

Nebraskan Editorials

SC's All Important First Move

Wednesday afternoon at 4 p.m. the new Student Council will hold its first and rather routine meeting. In years past, this first meeting has been characterized by glib repetition of an oath, in which each new member promises to be a "good Council member," and some degree of nervousness on the part of the new members, sitting for the first time as full representatives of the highest echelon of student government.

It must be added that new Council members approach their duties and responsibilities with different attitudes. These are extremely important. The first meeting sets the tone and the pace for the many meetings that will follow.

It has been announced that at this year's opening meeting officers will be elected to serve as the secretaries and as the treasurer. These posts must be filled by competent individuals, for, whether they realize it or not, their duties as members of the Council's executive committee (the "brain center" of the Council) are even more essential to Council success than their more mundane duties as functionaries.

The executive committee has what actually is its number one job of the entire year. This committee with the advice of the Council president, must select the membership of the all-powerful committees that, in fact, run the Council. This is especially true of the Judiciary and Election Committees.

It must be supposed that next year, as in all

previous years, appointment to one of these two committees is tantamount to election, or at least consideration for election, as a holdover member, and hence a leader of next year's group.

Obvious among the foremost problems of the outgoing Council was the task of finding competent eligible and interested leadership to continue in the holdover seats. Service on the major committees, especially the two mentioned, does provide the individual with the training that is necessary for more active leadership.

It takes little imagination to see the duties, and the responsibility, of the new offices in apportioning members among the numerous committees. Those individuals who are appointed to the main committees, and it must be emphasized that at the summit stand the Judiciary and Election members, are by their present jobs placed in posts which lead to prominent roles. Though other members always rise to the various occasions these are the members who will be pushed to the front.

Council leaders must bear in mind the power they now possess. As leaders of men, they must realize their responsibilities and inherent weakness to meet it at many times. Committee selection, they must remember, is their number one duty in beginning what everybody hopes will be a successful year of student government. —D.F.

Bargain Of The Year

In a year which has seen sweeping changes in University life, another change is being contemplated by the Board of Regents. This proposal, however, should meet with little opposition from students, for in this case there is no question of the benefits they will receive.

A \$10 raise in tuition fees for each semester has been suggested. The money would be divided equally between the Union and the Student Health Center. Revenue bonds issued to be retired in 15 years would make possible one-half million-dollar additions to both.

If the Regents grant the \$10 increase, semester tuition would not go up to \$80 until fall of 1956. Building could begin within the year, however.

At the present time, \$20 of tuition paid by the student goes into the special University operating fund which finances laboratory operation, The Nebraskan, the Union and Student Health Center. University tuition is now approximately the same as tuition of comparable midwestern schools.

The inadequacy of Student Health Center services is painfully obvious and the Union is the smallest in the Big Seven Conference. The expected increase in enrollment will create an even greater demand for both health and recreational services.

The Student Health Center building is an overcrowded, frame fire-trap. A modern, fire-proof center with an enlarged out-patient clinic and a small hospital of 25 beds is badly needed, if students are to receive the service they deserve and have a right to expect. But a new, fully-equipped center will not be possible in the next few years unless an increase in tuition makes more funds available.

The Union hopes to extend its services and facilities until it can provide the recreational opportunity students seek, but cannot find in Lincoln. It should provide meeting space for all campus organizations. A one-million-dollar addition to the city campus Union and a \$200,000 addition to the Ag Union would make our centers of activity equal, if not superior, to those enjoyed by students on other campuses.

The proposed addition would double present Union accommodations and utilize the entire parking area behind the Union. For just a little more money a semester, students would be able to take advantage of these benefits:

- 1. More recreational facilities, including bowling, billiards, and an increased game area.

- 2. A fountain lounge three times as large as the Crib.
- 3. A modern, convenient lounge and TV area.
- 4. A ballroom at least 3 times as large as the present one, where dances could be held every weekend. The space could be partitioned off for various convocations, banquets and dances. This would mean good-bye to use of the old Coliseum barn for dancing.

