Nebraskan Editorials:

Justifiably Proud

Things aren't so bad here after all, and The Nebraskan is happy and proud to be able to say it.

Thanks to careful advance planning, full attendance and much interest, discussion on the bitter controversy between the proponents of the one week exam period and the current—and now also the future—two week exam period meet, debated, voted and still got the meeting adjourned by the traditional 5 p.m. curfew.

And there was a victory, a victory for the University.

Students will now be guaranteed the time to review, analyze and synthesize course material. Good students will have time to relate the individual parts to the whole, and poor students will at least have the time, whether they use it or not.

Faculty members will have time to prepare exams, to carefully read them, to ponder (if they do) what the students have said and to give necessary attention to special duties, such as the reading of graduate theses.

As Prof. Dein pointed out on the floor of the Senate, the longer period also gives everyone a little time for "housekeeping matters."

The integrity of the institution now stands a better chance of being maintained. The classical concept of the final exam, a question which is part of the learning process, will now be retained.

For this, all of us, student, faculty, administration and taxpayer alike can be thankful.

To most students it is odd to hear, as Prof. Raysor said, that "this whole thing began 25 years ago" when students protested the then current shortened exam period.

He continued his discussion, saying "it might be a good idea to see what the students think about this matter." Then he referred to the poll, recorded in The Nebraskan, taken among students in their classes, showing an edge for the longer period by more than four to one.

And the Senate listened, for the results of the faculty poll on the same question was far different. Even if individual faculty members looked at the possibility of their own cramped schedule under the one week plan, they voted, fully aware of the real issues.

Then, in the Faculty Senate, there was a quick vote—which was preceded by a great deal of discussion, especially in favor of the longer period—and the meeting was adjourned.

The two week exam period had once again won the battle, after suffering nothing more than a dangerous, but still strategic, withdrawal.

In this case student opinion was heard and it was listened to.

Faculty opinion was likewise heard and it was listened to, and the faculty decided. And the decision was made for what each voting member thought was the general good of the institution, a fine institution of higher learning.

The Nebraskan has staunchly supported the move to reconsider the exam question. It has assumed its role, as the newspaper of this community, in working toward what it thought was a desirable goal.

This goal has been reached, fairly and honestly. Students and faculty alike have given up longer vacations, easier exams and haphazard reviewing and grading. University standards, always high, can now be raised.

Faculty and students have again demonstrated that they are capable, contrary to some opinion, of working together for a goal, in this case the entire University, a goal bigger than any of them.

For all this, The Nebraskan feels justifiably proud.—D. F.

Do The Right Thing

The Council, in a flurry of noble motives and lack of sensible thinking, last week passed a motion that put a large, hairy paw on leadership on the University campus, and on activities in particular.

In passing the scholarship restriction for offices and board positions in student activities, the Council very neatly and very decisively lopped off the heads of a number of campus activity workers, depriving them of their chance for offices and board positions for which they have worked hard and for which they are well qualified.

★

The reasons behind the passing of this ruling are sound enough. The plan, according to its supporters, calls for exceptional leaders to carry an average accumulated average, since the all University average is 5.7.

Others said that a 5.7 limit for officers is at least a minimum, since "leaders should at least be as good as those they lead." The idea is that student leaders should be well-established in the University grade system, as well as having those properties of leadership and organizational ability necessary for a position of responsibility.

★

Those in support of the movement are of the well-founded opinion that a good leader must also be a good scholar, and that a 5.7 grade average requirement will assure this.

This is indeed fine. Not only will our campus leaders be keen of eye and smooth of brow, but they will maintain averages at least equal to those they are leading. Off they go, flaming sword in one hand and Bartlett's familiar quotations in the other. Yah, man!

There is one small, oblong blur on this beautiful tapestry, however. The Council, in their noble endeavor, has neglected to consider the scholastic differences between the colleges, and the requirements of the duties in the various activities. It is here that restrictions should be made, and not at a Council meeting, where the final decision affects everyone.

It should be realized by anyone who thinks about it long enough that the academic load in some colleges, such as Teachers, is lighter than engineering or pre-professional. Some persons capable of getting a 5.7 average in one college would not be able to do it in another.

A course like chemical engineering, with its labs, takes almost twice as much time as a course in Teachers or Business Administration or Arts and Sciences where long, low-credit labs are not present or necessary.

Also, some activities are not of as large a scope as others. Persons with paid staff positions on student publications, for example, put in much more time and effort than an officer in an organization such as CCRC or Red Cross. This is time and effort that could be used for study.

Thus, with restrictions put on every worker in activities, regardless of academic load or the time required in the activity, some persons are given an unnecessary extra load.

★

If the Council had more carefully considered what they were doing, instead of reveling in the fine, noble dream of scholastic restrictions, perhaps a better plan could have been worked out. Perhaps an individual's duties and scholastic requirements could have been considered in themselves before a mandatory restriction was dropped on him.

