Just Between Us . . .

By DON PIEPER
Editor

A student at the University of Kansas raised this question in a letter to the Daily Kansan:

" . . . What do I as a college student know about Russia, its government and people? What class is offered that will teach me about these things? My professors would rather not discuss the subject either in class or in private, and with good reasons, too. Look at the number of teachers who have been labled Communist sympathizers and lost their jobs. American college students are having a vital part of their education purposefully ignored."

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I don't know what the situation is at KU, but no student could make the same complaint at the University of Nebraska. Professor A. T. Anderson —a vigorous and well-informed scholar—teaches a history course on Russia. Although students may complain because this is a hard course—which just makes it more valuable in my estimation—they could never complain because it failed to teach them about "Russia, its government and people." This course deals with the KU students' problem directly. But it isn't the only answer the University of Nebraska has for him.

Many—and I use that word advisedly — other courses discuss the Russian situation. Although they may not be primarily concerned with the Soviet system, they certainly explain it in passing. For instance, Professor Carl J. Schneider teaches a political science course in comparative European government. He uses the USSR as the basis of his comparison. Professor Norman Hill explains the Soviet system of government — with the emphasis on foreign affairs—in his courses on international relations.

This is just a sampling of the courses in which the Russia of today is explained and studied. I must confess that the courses mentioned are ones with which I have had personal contact. I am sure that there are more available.

Stalin's death played a big part in pointing up the importance of knowledge of the Russian government. Very few Americans, I am sure, know the exact position Stalin held in the hierarchy of Russian government. Even less know the relation of the Communist party to the state government of the USSR. Terms like Supreme Soviet, Council of Ministers, Persidium and so on don't mean much to the American reader. The Kansan was right when he indicated that the need for information was important. On our campus, such information is available and instructors are not afraid to talk about it in class.

If there is a campus where instructors should feel that they had better avoid Communism as a school topic, this should be that school. The recent American Legion episode fixed that.

But we go right ahead and I think that this is a tribute to the courage of our faculty.

NEBRASKAN EDITORIALS

Turnabout Is Fair Play

Tuesday news reports tell of Senator McCarthy's latest efforts to block the Dulles' sponsored appointment of 'Chip' Bohlen to the ambassadorship to Russia.

This is, of course, within the prerogative of a senator.

And no one can deny the influence of a senator's prerogative, particularly Nebraskans who witnessed an ex-governor hopeful of an ambassadorship finally given a post not subject to Congressional approval.

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But it is not the matter of prerogatives that provokes The Daily Nebraskan.

It is, rather, the method by which Sen. McCarthy intends to prove his point.

He proposes to use a lie detector in further questioning of Bohlen, a technique usually reserved for determining guilt in the case of suspected criminals. Aside from the obvious slap at Secretary Dulles, this is an unprecedented insult to the Eisenhower administration, which has supported Bohlen in face of the demogogic charges of McCarthy.

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The point of The Daily Nebraskan is this:

Would this not be a grand opportunity for Bohlen, any so-called guilt or complicity notwithstanding, to readily submit to such an unprecedented demand—and in return suggest to the Congress that Sen. McCarthy answer some questions concerning his motives on the same lie detector?

It is doubtful that Congress will resort to the lie detector as a means of determining anyone's innocence or guilt; the device is not universally recognized in the eyes of the law as producing admissible evidence.

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But the idea, nevertheless, might not be entirely valueless.

If the precedent were established and witnesses were compelled to submit to the lie detector, in all fairness, it would not be out of order to demand that the so-called investigators be required to submit to the device when there was any "reasonable doubt" concerning their motives or integrity.

Certainly an honest and sincere legislative interrogator would not refuse to have an opportunity to prove his good motives.

Perhapc Sen. McCarthy's proposal has some good in it, for this might well be the solution to unsubstantiated charges and headline-seekers.

Without realizing it, maybe McCarthy has suggested the very means by which "McCarthyism" could be eliminated.—E.D.

