

Old Enough To Fight . . .

In the President's State of the Union message last week, the proposal to enact legislation to enfranchise the 18-year-olds came close to being a Republican appeal to the youth of the nation—and little more.

Such legislation would likely take the form of an amendment to the Constitution, since, as it now stands, the States retain the right of determining the qualifications of the voter.

To date, only Georgia has a law on the books recognizing the 18-year-old's right to the ballot. Nebraska's unicameral, as late as the last session, has said no to such a proposal.

If the President seriously hopes to get two-thirds of both Houses of Congress, in addition to three-fourths of the State Legislatures to approve such an amendment, he is indeed an optimist.

Another element which tends to put this recommendation in the realm of a political gesture, revolves around the political complexion of the 18 to 21 age group. The national trend toward party affiliation, according to at least one political scientist, would favor the Democrats.

Thus, it would seem that the wrong political party is advocating this measure, unless, of course, the proposal is entirely a political move. Earlier this semester, the Lancaster County Young Democrats endorsed an 18-year-old vote resolution which may or may not prove anything.

What of the oft used argument "If they're old enough to fight, they're old enough to vote"? Well, let's look at our own campus. Taking the non-veteran group, one will find that the average male student enters the University at about 18. Should the right to vote be withheld from him until he is graduated at 22 and first enters service?

What of the females which make up somewhere close to 50 per cent of this age category? They don't fight (in a military sense, at least). What of the person who quits high school and enlists at 17? Should he be qualified to vote? He can fight.

What of the 4-F who through no fault of his own cannot fight? And what, one might wonder, would happen if a generation were fortunate enough to grow up without going through a war? The "old enough to fight" argument does not stand up.

The only sound basis for granting the franchise to the 18-year-olds is that this age bracket has arrived at political maturity. This is debatable. Furthermore, as previously pointed out, the Republican party might find the voting habits of this age group somewhat embarrassing.

A partially completed poll conducted by The Nebraskan (which has been temporarily held up pending a faculty-administration decision) revealed that among Law students 44 per cent are opposed to the 18-year-old vote, only 18.5 per cent are in favor of it, and 37.5 per cent have no opinion. The average age of persons polled is 23½.

The efforts of those in favor of lowering the voting age, in the eyes of The Nebraskan, would be better directed if more emphasis were put on political education in high school at the present. While today's 18-year-old may not be quite ready for voting, there is no reason that eventually this age category will be qualified for the responsibility of using the ballot.

At any rate, the President's proposal stands as a wise political move in securing the good will of the younger generation, even if it may be somewhat premature. As gestures go, this one is not too bad—it may even stimulate some discussion.—E. D.

Foolproof System

As registration rolls around each semester, the nature of Director of Registrations and Records Floyd W. Hoover's job parallels that of another Hoover—J. Edgar.

In the development of a "foolproof" plan to exclude hasty NUers from jumping the gun and pulling cards before the scheduled number of hours are posted, Director Hoover (F. W.) applies the methodical precision and organization of Director Hoover (J. E.).

Without sacrificing efficiency, the procedure for mid-term registration stands as immune from gate-crashers as possible.

However, the process would not be "normal" unless there were a few students who chose to pit their wits against the system and try to pull cards just a bit early. After all, students reason, what good is a system without a chance to test it?

Besides, Director Hoover (F. W.) privately estimates that any system of this type is good for only about 15 minutes.—E. D.

Margin Notes

We're Old Fashioned

If Brownell's proposal for granting immunity from prosecution to persons who "squeal" before Congressional committees were a law in Lincoln, a "repentant burglar" might have won himself a pat on the back and an open door.

By changing his mind after robbing an Emerald service station, the youth might have even won himself a citation for good citizenship by turning himself and a buddy in to police.

But, unfortunately for him, Lincoln still subscribes to the old law: A person is guilty of a crime if he committed it, even though he squeals on 40 other thieves.

You Said It!

Students in a beginning psychology class at San Diego State College were asked to list "your most valuable asset." Two of them wrote down "intelligence" and both misspelled it.

Making Friends

Vice President Nixon and his wife appear to have made friends around the globe during their recent trip to Asia.

Perhaps one of the constitutional duties of the "extra man" in government should be to act as a special ambassador of goodwill. All anyone needs is a big smile and a TV voice.

The Student Speaking

All That Glitters

By HANK GIBSON
Jan. 12, 1954 — LINCOLN, NEB. (AP)—At 10:04 this morning, right after nine o'clock classes, a large, cylindrical rocket ship, resembling a grain elevator, left this planet and streaked skyward.

Authorities on the campus of the University of Nebraska, from where the object was launched, were unable to offer any explanation for the unprecedented event.

