

EDITORIAL PAGE

A Rough But Just Policy

Last week, some forty men received a shock that they had anticipated for some time, but which they hoped would never come.

These men, senior cadets in the Air Force ROTC program, were told they would not be commissioned at the completion of their final year of work in the program.

Quite naturally, the men were enraged. These men, all of them hoping to do general work in the Air Force—i.e., not flying, were at the instant faced with the reality that their four years of work, including a session at summer camp, had been to no avail.

At first, it seems that this paper should arise in very righteous indignation against the obvious injustice on the Air Force. Yet, when the problem is viewed from the overall picture, this might have been one of the few really wise moves the Air Force made with regard to manpower and the most efficient use of it.

According to the newest Air Force regulations, and it must be emphasized that this is the present law only, and may be changed at any time, all cadets who are physically qualified and will volunteer for flight training, will definitely be commissioned.

All cadets, with the exception of two special groups, not volunteering for flight, will not be commissioned.

The exceptions to the rule are in the cases of veterans who have already served in the armed forces and have completed the Air Force program and students taking technical courses at the University.

The groups of vets will be commissioned, but will not be called to active duty. The technical majors will be commissioned if there is a need for their particular specialty. Currently, the Air Force estimated that electrical engineers and nuclear physics majors will receive second lieutenant bars.

The results of this plan are obvious. The Air Force needs trained technicians and flyers! Major John B. Truelli, director of administration for the University's Air Force unit has repeatedly made the following statement.

"Our weapon is the aircraft. We need flyers."

The Air Force instructor explained the current policy of not commissioning non-flyers. It is worth repeating.

The services are like a big business, they reason. They must be run like a big business. The services must hire people it needs. It has no place for people that are not needed to fill non-existing vacancies, no matter how qualified the individual is.

The Air Force continues saying: "we must meet the needs of the service." Then they

Go To Class

Two weeks of classes to go! The surest indication of this is the improvement in classroom attendance. It must be gratifying to an instructor to walk into a classroom and observe a sea of expectant faces just waiting for his words of wisdom rather than an hour exam.

But as some instructors so aptly put it, "You're not getting your money's worth if you don't attend classes." This remark always calls forth a loud snicker from the back of the room. To many students, it is just another way of being plagued with threats to attend class. It just goes in one ear and out the other.

So approximately two, three if they are ambitious, weeks before school is out students start attending eight o'clocks as often as three times a week. For some it is too late, though. Cutting a month's classes can often be disastrous enough to lower and eight average to a four.

Perhaps students should stop and think a little when an instructor tells them why they are in college. Too many times it doesn't pay off to slide through a course all semester and then rely on "cooling" the final exam.

After all, Joe College has the folks back home to consider. They may not expect their son to be a PBK, but they do expect him to get passing grades and learn a little something from the courses he takes. They realize that social life is important and activities, too. But they know also that a college education is a privilege and expect their sons and daughters to take advantage of it.

Parents don't expect Frannie Freshman to be an outstanding teacher or career woman upon graduation. But they do expect her to put forth more than the barest possible effort to graduate from college. They want to know that their investment has brought satisfactory results.

Society doesn't expect every college graduate to be a superior individual in his field. But it does expect him to be educated, to be able to apply what he has learned. But what if he has only learned how to cut classes and crib on examinations?

A well-rounded education is important, but the emphasis should be on learning subject matter—not how to be a social butterfly or actively big wheel.—G.H.

add, currently, the Air Force is on an austerity program, and it must cut down on personnel."

This reasoning is sound. Two years ago American people elected a man to the presidency on this same platform. President Eisenhower, the people decided, as a former military man, understood the problem of the armed forces. He could be depended on to cut the budget.

This is exactly what has happened. Today, senior ROTC men are feeling the pinch of the government's economy measures. They are being given an alternative program that sounds feasible. But this alternative is still not a commission, and there is a difference.

