

### Nebraskan Editorials Legitimate Politics

The political scene on the campus has undergone major revision this past week through independent actions taken by the All-University Party and the Interfraternity Council. These changes, covered in detail in Friday's Nebraskan and in this issue, provide no violent shake-up in the status quo but promise to bring campus political affairs into their proper and legitimate focus.

Through the newly conceived Elections Committee, the IFC plans to support candidates in the annual Student Council elections. In this respect, the IFC will be fulfilling one of the major functions of the defunct Faction.

Important to proper understanding of this move, by the IFC, is the political function of a campus organization.

The student body is composed of many groups, some quite independent and some strangely intertwined by mazes of related boards, committees and purposes. It is clearly within the duty of each of these groups to work for their own self-interest—if the best interests of the

general welfare of the University remain uppermost in the minds and actions of each group's members and leaders.

Fraternity men are in the minority in the total University population. Each fraternity exists, so to speak, at the "leave of the Board of Regents." This imposes two duties on the IFC. First, all action must be taken with the general University in mind. Secondly, within well-defined limits, the IFC can—and must—act with their own interest in mind.

At the moment this seems to be what has been done by IFC leadership. It must be hoped that these plans, just beginning to be publicized, will be put into practice precisely as they were created. At the present time there seems to be no reason to doubt this.

There is room in campus politics for open campaigning by the IFC. Furthermore, there is just as much room for open campaigning by counterparts of the IFC to do the same thing.

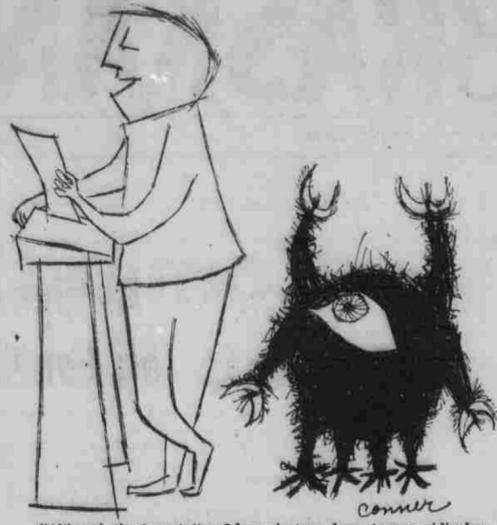
If this new election committee is properly used, the above function will be carried out. Being done, as it will be, by the IFC, which will work in the open, the job will carry none of the stigma attached to all actions by the Faction. Students backed by the IFC for office should be recognized as representing fraternity interests, just as men elected by a political party with a given platform are expected to be supporters of their party's stand.

IFC leaders can well be praised for their recent work. A somewhat rare thing has been done, for a partisan political group has acted in good faith for the general good.

There remains but one question in this entire issue. What will the results of all this be? Only with time can this be answered. Until the new plans are seen in operation, no final judgment can be made.—D.F.

### Campus Capers

By Bruce Conner



"Although the incantation I have just read must seem ridiculous, you must understand that these primitive people actually believed they could conjure up monsters in this manner. It is interesting to note that in their society..."

### Where There's Smoke Teacher Answers 'Mediocrity' Charge

By JOHN GOURLAY  
and  
MIKE SHUGRUE

Four weeks ago we wrote a column dealing with apparent inadequacies in the Nebraska high school system and their effect on the University. We stated that "too many teachers are mediocre." We received a careful response to that column from Gunnar Horn, head of the English department at Omaha Benson High School, who commented:

"In large measure the citizens of Nebraska are receiving more in service to their children than we have any right to expect or than they are paying for. If there undue numbers of mediocre teachers in Nebraska, it can be attributed to the fact that we have the lowest certification standards of any state in the Union. Naturally Nebraska attracts teachers who cannot qualify anywhere else. Considering the mediocre boards of education, the mediocre salaries, and, in Omaha at least, the crowded classrooms, it is little short of amazing that the state has as many professionally qualified, even outstanding teachers, as it does."

