

EDITORIAL PAGE

A New View On An Old Question

Drinking by minors in the state of Nebraska, the city of Lincoln and the University has been noted as a real problem by law enforcement agencies of the first two areas and by administrative officials of the third.

Many students tend to poo-poo the "drinking problem." Drinking is considered, by more than a few college students, to be part of the student life. This attitude may or may not be right. The question has been belabored by students, parents, administration, law enforcement agencies, and the general public for many years with no conclusive results. The Nebraskan does not believe the question should receive further discussion here.

The Nebraskan does feel, however, that one fact concerning drinking by minors should receive attention in its editorial columns. It is not an aim of The Nebraskan at this time to urge a moral policy toward drinking.

One fact that might have been lost in the long arguments concerning drinking by minors is the position of the person that sells the alcohol to the minor. This individual is in the "hot spot," literally in the middle of the question.

The individual holding a liquor license is caught between the minor who wants alcohol on the one hand and the legal enforcement agencies on the other. This is the practical evil of the situation.

Minors who purchase alcoholic beverages are not only breaking the law, they are partially guilty of theft. The "theft" is not actually a violent or secretive action to remove valuable objects from the place in which the alcohol is purchased—it is a more subtle thing than that. The minor, who presents false identification in order to make the illegal purchase, puts the person who sells to him in a position in which his liquor

license may be revoked by the State Liquor Commission.

The license is essential to anyone, for without it, he cannot legally be open for business.

In short, the minor though he make only a 25-cent purchase has jeopardized a tavern owner, a package store or other liquor license holder to such an extent that he might lose his license and hence his livelihood.

The State Liquor Commission has issued bulletins telling persons selling alcoholic beverages to require definite identification in cases where there is any question as to the purchaser's age. Commission chairman, Tal Coonrad, told The Nebraskan that the license holder may lose his right to sell alcohol if he is noted to be the person making the sale to a minor, whether or not false identification was presented. Coonrad noted, however, that the Commission took into consideration the facts of the individual case and seldom punished the license holder, when he had made an honest, complete effort to make a check of the questionable person's identification.

The fact remains, however, that minors place license holders in an unfair position when they present false identification in order to buy alcohol.

Also minors who borrow identification from persons who are 21 in order to make purchases take an advantage of the friend. If caught, the person who loaned the I.D. could be in serious trouble.

It is not The Nebraskan's intention to carry the banner of "moral wrong" for drinking. It is The Nebraskan's purpose to show the minor what his illegal action can cost others who are guilty of no crime, save being deceived.

Certainly, University students are not so attached to alcohol that they would ask anyone to put a business investment "on the line" so they can make an illegal purchase.—T. W.

Makes A Difference

A recent newspaper story announced that the new Supreme Soviet (parliament) will meet for the first time in the Kremlin Tuesday. More important, the announcement continued to say that the group was elected by single-ticket voting.

Single-ticket voting—what a far cry from what peoples of democracies such as ours hold to be necessary and proper! For some of us it even stretches the imagination a little to imagine what such an election would be like.

We can't picture not having two major parties battling their way through primaries, conventions and November elections. As we look over the political situation this spring, we should consider ourselves lucky that we have all the emotion caused by competing groups.

It wouldn't be pleasant to have just one man campaigning and spreading his party's (the only party's) idealistic propaganda. We Americans like a little argument if it makes the difference between a democracy and a dictatorship.—G. H.

Staying After School

Hopes ran high throughout Nebraska Tuesday as the Legislature reconvened in a special tax session in a last attempt at a solution for the very thorny tax situation.

Certainly, every University student, as well as every resident of the 14th largest State in the Union, should take keen interest in the day-to-day proceedings. (Let us hope that the estimators were right and the session will not last over 10 days.)

The way the 42 senators vote—deciding on the perennial sales tax and the new Operation Honesty—will affect everyone and more than likely have repercussions that will be heard throughout the 93 Cornhusker counties for many years.

Amidst the perplexities and grandiose schemes regarding the tax situation, there seems to be a lighter side hidden in the politics and economics of the issue.

As closely as one can figure, the "extra session" should bring smiles to every former grade-schooler now masquerading as an adult.

The Governor, somewhat distraught, is definitely worried about his tax plan and with an eye to the future—his own—has kept some 42 men, and one woman, for an after-school session.

If the Governor is to play his part, which he should, it might not be a bad idea to have each senator write out on a piece of paper—"I will be honest with myself, with my constituents and with my State during this session."

Modern educators seem to doubt the value of this exercise for small boys (but there the failure usually is one of not memorizing a spelling lesson well enough; this seems to be just a bit more serious).