Realizing the problems facing the men who are not being commissioned, the government has done a wise thing.

There can be no refutation made to the Air Forces' desire for flyers. There must not be any snuffing of any attempt on the part of the armed services to try to economize.

It is a well known fact that every man owes, under the present laws, service to the United States in some branch of service. It is a pity that these non-flying men are being given a "rough time."

But, by the same token, we can only praise the Air Force for their attempt at efficient organization. It will be even better, if the services can carry this campaign into other fields.—D.F.

Here's Why

In the May 7 issue of The Nebraskan, a "Letterip" commented on the view taken by the paper on racial prejudice. The letter was specifically aimed at an editorial entitled, "Costly Prejudice" which was written concerning a newspaper story telling of a Negro family moving out of an "all-white" housing area in Chicago.

The Nebraskan tried to show that one of the attempts to justify the violence and terror to which that family was exposed as nothing but a prejudiced half-truth presented on the whole situation.

In the letter, the author noted, "Just why the editorial entitled 'Costly Prejudice' emphasized the monetary rather than the moral issue involved is difficult to ascertain. And why Chicago and other cities should be selected for criticism when so many local problems of similar nature stand to be corrected is also difficult to comprehend."

The Nebraskan also came in for some sharp words when the author noted, "... transfer the problems of racial discrimination to various organizations in Lincoln and more specifically to those on campus."

The Nebraskan (and the author) believe the points are well taken, and answer them this way.

The monetary rather than the moral issue was emphasized because the greater proportion of Nebraska readers don't seem interested in the moral issue. Last semester, the Nebraskan printed several editorials condemning the violation of moral justice involved whenever discrimination and prejudice are found.

The only action resulting from the points brought out by The Nebraskan was a statement of policy condemning prejudice by the Student Council. "Letterips" concerning the matter were, at best, few in number.

Also, The Nebraskan wrote specifically with campus organizations in mind. The majority of the "discrimination editorials" were aimed at fraternities and sororities.

To The Nebraskan's knowledge none of the offending groups have made efforts to remove or correct their discrimination clauses from their requirements for membership.

The Student Council did what it could by barring discriminatory clauses from the constitutions of honoraries and other organizations required to have Council approval to function on campus. The Council has no power to legislate on matters concerning social fraternities and sororities, and cannot take further action.

Lack of student interest in the moral issue and the tied hands of the only student organization (the Council) with power to legislate on even honoraries prompted The Nebraskan to take a new tack on the old problem.—T.W.

Margin Notes

Tongue Twisters

By this time in the semester, most NU professors have discovered the correct way to pronounce the names of their class rolls, but their problem is really nothing compared with the tongue-twisting roll of one thousand Army officers in Camp Pickett, Va.

Among 124 officers, representing 29 foreign countries, are Lieut. Col. Nick Koutsogianopoulos of the Greek Army and Maj. Gen. Prasarn Prasassarakith and Capt. Rien Dis-thabanchong of the Thai Army. Quite a mouthful!

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS

by Dick Bibler



"I didn't say 'bring a case and we'd study'—I said bring a 'case study.'"

The Slide Rule

E-Week Goals, Methods Explained By Student

By JOHN MARKS Now that E-Week is over, I think it is only proper to relate how this well known exposition comes about and to try to give credit where credit is due.

E-Week was organized some years ago to introduce the College of Engineering & Architecture as part of the University to the public. E-Week serves the same purpose now as it did then, reaching out to the graduating seniors from high school in particular. The purpose of attracting high school seniors is, of course, to encourage their attendance at the University, be it in the College of Engineering or not. Thus, E-Week has come to be a well attended function all of which is due largely to student effort plus co-operation from the faculty.

One reason for this effort is the competition that is set up between the various departments to win the E-Week plaque; the plaque designates that department which has best fulfilled the purpose of E-Week for each year. This year's winner of that plaque was the Department of Civil Engineering.