A crowd of some 2,000 was gathered about the ship when it took off, many having been at the launching site since its discovery early this morning. There are no further facts as this goes to press.

Jan. 13, 1954 — LINCOLN, NEB. (AP)—Government officials and guided missile experts have been flocking here in droves since the news of the rocket ship (or grain elevator, one) launching.

No one on the campus has yet been able to shed light on the facts of the mysterious egress, although J. P. Clobbered, University official, has said he suspects "them (sic) clever engineers" of being behind the affair.

Apparently the object was able to reach escape velocity, since there have been no reports of a large flying missile striking earth.

Jan. 14, 1954 — LINCOLN, NEB. (AP)—An important clue has come up in connection with the strange air ship which was launched from the campus of the University of Nebraska here Tuesday.

Hy Bridgerton, general director of Gooches Mill of Lincoln, announced to the press today that a grain elevator has been missing since some time Sunday, Jan. 10.

Meanwhile, a state of Marshall Law, exists at the college. No one has been permitted to enter or leave campus since Tuesday, with the exception of trips under armed guard to the "Diamond Grill," a local tavern.

Food, blankets, and supplies are being dropped by parachute and the possibility of a campus air lift is being investigated.

When asked whether they thought the strange craft could be a grain elevator, the many rocket and guided missile experts investigating the occurrence said such a thing was impossible.

A theory of mass-hypnosis has been advanced to explain why the 2,000 odd people (most students here are odd) saw the object take off. There has still been no news of the air ship returning to earth.

Jan. 15, 1954 — LINCOLN, NEB. (AP)—The campus of the University of Nebraska is a secluded island in the sea of Lincoln's almost normal metro-

politan life. Since last Tuesday morning no one has been permitted to enter or leave the campus except the army of government officials and rocket and guided missile experts. An airlift has been in operation since yesterday, bringing in supplies and removing the sick. There has been no explanation for the launching of a large object resembling a grain elevator which took place last Tuesday. Theories here are a dime a dozen. The Red scare has been around several times. Mysteriously enough, there has been no news of the stolen grain elevator, missing since Sunday, either. Experts still generally deny the possibility of the grain elevator and rocket ship being one in the same, but there are those who may be coming around to that point of view. Reporters have noted experiments being made on fissionable corn, barley, and other grains.

Jan. 16, 1954 — LINCOLN, NEB. (AP)—FLASH! The mystery of the rocket ship which was launched from the campus of the University of Nebraska last Tuesday has been explained.

As had been expected by some of the assembled guided missile experts, the craft was a grain elevator which had been missing from Gooches Mill in Lincoln since last Sunday.

How the ship was made airborne or carted from the mill to the campus is wrapped in official security, but the ship has returned to earth.

The entire thing was a giant publicity stunt to advertise the University of Nebraska Masquerade's show "Pure as the Driven Snow" or "A Working Girl's Secret." The show was in production on the nights that the grain elevator was in the sky, Jan. 12, 13, 14, and 15.

Reporters who were in town covering the event went to the show and called it excellent.

Seriously, guys and dolls, do yourself and me a favor and check this Masquerade's show. I think you'll be glad you did.

University Bulletin Board

TUESDAY
Farmer Fair Board Meeting, 4 p.m., Ag Union.
Navy ROTC Tea Dance, 4-8 p.m., Ballroom, Union.
Sigma Xi Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Auditorium Morrill Hall.
NUCWA Mass Meeting, 7:15 p.m., Room 315, Union.
University Senate Meeting, 4 p.m., Love Library Auditorium.
WEDNESDAY
Lecture "Atlantic Europe and the Ancient Orient," 8 p.m., Auditorium Love Library.
NU-Med Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Love Library Auditorium.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS

by Dick Bibler



"Try to forget for a moment I'm your professor and let's talk your problem over man to man."

The Challenge

Red China Recognition May Have Advantages

By H. N. V. TEMPERLEY
Visiting Professor of Physics
(The following article is a continuation of an article treating British attitudes toward U.S. foreign policies. H. N. V. Temperley is a visiting professor from Cambridge University in Britain.)

Two further big issues remain between us: the admission of Red China to the United Nations and your attitude to our policy in the Middle East.

The Red China issue is one of great complexity and I do not think our handling of our end of it has been happy, but several points do stand out.

The first one seems to be most important, but I do not think I have ever seen it even mentioned in an American paper. It is simply this: Surely the object of admitting a nation to the UN is to make it more difficult for her to commit aggression.

Certainly, the fact that Italy and Japan were both members of the League was a hindrance, not a help, to their aggressive designs. Once again, if you think that the traditional methods of diplomacy are enough, why create the United Nations?