- 5. Enough student organization offices and conference rooms to accommodate all campus groups.
- 6. Expanded faculty facilities for increased dining room service and meeting areas.
- 7. A passenger elevator to ease traffic confusion on the stairs.
- 8. Multiple-purpose recital and reception rooms, plus a new music room with individual listening compartments.
- 9. Expanded area for art displays, trophies and ticket booths.
- 10. Storage rooms for organization props, float materials and miscellaneous equipment.

- 11. A commuters' room where students who live out in Lincoln may have lockers for storage of lunches and books.

The Ag Union addition would provide similar advantages, and a student survey is being conducted on Ag campus now to evaluate the extent Ag students use their Union. A student evaluation of city Union facilities is being planned as well.

The need for the increased student services of a large Union and a modern health center will continue to grow. The \$10 raise in semester tuition fees cannot make much difference in the over-all expense of attending college, which has been estimated at approximately \$800 to \$1,000 a year. But it will make a big difference in student recreation, convenience, and services.

Where else can you get such a bargain for only \$10 a semester? M.R.

Afterthoughts

A very enlightening and interesting example of modern teaching methods in our high schools comes with the mention of the girl who couldn't spell the name of the school she had been attending for the last four years.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS by Dick Bibler



"Don't worry about those chapters we skipped—I believe I've covered them adequately in the final."

Hortence 'n Gertrude 'One Devilish Turn Deserves Another'

By MARY SHELLÉDY and JANET GORDON

"Hey, Gertrude, have you heard about Joe Fauster?"

"He got caught at the Grill again? No, Gertrude, I am referring to the startling events that led up to the detonation that occurred on campus recently."

"Gad, I thought that went up in smoke."

"No, Dr. Fauster did."

"Pray, go on."

"Joe Fauster, an ambitious sophomore in Bizad, was meditating on the problems of immortality while watering the lawn and reading his College Outline of Elementary Accounting."

"While the tender strains of 'Honey Babe' came floating from the actives' study hall, Joe slipped on a back copy of the Rag. As he came gliding back to earth, Joe decided that this rapid life was too good to leave."

"But in five years at his present rate of progress, the possibility of not leaving was nil. What to do. While lost in this train of thought, what should appear to him but a well-tailored devil."

"It is apparent, son, that you have a problem. I am the one to solve it. You don't want to leave here, and it's obvious that you're unsuited for any other life. Therefore, I will make you an immortal professor."

"But, Hortence, don't tell me that Joe was to lose his soul!"

"Unfortunately, Joe found himself, still holding the watering hose, in a session of the Faculty Senate. He still had an odor of sulphur about him, too, but the professor sitting next to Joe thought it was only kitchen matches."

"The Faculty Senate was discussing shortening the one-week exam period to four days. Joe was unconcerned, for he was beginning to feel more and more in character. He might not have used his ill-gotten power, but the nasty devil whispered a noxious proposal in his ear."

"Four days, my foot," Joe burstled. "Give all the finals in one day." "Thank you, Dr. Fauster," the chairman said. "I don't believe we need to discuss this before voting. All in favor? Thank you, meeting adjourned."

"Next fall, when the topless carillon tower was strewn with hemlock leaves, Joe waited in his classroom, where he was to teach Comparative Narcissism, for his students. Forty had registered—but

only two appeared."

"Vastly ghastly, Hortence."

"He discussed the problem of the non-appearing students with some of the other immortal professors—but nothing could stop the disintegration of the university. Enrollments had been decimated. A situation was at hand. There were even worse ones in the bush. The year following, no students at all registered for any classes."

"None?"

"None. Joe was upset, to say the least. Where was this irresponsible life he had traded his soul for? Gads, he might have to face the world after all."

"In despair, Joe called back the devil. Still steaming slightly, the devil asked, 'What can I do for you, son?'"

"Things haven't worked out, devil, old friend. Take my soul if you want it, but let me out of here! I can't stand it for eternity."

"You drove away the students yourself, chum. Boli in your own mortality; I'll take your soul."

"Before Joe knew what happened his chalky tweeds disappeared, his pipe shattered against the melting walls of his classroom..."

"Where was he, Hortence? Where did the devil send Fauster?"

"Back to the lawn, Gertrude. Hoes in hand, he stood listening to the garbled strains of 'Honey Babe' float from the actives' study hall."

