

Editorial Comment

Just An Opinion

At the beginning of a new year it is appropriate and customary to take a quick glance backwards to the happenings of the past year.

The Nebraska would also like to look back but with a point to be made.

Controversies are the meat of action, reaction and student participation. One of the first controversies this semester was the dating situation or attitude of campus males toward University coeds dating men at the Air Force Base.

Another controversy arose when several small college presidents in Nebraska announced they would not allow the national debate topic to be debated by their students.

The Administration's announcement of its drinking policy—or the specific notation that it would enforce more actively its former drinking policy—led to many heated arguments which are still going on.

Power Of Progress

Because they do not sell flowers, sponsor dances or have busy-work, typing committees some students thought in the past that Student Council members "don't do anything."

In the first place, the Activities Committee is doing something. Its members are conducting an intensive survey of student and faculty opinions concerning major organizations.

It is true that the Committee has not expressed any opinion or made any formal recommendation to the Council. This is simply because the survey is not yet complete enough to be a fair representation of student and faculty opinion.

In the second place, those who claim that the Council is striving for more power apparently are ignorant of that organization's purpose and function.

Case Decided

The case of Wolf Ladejnsky is finally over. The controversial Far Eastern agricultural expert has been given full security and loyalty clearance by Harold E. Stassen, director of the Foreign Operations Administration and, what is more important, a sensitive job in South Vietnam.

But the boom of the drums in the jungle is just beginning. Ladejnsky became agricultural attache at Tokyo under the Department of State after the Second World War when the Occupation Forces undertook Japanese land reform.

When the Occupation Forces undertook this program, Gen. MacArthur borrowed Ladejnsky from the Department of Agriculture in 1950 and he has since been agricultural attache at Tokyo under the Department of State.

On two different occasions his "security clearance" has been reviewed, once by W. Scott McLeod, State Department security chief.

A recent act of the recent Congress transferred agricultural attaches back to the Department of Agriculture, and then that department refused to accept Ladejnsky for the Tokyo post—or for any post without a security clearance as though he were a new employee.

But an observer is tempted to ask whether his accomplishments do not speak for themselves, and not the fact that he has three sisters living in Russia and might be subject

The controversy over the Honorary Commandant elections came up before the campus for debate. Student Council's delayed action drew much criticism as did the COA for laxity in obeying election rules.

From all the controversies which have arisen this semester there is one outstanding element present in each. It should be apparent to all who take the trouble to do a double take. In each situation students, whether members of a specific organization or group, were involved in the discussion, action taken and the final solution.

The validity of criticism is not concerned until proved or disproved by the natural working-out processes but what is important is that students do express themselves on an issue and in doing so practice that which is a basic fundamental of democracy—freedom of speech.

The controversies themselves arise from differences of opinion—otherwise they would not be controversies. Therefore, in creating justifiable controversies students are learning, although unaware of the fact, the art of self government and the advantages of checks and balances which, in later years, may stand the test when applied to national and international issues.—J. H.

Council is not an activity. It may not have a treasury for the sponsorship of dances and musical revues, but it does have legislative, judicial and administrative functions. It works with the student body and the University administration to attempt to solve any problem which exists on campus.

Still more important for students' knowledge is that the Council represents them and their various campus groups. The representatives of the various major organizations are supposed to relate their respective group's desires, complaints and problems to the Council, which wants to work with each student and organization rather than against any. Individual students and organizations seldom express complaints to the Council; they are quite oblivious to any Council legislation or investigation, until it happens to touch them directly.

With only one comrade at his side, he was to breach the defenses and batter down the portals of the enemy camps, wrapped in a flag bearing an ear of corn, his soul aflame with the fierce passion of his mission.

Meanwhile, in close, dank chamber deep in the folds of the earth a tiny knot of desperate men crowded around a battered packing case where their leader sat on an overturned lard pail.

One of the group sank weeping into a corner and collapsed on a heap of Mennen's After Shave bottles. "They've got us," he moaned. "We've no where to turn."

To a man, the faces in the room blanched with horror and surged in sick desperation. A few tears were seen indiscreetly coursing down unshaved cheeks.

The man at the packing case did not flinch, however. He sat quietly, squinting with concentration as he absently fingered a copy of the Constitution of the United States.

Suddenly he leaped from his seat, overturning the pail. "They can't do this to us!" he roared with glee. The room was turned into a gay

The only obvious explanation is that Ladejnsky lost his clearance because he entered the security check as a "new" employee when the attache jobs were transferred from the State to the Agriculture Department. As an old employee under the State Department he could have remained free.