Dowager Queen Mary

It seems as if life is getting rough for high government officials. Last spring, King George VI of England passed away. Josif Stalin, Premier of Communist Russia, died this month. Shortly afterward, Premier Klemet Gottwald of Czechoslovakia died.

Tuesday's broadcasts told of Dowager Queen Mary's critical illness.

It is almost impossible for Americans to comprehend the sentimental attitude the British have for their monarchs. To many of our American cynics, English monarchy is nothing more than a hole down which Britons pour US money. When such persons look at the bill for the impending coronation and then at the English debt to the United States, they scream and wail. "This king stuff is nothing more than a lot of sentimental hogwash," they say.

It may not be practical in the American definition. But it is as necessary to the Englishmen as food and air. Britain's proud history has been tied around a pillar of monarchy. True, recent years have seen the direct power of the monarchical system transfered to the more democratic parliamentary form. But the tradition of monarchy still lives.

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Newsreels have shown the Englishman's love for the pagentry of monarchy. It is part of the English system just as much as colorful campaigns are part of our system.

The importance of monarchy in England explains the grief that the whole commonwealth feels over the death of Queen Elizabeth III's grandmother. Queen Mary has lived through an exciting period of history—and she has been intimately connected with a great many of the more important events during that period.

She was a great woman and history will remember her as such.—D.P.

Yesteryear At NU . . .

By DICK RALSTON
Staff Writer

Editor Brownell's editorials were hard hitting and aggressive, and they eventually hit nearly every organization on the campus, big or small Many of his editorial criticisms of campus organizations are as true today as they apparently were in 1933 as I pointed out a few weeks ago in connection with the Student Council.

His criticisms of the Inter-Fraternity Council are also of a contemporary note:

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" . . . (The Nebraskan) objects to the traditional idea of the organization, as apparently conceived by most of its members, that there is nothing much to be done except to sponsor a ball and a banquet. In other words, the attitude is, as we pointed out previously, that membership in the organization is a good sinecure stepping stone for the politically ambitious.

"These ambitious individuals usually have so many other activities that they have little time to work on council activities, and because there seem to be few activities to work on, the job is just a political plum.

"As a matter of fact, the single job of supervising the rushing activities of the fraternities, if done as it should be, would take the combined time and effort of every member of the council. The cooperative efforts at reducing fraternity expenses by such means as using uniform party bids, as the Panhellenic council adopted, is a field of work not yet touched by the council. The cooperative efforts of the council in making information available to rushees has never apparently been broached by the council.

"The Nebraskan has for semester after semester attacked the council. The political hopefuls continue to rest easy in their jobs as interfraternity council delegates. The Nebraskan still believes, therefore, that some reorganization is necessary to alter the idea that there is no work to be done by the council. If the politically minded juniors would be interested in getting down to work, the Nebraskan would not say another word about reorganizing the council. Neither does the Nebraskan insist that fraternity presidents would make the best representatives.

"But we do believe that a shakedown of some sort might stir the council to take a little action. Such action is especially necessary this spring before the rushing season opens next fall. If no signs of action are shown by the present council members, The Nebraskan will push vigorously the idea of reorganization of the council.

"The fact that the council customarily meets only once in three or four weeks does not necessarily mean that they could not hold special meetings to clear up the rushing rules mess in a hurry They have diddled along all year on this matter Let's see some action soon and let's hear some discussion by the council itself on the question of reorganization."

The Daily Nebraskan

FIFTY-FIRST YEAR
Member: Associated Collegiate Press—Intercollegiate Press
Advertising Representative: National Advertising Service, Inc.
420 Madison Ave., New York 17, New York

The Daily Nebraskan is published by the students of the University of Nebraska as 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 be free from editorial censorship on the part of the Board, or on the part of any member of the faculty of the University, but the members of the staff of The Daily Nebraskan are personally responsible for what they say or do or cause to be printed."

