

Nebraskan Editorials A Challenging Resolution

Although Student Council elections are three weeks away, it is not too early to begin emphasizing the need for student participation and interest.

The Nebraskans thus resolves: To dedicate itself and its newspaper columns to those students who would see effective student government come to life at this University. To encourage any student who fills the election requirement to file for a Council position and to pledge himself to a sincere and energetic campaign. To encourage student government on the University campus to the ends that a more representative Council with a hypersensitivity to the needs, wants and rights of the student body at large may be instituted.

Beginning Monday, April 25 The Nebraskan editorial columns under the heading "Your Student Council" will be offered to any candidate from any college who wishes to express his views on student government and its responsibilities. This space will remain available until the Student Council elections May 10. The Nebraskan maintained a similar policy during the state elections in November and the Student Council candidates will be offered the same opportunity to express any and all views.

A list of questions, submitted in the interest of a more effective student government, will be available to candidates in The Nebraskan office Monday morning. Candidates may answer the questions offered for their consideration and may add to the list if they wish.

The Nebraskan cannot stress enough the importance of the forthcoming Council elections.

It is the responsibility and the duty of all students at the University, who are to be represented by this Council, to interest themselves in the candidates and their platforms. It is this interest by the entire student body electorate which will determine the effectiveness and representative quality of next year's Student Council. It is the student body which is directly responsible for the actions of any Student Council, whether they are right actions or wrong.

Student government can be an unequalled blessing, if it is supported by the majority and not manipulated by a minority. Student government, if students would only realize, is an undeveloped means at this University of expressing student opinion—again the opinion of the majority and not the special interests of a minority. Student government on a broad, constructive basis can be the education in democracy and democratic principles which every citizen should have. Student government can be of vital assistance to the little man—if he knows HE is represented and can feel free to exercise his rights as a constituent. But first he must become a real constituent. He must know what he believes and vote for the candidate which supports his beliefs. But he must not stop here. He must then practice the rights which his vote gives him—a voice in the government.

If there has ever been a need for the rejuvenation of student interest in student government, it is now. That interest must grow into a vital, living necessity with each and every student.—J. H. B.

Fear Of Precedent

A fraternity has been placed on social probation for participating in a water fight—the first incident in what proved to be a very long evening.

Most of the administration's disciplinary action has met with the approval of the student body, including the suspension of 15 students from the University. Students that have lived and studied with members of the University community have been expelled, and the majority of students have approved the action.

But, disciplinary action placed on a group seems most inopportune and inadvisable. Public opinion will almost certainly condemn Phi Kappa Psi as the leader of the riot, even though administration spokesmen state that the fraternity did not "start" the insurrection.

The administration also states that similar action could be taken in any instance of "water fights" by campus groups depending upon the severity and circumstances of the incident. Fraternities and other organized houses are worried about a policy that would discipline them for harmless spring shenanigans.

The administration has the right to control almost any phase of campus life and usually tries to gain cooperation of organizations in most cases, as in the recent "drinking policy." Most groups are able to understand the view of the University authorities and will usually comply with the regulations, sometimes grudgingly, but nevertheless, cooperation is usually rendered.

The question lies in the advisability of punishing a fraternity, with all the resulting publicity, for a somewhat trivial incident. There seems to be some question as to whether Phi Kappa Psi actually deserves being singled out. The announcement of the action certainly did the University no good and, just as surely, did the Phi Psi's no good. The action has already been badly distorted by communication media.

Another worry, already mentioned, can be found in the precedent, if any, of the action. Will other groups be penalized for similar occurrences and, if not, why should the Phi Psi's be punished, if they didn't "start" the riot?

In the large part, the administration is handling the whole undesirable incident with intelligence and needed expediency. The mistake of last spring—press silence concerning

disciplinary actions—is not again being made. But, the disciplinary action taken against a specific fraternity, seems unwarranted and very undesirable.—S. J.

Afterthoughts Dog's Life

The riot at the University of Nebraska has served a monumental purpose to the city of Lincoln after all. Had it not been for the riot at which the mayor was present and about which he made his brilliant observations, there may have been no precedent upon which the City Council could act. The mayor wasn't kidding—they do tie up dogs in the spring. Congratulations on the fast work, Council!

