

Editorial Comment

The Zwicker Issue

Senators are settling their affairs and preparing to leave Washington, D. C., after the adjournment of sessions called to debate censure recommendations made by the Watkins committee.

McCarthy has not been censured; he has been condemned. Ordinarily, this word would carry even more significance, for it seems to imply even further reaching distaste for his methods and actions.

Singing Lesson

On page one of today's Nebraskan the Kosmet Klub's new policy for the Interfraternity Ivy Day Sing is announced. The changes sound good, in every respect, and are definitely necessary after the controversy and complications caused by last year's contest.

The howls came last year when one of the medical fraternities from the Omaha campus entered, unknown to many of the Lincoln fraternities, and proceeded to win first place. This year all know in advance that all local fraternities and the medics in Omaha are eligible to enter and to win.

Certainly the medical students living in the organized fraternities have the same compulsion to enter as any other group. Furthermore, their competition gives them a chance to get to Lincoln on one of the most colorful days of the spring season.

As to the remainder of the rules, they all seem to fill a gap created last year. Groups will be held to a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 25 members. This will give fraternities of various sizes more equal grounds to compete and will encourage each house to work out its number more carefully with a select group.

Kosmet Klub leaders have indicated that these new rules need not remain permanent, but that they are set up to govern this year's sing and if successful, will be continued.

The Nebraskan feels they are adequate to correct the evils of the old system. There is no reason why these rules can't become permanent, for they equalize the basis for competition and add a sense of decorum to the sing.

Kosmet Klub sponsors the annual sing as a service project. The Klub should be commended on their most recent actions. They are sound and sensible in every way.—D. F.

However, the meetings were not held entirely in vain. Members of the Senate did show a measure of dissatisfaction with what McCarthy has said about his fellows. The junior senator from Wisconsin was condemned on two counts, both concerned with actions toward Senate committees, one investigating him, another formulating the recommendations which later became the bases for the move to censure.

In any case, the recent actions were more outstanding for what they did not do than for what was done. True enough, by keeping the condemnation vote within the family of the Senate, members of the upper house have shown they are willing to lose face with the electorate by lowering the status of their entire group because one of their members erred.

Why, then, has the Senate shown itself unable to reach a definite conclusion on the Zwicker matter? Evidently, party affiliation and discipline have not forced individual votes into well defined channels, as evidenced by the number of Republican votes in favor of censure.

Some observers have stated the Zwicker charge was not strong enough to merit a vote to censure or condemn. This claim is not valid when it is considered that there is ample evidence that the General was subjected to undue pressure by McCarthy during subcommittee hearings. What has made a censure or condemnation vote slow in coming is that Zwicker's handling of the Peress case was not of the highest quality.

In short, Zwicker's handling of the Peress case, though lacking in quality, did not make McCarthy's actions in subcommittee hearings correct. Apparently the Senators are having some difficulty in keeping this fact in mind, or at least in keeping bias of Zwicker's faults out of the picture.

It has been a long standing American custom to treat human beings with some respect, no matter what their faults. Even convicted criminals, though generally a sorry lot, have received some consideration.

General Zwicker has been accused of nothing more than errors in administration and procedure. There is no question as to his loyalty to our government and to his good intentions. And yet, the Senate has exhibited a marked willingness to let these faults serve as the "legalizing" elements for the mistreatment of the General by McCarthy. It is a sad commentary on our Congress that this inability to understand the issues involved in any question were demonstrated by a negative vote on the move to censure McCarthy for mistreating a witness before a Senate subcommittee.—T. W.

Red Chinese Puzzle

The significant puzzle about the news of the prison sentences given by Communist China to 13 missing United States citizens is not whether or not they were spies but just what Washington is going to do to get them released.

President Eisenhower has pledged "everything humanly possible" would be done for the prisoners. Dulles spoke of everything "feasible being done to free the prisoners."

But the reverse of the coin is, "Why do the Red Chinese hold the prisoners in the first place?" and "What are we going to do to get them back?"

There is little doubt as to why the Reds hold the prisoners. They are merely bargaining, and the noisy release of the prison sentences is the logical and expectable next step to what happened after the armistice was concluded in Korea.