Subscription rates are $2 a semester, $2.50 mailed or $3 for the college year, $4 mailed. Single copy 5c. Published daily except Saturday, Sunday, Monday, vacation and examination periods. One issue published during August each year by the University of Nebraska under the supervision of the Committee on Student Publications. 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 Congress of October 3, 1917, authorized September 10, 1922.

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WORLD REPORT

By PAUL MEANS
Staff Writer

By PAUL MEANS

TODAY'S HEADLINES. . . . Dowager Queen Mother Mary, the grand old lady of Britain whose frail figure became a symbol of age-old royal traditions, died peacefully in her sleep Tuesday night at the age of 85. . . .

Sens. Taft (R-O) and Sparkman (D-Ala) spent three hours studying a secret FBI report on Charles E. Bohlen Tuesday and strongly indicated they found nothing in it to question the loyalty of President Eisenhower's nominee as ambassador to Russia. . . . The Wisconsin demagogue, Sen. Joe McCarthy (R-Wis), who has led the fight against Bohlen, told reporters that if Taft and Sparkman "say they're satisfied" that Bohlen is not a security risk, "that will satisfy me on security.". . . The senator, however, said he is now going to attack Bohlen on the grounds that he was "part and parcel" of the Truman-Acheson foreign policies.

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'Tidelands Action Might Be Illegal'

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following editorial appeared recently in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.)

Senator Anderson of New Mexico has made a brilliantly constructive suggestion about offshore oil. He says there is a constitutional question whether Congress can legally divest itself of responsibility for the conduct of the nation's external affairs within the marginal sea belt. He suggests that one of the 45 states that would be aggrieved if Congress attempted to vest title to offshore oil in Texas, California and Louisiana might be able to challenge the constitutionality of such an act before the United States Supreme Court.

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Up to now, there had been no disposition to question whether Congress possessed authority to vest title to offshore oil in the coastal states. Senator Anderson's proposal suggests a powerful new avenue of attack against this raid on the national oil resources. Why the question of the constitutionality of a Congressional quitclaim has not been strongly raised before is something of a mystery, for the Supreme Court plainly suggested it in its decision in the California case six years ago. Said the court:

The crucial question on the merits is not merely who owns the bare legal title to the lands under the marginal sea. The United States asserts rights in capacities transcending those of a mere property owner.

In one capacity it asserts the right and responsibility to exercise whatever power and dominion are necessary to protect this country against dangers to the security and tranquility of its people. . . . The Government also appears in its capacity as a member of the family of nations. In that capacity it is responsible for conducting United States relations with other nations.

It asserts that proper exercise of these constitutional responsibilities requires that it have power, unencumbered by state commitments, always to determine what agreements will be made concerning the control and use of the marginal sea and the land under it.

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In the California case the Supreme Court did more than assert that the constitutional responsibilities of the Federal Government were inseparable from its dominion over the marginal seas. It further declared that "the state is not equipped in our constitutional system with the powers or the facilities for exercising the responsibilities which would be concomitant with the dominion which it seeks."

Senator Anderson's thinking on the subject has opened the way to a promising and, it would appear, potent means of defending these crucial reserves of oil. A challenge on the issue of constitutionality should by all means be brought before the Supreme Court if Congress attempts to remove the oil from safe-keeping in the hands of the Navy—where Harry S. Truman wisely put it.

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Unless Senator Anderson's state, New Mexico, or some other state, quickly takes the initiative in bringing any quitclaim act before the Supreme Court, Missouri should do so, either in combination with other states that may wish to join it, or, if necessary, alone.

J. E. Taylor as Attorney General of Missouri was one of the few state legal officers in the United States who refused to join the National Association of Attorneys General in the hue and cry for state ownership, and he stoutly opposed the grab.

Mr. Taylor's successor, Attorney General John Dalton, now has an opportunity to extend this excellent record of Missouri's with respect to safeguarding offshore oil.

