

EDITORIAL PAGE

Mankind Or Men

"During life I have witnessed both peace and war in the United States. I love peace. I love mankind. I love them enough to fight for them. That is what I am doing right now—that is why I am not going home."
Thus an American soldier bid farewell to his country and his mother.

A Short Memory

As The Nebraskan implied in an editorial last Friday, the Student Council has a short memory.

It appears that its memory is rapidly becoming shorter.

Proof? Consider the following: Last spring the Council was up-in-arms over constitutional provisions which proved awkward for filings and elections.

Because the time was too late to correct the injustices last spring, the Council made a mental note to insure that this year's Council would turn its attention to the problems.

One holdover member was elected to the 1953-54 Council primarily because he had devised an elaborate system to eliminate one of the election problems—that of class determination by hours.

This fall, however, the entire matter of election difficulties was assigned to the elections committee, to which the aforementioned member did not belong.

But, seemingly, that committee has done nothing. Tuesday The Nebraskan received a letter from the chairman of the elections committee.

He asked that the "iniquities in filing and voting" mentioned in Friday's paper be specified.

Although The Nebraskan believes that enumeration of the problems is important, the editors had hoped that the Council could remember the problems it was so concerned about last spring.

To refresh the minds of all concerned, The Nebraskan calls attention to the problems the Council encountered, as reported in last spring's Nebraskan:

1. The Student Council constitution states: "Regular University rules shall govern in determining a candidate's eligibility" (Art. V, Sec. 1b).

In the past, the Council has discovered this means anyone possessing more than 88 credit hours is a senior.

This determination was interpreted by last year's Council as unfair to students in colleges requiring more than 125 hours for graduation and to students who carry full University loads.

2. The constitution states: "Fillings for college representation are open to students who will be eligible to serve during their sophomore or junior years" (Art. IV, Sec. 1a (5)).

Last year's Council believed this provision was unfair to the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council.

The Nebraskan admits that both of the problems are complex. They cannot be solved at a Wednesday afternoon meeting of the Council.

For that reason, last year's Council intended that the 1953-54 student body assign a committee to work out the details of possible constitutional amendments.

Seemingly, little or nothing has been done—and the deadline for introduction of proposed amendments is near.

In the hopes of beating that deadline (the end of the first semester) The Nebraskan volunteers to open its files to the elections committee.

Perhaps a few articles and editorials will refresh its memory.—K.R.

Chance To Share

Christmas spirit, a not-too-well defined condition of the body and mind, seems to have invaded the busy hustling University community.

Part of that spirit, that of singing happiness has been most clearly shown. Groups of students have made their spirit of Christmas felt and heard by many.

Also, parties for underprivileged and homeless children have done much to spread the illusive, wonderful "Christmas spirit."

Had he been converted to Communism? Had he forgotten life in the United States? No one knew.

He left behind a sobbing mother who loved her son enough to travel 7000 miles to Tokyo in the faint hope of seeing him.

"I know that you want to take me home with you," he wrote to her, "but I have made up my mind and I am not going."

Tears in her eyes, the mother could not understand why her son had turned his back on his family and his country. She didn't know whether to blame him, the Communists or herself.

Pfc. Richard Tennessee, the son, didn't tell his mother why he had chosen Communism. We can only imagine his reasons.

But his letter gives one hint of his thinking.

"I love peace. I love mankind," he said. But he didn't love his mother enough to return to her and his family.

Richard doesn't say it in his letter, but individuals no longer matter to him. He loves "mankind."

Just how a man can love mankind and not love men as individuals is difficult to understand, of course. But when an ideology, like Communism, becomes predominant in a man's mind, the value of the individual is forgotten.

Theories, carried to their logical conclusion, leave no room for an individual.

The mother in Tokyo said, "If (the Communists) can destroy the home, they can disintegrate the nation."

She did not refer to infiltration in government. She meant that Communism—or the fear of it—can break the bonds of a nation just as it broke the bonds of her family.

