

EDITORIAL PAGE

Time For A Change

The "Letterip" column of The Nebraskan for Monday carried a note pointing out some irregularities in the procedure used during the fraternity Ivy Day Sing competition.

Several things seem to have come out of the entire situation that are well-worth consideration by all fraternities that take part in the annual competition.

First, the individual responsible for the errors, irregularities or what you will, did not have an ulterior motive or err with a purpose.

Snarf

The little professor seen either smiling toothily or snarling nastily at poor abused students in the famous Bibler cartoons will at last become personified at the University.

Listed as a faculty popularity contest, students will nominate and vote for the professor who supposedly fits the description and attitude of the Bibler pedagogue.

As yet no report of a professor either being nominated or refusing a nomination has been received however it is expected that some faculty members will disapprove — of course!

For a clarification of qualifications this poem has been composed:

S is for his sickening tests, N for nines we never get, A for assignments, always short, R for his 80-page book report, F for flunks on our grade sheet.

The Mob

Giggling girls and bellowing boys had a little party on 16th Street Monday night. It was all in childish fun. Oh, a few screens were broken, a little furniture soaked and some people got roughed up a bit—but it was nothing, really.

It was nothing but a mob. Whether very serious damage was averted because the mob lacked leadership, or because it lacked followers is a topic being discussed. It is, at best, of little importance.

Thinking persons who saw both Monday night's action and that of three springs ago, realized that any mob is a potential danger. That this year's fracas quieted into a street dance is fortunate.

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Monday night's small riot has been easily explained as the effects of no spring weather until recently and the imminent close of school.

Something is wrong with a school, however, which produces students who leap at the chance to forget that they are supposed to be able to think.

Perhaps those who govern the women of this school should wonder if the reason their charges often join enthusiastically in proceedings like those of Monday night is because they feel as if they are behind prison walls.

And perhaps students who participated in the disgraceful display should ask themselves why they allowed themselves to become mere sheep without minds—following the unthinking herd and becoming, not individuals with minds, but parts of a mob.—S.H.

The Nebraskan

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the affair, and does not feel that he deliberately "changed the ground rules" to fit the wishes of any particular group at the expense of another group.

Second, the charges and the answers to them point up a situation that is not being handled in the right way. In an event where competition is keen, with definite rules and regulations governing the competition, it is necessary to have the rules and regulations administered and enforced by more than a single individual.

As it stands now, the Ivy Day Sing for fraternities is almost entirely under the management or direction of a single individual. This person is pressured by groups and other individuals to make "minor exceptions."

The Monday "Letterip" included several suggestions, all of which seem to have merit in making certain that a similar complaint will not need to be made next year.

All fraternities on the campus have at least enough members to supply this number and the larger houses are prevented from making the smaller groups look silly simply by weight of numbers.

The last suggestion reads: "That the only fraternities that are eligible to sing as a competitive group will be those which are members of the Interfraternity Council."

The Nebraska feels that another ruling be made to the effect that a committee, not a single individual, should be charged with the responsibility of handling the Fraternity Ivy Day Sing.

Intelligence is the backbone of military survival in a hostile world. Survival power lies not in numbers of men but in the ingenuity of the armament which we can supply.

The wonderful music we are privileged to hear over the radio, the pageantry that comes to us via television, the art that comes to us in four-color printing, and the news of the printed page which enhances our cultural life are products of superlative thinking.

It is interesting to note that the general well-being of the people in a nation and even sections of a nation parallels the investment the people make in developing mental growth.

Education is not provided by a generous state in order to indulge its youth but as an investment in its mental resources as a means of lifting its citizens—all of its citizens by their bootstraps toward a better and fuller life.

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Margin Notes

A citizen of Petersburg, Virginia, recently parked in a no-parking zone and consequently posed a rather unusual problem for the police.

The fellow parked his car, a 1902 model, in a congested traffic area and returned to find a crowd inspecting the 52-year-old auto.

The policeman, however, was a little hesitant about writing out a ticket, although the car was obviously violating the no-parking rule.

The Oklahoma farm couple who found a mysterious box, tightly sealed, near a creek on their property got the surprise of their lives when they saw its contents.

The small wooden coffin, measuring three feet long and two feet wide, was covered with a spray of artificial flowers. An inscription read: "Our baby Agnes, killed by a truck Feb. 5, 1952."

Brother, cross over the line! These were probably the sentiments of a Richmond, Va., minister when he lamented a drop in church attendance.

Virginia highway signs said — before a barrage of such complaints: "Do not cross solid line when on your side." They are being replaced with new ones which read "Do not pass when solid line on your side."

Getting a little weak in the knees as I received memories of rough-handed Army medics, I wobbled into the Williams-Wolfe lounge and sank into one of the new pseudo-seats for TV-watching.

"WAIT!" the doctor suddenly yelled. "You have a fever!" I breathed a sign of relief. He had just noticed the temperature listed on my card. It was 100. I never felt better in my life, but I wasn't going to admit it to him.

It came out reading 99. "Can't give, huh?" I ventured hopefully. "That's normal enough," the doctor said. "Different people carry slightly different temperatures. You're elected. Go downstairs."

I got a bottle and answered some more question. A pert young nurse's aide with a delightful bedside manner helped me down on a hospital table in the Rendezvous Room, a gentle nurse slipped a ridiculously gentle needle in my arm, and I was off to the races.

A few minutes later I was on my feet sipping orange juice and munching a donut in the commandeer'd game room. I thanked the Gray Ladies for the chow-down, and snatched back up to my typewriter, where I went to work with a renewed vigor and an overpowering sense of inflated patriotism.