COLLEGE PAPERS

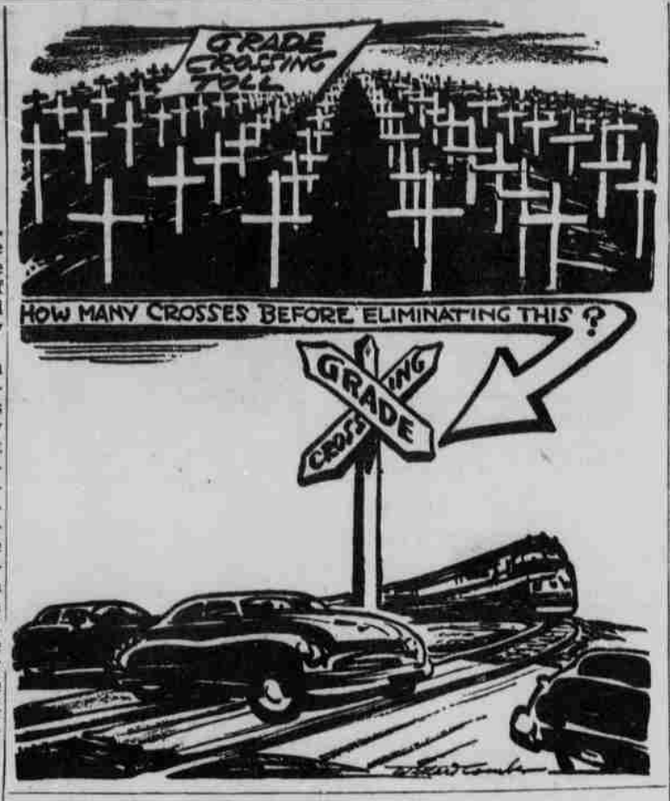
'Campus' Switches To Daily Status

(From the University of North Carolina Daily Tar Heel)

While most college papers seem to be tightening their belts in efforts to meet one financial crisis after another, the Connecticut Campus, University of Connecticut, has just announced its switchover from a three-times-a-week to a daily.

"The new publishing schedule," says the Campus, "will mark the culmination of a long-t i m e dream." But the Campus didn't forget to call on the administration for a "re-evaluation of the University's arbitrary distribution of the Student Activities Fee."

A week before (Jan. 7) the Eastern State News, a weekly at Eastern Illinois State college, began publishing its "diminuitive economy size issue," a four-column affair.



From The Glass Box

Criticism Of Eisenhower Policies Is 'Premature'

Peg Bartunek

President Eisenhower has been in office a little more than two months now. Already he is being criticized. It would not be surprising were this criticism coming from Stevenson supporters.

But, the large share of gripes originates with those who voted and campaigned for him in the election period.

Some say he hasn't reduced taxes. Others don't like the way foreign affairs are being handled. When it was announced that many changes were being made in Washington offices, the Democrats became indignant.

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President Eisenhower put himself in a difficult position when he was elected on promises to reduce taxes, balance the budget and try to end the Korean War. Somebody is bound to be dissappointed when he expects a man to do all that in a matter of weeks or even a year.

A victory in either the Korean War or the cold war means spending. Taxes will have to keep rolling in if military expenditures are to remain high and no budget balancing is to take place without a period of heavy taxation preceding it.

Taxes may be reduced after while, but it is absurb to expect a reduction two months after the inauguration.

Ike also promised some consolidation of Washington jobs. He accomplished part of that right away. When he fired lots of what he considered to be deadwood and gave some Republicans government jobs, he was doing what can be expected of any new administration.

It has been so long since a new party took over that the public has forgotten what it is to have a partisan shake-up. The longer a single group controls a mass of workers the better the workers know how to get by with the least amount of work.

Furthermore, the longer a party is in office, the more political debts it incurrs which are easily paid with the placing of the creditor's name on the public payroll.