If the Communists can implant distrust, suspicion and fear of one's neighbor and the man down the street in the minds of Americans, the United States can be destroyed. By breaking the bonds which tie individual Americans together, our enemies can break the nation into a thousand pieces, each hating and distrusting the others.

The strength of our nation does not lie in Washington—nor in the military supply depots. The real power is the faith we possess in each other and in our nation. As long as we retain the ability to understand our neighbors at home and across the ocean, as long as bonds of love and friendship remain strong, no Communism—in fact, no theory—can destroy our civilization.

Certainly we do not want Communists in our government or in our schools. We should want to root them out—or at least expose them for what they are.

But when the hunt for Reds becomes so frenzied that we can no longer trust our government, our teachers and our neighbors, we are lost.

When the perpetuity of an idea—equality, democracy, security or even peace—becomes the most important purpose of our lives, no matter how good the idea might be, America has been defeated.

Our nation was built upon the integrity of the individual. The faith and trust its citizens have professed in each other have made our nation great.

Communism would destroy this faith, if not by direct action at least by dividing our people through fear.

Communism has destroyed the families of 22 American men. As Richard's mother has said, Communism "can disintegrate the nation" if we replace our love for the individual with a cold ideology.—K.R.

Margin Notes

Ultimate In Diplomacy

One of the most recent diplomatic gestures was evident in the presentation ceremonies in Oslo, Norway, of the Nobel Peace Prize.

The king of Norway made the Nobel presentation to America's Gen. George C. Marshall and in describing the Peace Prize and its qualifications the King pronounced Nobel—NO-bel instead of the correct pronunciation of no-BEL.

Whereas Gen. Marshall, in his acceptance speech followed the King's pronunciation and referred to the coveted prize as the NO-bel Peace Prize.

Who said American diplomacy is a past virtue?

Clutch Pitch

Nebraska, it seems, has reached the ultimate in liberal thought—and, indeed, has begun to return to the old isolationist traditions.

Douglas Co. Young Republicans have objected to several provisions in the national GOP platform and substituted planks supporting the following: Withdrawal of the U.S. from the United Nations, removal of ground forces from Europe and abolishment of economic aid to Europe and an orderly reduction and elimination of price supports for farm products.

Letterip

What's The Trouble With... Dear Editor: I am sure every freshman in our University has been deeply touched by the concern you have shown them.

I humbly offer my thanks to you who have left your test tubes, filing cabinets, dusty bookshelves, and lecture notes to devote your energies to individuals instead of the tubes, cabinets, shelves, and notes which you can more easily evaluate and more surely whip into the ideal shape.

Of course, the immediate results of your study—results which may have received improper publicity—by no means are so complete or conclusive as you or I or any of us would wish. Therefore, pursue your study right down to the last drop.

And when you finish with the freshmen, take a good look at the seniors; your powers of evaluation as practiced on freshmen should—as thoroughly as in the former study—reveal, "What's the Trouble with Our Seniors?"

EDITOR'S NOTE: See editorial in today's Nebraskan entitled "A Short Memory," for a more specific consideration of the problem.

Little Man On Campus... By Bibler



"When he hands back your term paper—Watch out for 'mistletoe!'"

The Challenge

Are Today's Freshmen As Poor As Pictured?

By ARTHUR A. HITCHCOCK, Director Junior Division and Counseling Service. (This is the thirteenth in a series of articles treating the problems, issues and challenges of the day.)

Is there really trouble with freshmen? The question seems to center around the difference that may exist between freshmen in the University today and those who were here a few years ago as freshmen.

Without any reflection upon the upperclass students, many of whom have heard me make these remarks before, I would like to point out a few significant elements in the question that has been raised.

First, are similar persons being compared? There is one very strong difference that should be recognized at the outset. A few years ago, a large proportion of freshmen were veterans rather than students who had graduated from high school only three or four months before becoming University freshmen.

