#### **Nebraskan Editorials:**

# **Just The Facts**

Finally, some facts.

Certainly, not all the facts . . . Obviously, not many of the facts . . . But, finally, some of the facts-the first facts that have yet been presented by either side concerning the advisability of the one week exam proposal.

As yet, no justification for or explanation of the final exam resolution has been officially, formally or in any other conceivable way presented to the student body.

However, informally, offhand and in scattered quotes recorded by The Nebraskan last semester, we've heard a lot of reasons for the one week exam.

\*Students leave town during finals.

\*Other neighboring schools use the one week period.

\*Students waste time during the two week

period. \*Too much emphasis is placed on final exams.

BUT WE HAVE YET TO SEE ANY FACTS.

All of these statements, as sensible as they might seem, are merely blanket statementsbacked up with no proof, tangible evidence or facts of any kind. These reasons have been only what they

could possibly be: personal observations and opinions lacking the decisive support of factual evidence. Perhaps these observations and opinions are right. Perhaps they are not. It's hard to say.

But, especially, it's hard to say when there are no available facts. This sort of evidence is hard to get. But it

can be done. And it has been done.

The photostated table on the front page, compiled by a special Faculty Senate committee in 1950, is a good example.

Granted, this survey was taken five years ago. Students change. Professors change. Times change. But yet, the facts gathered by this faculty group nevertheless give an indication, and a good one, of two things:

1. THE MAJORITY OF PROFESSORS AND STUDENTS QUESTIONED IN 1950 FAVORED EXAMINATIONS EXTENDED OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME.

In 1950, a nine day period of examinations was employed. A majority of faculty members and students voted for this 1950 system; the next largest grouping of faculty and students was for a ten day period, only one day shy of the present system.

2. STUDENTS IN 1950 USED THE TWO DAY READING PERIOD.

2479 students said they used the reading period. 101 claimed they didn't.

The statistics also gave some evidence, though not conclusive evidence, that a good majority of the students do not leave town during examinations (2073-373). It also shows that faculty and students alike favored a maximum of two exams per day.

These figures are in no way conclusive. They can be no more than an indication. But they are facts and, even though they are five years old, they are the first scraps of evidence yet brought forth on the exam question.

As the first real tangible evidence, they demand close inspection.-B. B.

The test of any system can be determined will, in the long run, be selecting the student and industry, as well as human entanglements, on the campus. so is it true in the Council's chambers.

actual meeting of the Council for choosing Pub cil activities, be they good, bad or indifferent. Board members.

At Wednesday's meeting which will be devoted largely, if not entirely, to interviewing candidates for Pub Board, the Council will be testing its own plan for rectifying the inadequacy of past years. For the first time, the Council will have interviewed each candidate prior to the main meeting and nominated, in a sense, the individuals considered especially qualified for the responsible posts.

At the meeting there will be no need for useless comments. There will be no need for silly questions, requesting promises that will never be fulfilled. There is not even any need or reason for every member of the Council to feel he "must" stand up and be heard-i.e., unless be does have something worth saying and contributing to the other members of the Council.

Yet, the Council will be considering a matter do, do keep your wits about you.

only after it has been in operation. Just as this members of a group that will, in turn, select maxim is true in every phase of government the staff for the only all-University publications

To be downright factual, this very group will For the first time, the selection of the Pub be selecting the individuals who next semester Board has been given careful thought before the and the next year will be commenting on Coun-

> It is plain to see the importance of this choice, for the entire University and for the

> Therefore, let the Council grapple with the real worth of these applicants. The new members should possess all the qualities necessary for a high judicial post, for this is the function they will perform.

The Council can be given some advice: 1. Keep your wits about you.

2. Don't over emphasize the importance of

experience, journalism knowledge, business training, grades, activities or anything else. But do consider each one of these points individually.

4. Do try to get the higher type person, the person who will be above the pettiness of personal favors and the bigotry of personal enmi-

5. And last, repeating the first admonition,

Speak up. Think. And then, choose .- D. F.