As far as this reporter can see, a pledge of this type might remind the legislators that their job, although brim-full of complications, must be attacked and mastered with the same type of energy that each of them advises for his own little boy in tackling his school work.—D. F.

Margin Notes

Frog Derby

Horse racing has always been a popular sport, and in recent years midget auto races have reached a new high. But there is yet another animal contest, which although little known, has a few enthusiastic supporters.

Immortalized by Mark Twain, the thrilling contest is the frog jumping contest. Contestants are already training for the annual international competition in California this year.

So far, the favorite is Leaping Lena, a South African frog who has reportedly set the world record—32 feet, three inches.

Must be pretty good odds on that one.

Easy Money

The Nebraskan is fond of saying, "Now, back in the Roaring Twenties it was like this, but NOW . . ." Goldfish swallowing is pointed to with horror and this paper insists upon the fact that college students have grown up. A recent item caused us to wonder. A student at Dartmouth picked up \$30 on a bet there by slipping a goldfish or two into his highball glass and gulping them down. Oh, well, anything can—and usually does—happen in the spring.

Do Nothing Dimes

Talk about getting nothing for your money—many of the citizens have been having actually that experience.

The city treasurer of Salem, Mass., has reported that 1 per cent of parking meter receipts in that community represents dimes which tumble into the coin boxes without giving motorists any parking time.

The meters are designed to register only for pennies and nickels.

A Deep Worry

Worry, worry.

The modern world is sure a mess. As if hydrogen bombs weren't enough to give anyone a headache, now the geologists have to threaten us with another possible disaster.

It seems there is a hidden volcano 2,500 feet below the Mississippi River delta.

But it cooled off 69 million years ago—hey, think.

Cool Class

What will they think of next?

Five Italians paid approximately \$700 each for space in the refrigeration room of a liner to Australia. The system was that the recipient of the money, a member of the ship's crew, was to smuggle them aboard and fix the temperature of the refrigerator so that they wouldn't freeze.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS by Dick Bibler



The Challenge

Workman Tells Of Future ROTC Commission Policy

By COL. J. H. WORKMAN (Col. Workman has served as the Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the University for four years. His previous duty station was with the training command of the Illinois National Guard. Workman, a graduate of West Point, will retire from the Army after the completion of his tour here at the University this year.)

There has been some publicity and comment about the new policy of the Defense Department in the matter of commissioning ROTC graduates. I am happy to have this opportunity to clarify the problem insofar as it affects the Army ROTC graduate.

The situation as it now stands for 1954 graduates is good. All graduates this year who are recommended by the PMST will be commissioned, and will be ordered to active duty by June 30, 1955. However, mere completion of the course does not guarantee a commission. Instructions are to withhold commissions in each case where desired standards are added requires that the commissioning officer on active duty, who fails the branch basic officers' course, will be revoked and that the officer will be relieved from active duty and reported to his draft board.

The situation as to commissioning for the class of 1955 and thereafter is less favorable. ROTC students of these classes are informed before entering the advanced course that all graduates cannot be promised immediate commissions. The needs of the army for officers on active duty and the status of the Selective Service Act at the time of graduation will govern.

Those who cannot immediately become officers will receive Certificates of Capacity which will qualify them to apply for commission upon completion of their active duty as enlisted men. It is presumed that this group will receive some preferential treatment in service, although nothing

of that nature has been directly promised as yet. So much for the situation as it now exists.

The reasons why this problem has come up are not hard to find: first, the end of the fighting in Korea and second, the reduction in military forces in the interests of economy. If the Army accepted the some 15,000 ROTC graduates from ROTC as 2d Lieutenants annually, due to manpower ceilings, it would mean forcing out thousands of capable and useful officers each year, in exchange for green officers whose usefulness, initially, is limited. This is neither fair to the officer on active duty nor good for the Army.

A compromise has been effected which allows this year's class to be absorbed. By liberal release policies, and some arbitrary reduction has been utilized to make the necessary vacancies. There is no fat left to be used for next year's class, so only normal attrition vacancies will exist.

The question is asked then, why not commission the graduate and simply not call him to service. This is not possible under the selective service laws, nor is it fair either to those who have served.

This, then, is the problem and the solution. The solution is not what we should like, but no better one seems available. There will be a substantial number of commissions issued each year for the best qualified cadets. Other ROTC graduates can be commissioned after active duty and serve their six years reserve time as officers. They get an excellent military background, an opportunity to complete their college course and an advantageous position upon induction. In my opinion, the Advanced ROTC Course still provides the best opportunities for the qualified student.