The present legislature has passed a bill raising standards for teaching certificates in rural areas. Formerly one could teach in a rural school with only 12 hours of college credit. According to the new law, by 1960 every rural teacher must have two years of college training to qualify for a certificate.

The present redistribution of school districts offers one solution to this problem. If students from several districts are brought together to one large school, teach-

to lose their jobs. Thus they are often forced to compromise standards for contracts. Part of the blame for this can be laid at the door of communities which are more interested in winning teams than in scholastic standards.

To improve school boards and educational standards in general, former governor Crosby set up the Lay Committee, composed of citizens and educators, which is attempting to reevaluate and find solutions to some of the educational problems in the state.

A committee of school administrators is also at work on a plan for de-emphasizing activities and athletics that have grown out of proportion in some schools.

There is a move to extend the teacher-tenure law, which is now in effect in Omaha and Lincoln, throughout the state. Under this law, teachers who have served a school system for a certain length of time have their jobs guaranteed to them unless they prove themselves unfit, immoral, insane or the like. Under a system such as this, principals need not fear for their jobs when they raise and maintain educational standards in their schools in the face of community opposition.

School administrators can then act according to educational standards rather than political or community standards.

There are too many mediocre teachers in the state, but there are also many good ones.

Miss Mary Mielenz of the Teachers College staff, who has recently completed a tour of a number of the larger high schools in the state, comments, "There is tremendous teaching being done in some places."

There are problems in the teacher situation in Nebraska. There are also solutions to these problems, but some of them are more long-range than others.

Next week we shall comment on educational standards in the schools and on those high school graduates who go on to college.

### Afterthoughts

The announcement by the Russian news agency, Tass, that Russia and her European satellites have decided to set up a unified military command was not entirely unsuspected by Western leaders.

The unified Communist command is a growth of a Moscow conference held last December, when the Soviets found themselves faced with the threat of German rearmament. The conference was held as a last-ditch attempt to delay German sovereignty, and now the recent Tass announcement only points up the futility of any delay attempt, and can be interpreted as only a final scare to Western allies.

### An Obituary

The Faction is dead.

Without ceremony, without a funeral oration, the undercover campus fraternity organization has been officially buried.

The Faction died last week after a long illness. An operation had been proposed to cut out the core of the disease, but the infection had been left unattended too long and was incurable. The disease, illegality, is rather widespread in political circles everywhere.

The Board of Doctors had suggested a cure, but the price was higher than the Faction cared to meet.

The Faction was born several years ago of a strange, complicated family known as Politics. The marriage of the majority of campus fraternities produced a new baby which was conceived to control the results of campus elections.

The Faction had a normal infancy (if anything in the Politics family can be called normal) and grew to be a powerful body. His friends, carefully selected and approved by various members of the family, became Big Men on Campus. They were elected to Student Council, to Class Officer posts (in the days before they, too, died of a disease called use-

lessness) and other organization posts.

He was an introvert sort of individual, shying from open public society. He preferred to plan the parties and then let the other people attend. (And what parties he planned!) He spent all of his functioning hours in quiet conferences and a very important-just-between-us atmosphere. Very few people on campus knew him intimately, yet most were aware of his reputation.

During his life, the Faction was always just a wee bit of a shady character. He never did anything really wrong, yet because of his disease he was never quite on the level. In fact, most of his staunch supporters even refused to admit they were acquainted with him. In himself, he was not a bad fellow. But that disease tainted his whole existence.

Although the Faction had been suffering from illegality since his birth, until recently the disease had never handicapped his results. However, it finally caught up with him, as most diseases do.

And so, after a crazy career, the Faction is dead.

But the family from which it sprang—Politics—is very much alive.—M.H.