### More And Better Reasons

"Activities" - the word is somewhat of an vidual development. anomaly to the average student. The general feeling seems to be that it is acceptable to be "in activities"-after all, it is required for house

But those who take an activity seriously enough to be classed ar an "activity wheel" are regarded with a rather detached amusement, sometimes akin to suspicion.

Yet, strange as it might seem to those students who have never known the pleasure of to the value of her four years in college and licking stamps for Builders or soliciting for AUF, there are other and better reasons for participating in activities than the fact that "the house requires it."

at the AWS Activities Mart. Most of the coeds who will attend, if previous years are any indication, will have been thoroughly exposed to activities during meetings at their sororities.

They will have been told either where they can get the required number of points in the easiest manner, or, if such is their inclination, where they will have the best chance for making Mortar Board.

The few independents who will attend the Mart probably will attend at the urging of some upperclass friend or to sign up for a particular interest.

Whatever the reason the freshman coeds will have for attending, probably few realize the philosophy behind activities. The many organizations are tolerated on campus for essentially two reasons. First, the organization fulfills some worthwhile function; either to the campus, such as Builders and Tassels; to the Lincoln community and society, such as Red Cross and AUF. or, to its own members, such as NUCWA or

JWAN. But, secondly, in a larger sense, all activities ultimately serve their members. The average coed may consider activities an opportunity for broadening social contacts, but beyond that she doesn't expect much. Yet from typing letters for Bullders to planning a Red Cross party at the orphanage, leading a YWCA discussion of

Working with other people, closely and often under pressure, gives a person new insight into inter-person relations. Helping with a service project gives a heretofore rather self-centered person a new consideration for others.

AWS is suggesting that no coed sign up for more than three organizations. By selecting those activities which best express her individual interests, the freshman can add immeasurably prepare herself for a more useful and richer life in the years ahead

There is more to activities than activity points, coffee in the Union and a calendar full of meetings; all the benefits to be gained from This afternoon, freshmen women will have activities do not have any immediate tangible their first opportunity to sign up for activities return, nor do they necessarily culminate with Ivy Day .- L. S.

### The Student Union

In the last week the Union and the administration have announced two moves toward making sure that the million dollars going into new addition will be used wisely.

The house representatives picked by the board of managers are to help find out just what people who use the Union want in the new addition. They, of course, are to act in a liaison capacity as far as informing their houses and dorms what the Union's projects are-sort of a publicity staff. But, in their survey capacity, they will be doing a service to their groups and themselves as well as the Union.

Lust week the best-known authority on student unions, Porter Butts, was engaged in a three-day stint on the campus to help local planning groups. Butts' advice is expensive, The Nebraskan heard unofficially; the administration felt the money involved in hiring an

expert was a good investment. If Butts' view of student unions is any indication, the addition will increase the Union's usefulness as a college-community center

The cheering aspect of the developing Unito plans is that it shows an evident desire to consult expert advice and student wishes, so that marriage, or participating in a NUCWA confer- the parking lot will disappear under more than ence, all activities offer opportunities for indi- just another pretty building .- M. S.

### The Nebraskan

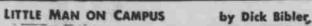
FIFTY-FIVE YEARS OLD ther: Associated Collegiate Press Intercollegiste Press res: National Advertising Service, Published at: Room 20, Student Union

University of Nebruska Lincoln, Nebruska

residue is published Tuesday, Wednesday and big the school year, except during vacations particle, and the leave is published during students of the University of Neteraliz under tustion of the Constitute on Student Scholes and student uptition. Publications under than of the Subsamunities on Student Publications and student uptition. Serve from adjusted sensor-rip or the Subsamunities, or on the part of any member sits in the Subsamunities. The members of the plant are personally responsible for what the

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Roger Hahl

a student can do in this University

toward improving his academic or

social situation, or toward assuring

the integrity of his degree. Many

freshmen come to this school with

the delusion that the student will

have a part in the leadership of

this University, and that some of

the policy wll be determined by his

own student government organiza-

If he hasn't been shaken out of

this attitude by now, he soon will

be, for the student seems to have

very little influence around here.