Copped Copy

Coed Chemical Makeup; Ways To Flunk Described

By BRUCE BRUGMANN

The McCollage college student paper gives an "analysis of the creature known as woman as seen through the eyes of the chemist."

Symbol: Woo.

Accepted Atomic Weight: One hundred and plenty.

Physical properties: Boils at nothing and freezes at any minute. Melts when properly treated.

Occurrence: Found where ever man exists.

Chemical properties: Possess great affinity for gold, silver, platinum and precious stones. Violent reaction if left alone, able to absorb great amounts of food matter. Turns green when placed beside a better looking specimen.

Uses: Highly ornamental. Useful as a tonic in acceleration of low spirits and as equalizer of the distribution of wealth. Is probably the most effective income-reducing agent known.

Caution: Highly explosive in inexperienced hands.

Following are 15 easy ways in which to fail a course, as written by Jack Seward for the Oregon State Daily Barometer:

- 1. Enter the course as late as possible. By changing your mind about the curriculum after school starts, you should be able to avoid classes until the second or third week.
2. Do not bother with a textbook.
3. Put your social life ahead of everything else. If necessary, cultivate a few friendships in the class. Interesting conversation should be able to drown out the noise of the lecture.
4. Observe how seedy most professors look and treat them accordingly.
5. Make yourself comfortable when you study. If possible, draw up an easy chair by a window.
6. Have a few friends handy during the study period so you can chat when the work becomes dull.
7. If you must study, try to limit it all together and get it over with. The most suitable time would be the last week of school.
8. Keep your study table interesting. Place photographs, magazines, goldfish bowls, games and other recreational devices all around you while studying.
9. Use Menemonic devices on everything you learn. Since they are easy to forget, this approach prevents your mind from getting cluttered up with stale facts.

The Student Forum

Where Are We?

By BERT BISHOP

With customary stench and fire, The Big Probe is coming out in full glory again. The latest man to fall victim to it is the man most individually helpful in developing America's great terror, the atomic bomb. Dr. Oppenheimer is not quite flabbergasted at its nonsense. He wants to see it function itself once more into absurdity.

At question is the amount of damage done to a person's loyalty by "Communist associations" in the 1930's. Also to be determined is whether there was any delay in the development of our newest weapon because of Communist sympathies in the scientist and technicians whose job it was to build "our bomb."

As usual, the weakness of an "investigation," in all its gaudy, demonstrative ambiguity, is present. Admiral Strauss doesn't like Dr. Oppenheimer. David Teepie, Strauss' assistant, is quite fond of Joseph McCarthy.

The inevitable result is that McCarthy has grabbed another frothy mouthful of free publicity, and the burden is now upon Oppenheimer to demonstrate his own good faith—the man who helped give this country what was its greatest weapon.

The issues are absurd. Dr. Oppenheimer admits that he joined the fashionable circle of depression intellectuals who, for lack of something more meaty, discussed Marx. He knows, as does everyone else, including, probably both Strauss and McCarthy, that what happened in those circles was as harmful and violent as what happened at last week's

meeting of the Thursday Kensington.

It is as imprudent in retrospect as American aid to the Soviet in the days of Stalingrad, but no one knew these things then. Now, however, someone is shouting "Communist" at Dr. Oppenheimer for his actions, in the same kind of ignorance which is behind the charges that "the Roosevelt gang" was Communist because it aided an ally in fighting a common enemy.

As to delaying the development of the hydrogen bomb, who is to say? Certainly not any group of congressmen or military men, who know relatively nothing about what a hydrogen bomb is, let alone how or with what speed it might be developed. They can learn only what is revealed to them through the generous help of Dr. Oppenheimer's fellow scientists, who are as outraged about the whole idea as is the man himself.

What will result is a clamorous and publicity-decorated laboring of the obvious, the result of which will be a quiet, obscure announcement that Dr. Oppenheimer is, after all, a loyal American. Meanwhile, much political and personal satisfaction will have been gained from the carnival, depending upon the motives of those who first raised the stink.

Those who watch, wonder how long the Great Investigator can drink at other people's wakes before he furnishes an excuse for one of his own. Considering the increasing rate of abortive attempts, it shouldn't be long, now. The fool who tries to play Hamlet does nothing but burlesque his lines, until he is laughed right off the stage.

From Iowa State

Fear And Smear

In this day and age of charges and counter charges on Capitol Hill, Bertrand Russell has some warnings concerning "The Corroding Effects of Suspicion" in a recent New York Times Magazine.