If you think that only nations with a certain standard of conduct should be admitted to the club, why not move for the exclusion of Russia? (I must say here that I find Russia's proposals — that some admissions should be "horse-traded" against others — absurd and ridiculous. Each case must be considered on its own merits.)

Frankly, your present policy of treating Chiang as head of a Great Power (whatever he once was), reminds me of the custom by which deposed Chinese emperors were permitted to hold courts and perform ceremonies.

Surely your jurists can find a way of recognizing the fact that there are two governments of China (as there have been many times in the past) without any question of "surrender" or "loss of face" being involved. . . .

We recognized Franco Spain before the civil war was even over; but there was not, and has never been, any question of our "surrendering" to him. We did not like him then, we are not particularly friendly now; but surely it is the sensible thing to establish diplomatic relations with the people who really have the power, rather than having to get a third nation to "watch your interests."

I have kept till the last perhaps the most tricky situation of all: our policy in the Middle East. Your criticisms of us there really do hurt!

Here we are, enduring all kinds of threats, insults and violence from Egypt, and yet are pressed for more and more concessions. Here is the score. They broke the treaty of 1936—we saw their point that World War II had changed things and made another treaty with them. Now that they have broken that we have indicated our willingness to go still farther. And still they are not satisfied.

Where will it all end? Would you tolerate such nonsense as this near the Panama Canal? My personal feeling is that,

Chickles

By CHICK TAYLOR
If there really are microbes in kisses, germ warfare isn't anything new.

And then there was the prof who is dieting—he wants to win the nobel prize.

Judge: "What do you wish to charge against your husband?"

Wife: "Free love, Your Honor. He isn't supported me for six years."

An old mountaineer and his son were sitting in front of the fire smoking their pipes, crossing and uncrossing their legs. After a long silence, the father said, "Son, step outside and see if it's raining."

Without looking up, the son answered, "Aw, Pa, why dont we jett call in the dog and see if he's wet?"

She: "I caught my boy friend necking."

Her: "I got mine that way too."

Athletic Pressure

The Board of Regents announced Saturday that its members were planning nationwide trips to check on the off-campus reputations of prospective candidates for the post of University Chancellor.

As fine a position as the University post might be considered, the Regents may discover that many foremost educators, administrators and professors are not interested in the chancellorship for a simple reason—a reason former Chancellor R. G. Gustavson mentioned in an Associated Press interview from Washington this week.

Asked about his new job as head of Resources for the Future, Inc., as compared with his Nebraska position, Dr. Gus said, "Actually, the general conditions are much the same, except that here I don't have a football team to worry about."

He might well have stated the exception in terms of athletic pressures, for it is general knowledge that Gustavson was forced to withstand tremendous pressures from men who regard a winning football team as the zenith of success for a university.

The fact that Dr. Gus personally held off much of this pressure is demonstrated by the serious athletic explosions which have occurred since his resignation.

The realization that demands for winning teams have nothing whatsoever to do with the wise administration of a university perhaps accounted for part of Gustavson's decision to leave Nebraska.

Other men, perhaps now being considered for his position, hold the same view. Whoever accepts the chancellorship will be forced to assume the position upon one of two conditions:

1. Either he must bow to the demands which forced the resignation of George "Potsy" Clark, or
2. He must be prepared to fight the football-frsters—a battle Gustavson found very unpopular.

The only other possibility is that the committee appointed Saturday by the Board of Regents and the athletic board will so specifically define the Cornhusker athletic program that the Chancellor will be removed from the bickerings over teams, coaches and athletic subsidies.—K. R.

Honesty In Operation

"Operation Honesty" took on a really significant meaning over the weekend when some state newspapers attempted to put the Governor on the spot with regard to his personal taxes.

In the past, many persons have pooh-poohed the principle upon which Governor Crosby's plan rests—the average Nebraskan is fair and honest when it comes to filling out personal property tax schedules.

But when the Governor's own finances were brought to the attention of the public, apparently with intent to prove that "people don't practice what they preach," not only was the contrary proven true, but the whole operation was enhanced.

Any cynicism based on the "theory" that "Yeah, it's OK for the big boys to preach, they're knockin' down plenty," was dispelled quite effectively with the disclosure by Lincoln papers that the Governor actually over-estimated the worth of some of his personal property.

Examples of high and honorable conduct in politics have a habit of remaining unpublished. Usually, the news of erring officials catches the headlines instead.

But here is a case where, through no effort of his own, our Governor had an opportunity to illustrate by personal conduct, and not by words alone, that he is qualified to speak with real conviction of "Operation Honesty."

More than almost anything he could have said, this incident gives evidence that the Governor is himself an average Nebraskan—fair and honest.—E. D.

The Nebraskan

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