Whether he should or not is far

from clear cut, but it is important

that he had better not expect any,

The confusing and mistily-cov-

ered-up action on the one-week ex-

am period is a good indication

of the weakness of student opin-

ion here, and, it appears, of some

fast double-takes on the part of

After the motion was originally

passed, cutting exam period from

two to one week, there was a

disconcerting hue and cry from

faculty members about the de-

faculty members cried foul and

either openly or in private discus-

sion accused the backers of this

bill of "stacking" the faculty sen-

ate, misrepresenting the intent of

the motion in previous announce-

ments and of railroading the bill

through at the end of the Senate

meeting. If I recall correctly, the

My Bootless Cries

Teachers College and several Bix

Ad professors bastened to make it clear that they weren't, as com-monly believed, behind the one

The Student Council, supposedly

the student's voice in campus af-

fairs, registered an uncompromis-

ingly strong objection to the re-

duced exam period and also asked

for more justification for the re-duction. They were, I am told, as-

sured by University officials that

the students' felings would be pre-

sented to the Senate or at least

Last week the faculty held their

first Senate meeting of the new

school year, and no mention was

made of any oposition to the bill

on the part of either previously-

wehement faculty members or

questioning students. Although a

small facet of the one-week exam

procedure was brought up, dis-

cussed and passed, there were no

objections made about the one-

cried so loudly last Spring? I

imagine most of them were at

that meting last week. Why didn't

they even debate the reduction of

The stock answer, of course, is

that last week's meeting was not

the occasion for a fight. Next month the 1956-57 calendar will

be brought up, and then the fight

will begin . . . if there is to be

one Frankly this doesn't seem

too logical. Each passing month

will only serve to resign many

faculty members to the exam re-

duction. And why spend time last

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Where were all of those who

week ermm period itself.

exams I wonder.

week exam.

considered

Several prominent Arts college

some faculty members.

Students Have Little Voice;

"eek exam program if, next month,

you're going to scrap it altogeth-

Apparently, if anything is to be

done, there is a clever plot hidden

and waiting for a last-ditch situ-

ation. Either that is the case, or else many faculty members are

reluctant to buck administration

**Professors Do Double Takes** 

policy, or suddenly indifferent smaller at graduations.

**News Coverage Criticized** 

which activities are to receive the benefit of publicity?

ments that are important to many students.

mation or news of coming events to the Nebraskan.

is an instance of this practice.

mitting our news.

The Crusade

you burt me deep down inside.

Nebraskan Letterip

(Editor's note: The Nebraskan Letterip column is open to leters from its renders. Letters must not exceed 150 words. No letter will be published if it is unsigned; names will be withheld if requested.)

To the Editor:

items and announcements pertaining to events of interest to the

entire student body are frequently not published? Does the Nebraskan

have any consistent policy which guides its editorial staff to determine

news of campus events, even if it were to necessitate the exclusion of

articles and columns of often dubious merit and interest. Our painful

experience has been that the Nebraskan prefers these to announce-

German Club on Oct. 5. in which some 400 students were concerned,

morphine will get me through a chem test and I easily survive

mounlit nights by wearing dark glasses. You know the kind, cool

as a cucumber, no feelings at all. But last Friday you've done it,

print to boot. As if that wasn't enough, I got classified with a bunch

of deaf, dumb and very unattractive scarecrows, and on the second

page you said that you really meant it, and it was strictly personal

and all that. I just couldn't take it, sat down and cried and cried.

saw that the talkstive council members were even uglier, that helped

perstely peeded work you're doing. Why, this is positively the peach-

iest crusade ever! A real darling, hones' to goodness expose and so

original! Why, man, this is more exciting than the race track. To

make it even better, you could print these track forms say in the

Tuesday issue and run sort of a contest. You know, guessing who

will get the most x's, giving away prizes and that sort of thing. Why,

it could become a national pastime when applied to the congressional

Tip. I wouldn't bet on yours truly. They'll probably even misspell

Kazys Aliminas

I can hardly wait to see who is going to win next time.