The historical examples he cites to show that history shakes its head at unreasoned fear, dovetail startlingly with the taint of suspicion McCarthyism is smearing in the United States today.

Russell moves back in time to the 17th Century "Popish Plot" in England, the Dreyfus Affair and the Reign of Terror in France and Hitler's purges before and during the Second World War in Germany.

He demonstrates that, in each case, fear which had been generated by an outer threat was converted by unprincipled and brutally ambitious men into ammunition for their own guns.

"The technique, Russell says of suspicion, 'though used ostensibly to combat the external danger, is almost always used, in fact, to give ascendancy to some group in the internal politics of the country concerned . . . Hitler's rise of power would not have been possible except in a nation insensibly dominated by suspicion.'

Today we Americans find ourselves in almost the same predicament. The English feared the exterior forces of the Catholic Church, the French feared the Germans, and the Germans in turn feared the French.

Too many Americans are dominated by a fear of Soviet Totalitarianism, an outside distrust which is responsible for suspicious of everyone who is not a strict conformist.

This suspicion is being capitalized upon by a group of fear specialists who have already shown they do not respect what they are defending.

Russell shows how these "de-

fenders are working to establish one's self in public opinion as a more vigorous and more searching than anybody else in unearthing secret treachery or sympathy with treachery . . . When by such methods the inquisitors have caused themselves to be universally feared, they can proceed to stronger measures leading step by step to imprisonment or execution by administrative order."

"The British writer pictures 'the intolerable society' which suspicion ultimately creates. In this straitjacket of intolerance, minds are so dulled and rusted that not only do they fail to protect against gradual removal of internal security but are soon blinded to real dangers without.

It's high time we Americans began to look about and see who is, and who is not, in the Trojan Horse.

University Bulletin Board

WEDNESDAY

Orchesis and Pre-Orchesis candidates practice session, 7 p. m. Grant Memorial Hall.

Music Department Recital, 4 p. m. Social Sciences Auditorium. Dr. J. E. Ackert, seminar, "Factors in Resistance to Fascism with Special Reference to Age and Nutrition," 4 p. m., Room 201 Bessey Hall.

Pi Lambda Theta, 7 p. m., Union Room 315. Dr. George Sarton, lecture, "Ptolemy (Second century A. D.)," 8 p. m. Love Library Auditorium.

THURSDAY

Big Ad "Gripe Session," 11 a. m. Room 208A, Social Sciences. Young Republicans, 7:30 p. m. Ferguson Hall Auditorium. Chamber Music Concert, 8 p. m. Union Ballroom.

Coeds "Rush" College Men in Arrow White Shirts Smarter Styles, Smoother "Lines" Attract Gals



A guy in an Arrow shirt here . . . and everywhere a pretty coed—a typical scene on our college campus and from coast to coast. When asked why they go for men wearing Arrows, the gals agreed that Arrow shirts do more for a man's appearance.

ARROW TRADE MARK

SHIRTS • TIES • UNDERWEAR • HANDKERCHIEFS • SPORTSWEAR

Letterip

Student Letter Cites Bible Passage; Attacks Pepper View Toward Religion

Dear Editor: F. Jay Pepper's latest idea of a debate suggests there is something he should read. (I Corinthians 2:20-21) "Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debator of this age? Has God not made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. Of course, one of his vast knowledge has probably already read this, but just in case he missed it, I thought I'd mention it.

Mr. Pepper has a habit of confusing truth with logic. Many true things are not logical, and many logical things are not true. It is apparently true that light has the same velocity with respect to two bodies at different velocities, but this is hardly logical. It is logical that heavier weights should fall faster than lighter weights, although untrue.

Knowledge is all right as long as you don't take it too seriously. Apparently Mr. Pepper has been carried away by it, although perhaps not far enough.

JAMES G. ELLINGSON

The Nebraskan

FIFTY-THIRD YEAR

Member: Associated Collegiate Press

Advertising representative: National Advertising Service, Inc.

420 Madison Ave., New York 17, New York

The Nebraskan is published by the students of the University of Nebraska as an expression of student news and opinions only. According to Article 41 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 Nebraskan are personally responsible for what they say or do or cause to be printed."

Subscription rates are \$2 a semester, \$3.50 annual, or \$5 for the college year, 94 mailed. Single copy is five cents. Published on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday during the school year, except vacation and examination periods. One issue published during the month of August each year by the University of Nebraska under the supervision of the Committee of 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 Oct. 3, 1917, authorized Sept. 16, 1949.

Table with columns for Editor, Managing Editor, News Editor, Copy Editor, Sports Editor, Business Manager, and various staff members.