After the prisoner repatriation was finished, it soon became evident that a number of people from the United States were missing, yet known to be alive. Then, according to a report in the Christian Science Monitor, the Chinese Communists let it be known by indirection of statements by Communist newsmen at Panmunjom, that at least some of these men were in fact held in China as "political prisoners" and that what happened to them was a subject for "political discussion."

This, obviously, was an oblique invitation to bargain for the missing faces. But it is very embarrassing and difficult to bargain with another government with which it does not maintain diplomatic relations.

Thus the prisoners are pawns in the vicious game Red China is playing for diplomatic recognition. The clinching evidence lies in the fact that the prisoners were merely given sentences rather than death penalties.

Had they been spies and intelligence officers, the Red Chinese would have been completely justified under international law to execute them immediately. This is standard practice followed by all governments in all wars—with but one exception—sometimes the prisoners can be used for portering.

The public will never know if the prisoners were actually engaged in subversive activities. Always there are spies. But when an intelligence officer falls into the hands of the enemy, he

always denies everything. These men might or might not have been engaged in any work. So neither the charge nor the denial mean anything. Yet the prisoners are held as hostages. And hostages are always held for a purpose.

Thus, how to obtain their release? We might go to war. Wars have been fought over smaller things than 13 prisoners. But the State Department has no intention of going to war with a nation because that nation holds 13, and possibly many more, U.S. citizens as hostages. Anyway, we wouldn't get our prisoners back.

Instead, we might enforce a naval blockade and a system of trade boycotts. But we would still not get our prisoners back. And furthermore, we would be enforcing the blockade alone and forcing a split between us and our allies.

We have sent curt notes through Geneva and the British consulates in Peiping and London to the Red Chinese. We have visited the Chinese Communist consulate in Geneva, which at best is only illicit diplomatic negotiation.

Thus, Washington finds itself in an imbroglio. The United States will not recognize Communist Chinese under duress, if at all. But some form of diplomatic recognition is the only available approach.

The unlucky 13 are caught in a web of diplomacy, but they are still alive. And they can be released for a price—a price, however, which at present we are unable to pay.—B. B.

Afterthoughts

That's His Story

The University football team must have had a fling in Hawaii last week. They came home with a few additions to their wardrobes, vocabularies, game record and travel experience. But some came home minus a few things. Especially one member of the team who had a hard time expiating to his wife where he lost his wedding ring. Actually a swim in the ocean was the cause. It seems the Pacific has started a reputation for claiming wedding trophies much like the famous river in Reno, Nevada.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS

by Dick Bibler



"Well, now, I thought it was odd they wanted to work for nothing."

Jest Jestin'

Moral: Failure Inevitable In Prof Phlunk's Course

By JESS BROWNELL

We have now reached that period between vacations in which many students find it necessary to begin the semester's work. At this time, those who have not yet studied, and I suppose here are many of us, often become a bit concerned over the possibility of dropping out of school at the end of the semester.

Once upon a time, there was a man named Mr. Phlunk who was a teacher in a large mid-western university. Mr. Phlunk was not a very nice man. In fact, Mr. Phlunk was a singularly unpleasant sort of fellow. He beat his wife, chained his children to an iron ring fixed to the south wall of the nursery, and fairly reveled in the discomfiture of his students.

All of his students received very low grades and many of them flunked his courses. Naturally, at least one of his courses was required for every degree offered by the university.

Last semester, a boy named Hubert was taking a course taught by Mr. Phlunk. Hubert possessed above-average intelligence and firm determination. He also possessed wavy blond hair, charming blue eyes, an oxford grey flannel suit, and a pink shirt. Hubert was determined to get a high mark in Phlunk's course.

Everyone said that Hubert was very foolish to even think of such a thing and that he ought to fail the course two or three times as everyone else did. But Hubert had the spark of a non-conformist within him. He was undaunted by their gibes and went on with his plans.

Hubert worked very hard in an effort to attain his goal. He not only read the entire text for the course, which was nine-hundred and forty pages of minute print; but he also read all of the outside reading that Phlunk assigned. This was made up of fourteen books dealing with various topics, none of them related to the course.