Security Plus

If it's security you're looking for, you should have been in line 37 years ago to apply for a job in Sears, Roebuck and Co. Although the beginning salary then was only six dollars, now at the time of retirement, you would be earning \$80 a week.

Here's the catch. You would be entitled to 1380 shares of company stock worth \$104,000 and \$17,000 in cash. But of course, you'd be at least 57 years old which is sometimes considered to be too late to get married and settle down.

Color Question

Yale University recently reported, after some research, that alcoholics do not see pink elephants.

Quite possibly this conclusion was reached due to the general incapacity of persons to remember insignificant details concerning periods when they have no control over their faculties. The color of the elephants really doesn't matter.

Big Deal

Several students who visited the Capitol in connection with recent legislative actions had time to gaze at the so called "square bull" mural on the building's wall.

A somewhat natural comment was not that he was out of proportion, but that he was an "awfully big cow."

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



The Self-Governed State Conservatism Cause For NU Riot

Many analyses have been made — and more will be made — of the causes of and responsibilities for college panty raids and specifically for last week's mess here.

Obviously the lack of disciplinary action was the reason last week's panty raid snowballed into a criminal riot. Had perhaps a half-dozen Lincoln police been permitted to come on the University premises with night sticks when the riot was in its youthful stage, the mob might have been easily dispersed.

But much more was involved. Some persons have reasoned that stronger disciplinary action against leaders of past riots would have prevented this one. Yet the leaders of the 1952 riot — nearest of any recently in comparative size to last week's — were suspended from school. Disciplinary action following all past "panty raids" has been sufficient to forewarn leaders of even the "panty raid" which allegedly was planned of their destiny, if caught.

This is much more than a disciplinary problem. The very occurrence of "panty raids" — and, to a degree, even of water fights — among men and women of college age and supposedly of above-average intelligence, indicates some cultural imbalance. A national recreation leader who spoke in Lincoln over the week-end charged panty raids to "recreational illiteracy" which he said is common in the contemporary United States.

College student panty raids do indeed seem to be an exclusively American problem. Student uprisings are common in colleges around the world. But in other nations, there is usually some high-minded political or social cause motivating such uprisings.

Furthermore, the frequency of "panty raids" seems to be a problem exclusive to the University. There have come to be an average of perhaps a half dozen panty raids or riots of similar nature in the U.S. each year. But normally different schools are involved each year — with the exception of Nebraska.

Youth today, of course, are faced with the general insecurity and frustration resulting from this age of militarism, machines and molecular explosions. This same generation of youth was born and reared in the insecurity of de-

pression. To these factors presumably should be charged much of the responsibility for student uprisings wherever they occur.

But what is the cause for the frequency of such uprisings at the University of Nebraska? The various failures of the administration to take preventive measures, I think, are only part of the reason.

It seems to me there must be a social or cultural factor characteristic of Nebraska youth which is largely responsible for the repetition of riots here. Nebraska is one of few states recognized as a stronghold of extreme conservatism. The state's political conservatism is largely a reflection of the extreme conservatism inherent in the more basic ideals and attitudes in Nebraska society, such as religion and social ethics.

The youth of Nebraska, much more than their elders, can see the wrongs which extreme conservatism in the past has inflicted on society. College youth are particularly aware of this. There is, I think, a general tendency of youth in Nebraska to revolt against this extreme conservatism. Most youth fortunately find less violent and more productive means of rebellion than staging riots.

But a small minority of students is inherently barbaric. Such individuals are a natural part of any society. When their nature is properly diverted, they are the soldiers, the policemen, the protectors of life and property against the threat of men like them whose nature has been improperly diverted. These are the individuals who composed the rioting mob last week. In rioting they find a means which more suits their nature of rebellion against the extreme conservatism of the society in which they were reared.

This alone is not responsible for last week's riot or previous barbaric student uprisings at this university. But it is, I think, a major factor. It is the spark of uprising, fanned to flame by the other influences which have been discussed.