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Some of the changes desired by the President were mere extreme and non-partisan than his backers could stand. It wasn't easy for him to get the secretary of labor or the secretary of defense he wanted. With his reorganization measures, Eisenhower is trying to accomplish a few things that will definitely result in lower expenditures—a step toward the eagerly awaited goals of lower taxes and a balanced budget.

It appears that the new administration bears more watching before complaints are registered.

A canny Scot was engaged in an argument with a conductor as to whether the fare was to be five or ten cents. Finally the disgusted conductor picked up the Scot's suitcase and tossed it off the train just as they were crossing a bridge. It landed with a mighty splash.

"Moot, Mon," screamed Sandy. "First you try to rob me and now you've drowned my little boy!"

TWO ON THE AISLE

Two Oscars Draw Long Movie Lines

By BOB SPEARMAN
Staff Writer

At the age of 73, Cecil B. DeMille has his first Oscar. Cecil got his Oscar for "The Greatest Show On Earth." Personally, I disagree with the title and the selection.

Over the weekend you had an opportunity to see the movies which won Gary Cooper and Shirley Booth their Oscars. "High Noon" and "Come Back, Little Sheba" both drew long lines of people in front of the box-office last Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

This proves that people like to see what made these movies good enough to win an Oscar. This also proves that Oscar-giving is probably the greatest stimulus to movie-going in the United States. I doubt if even general advertising draws so many people to theaters.

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Yet, an interesting note on this year's Academy Awards is the fact that several big motion picture companies withdrew their support from the presentations. The boycott of the Awards was theoretically due to the fact that TV was hurting so, that the industry couldn't afford to support the Academy Awards.

To me this is stupid. True, the Awards do not necessarily reflect the views of movie critics. But none-the-less, Academy Awards do bring theater-goers to the theaters. It seems to me that the movie industry is biting the hand that feeds it.

In the past I have personally lauded and disclaimed various selections of the Academy Awards Committee. This year again, I was about 50-50 in favor of the Awards. But so be it.

I cannot necessarily justify my selection as a movie to critique, this week. I saw "She's Back on Broadway." I felt like being entertained last weekend. And since the lines were so long in front of the theaters showing the rated movies, I decided to take the parking place I found near the Varsity. It just happens that I thoroughly enjoyed this musical, "She's Back on Broadway."

The script for the movie was well-written. Normally the script for a musical is something woven around a couple of songs, so this was a pleasant change.

Virginia Mayo leaves a little to be desired as an actress in some of the more tender scenes in this movie, but she looks awfully nice.

For that matter, there is an almost logical ratio between the amount of clothes Miss Mayo wears in the movie and the amount of interest I could maintain.

Since it is my strong conviction that a motion picture's justification for existing depends on how much it entertains, I felt that this movie was good.

Or perhaps I enjoy this movie because I am a college boy at heart and enjoy a little intellectual "Pablum" once in a while.

SPECIAL REPORT

Will Election Bills See Light Of Day?

Nebraska's presidential primary elections, particularly in 1948 and less so in 1952, attracted nationwide interest. In each, leading contenders for the presidential nomination were pitted against each other.

But in the 1952 election a write-in vote was necessary to put the names of leading GOP candidates on the ballot. And in both, the preference vote had a negligible effect on controlling delegates to the national conventions.

Improvements in primary laws were suggested by the score. But that was last spring.

Criticism of the election would naturally be expected to have died out by now. No one could be expected to be much concerned about laws which will not affect anyone for another three years.

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But one University student, Dick Hansen, has refused to forget the mess created in last spring's primary. He is determined to streamline the election procedure—at any effort.

The story of his efforts to obtain legislative support for his ideas is told in the adjoining article under Hansen's by-line.

His report should inspire other students who are interested in pushing public projects but who fear that the men with the authority will pay no attention to them.

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The rest of the story of the bills, Nos. 260 and 261, prepared by Hansen and Sen. Bridenbaugh, is not so beautiful. Although the bills were read the first time in the Legislature on Jan. 27, public hearings have not been set for either of the bills.