Even though a winner is announced, none of the students participating in other departments have reason to feel that their efforts were without fruit. There is always compensation in knowing that the over-all job was well done and can be considered equal to the previous year's exposition. Almost every engineering student is involved in E-Week in one way or another, but the busiest ones are the co-chairmen of each department, to say the least of the co-chairmen of the co-chairmen.

Copped Copy

Students Stop Policemen; Coeds Get Pool Pointers

By BRUCE BRUGMANN

Victor's Bar, a roadside establishment located conveniently near the University of Miami campus, was raided recently as state beverage inspectors suddenly appeared and began checking the ages of the bibulous patrons. Students booed and hissed at the officers, while most of the underage tippers left in haste.

Resourceful customers began throwing beer bottles, precipitating a near riot. Calls were put in to the local police and a fire box was pulled. Beverage Supervisor Thomas Barger was hit on the leg by a thrown bottle. About 200 students spilled out of the bar and onto the highway, where traffic was tied up. Others were quietly removing air from the tires of the police cars. A few sets of car keys were lifted.

Everything finally came under control with the arrival of the school dean. When the dean's brook was ended and the din of battle lifted, a set of car keys was still missing. Police let it go that.

Something new has been inaugurated at Kansas University. The director thought that since pool tables had been put in the new Union and he had seen so many girls looking at them wistfully, special lessons would be given to the coeds. He would like the girls to learn just well enough so they could come to the Union with their dates and shoot a fast game of pool without embarrassment.

The Oregon State College Daily Barometer says that there are only about three weeks of solid school.

"Out of 365 days, a student sleeps away a third—eight hours a day—leaving 243. Then there are 52 Sundays. Take at least one-half hour a day off for lunch and three months for vacations. This leaves 91 days or 13 weeks. Now subtract 32 Saturdays, a couple of weeks for Christmas and the Thanksgiving weekend. There you have it."

A gang of technical, crafty pranksters pulled an unusual stunt at Hardin-Simmons University. Dismantling a large chuck-wagon on the campus, they carried it, piece by piece, to the third floor of one of the college

The Student Forum

A Second Glance

By PAUL LAASE

What President Eisenhower called a symbol of freedom and democracy finally fell after 57 days of bitter fighting. At a cost of 20,000 or more lives the Viet-Minh successfully took Dien Bien Phu by sapping and storm. As all well-informed observers knew since the beginning of the seige, it was only a matter of time until the fortress fell. Why, then, was it characterized by President Eisenhower as a symbol of freedom and democracy, knowing as he did its certain fate?

The balance of power in the world today lies in Asia. Throughout the rest of the world, with the possible exception of some areas in Africa, the sides are chosen. The United States and her allies stand on one side, the Soviets and her satellites on the other. Asia, mainly neutral, sits on the fence and watches. The western world cannot afford to lose Asia, either by military conquest or by Asia's own free choice.

The free world lost China to the Communists without much resistance. Some American aid was given, but we did little to save China from Communism. We cannot afford to lose all of Asia. If we want to hold the rest of Asia, we must not let Indo-China fall to the Communists.

The American public remembers all too well our three year experiment in Korea. Here at home, as well as abroad, there was much popular resentment at the resulting military stalemate—even resentment at the American support of the Republic of Korea. Public opinion, remember—the 130,000 American casualties in Korea, is not ready to support further American action in Asia at this time. Neither, if we are to judge by recent events, are our allies ready for this step.

There has been no outright aggression in Indo-China. The French are fighting for a lost cause, insofar as they hope to retain, in some manner, Indo-China as a colonial possession.

Letterip

Student Questions 'Irregularities' Allowed in Fraternity Ivy Day Sing

Dear Editor:

Whoever was in charge of the Interfraternity Sing Contest last Saturday should answer these questions.