Naturally, the veterans had had many more years of experience; they were much more mature than persons going to college directly from high school.

This is recognized by everyone including today's freshmen. This is a difference that is created by years of experience rather than by anything intrinsic within the individuals.

It is, however, an important point that should not be overlooked. Consider whether we are comparing freshmen who have come to the University directly from high school or whether we are comparing those freshmen with veterans who have had several years of military experience before they became freshmen in the University.

Let us now actually compare today's freshmen with those of the past years on several points.

Pre-registration Tests

So far as the test data can disclose, there is very little difference discernible between this year's freshman class and the freshman classes of the past several years.

It is true that during two of the recent years there has been a slight increase in those whose test scores appear at the lower end of the scale, but there has been no difference in the past two years. There appears to be as great a proportion at the high level this year as there has been in the past.

Down Slips

It is well to investigate whether or not there has been any sharp increase in the number of down slips that have been given to freshmen during their first semester.

A completely accurate comparison is impossible because of the change in the down slip reporting this year. Nevertheless, in comparing the actual number of down slips no decided change appears.

So far as can be determined, this year's freshmen are not receiving any larger proportion of down slips than freshmen in other years.

One significant fact has emerged, however, namely that several instructors have told me

University Bulletin Board

WEDNESDAY AWS Freshman Workers Meeting, 5 p.m., Parlor X, Union.

Ag Christmas Program, 8 p.m., Ag Activities Building. One-act plays by Frosh Actor's Group, 8 p.m. Temple Building.

Cosmopolitan Club, 8 p.m., Room 313, Union. Chess Club Meeting, 5 p.m., Union. Phi Chi Theta Meeting, 7:15 p.m., Union. Student Council Lecture Series Program, "Mechanics of Reproduction," 7:30, Love Library Auditorium.

The Student Speaking

Hey, Arready

The Jinja Story By JERRY SHARNACK. Synopsis: I had been sent to Africa by Mr. Rystrom because of an article he had seen in the New Yorker magazine.

"One of the rules of the Jinja Golf Club, of Uganda, Africa, permits the ball to be lifted without penalty from the hoof-print of a hippopotamus." The editor believed it to be a gigantic hoax because he doubted the existence of a single hippopotamus in Uganda.

My job was to expose the hoax in time for Friday's edition. We left off last week as one of the passengers on the ship said to me, "You keep your bloody body out of Uganda, unless you want a woncha through your stomk."

I was in doubt at the time as to just what a woncha was, but a person with consistent stomk disorders is in no position to debate on such a point. On the other hand, this was an important assignment and I was determined to see it through.

I did not try to continue the conversation with the gentleman, but merely went below to my quarters, such as they were. I did not see the man again until he doctored at Gleemapa on the African coast.

My problem was now to get to Uganda. But it turned out not to be much of a problem, as there is only one way anyone gets to Uganda—on the back of a llama.

My problem was now to get to Uganda. But it turned out not to be much of a problem, as there is only one way anyone gets to Uganda—on the back of a llama.

There was a fight and the last thing I remembered was a pain in my stomk, then everything went black.

I woke up in the infirmary of a ship headed for the United States. "What happened," I asked the captain who was sitting by the bed drinking Scotch.

"You got a woncha through the stomk, boy," he said.

Slide Rule Motor Vehicle Laws Tightened This Year

I was looking for information in the Department of Roads and Irrigation the other day, and I was referred to Mr. Boyle of the Motor Vehicle Division.

He told me that the legislature has enacted some new laws and has changed some old ones, affecting the operation of your car and mine.

I didn't realize until now that the MVD had so much to do with the way in which you and I handle a car.

The most significant legislation this year is the initiation of a point system for traffic violations.

(1) Conviction of a felony in the commission of which a motor vehicle was used shall merit 12 points.

(2) Third offense drunken driving in violation of any city or village ordinance, regardless of whether the trial court found the same to be a third offense—12 points.

