

Nebraskan Editorials Hands Across The Campus

Clem Hobart, the average university student, has no conception of the world. Ask him where Pakistan is and he'll give you a blank stare. Ask him about the economic problems in France and he'll tell you the price of perfume in Paris is outrageous. Ask him about the natural resources of Italy and he'll immediately list wine, women and movies. Ask him about Communist propaganda and he'll refer you to textbooks on Marx. Ask him if he knows any foreign students on campus and he'll probably plead innocence. This is Clem Hobart, the average university student.

The trouble with American foreign policy is that there are too many Clem Hobarts in the U.S. The Clems who view foreign policy as a theory, practiced among professional diplomats whose names they can't quite remember, are the weak links in America's chain of strength. American foreign policy means nothing to the average university student who seeks a function more compatible to the senses. There is no responsibility resting on him for the cure of the world's ills. His job is laissez faire—leave the foreign dealings to government whose job it is.

What Clem Hobart doesn't know is that America's psychological strength abroad very much depends on him. Since World War II one of the most underrated aspects of U.S. foreign policy has been the foreign student program. The U.S. has encouraged foreign attendance of American universities in hopes that it would develop in those foreign students an understanding and appreciative view of the American way of life. This program anticipates the future roles these foreign students are to play when they return to their homelands in the battle against Communism and

against accusations by Communists and anti-American groups that the U.S. is money-mad, war-mongering and ready to take over the world with purchasing power.

The average university student has heard at one time or another these accusations, yet they brush them off as propaganda, totally without foundation and virtually out and out lies. But the defense against these accusations lies dormant in every Clem Hobart. That defense is truth—active truth.

Foreigners view the U.S. with a great misapprehension, based on clever propaganda and America's own ignorance. This is the reason for having a foreign student program, aside from the fact that the technological knowledge of the Americas is desired by foreigners and as such is made available through the foreign student program.

Every American student attending a university also attended by foreign students has a far greater responsibility than he realizes. It is not only what the foreign student learns academically that will be used when he returns to his country but also what he learns socially.

If the foreign students attending the University today take back to their countries tales about the irresponsibility of American youth; if they tell their fellow citizens that Americans commercialize everything, including emotions; if they refer to American youth as drunkards and rioters; if they relate experiences to their people about the shallow concern America has for them—will they not be justified?

At this University the foreign student is accepted by a few as a fellow—but by many as an existing oddity. Except for a few groups and people on campus who have the foreign student's impression of the U.S. in mind, the general run of students make no effort towards displaying the truth of American life.

Misconceptions about America could be wiped out if each American student would strive to do so. Great strides toward better relations with foreign nations could be made by our diplomats if each university student would see to it that those nations' future leaders, studying in America, would take back to their people the true story of America.

It has been said that the future of America lies in its youth. The future of foreign nations lies in their youth also and their youth are in America. Both elements are intertwined in that the impressions formed in that youth—in the U.S.—in Nebraska—will last into the future and the attitudes of today will be the attitudes of tomorrow. —J. H.

Cultural Apathy

University students, already habitual moviegoers, have a new motion-picture experience which most of them are passing up. The Union's Film Society, which plans to present seven top-notch foreign and American films this semester, is getting almost no support from the student body.

This seems odd, since movie-going seems to be a favorite pastime of college students, and these Film Society pictures are of higher quality and lower price than most Lincoln movies. It is costing the student only approximately 36c per picture to see films that have been celebrated in this country and abroad. In addition, it seems safe to predict that most of them will excel the normal American movies in every way.

The Film Society, which must sell over 500 more season tickets to break even on the enterprise, is, it seems, falling victim to the American student's almost-instinctive fear of anything that is in the least "cultural." This is unfortunate, both for the University, whose major purpose is to instill culture in students, and for the student, whose social stigmatism prevents him from enjoying a good movie when it does come to town.

What this general apathy of student interest in the Film Society proves is that once again the University students have fallen down in supporting a University project, and won't react to anything that sounds "cultural" because they are afraid of the sound of the word. How can they tell whether "movies are better than ever" when they don't see the better movies?

Unless Film Society sales greatly improve in the next few weeks, another University cultural improvement will end in failure, casting discredit upon students who won't even go to see a good movie when it's offered to them. —R. H.

What's New In NU Colleges

Architects', Engineers' Study Aided By New Developments

By ROY M. GREEN

Dean, College of Engineering and Architecture
Students are in the University to deepen or expand their ability to learn. New opportunities for the student should not replace or overshadow the older ones which have been so effective in the past, such as learning rapidly from the written word or developing the ability to analyze mathematically. For real educational ends, any new book in Love Library constitutes a new opportunity for those who will use it.

In fields like engineering and the sciences, laboratories are a major adjunct to the learning process. Our staff is continually working to find more effective ways the laboratory may be of positive benefit. During the past two years certain improvements have been made.

The Agricultural Engineering Department has an installation by which they can simulate the performance of wells as they are pumped from various formations. Their new combine adopted for the harvesting of corn furnishes another opportunity.

Architectural students have the aid of a new "projection box" which visualizes geometric shapes as they should be reproduced in drawings, as well as a Munsell color tree which is an aid in teaching color selection and color effects.

