LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS

Nebraskan Editorials **Test Of Stamina**

The ups and downs surrounding the Western Big Three's invitation to the Soviet Union for a summer Big Four conference is beginning to make U.S. statesmen look and feel like diplomatic yo-yos.. The USSR is holding the string, lifting and letting drop Western hopes for a solution to world tension. Western powers proposed the meeting and were cheered by the Russian response. Lately, however, the Soviet has asked for things which would turn the meeting towards their favor, and the Western powers are not sure they want such a meeting under those conditions,

It is almost too much to hope for that the Initial Soviet response to the invitation is an optimistic sign of an about-face in USSR foreign policy. The spot the Western powers have found themselves in is caused, as usual, by distrust of Russian methods and motives. The possibility exists, however, that world tension has created a situation where USSR ends and the ends of Western powers are not too far removed. A good guess is that the Russians would like to get certain issues settled so that they could turn to problems elsewhere-possibly internal problems. It would follow that there might be a basis for agreement across the conference table -which will, of course, require give and take on both sides. This was the position Roosevelt was in at the Yalta conference; but he gave too much and took too little. If present statesmen could be sure how far they should go in this process of giving and taking, they could face the possible Big Four Conference with a great deal more confidence.

The joint American-British-French proposal called for a short meeting confined to a definition of the problems and methods to be used in solving them. The Soviet Government apparently wants to create a situation in which the Western Three heads of state would have to solve the problems themselves. The list of problems includes proposals on international tension, "war" propaganda, withdrawal of occupation troops from Germany, removal of foreign military bases, peaceful atomic energy development and banning of atomic weapons.

Discussions of any of these problems on a high level is a risk. If Western powers give in too much, they will find themselves regretting it after the elapse of several years indicates what the Russian motives are. If they are too cautious, the USSR again has food for their extensive propaganda machine, which-in spite of the Russian request of an end to the cold war-makes the cold war a continued reality.

Western powers have a right to fear such a situation. They are, however, almost too timid. The USSR now holds the string, but it is time that the Western powers attempt to reverse the position-or at least even things up. This would call for decisive action, and it is this decisive action of which the Western powers are afraid.

The big issue is that of the neutralization of Germany. Moscow is urging the withdrawal of all occupation troops from Germany. This includes the withdrawal of American troops from a key area of Western defense with the ultimate aim to expose all Europe to Communist pressure. It would take a great deal of persuasion to get the Western powers to go along with this idea. It may be, however, the Russians want it not so much as an opening for future aggression, but as a means for self-protection. We do not know how much the USSR may fear the chain of defense being set up by the Western

We therefore do not know if, and how far Russia might concede over a conference table. The Western powers fear of the risk may be legitimate, but it may bring about tragedythat of looking back after an elapse of time and trying to tell ourselves what may have been had fears been 'swallowed.

Although Moscow seems willing to pay a high price for high ambitions which were originally Western ideas, the vicious propaganda attacks on the United States and cold-war techniques have continued. Reports in Monday's papers indicate they are using the U.S. call for more strength and firmness in the Western stand as a means to drive a wedge between the U.S. on the one hand and Britain and France on the

Such techniques make the situation seem hopeless. However, the Western proposal may instead bring new tests of Western stamina, forcing a move towards world security.-K. N.

Humor Magazine Crisis

The crisis period for a humor magazine within the next few years on this campus has been reached. Within two weeks, it will be decided, by the nucleus of students behind this attempt at a humor magazine, and by the University powers that govern their fates, whether such a magazine will be published at Nebraska next

About a dozen sophomore men who have almost all had some experience working for magazines and yearbooks, have been working since early last December to meet what they feel is a need and demand on this campus for some type of humor magazine. This group has the ambition and interest to push such a project many roadblocks before that project can succeed.

Obviously, the financial and organizational arrangements for publishing a magazine like this must be made before the end of this semester or else the venture will be hopelessly delayed, and any inspiration for future attempts in this direction will be dampened.