### What's New In NU Colleges

## Teachers College Offers Laboratory, Field Programs

By F. E. HENZLIK  
Dean, Teachers College

The Teachers College faculty recently has taken steps to make more effective the learning procedures for those who apply for admission to teacher education programs. Criteria are being developed to insure a program that will result in every graduate of Teachers College being recognized as a superior teacher. Of the 125 semester credit hours ordinarily required for a college degree, from 20 to 25 semester hours are in the area of professional education, 80 to 105 semester hours are earned in special or academic subjects or fields. In other words, emphasis is now given and will continue to be placed on an understanding of human growth and development, how children learn, as well as on mastery of the subject matter taught and the basic techniques of teaching. These requisites are essential to the preparation of good teachers.

In addition to the programs of regular class and course work, laboratory and field experiences demanding constructive leadership and personality qualities, along with technical skills and professional ability, are now being provided. Space does not permit a detailed description of these at this time. A brief statement of a few, however, will suffice to make clear the type of projects to which we refer. Among the several are the following:

1. The Community Education Division of the College is now engaged in a comprehensive program of community improvement and development in four Nebraska centers. The venture is called the Nebraska Community Education Project. In co-operation with the communities concerned, the projects seek, to identify and analyze the types of leadership that influence community action; to help initiate a program for the analysis of genuine needs and problems facing each community; to place a factual base under such analysis by assisting in the gathering and classifying of data relative to the leadership structures and needs of the community; to encourage wider problems and the realization of goals for community development. The project is being sponsored and, in part, supported by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

2. In response to the tremendous demand for special attention educationally for children who have particular problems, Teachers College has recently expanded its facilities for the training of teachers to work with exceptional children. New courses have been approved, and new physical quarters will soon be available. Particular attention is given to the mentally retarded, the physically handicapped—including those with speech and hearing difficulties—and the gifted. Courses lead to the preparation of classroom teachers and supervisors of programs in these special areas and also provide help for the regular classroom teachers who have exceptional children in her room. Plans are being made for experimental studies of these children. Members of the staff act as consultants to teachers and administrators, and provide clinical services of an educational and psychological nature insofar as time of staff will permit.

3. Activities and plans are provided in the freshman orientation program for advanced students to co-operate and help in developing their own potentialities as well as those of persons new to University Life. These approaches involve the selection of juniors and seniors with ability and interest in helping freshmen and the directing of learning activities concerned with citizenship and the associating with others in the communities and groups participating. In stimulating and helping the freshmen to find and to express themselves, the advanced students gain insight, skills, understanding and the development of qualities which contribute to their teaching proficiency and success after graduation from the University.

The process or method of education is a matter of re-creation (when viewed from the standpoint of the pupil) or of re-discovery (when viewed from the standpoint of a teacher). It is the process whereby the pupil recreates for himself under guidance the idea, the generalization, the attitude, the ability, the skill or the quality which becomes an accretion to his personality. His personality, the kind of person he becomes, is the learning-product which comes out of these experiences and is the goal we seek.

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### Quick Quips

Prof: "A fool can ask more questions than a wise man can answer."

Student: "No wonder so many of us flunk our exams."

He's the kind of guy who would marry Marilyn Monroe for her money.

"And that, my son, is how the first world war was won. 'But pop, why did they need all those other soldiers?'"

A lady was seated with her little girl in a railway car when a frowsy looking fellow entered the compartment.

A few minutes before the train started, the lady, perceiving that she would have to travel with an undesirable companion, thought of an excuse to rid herself of him. Leaning forward, she said to him, "I ought to tell you that my little girl is just getting over Scarlet Fever and perhaps—"

"Oh, don't worry about me, madam," interrupted the man. "I'm committing suicide as the first tunnel anyhow."

lap of luxury  
AFTER SIX for-  
malls are so  
debonair, so  
handsome, so  
comfortable, with  
"natural" styling.  
For your social  
high spots, have  
more fun—go  
After Six

### Givin' 'Em Ell Ban On 'Lysistrata' May Be Good Idea

By ELLIE ELLIOTT

For those who have made repeated trips to the library for a copy of Aristophanes' "Lysistrata," only to find it checked out, let me first say that I have a copy that I will gladly loan . . . for a price.

