successful that it is becoming a crime even to read him.

All this had been started by two or three anonymous phone calls, apparently from students; one of whom said that the book had been presented as gospel truth and nothing in it could be contradicted. If this had been true it would be bad teaching, no matter what the book might have been; but there is ample evidence that it was not true. The professor said it was the best general textbook he could find; he disagreed with some of it and said so in class, and so did the students; they had a large list of collateral reading and there was constant and general discussion. This was borne out by students interviewed by the college newspaper; some of them were opposed to using the book—said one girl, because she was against Lattimore—but they admitted there was fair presentation and plenty of discussion. A couple

of students, however, said they were disgusted because the professor was a Democrat; so maybe that was the real objection.

At any rate, the Legion committee issued an interim report saying that the use of the book as a factual textbook was questionable; the Legion's state Americanism director said that professors ought to take a loyalty oath—only it turns out that they do; and an enthusiastic state Senator says he is disturbed about reports of extreme liberalism on the part of the head of the University. We can't have anything like that. All this incidentally is about what happened last year; the man who is teaching that course now uses no textbook, but only the New York Times. He needn't think that will save him; the eagle eye of Westbrook Pegler has detected Communist influence, even in the "Times."

So far, a familiar picture. But the other side is that plenty of people, in the university and in the town, stood up on their hind legs and roared. Ruth Raymond, editor of the student newspaper, published a fiery editorial on guilt by insinuation. The professor under attack delivered a discourse on what academic freedom really means; another history professor lectured on the perils of the irresponsible smear and unwarranted suspicion. The Student Council, the local council of the Association of University Professors, and the Lincoln chapter of ADA all backed the professor; so did a retired colonel of military intelligence, who even dared to defend publication of the Institute of Pacific Relations, whatever the

faults of some of its past executives.

The Legion Committee maintains that it is the right of any citizen to evaluate the material taught to their children, and quotes a motto on the state capitol—"the salvation of the state is the watchfulness of the citizens." But they admitted that they are not educators; no indication that they knew anything about the subject they were studying, or about the book—except who wrote it. The salvation of the state does indeed lie in the watchfulness of the citizens—if they know what to watch out for and how to watch for it.

One thing to watch out for is this widespread movement against the freedom of the mind—against difference of opinion, and the right to find out all about a subject and then decide what you think. The men in this movement regard themselves as super-patriots yet many of them seem to think Communism is so good that anybody who ever hears about it must fall for it; which it is not; others are using anti-Communism as a cover for a drive against all freedom of thought. Communism is against freedom of thought too. I do not know how far this movement is organized. The affair in Lincoln seems not to have been organized; it began as an attempt to boost a membership drive for the Legion. How it will come out remains to be seen; but a salute to the people of Lincoln, in the University and out, who know that the watchfulness of citizens is the salvation of the state; and that above all things, we who believe in freedom of the mind mustn't let them scare us.

Letterip

'Terrible'...

Dear Editor,
I see in the Star (Jan. 7, 1953) that Terrible Terry, the Hitler admirer when he was campaigning for governor before the war, is back on the war path. Maybe we should elect him governor. Anyway if Terrible Terry would become governor, he might bring back slot machines and give free liquor to the American Legion for having promoted his philosophy.

If Terrible Terry would do this, maybe the American Legion would stop promoting him; because they would be able to get enough money from slot machines to promote their membership. This maybe would stop the American Legion from demoralizing our public schools for the sake of more members and money.

I was quite impressed with the ingenious way the American Legion omitted John Gunther's "Inside Asia" in their release of suggested books The University should use in place of the "State of Asia." Could it be the Legion omitted John Gunther's "Inside Asia" because of what John Gunther said in his "Inside U.S.A." (pages 77-85 and 325) about a certain Senator from Nevada, author of the controversial immigration act, and a certain Senator from Wisconsin well known for smear tactics?

Maybe if Terrible Terry would be elected governor and give the Legion free liquor and slot machines, the Legion wouldn't have to have a man, as a former top Communist leader Louis F. Budenz and now a faculty member of Fordham University, write articles as he did in the November 1951 issue of the American Legion Magazine. The title of the article is "Do Colleges Have to Hire Red Professors?"

Better yet if Terrible Terry is elected governor and gives free liquor and slot machines to the Legion, maybe the Legion won't again deviate from the policy of freedom from political, religious, or economic bias as they did when resolving in the National Convention assembled in Miami Florida, Oct. 15-

Headquarters of the American Legion be directed to recommend to the Post of the American Legion that a copy of 'The Key to Peace' be placed in the library of each high school in the United States."