In the past few years the Chemical Engineering staff has thoroughly equipped their laboratory. The unit-operations equipment is their teaching tool. Recent installations include a packed column distillation unit for studying the distillation process. They also have new

equipment for making extractions of liquids in solution.

Through the generosity of one of our graduates the Civil Engineering Department now has an effectively equipped water and sanitary laboratory where demonstrations can be made this semester and laboratory sections may be taught next year. They will soon have a teaching laboratory for hydraulics.

A new Oscilloscope is in the laboratory of the Electrical Engineering Department making it possible to study shapes of electrical waves in more detail than with ordinary instruments. Five new units have been added to the power laboratory to add to its flexibility and assure that more students may have maximum opportunity.

To study more critically the effects of stresses on materials, the Engineering Mechanics Department has new electrical-resistance strain gauges and equipment to study the "creep" of materials under stress, that is, the deformation of materials after long periods of stress which is in excess of that immediately observable.

The Mechanical Engineering Department has made a unique flow testing demonstrator which quickly shows various methods of measuring flow of gases or liquids. Also, as another gift from a graduate, they have a fine new gas analyzer with which they can now quickly identify combustion products, etc.

These are all aids to learning and explaining and thereby serve as a help to expand or deepen the extent of the student's ability to learn later.

Campus Capers

By Bruce Conner



"Sam here may not be too bright, but he's the best track man we've ever had."

Nebraskan Letterip

Opera Defended

Dear Editor:

With all due respect to P. M. Andersen, the letter published in The Nebraskan on Friday, Feb. 18, contains several unwarranted assumptions.

The first is that The Nebraskan pads its reviews, specifically, the review of "The Consul." What this amounts to, is that the article did not necessarily agree with the writer of the letter. This seems a rather libelous sentiment expressed for a mere lack of agreement, especially since the writer made no attempt to actually demonstrate any technical deficiencies in the discussion of the review.

The second misapprehension exists in the writer's statement that "The Consul" "was beyond the capabilities of the performers involved." Although this is largely a matter of opinion and critical in the five performances of "The Consul" would indicate that the writer of the letter was severely lacking in the latter attribute. And, if one cannot agree that the majority is at least, often right, it would seem advisable that Mr. Andersen listen to the recording of the music drama by the original company. He would find a striking similarity in the quality of the two performances.

But by far the greatest offense that Mr. Andersen is guilty of, is one committed in his implied attitude that amateur groups must

always present the most pedestrian and traditional vehicles which are somewhat circumscribed talents. A very dangerous attitude, Mr. Andersen. It is the purpose, or should be, of the University Theater group to be exceptional and to present to audiences who might otherwise be deprived of this, the living works of their, and other, centuries. An opera or a play is not merely as good as the technical facilities of the theater in which it is presented, nor is it measured by the illustrious name appearing on its program. The maturity and emotional depth of the performances of "The Consul" this past week are material proof of this.

This is hardly the place to comment on the frankly unfortunate theory of the modern drama or music drama which Mr. Andersen advances in his letter. It can only be remarked that this theory seems founded upon the minimum of intelligent consideration that can be accorded to the problem. Mr. Andersen is not entirely a good judge of audience reaction either; he has mistaken genuine emotion for what he so rashly labels "psychotic self-pity."

It only remains to congratulate Mr. Foltz and Mr. Williams and the members of the company of "The Consul" on the excellence of their performance, and to express the hope that such works will be presented with increasing frequency at Howell Auditorium.

Vivian English

Where There's Smoke Student Spirit Merits Recreation, Not Riot

By JOHN GOURLAY
MIKE SHUGRUE

Frankly, we liked last year's riot. We enjoyed spraying coeds with buckets of water and watching them rush indignantly back to their houses to arm themselves with hoses and water guns. Dancing in the streets was great. We enjoyed watching the lady at the candy stand make a haul as students mobbed her little business to get popcicles and apples. In short, we enjoyed letting off steam.

This could have been one of the finest displays of spirit we saw last year—but it wasn't. We didn't like the wise guys who couldn't enjoy themselves without causing trouble by throwing water and rocks at University officials or trying to break into the women's dorm.

Letting off steam is becoming a University tradition. And why not? But, the steam ought to be channeled along the proper paths. There is nothing wrong with soaking eager coeds, with getting together and having fun, with marching and singing and dancing in a crowd. There

is no legitimate argument against closing off the street for a University get-together. The Student Union does that. However, there is something wrong with moving cars sideways into the street to accomplish this closing.

Certain areas of campus fun are legitimate; others are not. No one would mind students letting off steam if they did it in a decent way. When trouble starts then the whole affair is censured. Hundreds of students who were out for clean fun are branded as a "maddened mob."

We're not attempting to sponsor a riot this spring. Students don't need to let off steam to the point where they become animals. A riot is bad for the students, bad for the administration and the general name of the University.

We would like to enjoy ourselves when the students get together this spring. The University would like us to have some common recreation. A special student committee has been set up to plan an event which will enable everyone to get in on some fun.

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JOHN McCARTY joined G. E.'s Advertising Department as a copywriter after army service and graduation from U. of Michigan in 1947. He has held his present job since June 1952.

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