Well, did you see that silly ad I put in yesterday's newspaper for a roommate?

The Challenge Training Of Minds Called Country's Biggest Task

By H. G. THUESEN (Professor Thuesen is head of the School of Industrial Engineering at Oklahoma State University. This article was written for The Nebraskan by him after the student paper there reprinted an article written by Bert Bishop.)

We cannot lift ourselves by our bootstraps no matter how strong our muscles are. But it has been demonstrated again and again that individuals, states, and nations can do so with their minds.

From its inception, the United States recognized the potency of learning in reaching economic and cultural objectives. The people of the United States put their faith in intelligence and as a consequence enjoy a higher standard of living, greater military security, and generally a higher cultural level than the people of any other land.

To prosper, a community must take full advantage of its best intellects. One intellect like Edison's was sufficient to begin the development of the electric light which makes life more pleasant for all of us.

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The Student Forum Where Are We?

By BERT BISHOP There is no need to welcome our new chancellor. He will receive more welcomes than he can deal with handily anyway. It might do to ask a few questions of him, or at least of those who will study under his supervision, remote as it may be.

The University is thriving, as a whole. But there is one area which is slowly dying, slowly becoming inept and stagnant. What can be done about the mould in the humanities?

The only department in this area of our institution which seems still to be healthy is the history department. The classics are pushed into a remote corner of Andrews Hall. The only reason the English department is still superficially feigned is the freshman English requirement.

Many say that this university has stagnated in the humanities because of tenure, because men who once were alive and vibrantly interested in their fields have held on until they now do nothing but repeat themselves. Some say that the humanities are dying all over the nation and that we are not alone here.

Whatever the reason may be, the result is that those fields which once made up the heart of formal education are now in danger of existing only as curios. It is not in the slightest good riddance.

From Iowa State How To Stay In College Suggestions Presented

(This article is reprinted from the editorial page of the Iowa State student newspaper, The College Eye. The material was taken from an ACP press release of suggestions made by Robert Tyson of the Hunter College (New York) department of psychology and philosophy.)

1. Bring the professor newspaper clippings dealing with his subject. Demonstrate feeling interest and give him timely items to mention in class.

2. Look alert. Take notes eagerly. If you look at your watch, don't stare at it unbelievably and shake it.

3. Nod frequently and murmur, "How true!" To you this seems exaggerated; to him it's quite objective.

4. Sit in front, near him. (Applies only if you intend to stay awake.) If you're going to all the trouble of making a good impression, you might as well let him know who you are, especially in a large class.

5. Laugh at his jokes. You can tell if he looks up from his notes and smiles expectantly, he has told a joke.

6. Ask for outside reading. You don't have to read it. Just ask.

7. If you must sleep, arrange to be called at the end of hour. It creates an unfavorable impression if the rest of the class has left and you sit there alone dozing.

8. Be sure the book you read during the lecture looks like a book from the course. If you do math in psychology class and psychology in math class, match books for size and color.

9. Ask any questions you think he can answer. Conversely, avoid announcing that you have found the answer to a question he couldn't answer, and in your brother's second grade reader at that.

10. Call attention to his writing. Produce an exquisitely pleasant experience connected with you. If you know he's written a book or an article, ask in class if he wrote it.

As to whether or not you want to do some work in addition to all this, well it's controversial and up to the individual.

Letterip Topics Of Student Letters Include Fraternity Ivy Day Sing, Air ROTC

Dear Editor: As chairman of this year's Interfraternity Sing, I do believe that "Discouraged" deserves an answer. I also believe he has a valid gripe.

To answer his question, one-by-one, Phi Chi had 25, net 30 men singing Saturday. This, I still realize, is three over the maximum number. However, I was not in the Administration Building when the judges were deliberating and deciding the winners.

Earlier in the day, AWS and Mortar Boards decided that the nurses group be permitted to compete in the sorority sing. Therefore, these same groups, plus the two medical fraternities, felt that they should be allowed to compete, basing it on the same principles which allowed the nurses to compete.

As for paying their fees late, since they were considered guest groups before Saturday morning, I felt that Kosmet Klub should not rightfully charge them the regular fee. This is why I collected the entry fee the afternoon of the Sing. I hope this is understandable.

Why was one of the winning groups allowed to sing a medley when I specifically outlawed this in the rules of the Sing this year? Well, it was a concession to the choral group which sang the medley. They had been working on it several weeks before they submitted the number to me. I granted them this special consideration. I was wrong.

However, I also granted special considerations to fraternity groups on the eligibility of some of their chorus members. I felt that my original rules concerning eligibility were a bit too high, and so I compromised. Perhaps I was wrong here, too.

The reason for the rules, compromises, deviations from the rules, and breaking of one rule was my sincere desire for EVERY fraternity to make a good appearance Saturday. It was not done with bias or favoritism to ANY one fraternity.

As a fraternity man, I know just how "Discouraged" feels. I'm certain his fraternity, and all the other fraternities worked hard on their songs and deserve a fair and honest answer to the questions raised.

I am going to recommend the following to the Interfraternity Sing Chairman for next year: 1. That all fraternities sing fraternity songs.

2. That the number of chorus members total no more than 25. 3. That the only fraternities that are eligible to sing as a competitive group will be those which are members of the Interfraternity Council. (This will eliminate Phi Rho Sigma and Phi Chi from competition.)

University Bulletin Board

WEDNESDAY Cosmopolitan Club, 7:30 p.m., Room 213, Union. Bridge Tournament, Beginners, 5 p.m.; Advanced, 7 p.m., Union. Philosophy Club, 7:30 p.m., Faculty Lounge, Union. Phi Lambda Theta, 5 p.m., Room 316, Union.