What this University needs, is crying out for, in real desperation because of the lack of, is an honor system.

Immediately, I know, scoffers say that it won't work, that young students are not ready for such a code. Well, it has worked and is working now for several universities over the nation. It can work here. Students at this University are not less capable of being put on their honor and restraining themselves for the sake of that honor than anywhere else. Certainly there would be infractions — no system is perfect. But an honor system is a workable, ennobling thing. It has a curious effect. It changes a person's point of view from an ethical system surrounding him to one within him; the latter he is not so ready to violate. It is part of himself, a precious thing — his self-respect.

PELOMETHEUS

Schneid Remarks Long Look At Editor Ends In TV Party

By STAN SCHNEIDER

(Author's note — I am not personally. I do not play the piano. I play a pretty wicked chop-sticks with a sharp hatchet. I am even afraid to write. If the Unicameral should take time out from throwing rocks at a square cow and read this, have pity on me, I'm just trying to have a little good old, red-blooded American fun. Besides, I'm just a little guy.)

Sen. 1 "Along the line of dynamic legislation, I propose that we take a long look at the editor of the Nebraskan. Some body said she has been writing opinions in the campus paper."

Sen. 2 "Well by dingy-dongy I have been around this Senate for 57 years and I propose that we take a short look at the Editor. Yer agin' old senator from Yu, Nebr., ain't got too many good years left and a short look at that young sprout is about all these old eyes could stand. My cane, page boy. Both of them."

Page Boy. "Here's you toast soaked in warm milk, Senator. Gum it, boy."

Sen. 1 "I understand the University budget calls for candelabra for the editor's piano. I propose we take time out to watch Liberace. What does the Senate think of George?"

Sen. 3 "I think he's too fat to fit in Liberace's swimming pool. I propose we invite the editor of the Nebraskan to a swimming party."

Parliamentarian. "Gentlemen, gentlemen. Pa-leeze. I look terrible in a swimming suit. We can solve this whole problem by selecting an editor who every body hates. One with no personality, one with no culture. One who only has one name so we'll know who to look for."

Sen. 1 "It just so happens that I was down on the campus the other night when this little get-together took place and . . ."

Sen. 2 "Yeah, you gay rascal. I understand you were in one of those sorority houses. Tee-hee. Tell me, boy. Are they still growing them like they did when I was a kid?"

Sen. 1 "Better. Let me tell you about this one toothsome coed . . . Now wait a dad-burned minute fellows. A vote is a vote. I just hap-

pened to move up from the baby kissing stage to the stage where they ain't out for eating cake and ice-cream. Any how, I was in this house when the riot started and I just happened to get caught in the middle of it."

Page Boy. "Who caught you? (yuk, yuk, yuk)"

Sen. 3 "I move that we finger print every city bus in Lincoln and especially the one involved in the gathering and after we find out who was rocking it we take those names and put them into a hat. Then we'll draw one name from the hat and make him the editor of the Nebraskan"

Sen. 4 "I move we go watch Drag Net. What do you think of Frank Smith?"

Sen. 2 "I think his wife Kate is fat."

Sen. 1 "If it's alright with you guys I would like to go back and take another long look at the editor. All in favor say I."

Everybody. "I"

Sen. 1 "Come back. You didn't say 'may I'."

"Somebody throw that jerk out. What does he think we're here for? I think he's wasting the taxpayers' money. Where's the Sergeant at Arms?"

"He's here but you know about his operation. He had a calous removed the other day and the bandage stuck to the seat of his chair and he can't get up."

Sen. 43 "I move we go watch 'The Medic' on television."

It was carried and they did.

Quick Quips

Coed to man at telephone company complaint desk: "Nobody ever calls me."

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On Campus with Max Strubman
(Author of "Barefoot Boy With Check," etc.)

LOVE IN REVERSE

They were at the campus swimming pool. She was standing on the diving board—lithe, young, vibrant. He came swimming over. "Hey," he called, climbing up on the board, "was it you who made that dive a minute ago?"