The big question in considering such an attempt as this is not whether a humor magazine would be a healthy, needed thing at the University, but whether the University, its administration and its students would be able to support such a magazine. Certainly, there is no welcome mat out for a successor to the old

"Corn Shucks," which ends up not only in embarassing the administration but the students themselves and the whole University. But a magazine along the pattern of Iowa State's highly successful "Green Gander" would be a happy addition to our campus life. It is this type of thing, it appears, that the present humor magazine group is intending to put out.

Yet this type of humor magazine-nor any other type-will not be produced unless the founding group receives all-out encouragement and support from the University and from the student body. If the magazine is consistently opposed during this crucial period of birth, if it is automatically, condemned by those who through to its final culmination, but still faces have distasteful memories of the old "Corn Shucks," without receiving a fair hearing on its own merits, and if it is choked to death in tangles of red tape, then Nebraska is destined to be a campus without any type of humorous publication for several years.

Finally, of course, the big question will come in the Fall, if and when such a magazine is finally published. Widespread student indifference will discourage the promoters of the humor magazine, and probably, at that delicate stage, destroy the magazine's chances. The big tests, then, are not only to be made by this founding group in striving to put out a good magazine, but by the whole student body in encouraging such an attempt .- R. H.

Pitfall Of Private Interests

cially been installed and is about to begin functioning, it is well to stop for a few moments and analyze the composition of the new group and see exactly what kind of representative group has been elected to legislate and judiciate for University students on the highest level of student self-government.

Last years' Council was unique in many ways. First, and undoubtedly foremost, was the ability of many Council leaders and members to dauntlessly stand for what they thought was best for the general University good. This quality, as was evidenced time and again during the endless heated debates, lifted the active Council members from the ranks of those who look at ues via interest-group glasses to the level

Afterthoughts

Welcomed Water

The state welcomed the badly-needed rain that fell this weekend. Farmers and ranchers were preparing to request Federal aid for drought, and Federal investigators were checking the dition of the parched land.

Neture apparently has taken matters out of the hands of the government and the farmers. If the rains continue, crops may yet turn out better than anyone has expected. The farmer is glad, the miller is glad, all of us who eat are glad that the rains came. About the only person who could object is the enthusiastic

Now that the new Student Council has offi- of leaders, honestly trying to do what they think best for the entire body which they serve, As a result, interest in Student Council problems reached what was close to an all time peak at the all-University election. This election could well change the complexion of the Council from what it formerly was, i.e., a group doing its best to act for what it sees to be the general

> Herein lies the present danger. The new Council was almost 100 per cent elected to represent specific interests. Certainly the representatives of the member organizations owe first allegiance to their individual groups. But in addition to this, college representatives were for the first time in many years elected by a dominant and public group-the IFC.

> There is nothing wrong with political interest groups supporting candidates for office. And, as the logical corollary to this, there is certainly noting wrong with this type of group being successful and actually putting its men in office. In recent years, Faction men rarely went into office eeling they must support the Faction line. Much to the consternation of Faction leaders. nothing could be done about this condition, if indeed anything was ever attempted.

The danger lies in what can soon develop. If Council members realize they now are serving in the interests of the entire University, and not just their own groups, this pitfall will be avoided. If they forget, as they so easily can, Council business will inevitably sink into a morass of private interests, furthering nobody, advancing nothing and proving nebulous .- D. F.

The Nebraskan

FIFTY-SECOND YEAR er: Associated Collegiate Press reofferinte Press

five: National Advertising Service,





by Dick Bibler

Well-I guess the reason I talk so much is because it doesn't

- Where There's Smoke -**NU Faces Critical** Issues In 1954-55

By JOHN GOURLAY And

MIKE SHUGRUE

In two and one-half more weeks the slate will be wiped clean as the curtain falls on another year of NU activity. And what a hectic year it has been here on the campus.

Beseiged by controversies all year long, the student body is restless and can certainly use the forthcoming vacation, But, in three short months the University world will again come to life and with it some of this year's controversies will again bestir themselves.