Not only is this "obscene, lewd, and lascivious" play to be found in any bookstore on campus; it is actually discussed in classes at this university, along with such other immoral and demoralizing creations as "Oedipus," "Agamemnon," and the poetry of Sappho.

Perhaps Classics 281 will merit its own investigation committee!

Personally, I think we all ought to go to New York and revive the New York Society for the Suppression of Vice. Just think: in order to discover how obscene, lewd, and lascivious a book, play, poem, or story is, we should have to READ it!

Besides giving vent to our various vicarious animalistic passions, we would be exposed to all sorts of wonderful literature. We would have to read, in order to suppress the, the Song of Solomon and the works of Chaucer, Ovid, Shakespeare, Byron, Shelley, Blake, Aristophanes, Sappho, Freud, Whitman, Auden, Yeats . . . the possibilities for education are almost unlimited.

Obviously, we will all qualify as suppressors, since none of us is an "average normal reader." Why not? Because there simply is no such animal . . . a fact which we will not, for the good of our Society, reveal to Postmaster General Summerfield.

If my admirers in the School of Law will now resume their proper stance of sedate sobriety, I should like to quote a few pertinent passages from John Milton's "Areopagitica."

" . . . if learned men be the first receivers out of books and dispredders both of vice and error, how shall the licensers themselves be confided in, unless we can confer upon them, or they assume to themselves above all others in the Land, the grace of infallibility and uncorruptness? And again if it be true, that a wise man like a good refiner can gather gold out of the drossiest volume, and that a fool will be a fool with the best book, yes, or without book, there is no reason that we should deprive a wise man of any advantage to his wisdom, while we seek to restrain from a fool that which being restrain'd will be no hindrance to his folly . . .

" . . . to all men such books are not temptations, nor vanities; but useful drugs and materials wherewith to temper and compose effective and strong medicines, which man's life cannot want. The rest, as children and childish men, who have not the art to qualify and prepare these working minerals, well may be exhorted to forbear, but hinder'd forcibly they cannot be by all the licensing that Sainted Inquisition could ever yet contrive . . ."

### Nebraskan Letterip

#### Apologies

Dear Editor:

Let it be known that I do hereby tender my apology to Jack Rogers, Roger Wait, Ellie Elliott and all the burgeoning attorneys of the University of Nebraska Law School. Never again will I step in and joust in the academic arena. Never again will I challenge the righteousness of Jack Rogers. Never again will I make "snide" remarks about Miss Elliott's column. Never again will I read a Nebraskan.

I think I will skip happily back to my little ivory tower and gloat over the fact that I know the rule of Purefoy v. Rogers. Now, circulation managers, please continue circulating The Nebraskan around the Law School in order to provide my fellow law students with one of their few sources of entertainment.

Long live the First Amendment and Ellie Elliott.

IRA EPSTEIN alias MR. STANLEY

#### Girl Scouts Defended

Dear Editor:

I hope you were merely being

flippant; but even if so, you were being painfully in bad taste. I cannot condone your swinishly vituperative attack on the Girl Scout. As an alumna of the University of Nebraska, as a former Girl Scout, and as the mother of five daughters when I hope to present in due time as legacies to the best sorority on the campus (I shall not be invidious and name it), I feel that I must demand a retraction of the insinuation that Girl Scouts are potential alcoholics and potentially incompetent wives and mothers. I could, if I chose, list for you dozens of sober, competent wives and mothers who have been Girl Scouts—far more than you could produce from among your vaunted Innocents and Rhodes Scholars. I can only conclude that the author of this stupid and sneering editorial has never been a Girl Scout.

MRS. HARRIET TRAUT  
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