Why was the winning group allowed to compete with 30 members when the rules stated that the maximum number could be 25 including the director? Why was it stated previously that this same group was giving a "guest performance"? Why was the winning group allowed to enter after the given deadline, and to pay their entrance fee after the contest?

Why was one of the winning groups allowed to sing a medley when the one rule underlined in red in the rules stated that no medleys were to be sung?

These questions are asked in the interest of fairness, not because the writer feels that his group was deserving of winning. Twenty groups competed, and if there were to be rules, why not enforce them by disqualifying those who violated them

These two factors generate no public demand for American aid in Indo-China, but rather have a negative effect. Add to this the fact that Indo-China is half-way around the world and you see why public opinion does not sanction the United States leaving her own backyard.

Nevertheless, military necessity and security factors will probably demand some form of military action in Indo-China by the United States. France, so politically divided at home, cannot handle the problem. The British, true to their pre-WW II attitude, are extremely reluctant to do anything except compromise and pacify. Australia and New Zealand are enough concerned to take action, but not alone. Perhaps others would follow lead, but not one will lead first. The United States must be the one who makes the decisive move.

But before the United States can move, public opinion must sanction the effort. It would be political suicide for the administration to do otherwise. Less than a united voice at home causes increased hesitation and doubt abroad. This we cannot afford, for we need all the support we can get, both at home and abroad.

What President Eisenhower and his supporters have been trying to do is to create a popular demand for American action in Asia. Making a militarily insignificant outpost into a symbol of freedom and democracy is one way to generate this support, for the American public hates to see freedom or democracy, regardless of location, overrun and trampled into the ground.

Other moves, propaganda of the same sort, will probably be forthcoming in the future. One way or another public opinion must be shifted to support further American military action in Asia. We are now engaged in the process of conditioning the public mind toward such an end. This is why Dien Bien Phu was transformed into a symbol of freedom and democracy.

University Bulletin Board

- TUESDAY Kosmet Klub election of officers, 6:45 p.m., Kosmet Klub Room, Union. Union Picnic, 5 p.m., Ag Student Union. Young Democrats, 7:30 p.m., Union Parlor X. WEDNESDAY Bridge Tournament, Beginners, 5 p.m.; Advanced, 7 p.m., Union. Lab Theater Plays, 7:30 p.m., Room 201, Temple. THURSDAY Lab Theater Plays, 7:30 p.m., Room 201 Temple.

From UCLA

Campus Politicians Give 'Inside' Campaign Story

(This article appeared shortly after the elections of student officials at the California school. The Nebraskan believes the piece to be particularly apropos since similar activities here are so recently concluded.)

He Won

I got into campus politics for the business contacts, a chance to lay the ground for a possible job with the University Administration, to get a free school ring, improve my dating, a possible trip to Asia through Europe and because extracurricular activities are smiled on by employers.

I won my campaign by making signs, buttons, torches (for a good old fashioned parade), composing an easy-to-remember jingle, trading the votes of my friends for the votes of another campaigner, making a rather vague platform full of principles that no one could object to and putting in lots of hard honest work. Oh yes, I got a Dixie band to play at my big rally.

When I saw what my opposition was doing I started a hard-to-trace rumor that he was sort of pinkish.

I like to lump things together, you know, Heart Fund, Project India, Foreign Student Aid and Dorms, Pavilion, Student Facilities, because we can get more out of the students that way. You see, the average student who donates to Project India doesn't get to choose who gets to go so some of them might not donate so much to just the one cause. Also some think that dorms are most important but with all three lumped together their support may be used to get the pavilion first.

I like to change constitutions illegally and wear green feathers so people will think I'm open minded.

I took what I learned in college out into the world and won a Congressional election. I learned that people don't like to think; they just like to be on the winning side.

He Lost

Didto, but I sort of thought I might improve living conditions and part-time job opportunities around Westwood so students could spend more time studying, less time traveling and develop a feeling of belonging to UCLA. I lost my campaign by not mak-

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The Nebraskan

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