1954-55 seems to have been a crucial year for the University. Chancellor Hardin in his new position made some policy changes that radically shook some existing

traditions; especially drinking. The initial effect was to arouse the student body, but astheyear progressed the situation had to be faced and it was. Viewing this particular situation at the

Gourlay

end of the year it appears that the policy has had a great measure of effect and some of the graver evils and excesses have been abolished. The long range of this will be a better Uni-

versity in every way. Other important events have occurred this year which were of significance. The competition between Greeks and Independents became keener than ever. Friction also became keener. The outlook for this situation in the future seems to be that the Greeks are going to maintain their dominance in campus activities unless Independent leaders can spark their cohorts to life. This situation, however, is not settled and the struggle apparently will continue at an even livelier pace next year. The competition should benefit both groups and ultimately the University as a whole because it will necessitate

tainly was the pot of boiling oil being poured from the bastille as far as most students were concerned. That fire is going to be roaring hot again about next October and it looks as if it should start the ball rolling for another exciting year.

both groups striving to improve

programs and strengthen efforts.

the good name of Nebraska for

many years to come. Repercus-

sions will undoubtedly be felt for

quite some time in the future. The

figurative nose must be kept very;

very clean for quite some time as

another outburst like the past one

would possibly harm the University

beyond repair. Student pride in this

institution must take a rise to

Shortening the exam period cer-

prevent further incidents.

The unfortunate riot has scarred

These are the things that have greatly concerned the student body during this past year. Next fall these present issues will have cooled down considerably and a period of rela-

tive peace should ensue. The fact that tic year at University is not necessarily bad. Out of the seeming furor the University students, faculty and admin-

istration have learned many things. Among these is the fact that any change is greatly resisted.

But after a summer away from it all those of us who return will be a little more accustomed to the changes; maybe even resigned to them in some instances. But, as it looks now we should be in for a little more peaceful year next term. At any rate its going to be interesting to see how things develop. The future of the University may have hinged upon certain things that happened this year. Only time will prove whether current policies were effective.

- Givin' 'Em Ell-

Disagreements Good **But Not Apologies**

To My Readers: We have been through a pe-

culiar year, you and I. I have said many things with which you not only disagreed, but against which you openly raised your voices in protest. And you, in turn, have done many things which I have condemned. Oh, there have been a few things that we have agreed upon, and a few other things that haven't mattered anyway . . . neither of us has been constantly on our best intellectual behavior.

Our disagreements, even more than our agreements, have been a good thing . . . for us, for our

newspaper and for our future. The fact that you bave reacted, however ve h e mently, column worth b writing, in spit e of the s jeers from

some factions, the horror of others and the inexplicable amputation which my editors have, from time to time, seen fit to operate upon my efforts.

I have had one primary motive in writing this column this year: to try to make you think . . . for yourselves. It has become disturbingly simple, in this age of Reader's Digests, capsuled education and clocked living, to swallow all the tripe that is fed to us as we swallow the sparser truths. At times I am no freer from this ma-

lady than anybody else; we learn by our mistakes.

But I have tried to give to you . . . to share with you . . . some of the notions that I have found, notions that are at times rather weird by the accepted mediocre standards that we have set up for ourselves, but notions that I nevertheless believe to be true. If they have violated your own notions, good. Because in order for you to reject my ideas, you must subject your own to an intense and discerning inspection. I have never asked you to agree with me; I have only asked you to read, to weigh and to make up your own minds.

There are certain elements among my readers who think that I should apologize for some of the accusations I have made, for some of the facts I have revealed and for some of the opinions which I have put forth. This I cannot, and should not, do. I have said nothing which I did not believe at the time (although I may have changed my mind since . . . Emerson, remember, said, "A foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds . . ."), and nothing for which I am the least bit penitent. or ashumed. Ah, you say, the stubborn temperament of an author is a fearful thing to behold. It is.

Walt Whitman, as well as Emerson, comes to my aid in this rather discouraging struggle for self-reliance. The appropriate lines apply to many things . . . my column, my ideas, my temperament. They are found in the 51st and 52nd sections of "Song of Myself."