(3) Third offense reckless driving or willful reckless driving, or any combination of the two regardless of whether the trial court found the same to be a third offense—12 points.

(4) Failure to stop and render aid... in the event of a motor vehicle accident resulting in the death or personal injury of another—12 points.

(5) Driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcoholic liquor or any drug in violation of any city or village ordinance—6 points.

(6) Careless driving, negligent driving, or willful reckless driving—6 points.

(7) Reckless driving in violation...—6 points.

(8) Speeding in violation...—6 points.

(9) All other traffic violations involving the operation of motor vehicles by the licensee for which reports are required... including parking violations or overloading of trucks—2 points.

Now here are the teeth of this law: "Whenever it shall come to the attention of the director of MVD that any person has accumulated a total of twelve or more points within any two year period, the director shall summarily revoke

the license of such person to operate a motor vehicle in the state, or

(2) the privilege, if such operator is a non-resident, of operating a motor vehicle within this state.

Such revocation shall be for a period of one year... unless a longer period of revocation was directed by the... judgment."

I don't believe I've got too many more parking violations to go before I've had my quota for the next two years—glad I'm graduating. After reading these new regulations, I wonder if the state has enough police to enforce all of the provisions.

I presume that the new point system will set an example of those who are brought to court. At any rate, when you contemplate the next U-turn in the middle of the block, it might pay to think a little first.

Other regulations are just as comprehensive. For instance, Nebraskans will have to pay \$6 for new license plates this year if their car weighs less than 3000

pounds; if your car weighs more than 3000 pounds, however, you will pay \$8 for the new plates.

All new cars except Willys, Nash, Crosley, and a few others weigh over 3000 pounds.

Ham radio operators have wanted some sort of special recognition for quite some time. Now ham operators of radio stations may buy an official plate bearing their call numbers to be attached to the regular automobile license plate for a fee of \$1.

This plate will resemble the regular license plate, but will be smaller.

One of the newest regulations has to do with the recent controversy over automatic turn signals. Every car which is manufactured after January 1st must have automatic turn signals in order to operate in the state of Nebraska.

Turn signals were not previously recognized at all in the city of Omaha, but they will be required all over the state on cars turned out after January 1st. Also, on any vehicle so loaded that the driver's hand signal cannot be seen, some form of light or turn signal must be provided.

If you have a car more than 40 years old, you may now buy a permanent license plate for it that will last the life of the car, even if the car is transferred from owner to owner. There are some car owners on campus who could use this information.

Previously if you had an accident which resulted in damage exceeding \$50, you had to report it to the MVD; the damage limit has now been raised to \$100. Also, on the state highway, you must if you wish to tow your car any farther than to the nearest garage have a permit, but once you buy one, you may tow your car anywhere for a year.

There are some car owners on campus that might be interested in that, too. Previously you had to pay \$10 each time you towed your car anywhere unless you were headed for the nearest garage.

In addition, we're to have new plates this year. The colors will be just reversed, black background with yellow numbers.

If you ever have occasion to walk through the capitol building, the Motor Vehicle Division will give you the inside story on traffic conditions in the state of Nebraska. One tabulation which is posted daily down there is the traffic fatalities to date. As of Tuesday, Dec. 15, 1953, 325 persons have been killed in Nebraska as compared to 308 at this time last year.—J. A. MARKS

Chickles

By CHICK TAYLOR. Pessimist: "How many did you say this car will hold?" Optimist: "Three, but six can get in if they're well acquainted."

Latest model gas ranges include a venetian blind in the glass oven doors—this is for bashful girls who cook rump roasts.

Define: H2O and CO2. H2O is hot water and CO2 cold water.

She: Haven't I been fair to you? He: Yes, but I want you to be fair and warmer.

Should you say, when a house is on fire, that a woman's place is in the home?

Ted Britz says he knows a girl who is so dumb she thinks Chase and Sanborn are wolves because they date every bag!

TERMIT'S NIGHTMARE I dreamt I dwelt in marble halls.