Lack of public interest may yet prevent proposed changes in the election system from coming before the Legislature.

(All bills must come before a public hearing before they can be passed by the Nebraska Unicameral.)

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The main provisions of the bills are as follows:

1. L. B. 260 would provide two methods for placing names on the ballot for presidential candidate.

The first would enable any person, approved as a presidential candidate either by the chairman of the national committee or by the state chairman of his party, to request that his name be entered on the primary ballot.

The second method would place the name of a candidate on the ballot "by a petition signed by at least 750 electors from each congressional district. Although only 100 signatures were previously required from each district, L. B. 260 would no longer limit candidates to those who consent, in writing, to having their names on the ballot.

The proposed amendment, however, would enable such candidate to withdraw from the primary "if he files, with the Secretary of State within 48 hours after the filing of the petition, a statement that he will not accept the nomination of his party for President."

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2. The same bill would provide for delegates to all national conventions to be elected by the voters of the entire state, not by districts.

3. It would also require each candidate for delegate, or alternate, to a national convention to declare the candidate he favors as the nominee of his party for President. Only names of candidates who support presidential candidates entered in the Nebraska primary would have their names on the ballot.

4. The number of delegates each candidate would receive would depend upon the number of votes cast for him in the primary. The specific delegates favoring each candidate would be determined in order of the number of votes cast for them.

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5. Delegates and alternates would be bound to vote for the candidate they supported in the primary "as long as that candidate shall be gaining votes on any ballot at the national convention, or until that candidate gives notice of the withdrawal of his candidacy."

6. Any delegate or alternate not following the above rule "shall be disqualified to be a candidate for delegate or alternate to any national, state or county convention."

7. L. B. 261 would eliminate the present law which provides for a second choice, on the primary ballot, for President and for first and second choices for Vice-President. Primary voters would then vote only on a single choice for President.

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NU Student Plays Vital Role In Drafting L.B. 260, 261

By DICK HANSEN

During the last several months my pride in the people of Nebraska has increased immeasurably.

It has come about through an experience that began with the political conventions last summer and the fantastic shenanigans that our supposedly thoughtful, sincere and wise politicians displayed in that July spectacle.

Nebraskans saw another depressing sight in the presidential primary a couple of months earlier. The leading contenders for the nomination could not get on the ballot, and even if they did there was no assurance that the delegates would feel bound by the results of the vote.

This sad state of affairs led me to embark on research on the various state primary laws, with the hope of taking the best points from each and coming up with a rough draft of an effective law, which I hoped, somehow or other, would be introduced in the Nebraska Legislature. After the research my colleague, Fred Schroeder, and I began calling various state political and educational leaders. We talked with a wide variety of people—Democrats and Republicans.

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It was amazing. Here were busy people, many of them in very high positions, who were willing to talk to a couple of college students with an idea—and nothing more. Other than a few wise cracks about the recent election, partisan politics never entered into the discussions.

The desire of these leaders, like that of the rank and file, was to return the primary to the people of the state, and to make certain that it would not merely be a tool of ambitious people who would use it when they wished, or discard it if they desired. We received very helpful advice. We made many changes. And we were encouraged all along the way.

At length a very fine gentleman arranged for a meeting with Sen. Hal Bridenbaugh of Dakota City, who shared our views. After ironing out a few kinks, we had the thrill of seeing our bills introduced.

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At this point it is hard to predict whether the primary bills will pass the Legislature. But I have learned one lesson already; it has come from every person, bar none, that I have talked with in this problem: Young people should take an active part in government at every level.

This experience has taught me never to be afraid to approach the "powers that be" on any worthwhile project. Young people who undertake such projects will find their ideas welcomed.

Of course, you may have to dig a little, argue a little, and above all convince these people that you know what you are talking about, but it is well worth the effort.

Perhaps we can all take our cue from a great American who once said:

"It is for the new generation to participate in the decisions and to give strength and spirit and continuity to our government and to our national life." (Franklin D. Roosevelt)