It underlined the occasional lack of political finesse which crops out embarrassingly in the Eisenhower administration.

It showed the difficulties encountered in giving literal interpretation to the rules of the administration's loyalty-security program.

But most important it points to a clear and definite need for a political grease job to the loyalty-security machinery of the government.—B.B.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS

by Dick Bibler



"Looks like an interesting news item, Professor Snarf—would you mind removing your shoe?"

Voice Of The Turtle

'Sleuthed' Students Go Underground For Parties

By FRED DALY

Hymer Finkle, youthful undercover super-security agent, nervously turned up the collar of his black trenchcoat and pulled the brim of his soft, snapbrim hat down over his forehead.

His hard, sharp profile loomed hawk-like in the dim glow of the misty street light. He hunched his shoulders forward and thrust his hands deep into his pockets. He felt exceedingly furtive.

Although new on the job, Hymer was well prepared for the duty set out for him. He had been sent through a vigorous training period. "I Was a Communist for the FBI," Dick Tracy, Sam Spade and the 1928 report of the Deaf Smith County, Texas, liquor commission.

Thus prepared, and armed with an imposing set of credentials and a pair of gumshoes, Hymer was readying himself for his relentless, ever-alert, sleep-with-one-eye open attack.

With only one comrade at his side, he was to breach the defenses and batter down the portals of the enemy camps, wrapped in a flag bearing an ear of corn, his soul aflame with the fierce passion of his mission.

Meanwhile, Hymer Finkle paced his lonely beat. He grew hardened to the shrill cries of terror that greeted him wherever he went. He tried not to notice how people flattened themselves against walls as he passed by. He had a job to do!

So on he went, his footsteps echoing hollowly through the foggy night. A clock struck somewhere in the distance, and a dog howled. It began to drizzle.

And somewhere in the darkness of the damp night sounded the tink clank of a can hitting a trash can, and someone chuckled. The footsteps of Hymer Finkle could hardly be heard.

Contemporary Trends

Television Turning Americans Into Nation Of Parlor Sitters

(Editor's note: The following article was reprinted from the Chicago Daily News, and written by Jack Mabley.)

It is not an original thought that it is turning us from a nation of doers into a nation of viewers.

We've even taken to sitting watching somebody else play our parlor games. That is the height of indolence and we ought to be getting worried about it.

There's scarcely a parlor game left that hasn't been taken over by such a Pantomime Quiz (charades), Down You Go, Super Ghost, Ask Me Another, or 20 Questions.

At my latest tally there were 21 quiz and panel shows on evening network television, with more coming up every week.

Old gaffers will remember back in the '20s when question games were the rage. You merely bought a book that was full of tough questions about everything under the sun and sat around the living room trying to stump one another.

This passive participation that

festival with paper hats, confetti and favors as the men let their cares roll from their shoulders. An impromptu band broke into the strains of "That Good Ole' Mountain Dew."

As the revelry reached fever pitch a cracked voice brought a shocked silence to the group. "But what if they do, anyway?"

The music stopped. A dozen hands were placed on a dozen mouths. A bit of confetti rode a sunbeam to the floor.

"Yea, what if they do?" a chorus rose.

The leader's shoulders slumped. A gray shadow passed his forehead. He lifted his palms in mute supplication and quiet resignation. His chin quivered. His head sank into his arms and he said, his voice jerked with sobs, "yeah, what if they do!"

The group filed silently from the room, the thoughts of each man engulfed in horror. They felt a little like the last day on Bataan.

Many were sleepless that night. They sat in their rooms, jumping at every footfall, twitching at the cry of an owl. Through the film of tears they couldn't even see the changing of the guard in the parking lots.

Thus started the purge. Silent bands stole from the city in dark cars for secret rendezvous in secluded dens; blackout curtains blossomed in windows; the market for large, rabid watch dogs took a pronounced rise.

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Givin' 'Em Ell

Indians Had Trouble Too!



By ELLIE ELLIOTT

In times almost lost to our recollections, before the Bostonians invented tea parties and Christopher Marlowe invented Shakespeare, there dwelt in the great midwestern expanse of plains, a tribe of Indians known as the Cokeand-smokes. These Indians were most noted for the maize which they produced and in which they wandered continuously.

Because this tribe was in a very primitive and savage stage of civilization, it was extremely well-organized. One of the most famous and efficient organizations was known from buffalo ground to water hole as the Closet Club. The Closet Club was a service organization; it serviced leaky radiators, dirty saddles, unorganized Indians and, of course, water closets.