"The nodded—lithe, young, vibrant. "When?" he whistled. "That was some dive! A back jackknife two and a half twist full gainer swan. Where did you learn to dive like that?"

"I fell off the board," she explained. "Oh," he said. He looked at her—lithe, young, vibrant. "Let's go steady," he said.

"But I don't know anything about you," she said. "What's there to know?" he said. "I'm a typical American college man—young, healthy, and broke."

"That's good enough for me," she said, "for I am not interested in money. I am a girl of simple tastes—lithe, young, vibrant."

"Dad!" he whispered. "Crazy!" she breathed.

Their lips met. Their arms twined. They fell off the board. "If you only knew," he said later, as he applied artificial respiration, "how long I have been looking for a lithe, young, vibrant girl of simple tastes, for though my heart is large and full of love, my purse is lean and meagre. My cruel father sends me an allowance barely large enough to support life. So I have been looking high and low for a girl of simple tastes."

"Search no more," she said. "My tastes are simple; my wants are few. Just take me riding in a long, sleek, new yellow convertible, and I am content."

"Goodbye," he said and ran away as fast as his chubby little legs could carry him, for he knew this girl was not for the likes of him. He had neither convertible nor hardtop, nor the money to buy one, nor the means to get the money, short of picking up his stingy father by the ankles and shaking him till his wallet fell out. No, there was nothing for it except to forget this girl.

But lying on his pallet at the dormitory, he could not get her out of his mind and finally he knew that whatever the expense, he had to have her—lithe, young, vibrant.

So he sold a few things—his textbooks, his overcoat, his hi-y pin, his roommate's truss—and soon he had accumulated a goodly sum. He went to a place that sold automobiles. "How much does it cost," he said, "to buy a yellow convertible automobile?"

The man told him. He collapsed in a gibbering heap. After a while he stirred and shambled home. But on the way he passed a place with a big sign that said: RENT A CAR—DRIVE YOURSELF. Hope came into our hero's eyes. He went inside. "How much does it cost," he said, "to rent a yellow convertible automobile?"

"Ten dollars a day, plus seven cents a mile," said the man. "Done and done," said our hero, and soon he drove away in a long, sleek, new, yellow convertible.

"Oh, goodie!" said the lithe, young, vibrant girl when she saw the car. "This suits my simple tastes to a T. Come, let us speed over rolling highways and through bosky dells."

And away they went. They drove north, they drove south, they drove east, they drove west, they drove east, they drove west, they drove and drove and drove and, finally, tired but happy, they parked high on a windswept hill.

"Philip Morris?" he said. "Yum, yum!" she said. They lit up. She smuggled against him. "You know," he said, "you are like a Philip Morris—mild and fresh and relaxing."

"But there is a big difference between me and Philip Morris," said she. "They're available in king-size and regular, and I am only available in regular."

They laughed. They kissed. He screamed. "What is it, dear man?" cried she, alarmed. "The speedometer," he said. "I just noticed. We put on 200 miles tonight, and this car costs seven cents a mile, and I have only \$14 left."

"But that's exactly enough," she said. "Yes," he said, "but we still have to drive home, and that will put a lot more miles on the car. Where will I get the money to pay for that?"

"Gee, I don't know," said she. "Me neither," he said glumly. He started the motor and backed out of the parking place.

"Hey, look!" said the girl. "The speedometer doesn't move when you're backing up."

He looked. It was true. Mileage only registered when the car was moving forward—not in reverse. "Eureka!" he said. "That's it!"

"Do you mean—" said she. "Exactly!" said he. "I will drive home in reverse. Then no more miles will register and I'll have enough money to pay!"

"I think that's a George idea!" she cried, and she was right. Because today our hero is in the county jail where food, clothes, and fast. By the time his sentence is ended, he should have enough to take his girl out riding again.

This column is brought to you by the makers of PHILIP MORRIS who think you should enjoy their cigarette.

The Nebraskan

FIFTY-SECOND YEAR

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The Nebraskan Letterip Columns

Dear Editor:
This letter may seem tardy in that the subject I desire to discuss has long since dropped from journalistic significance. My delay in writing is largely due to the poor mail service that your publication enjoys here.