Would still be crying, but got to look at the picture again and

So, I calmed down and right away realized what great and des-

Right on the first page you misspelled my name. in extra heavy

One of the primary functions of a campus newspaper is to relay

The Nebraskan's recent failure to announce the meeting of the

Don Allison

German Club Sponsor

What is the function of campus newspaper? Why is it that news

# Let's All Be Indifferent!

The crusading fire is burning hot around the University these days. People are crusading to get rid of Glassford, to keep Glassford, to have a two week exam period, to have a one week exam period, to have the student council members speak up, to have the student council members shut up, all sorts of things.

It seems that nearly every articulate member of the University population, and some of the inarticulate, has some axe to grind.

Being surrounded by all these people with causes, has led me to discover an unpleasant fact about myself, and today I'm going to tell you the truth. Beneath this thin veneer of civilization, lies an abysmally indifferent savage. I simply don't care.

Even the fact that the eventual resolution of these controversies may in some way affect my future fails to arouse me. I can struggle

about the importance of final

exams in maintaining the integri-

And since still no notice has

been made of the Student Council

petitions (both this semester and

last), the students will be com-

pletely at the mercy of the admin-

Then the sheepskins will get

ty of their courses.

istration, good or bad.

through a one week period for final exams; although, like every reasonably intelligent and realistic student, I would prefer two weeks. As for the other current disputes. I can hardly conceive any good reason for their existing at all. Not only am I indifferent to such

national problems which have a bearing on the future of the whole I suppose there is something terribly selfish and even evil about

local problems, but, and this I

blush to admit, I am not parti-

cularly interested in pressing inter-

this attitude, but I can't help it.

#### Jess Jesting

Take for example the problem of China. Now, I care not one whit for the entire country. If the majority of the Chinese prefer to be governed by a Communist warlord rather than a democratic warlord, it's all right with me. I know I shouldn't feel that way, but still

And yet, there is sometiving to be said in defense of my position, aside from the obvious advantage it has of making my life a little simpler. Indifference, after all, is the basis of almost all tolerance. and tolerance is a great American virtue. You will say that such tolerance is not the real thing, and this is true, but sometimes we must be satisfied with second best and consider ourselves lucky.

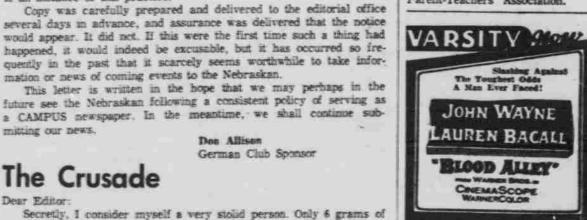
Well, it's off my chest now, and I feel better for it .Perhaps this column may even have a further purpose than that of cleansing my soul. I have an idea that many other people feel as I do in these matters, and this public admission may give them the strength to carry on.

Don't relax for a moment, comrades. Your enemies are all about you, crying for you to take a stand on something, Don't do it! Remember, you have a right to be indif-

### O. Pioneers

A recent issue of national women's magazine contained an article which decried the hugeness of the responsibility of today's woman.

The article said: "Not only must today's wife and mother be an amateur gamet, chauffeur, gardner, carpe electrician, seamstress and p. chologist, she must also be an active member of Parent-Teachers' Association.



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#### Cynic's Delight A University professor is quoted

the name in front of the zero,

by his students as uniquely stating one of the world's greater

"The only trouble with people with the gift of gab is that they tend to believe the bocum they shovel out to other people," he



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