Naturally, Hubert was forced to curtail his extra-curricular activities a bit. Aside from attending meals and classes, he was not seen outside his room for eighteen weeks.

At the end of the semester, Mr. Phlunk was appointed head of his department, and Hubert flunked the course.

Everyone said that Hubert got just what he deserved. It simply isn't good form for any college man who possesses wavy blond hair, charming blue eyes, an oxford grey flannel suit, and a pink shirt to study as much as Hubert studied.

MORAL: If you don't try at all and fail, you fail in company; but if you try too hard, and fail, you fail alone.

Copped Copy

UCLA Students Urge Visit By Russian College Editors

By JANCY CARMAN

Four students at UCLA agreed that it would be beneficial to invite college newspaper editors from the Soviet Union to their campus.

These students recently received letters from the student councils of Swarthmore and Oberlin Colleges urging them to investigate the possibilities of having an exchange of this sort. The Russian editors must be invited by the student councils of several universities before obtaining visas, the letters said.

The editor of the UCLA Daily Bruin commented, "Even if we won't be able to see any concrete results, it is still important for us to show that our attitude is one of friendliness and optimism."

One of the most elaborately planned hoaxes in college newspaper publishing was carried out recently by some enterprising members of the Cornell University Daily Sun staff.

A long-standing football rivalry with Syracuse University led to the hoax—the publication and distribution of a phony issue of the "Syracuse Daily Orange." A Cornell society calling itself "Ithaca's Only Syracuse Newspaper" worked several weeks to duplicate DO typographical style, learn the rival newspaper's schedule of publication, etc. More than 6,000 copies of the bogus paper were printed and distributed on the Syracuse campus the day of the hoax. Featured were stories proclaiming "Grid Scandals Rocks Hill as NCAA Acts," "Morning Raid Uncovers Drinking at Residences," and "Gallup Predicts Win for Cornell Tomorrow." Syracuse U. readers said they thought it was "the best copy of the DO this year," and paid up to \$1 for hard-to-get extra copies.

The real DO came out two hours later. A fictional account of how "pranksters" published the fake paper was carried in the Cornell Sun the same day.

The Daily Kansan reports that with three days remaining in their Campus Chest drive, the contributions fall \$7,103 short of their goal.

Ski fans at the University of Wyoming have rallied around the idea of having the state highway department keep Highway 130 open over the Snowy Range to Ryan Park ski area.

A total of 1,000 or more signa-

Letterip . . .

Fear Or Communism?

Dear Editor: I am not acquainted with the controversial Mr. F. Jay Pepper nor with those who have opposed him in this column. However, it seems that Mr. Pepper leans heavily on the idea of atheism—this is his privilege of course—and that his opponents lean heavily on the idea of an infinite God.

Since any contribution that I might make to this feud will be that of a passer-by only, let me pose a couple of observations: Individuals that violently attack cer-

tain ideologies, things, or "matter" are sometimes motivated by fear—the fear resulting from a realization of their own potential validity may upset that which he has been defending so vigorously. This causes much unhappiness and frustration . . . I'm thinking of Mr. Pepper.

Secondly, I'm wondering what the end result would be if all of the top atheists and all of the top dialectic materialists got together (this is not a joke) and worked out a pet ideology of their own. What would they call it? I think the term "Communism" fits well. STANLEY R. SLATER

it happened at nu

Recently a University student was quite perturbed at finding a note in his mailbox from the University administration informing him that he was reported absent from a Geology class 36 consecutive times.

The student took another look at the name on the envelope but found it was correctly addressed to him.

Puzzled because he could not remember enrolling in the course, he checked with officials in the Administration Building only to find that he had enrolled in the course but had dropped it earlier in the year. The reason for the stern note became apparent when further investigation disclosed that the drop slip had not been turned in and that the student could not get credit from the course in which he enrolled to replace the Geology class, because the add slip had not been turned in either.

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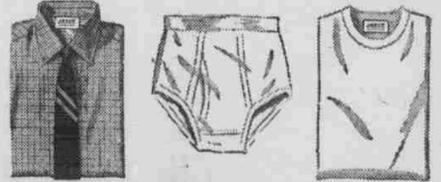
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