This book, which was written by a former Dean of Notre Dame Law School, was promoted by the Legion Sunday morning Jan. 4, 1953, over the radio. This book was also promoted for the Legion by News Commentator Paul Harvey 10:15 p.m., Jan. 11, 1953 over ABC Network Chicago via KFOR. During this broadcast Paul Harvey criticized the American Book Reviewers for not passing this book. After reading this book, I agree with the stand of the American Book Reviewers.

So far I have tried to point out the bad side of the American Legion. Now I will try to point out the good side of the American Legion in fairness to myself and the readers of this letter. For actually the good side of the Legion, I am sure, outweighs the bad side. Some of the good points of the American Legion are:

1. They try to protect the rights of the veteran.
2. They have year by year promoted loyalty to our government and the American way of life.
3. They sponsor many good projects as:
 - a. Boys' State and Girls' State.
 - b. The national oratorical contest.
 - c. Junior baseball.
 - d. Safety education, and child welfare.
4. They maintain a joint committee with the National Education Association to coordinate the efforts of veterans and teachers in improvement of education for citizenship.
5. They join with other sponsors each year in the observance of American Education Week.

I am a Legionaire who doesn't agree with many of the Legion's policies and hopes, some day in the near future, the shallow men that control the American Legion will become men with depth and foresight.

Sincerely yours,
ORMAND MEYER

Rented Lands

Board Needs Help Now To Plan Farmers' Fair

Chuck Beam

Finals haven't stopped the planning for the 1953 Farmers' Fair which will be held April 24 and 25.

In a short period of 12 weeks the members of the Fair board will have to complete all the arrangements for the traditional event on Ag campus. The 12 members of the Board can't carry the whole responsibility for the Fair. This year's Fair Board is having a hard time in getting the necessary co-operation from the student body in making this Fair one that the College of Agriculture can be proud of. It seems to me that if we on the Ag campus want such an event every year, many students will have to buckle

down and help the Fair Board in the necessary arrangements.

Final weeks will bring three special conferences to the campus.

Jan. 21 and 22 has been set for the Sprinkler Irrigation Clinic. Planning for sprinkler irrigation, including crop water requirements, timeliness of water application, water intake rates of soils, basic hydraulics of the system, system capacity and management are included in the course. The Ag Engineering staff is the co-sponsor of the conference which will be open to 40.

The Agronomy department will sponsor the Fertilizer Dealers Conference Jan. 22. Problems dealing with soil fertility will be included in this course. On Jan. 26 the department will also sponsor the Nebraska Crop Improvement Association's annual meeting. The program will deal with problems in crop production, stressing new varieties and cultural practices.



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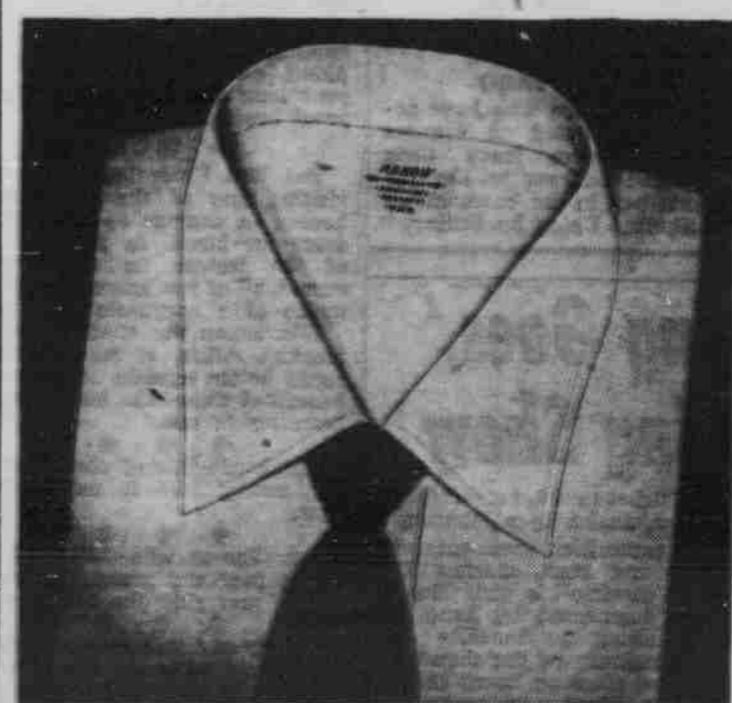
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Daily Thought

Thinking well is wise; planning well, wiser; doing well wisest and best of all.—Pentecost Proverb