Globetrotting-

Are We Leaving On A Shutter?

Palmerstone, famous British Prime Minister, said that Britain had no friends, no enemies, only interests. To most Americans this apparent dismissal of popularity seems just a little stuffy. In fact, the art of being popular has developed in American almost to a point of becoming a cult, complete with rites and taboos.

Witness a certain best-seller on how to cultivate friends and influence people. Hundreds of articles appear in scores of "teenage" magazines on the "how not to be a wall-flower" theme.

The ability to live in harmony with ones associates is an admirable talent, but in pursuit of the will-o-the-wisp of popularity the nation may lose touch with the problem, and extremists are the

The extremes of this philosophy of popularity have been the subject of the most determined attacks. Sinclair Lewis immortalized a Babbitt by pointing out that the quest for popularity may be only a means to stifling conformity. No one familiar with "Death of

a Salesman" could forget Willy's pathetic line, "But I'm well-liked." We Americans seem to assume everything is going well internationally if our allies and other "friends are smiling and patting us on the back. When they disagree, we as

a nation feel hurt, even angry. Unpopularity in international affairs is not in itself a calamity, says Lord Palmerstone. It is when the unpopularity results from an inability to assume responsibility or take action because of bigoted partisan considerations at home the American must begin to worry.

Assuming responsibility does not necessarily mean striding up and down the halls of Congress making sensational statements about the irrevocable and irrefutable American position in the far east. Neither does it mean the use of pointed hints as to our possession

Quick Quips

"I'se named fo' mah parents. Pappy's name was Ferdinand and mammy's was Liza." "And what's your name?"

"Ferdiliza."

Confucius say: Modern woman putting up such a false front, man never knows what he is up against. The sweet young thing burst into police station screaming, "Help! Help! I've been robbed. Someone has stolen my aunt's

The sergeant at the desk tried to quiet her by saying, "Cut out the pig-Latin and tell me what happened."

of an atomic stockpile. While we may be absolutely correct in assuming that Communism understands only statements made from a position of strength, the rest of the world may be just

as positive that they have been

betraved. . We have lost the trust of many of the world's citizens-especially true in the far east-because we have been unable to make ourselves understood, and we must now be prepared to make a few sacrifices at home if we are to regain a measure of the tradition for being a freedom-loving nation

which we once enjoyed. It is not popularity which is at stake in Japan, for instance. Try the teacher who says, "You dropped an atomic bomb on Asians, but you never would have dropped one on Europeans." You would be surprised how small an answer like this sounds: "The race of people concerned didn't determine where we used the A-bomb." It is

true, but you just aren't believed. It is difficult to explain to starying Indians why Congress debated at length the desireablity of sending surplus wheat to India. Such apparent self-interest is simply out of line with American tradition. It is strange how we can have so much to say about being "unpopular" after behaving in such a fashion.

Other fronts, both diplomatic and military, are receiving more attention from the press, but authorities in the field contend that our currently cozy relations with Japan are almost at an end. It is an economic-geographic fact that Japan must import 20 per cent of her food and 80 per cent of her industrial raw materials. To buy these items Japan must sell abroad.

Japanese marketing problems stimulated the Second World War. yet we are doing little now to make it possible for Japanese goods to compete in the Western market.

Naturally, businessmen in some

industries in this country and in Europe are going to have to take a cut to these competitors, and that is unpleasant. It is also political dynamite, both here and in Britain. Failure to make some sort of concession to Japanese necessities

will inevitably drive Japanese merchants to Communist Chinese port. In 1936 our businessmen preferred to sell scrap-iron to Japan rather than use foresight. Have we learned anything?

Sending wheat to India and admitting Japanese competitors are not schemes to gain popularity and therefore are not admissible of prolonged debate. Such topics are proofs of our intent in the eyes of the world, and action of this kind will soon have to take the place of pious phrases if we ever expect to leave Asia except on a shutter.





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