The Closet Club was begun by a couple of enterprising individuals who met in the local Teepee Tavern during Firewater Prevention Week in the year 4 B.B. (Before Bach). One of the two enlightened citizens, quoting Peter Arno, said to his friend, "Basically, what I have in mind is a twelve-nation conference for the purpose of setting up a nine-power treaty organization governed by a five-nation steering committee, which in turn will be dominated by you and me."

that the only medium in which service was not being rendered, was that of cleaning sewers and maintaining the upkeep of local plumbing. Of a necessity, the club took over the task, and we understand that its few survivors today are still messing with the plumbing here and there.

The Closet Club sponsored many tribal functions. The most important and fascinating of these came at the time of year known to the Indians as the Time of the Great Floods, which immediately followed the Time of the Melting of the Great White Snows. At this time of year, the families of the tribe gathered around the council fires for the wonderful Muddy Day Sling. Each family armed itself with an original conglomeration of mud, and at the signal from the war drum, slung mud at the other families.

Tradition tells of one great crisis of the Muddy Day Sling. Closet Club, having a monopoly on the Brown Mud of the west bank of the river, naturally desired that all contestants use that particular mud. The mud collectors of each family, always having enjoyed collecting various types of mud and concocting new mixtures, were unhappy with the Closet Club's proposition. They threatened not to collect mud for the Sling, which would have confused matters considerably; of course, they were idiotic enough to think that they could retain originality.

Unfortunately, our chronicle ends here; the eye-witness historian who recorded this mess was tossed in the River after having recorded this much of the story. Too bad.

Crusade For Freedom

Radio Free Europe Used As Weapon In Cold War

In June of 1950 the Crusade for Freedom added a new, yet old weapon to the arsenal of democracy — propaganda, in the form of Radio Free Europe.

It is still in use today, although little publicized, with telling effects in the cold war with Communism behind the Iron Curtain.

Every day over Radio Free Europe, independently sponsored by free American citizens, the puppet regimes of the Kremlin are bombarded with programs designed to undermine their authority and influence among the captive peoples of Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Rumania and Albania.

Programs presented over Radio Free Europe are written and voiced by exiles. Czechs talk to Czechs, Poles to Poles, Hungarians to Hungarians, etc. They talk in the language of their homeland and appeal to interests of the communist held peoples. Thus the RFE attempts to stiffen the resistance to Communism behind the Iron Curtain and keep alive the oppressed peoples' hope of freedom.

These programs are only part of the National Committee for a Free Europe's program. The Committee started as a casual lunch-time talk among a group of American diplomats and businessmen. Inspired by the seeming insoluble problem of how to combat the Communist menace they determined to do something and their determination resulted in the theory that only a victory of ideas could save the democratic values.

The concept of NCFE grew around men like Stefan Korbonski, Polish Peasant Party leader who had escaped Red imprisonment and fled his country hidden on a coal barge.

The NCFE was organized in New York to help Korbonski fight back. He could, for instance, hasten his country's liberation with broadcasts over Radio Free Europe. Behind Korbonski were the organizers, such men as former U.S. Ambassador to Japan, Joseph C. Grew; Gen. Lucius Clay, board chairman of Continental Can Co.; educator DeWitt C. Foole; ex-OSS executive Allen W. Dulles; banker Frank Altschul; Abbott Washburn of General Mills; former Asst. Secretary of State, A. A.

Berle, Jr.; publisher Mark F. Ethridge, and former AFL chief William Green.

Out of these men's efforts came the Crusade for Freedom's major weapon, Radio Free Europe. Three broadcasting stations were set up — in Frankfurt and Munich, Germany and the third in Lisbon, Portugal. The RFE minutemen of the Cold War now fire radio barges from these sending points at the satellite states up to 12 hours a day.

Special programs are directed to farmers, women, youngsters, workers, even to Communists, arguing Marxist dialectics in party jargon. Satire is a powerful weapon — perhaps reading a speech by Anna Pauker, communism's leading lady, with wry interjections by a Rumanian comic. Western or national folk music is played — with a reminder the Reds have banned it. Religious services are offered, and even a soap opera carries propaganda.

The effectiveness of Radio Free Europe operations was demonstrated in May, 1951, when the Czech Communist government formally protested to the United States over RFE Munich. They demanded Munich be taken off the air but the U.S. replied with a reminder that freedom of speech is a fundamental of American democracy and RFE Munich is still operating.

The great job of Radio Free Europe is doing in helping America win the Cold War was best summed up by a 21-year-old Polish youth who had been subjected to intense Communist indoctrination since 1945 and had finally escaped to the East German zone. He said, "But they cannot kill three things: what Mother said about God and Poland, what one's heart dictates and what Radio Free Europe tells us."

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