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Where There's Smoke Fraternities Need Positive Program

By JOHN GOURLAY AND MIKE SHUGRUE

In his final speech as president of the Interfraternity Council, Bill Devries pointed out to fraternity presidents that fraternities are at the crossroads at the University of Nebraska.

This is a point that all fraternity men should seriously consider. As Devries stated, fraternities must prove themselves by showing that they make a positive contribution to the University. Fraternities definitely need to strive for improvement.

The core of a fraternity is its pledge class. The astounding percentage of pledges who do not make the grade leads one to believe that certain remedial measures are necessary. These measures are necessary in rushing procedure and pledge programs.

As a result of present pledge training, a sophomore slump seems to be inevitable. Once with pin, many men seem to lose their incentive to make a contribution to their fraternity. In contrast, those who view the Greek system with an uncritical eye are guilty of making only a pseudo-contribution.

The solution to this situation lies in the following points:

Each fraternity must be very selective in choosing its pledges. The first consideration must be above average intelligence and the ability to maintain above average scholarship. High moral caliber is also necessary prerequisite for successful members of an outstanding fraternity. Fraternities must eliminate the pledging of "good guys" whose only contribution is a neutral one. Prospective pledges must also have a certain willingness to benefit from a college education.

The pledge program must be instrumental in building strong members. Strong members are strong because of their attitude. The pledge program must build attitude.

The desirable attitude to be achieved is one which respects and desires good scholarship.

A serious attitude of responsibility must also be gained. Responsibility is developed by the performance of worthwhile tasks and projects—not by useless and senseless details.

Fraternities also have a grave responsibility in maintaining health—both mental and physical—of pledges. To deprive a pledge of eight hours sleep is to neglect this important responsibility. Forced participation in activities, house projects, intramurals is a bad habit fraternities must get rid of. Pledges must not be pack horses carrying the fraternity load because active ones are too lazy or uninterested to do so.

Bad examples set by actives can do more than anything else to destroy a good pledge class. Pledges look to the upperclassmen. If they see drinking, worthlessness and lack of interest chances are good that they will travel the same road and progress will be even further away.

These things must be considered by Nebraska fraternities. When the desire to get moving back toward the ideals is constantly prevalent the Greek system will be safe. The result will be more maturity, better scholarship, fewer disciplinary problems, a more sincere, better educated, stable individual devoted to the cause of the group.

This is idealistic. Utopia can never be reached, but efforts must be made.

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Campus Circuits Save Your Rebel Books, Boys, The South Done Raised Agin

From The Daily Tar Heel University of North Carolina Southern utilitarianism died quietly one afternoon 90 years ago in Appomattox, Virginia, according to historians and bitter experience. But the ghost of this region's lost cause flared forth in Georgia this week at a Board of Education meeting.

Georgia educators banned three textbooks for not being in accord with the "Southern way of life." In this day of an urban and industrial South, it's not altogether just what the "Southern way of life" is. But a look at the reasons given for banning the three books clearly shows what it is not.

A sociology book, "Our Changing Social Order," was charged with teaching that white people are unfair to Negroes in elections, in school facilities, and in recreation facilities. The book tries to "condition" white children into the idea that color doesn't matter, charged the educators.

"America, Land of Freedom," a history book, was shoved off the school lists because one Board of Education member said it didn't give the South sufficient credit in the Revolutionary War.

And a song book, "Together We Sing," was branded objectionable because the wording of Stephen Foster's songs, "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Old Folks at Home" said "brothers," instead of "darker."

The banning of these three books is absurd and contrary to the concepts of democratic government, which allow for dissent and disagreement—even in education.

Perhaps even more regrettable is the fact that the Georgia educators don't realize just what constitutes the "Southern way of life" today. This is the region of atomic plants, booming cities, and economic opportunity—not plantations, the Ku Klux Klan, and white supremacy.

The sociology book that teaches youths that color doesn't matter is to be commended. Color doesn't matter, and it's time Southern minds were conditioned to it. Rewriting history to glorify the South's part in the Revolutionary War won't alter facts. And censoring folk songs—Southern songs, at first—is downright funny.

Next thing we expect to hear from Georgia is that Carl Sandburg's "Abraham Lincoln," was banned because it portrays the South as losing the Civil War.

Vic Vet says

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