Perhaps the activity situation has changed considerably since I attended the University. (What an understatement!) In those days—all of ten months ago—there was always room in an activity for anyone desiring to participate. They also were privileged in that they could seek higher positions in those organizations. If they were inclined to work diligently and conscientiously, if they displayed initiative and sincerity, if they were honest and dependable, and if they were ambitious and willing to compete, they stood a fighting chance of succeeding in those groups. The fact of the matter is that there aren't many individuals capable of living up to those qualifications—and if they are capable, they aren't willing to exert themselves. This accounts for there being just a very few great men, but multitudes of small men.

The action taken by the Student Council on March 30 in effect limits the capable student from

competing for leadership responsibility in more than two campus organizations. Insignificant, absolutely insignificant! The theory of this action assumes that more students will take part in campus activities by limiting participation by students. How ambiguous can this action become?

I have never known an overabundance of students in any of the many extra-curricular endeavors. There has always been room for more. The need for them is evidenced by the continuous demand for help by practically all campus activities. But where are the interested students to fill the vacant spots? The simple answer is that there are not enough interested people to fill the bill. Does the SC propose to create interest in these lethargic parties? Better yet, does the SC propose to coax these individuals into activities? I hope not, for I fear that the leadership in organizations that were once proud representatives of our great University would falter and ultimately destroy the very groups they attempt to lead.

I want my leader to compete for his job, to show initiative and ambition in the work that elevated him to a position of leadership. None of us want a person that

must be coaxed into accepting a post of responsibility for he's not worth the buttons on his shoes. The Student Council has thrown competition out the window and sold the capable man down the river to snake room for the mamby-pamby that haven't and never will have the guts to compete.

Congratulations to Bill Devries, Mimi Hamer, Walt Wright, Tom Woodward, Jan Beal and all the others who are mature enough to fight for a fundamental right that has always been ours as Americans.

ROCKFORD G. YAPP '54
Ensign, U.S. Navy
P.S. I think you might be interested in "My Creed" by Dean Alfrange. It goes:

"I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon—if I can. I seek opportunity—not security. I do not wish to be a kept citizen, humbled and dulled by having the state look after me. I want to take the calculated risk; to dream and to build; to fail and to succeed. I refuse to barter incentives for a date. I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence; the thrill of Utopia . . . I will not trade freedom for beneficence nor my dignity for a handout. It is my heritage; fulfillment to the state calm of

to think and to act for myself, to enjoy the benefit of my creations, and to face the world boldly and say, this I have done. All this is what it means to be an American."

Dear Editor:
Last Thursday night's scene at the Women's Dorm and those sorority houses which were stormed was one of savage paganism. There is no one thing to be held as an explanation for it. It was probably the product of a great many factors, some, no doubt, being very nebulous.

Although some students, who were guilty beyond a doubt are being called to answer for the riot, theirs was only a small part of the major cause. They were simply a group of young men away from home and with no standard of behavior to fetter their gross, Freud could probably classify them prettily into one category or another and dismiss them. The fault lie with hundreds, nay, thousands of people. The people who started this University, those who have attended it over the years, those who attend it now, those who administrate now are all guilty. They have not set up

a standard of good behaviour to be adhered to for its own sake. A student will do anything he can get by with today. There is nothing to hold him from wild impulsive action. In short, his only ethics is a choice between taking a chance or not taking a chance. It the odds are with him, he takes it and havoc reigns.

What this University needs, is crying out for, in real desperation because of the lack of, is an honor system. Immediately, I know, scoffers say that it won't work, that young students are not ready for such a code. Well, it has worked and is working now for several universities over the nation. It can work here. Students at this University are not less capable of being put on their honor and restraining themselves for the sake of that honor than anywhere else. Certainly there would be infractions — no system is perfect. But an honor system is a workable, ennobling thing. It has a curious effect. It changes a person's point of view from an ethical system surrounding him to one within him; the latter he is not so ready to violate. It is part of himself, a precious thing — his self-respect.