But it is, seemingly, too late. By reversing the decision they made last week, the Council would make themselves, in their own eyes, look inconsistent and silly. The question is, however, did the Council do the right thing in the first place by restricting leadership?

The answer would seem to be, by popular opinion, no! Thus, by reversing last week's decision, the Student Council might very well do what they started out to do in the first place—keep activities leadership on a stable plane. —F. T. D.

"...No Time"

The so-called "gulf" between students and faculty narrowed for a while Tuesday and then appeared to widen again.

The closing of the gap was related to the consideration of student opinion by the Faculty Senate in its actions concerning the length of exam week, but the breach opened up again when an administration official decided that a Nebraskan query was not important enough to bother with, at least until some time later.

★

The thing that makes this action discouraging is that the information desired was released to a Lincoln paper, but the University Dean of Student Affairs was not able to talk to a Nebraskan reporter Wednesday at 5:15 p.m. since his "office was closed" and he was "going home."

He did mention that he was the only one able to release information on the subject and he would be able to see a Nebraskan representative the next day "at his convenience."

★

The issue involved was the re-instatement of six of the 18 students suspended from the University last spring following the riot. At the time of suspension, The Nebraskan first mentioned the difficulty of obtaining information from administration sources.

Of all people, it would seem that the Dean of Student Affairs would be the person most interested in the students and their opinions. It would seem that the Dean of Student Affairs would be the type of individual who should take time to keep students informed. In short, of all persons in the Administration, it would seem that the Dean of Student Affairs would be the one to be on the side of the students—or at least be the person who would be most interested in clarifying and explaining the actions of the University to the student body.

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Dean Colbert is neither malicious nor purposefully inconsiderate in his actions, but on several occasions he has belittled the attempts of the University's student newspaper to provide information to the student body—this, in effect, thwarts the student body's access to information.

To some people this issue—this incident—might seem petty and inconsequential. And it would be—if it were not indicative of a frequent disregard of student opinion by University officials. The student body has a right to be consulted and considered in many affairs of the University.

It is indeed unfortunate that at a time when students and faculty both become interested in the other's opinions concerning a central issue that unthinking action on the part of one official mars and hampers a growing spirit of co-operation and respect.—S. J.

The Nebraskan

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LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS by Dick Bibler

"HE'S IN PRIVATE CONFERENCE WITH MISS LUSH—CARE TO WAIT?"

Jess Brownell

Emotional Foreign Policy Considered

A few weeks ago I made some remarks about the world situation in this column. These remarks were met with so many loud huzzahs from the astounded populace that I have decided to try it again.

Today I shall take up the matter of our emotional attitude toward various foreign powers, a problem which has grown awfully confusing of late. It is necessary, you know, to maintain the nation's mental equilibrium by soundly hating at least one foreign country.

* * *

In recent years this position has been admirably filled by the Russians, but now they seem to be getting a little out of fashion, and an attempt has been made to give their place in our hearts to the Chinese Communists.

Unfortunately, one always becomes confused when trying to hate the Chinese Communists. That is because there are two groups of Chinese, both of which look alike and act alike, but one of which is not to be hated; the Chinese nationalists.

This distinction is often a pretty difficult one to make, and people who are not constantly on their toes find themselves lumping the Chinese together indiscriminately, thereby becoming open to a good deal of criticism from their more alert colleagues.

The problem is further enhanced by the fact that the nationalist leader, Chiang Kai-Shek, is such a delightfully hateful fellow that the slightest lapse in concentration can lead one into error.

Jess Jesting

I can only see one way out of this, and that is to find us another patsy. Maybe the French would fill the bill, they have been giving us a lot of trouble. Also, the French have an advantage which the Chinese do not.

Throughout the past, the French have often proved themselves our superiors in courage and cleverness, and have furthermore exhibited a complete indifference toward our standards and mores.

* * *

This has probably been enough to instill a feeling of inferiority in most Americans, and this feeling would form a good foundation for hatred. There would be a few anquished cries from artists and authors, but their effect would be negligible.

The whole thing could be initiated with very little prodding from the propaganda organs, and would be generally satisfying to the majority of Americans.

However, we may want to keep the French on as possible allies, and in that case, my idea is unworkable. If so, I am afraid that the next decade or two may cause quite a severe strain on our emotions. We can count on a respite, though, when the Germans come around again. We are traditionally fine haters of the Germans and can handle them with very little trouble; certainly, without all the shifting and trickery the present requires.

Marianne Hansen

Paul Means

No Logical Reason For Hasty KK Ban

Two weeks ago this column criticized Kosmet Klub for mismanagement. This criticism was given constructively, since we like to attend KK shows and want to see their quality improved.

But now Kosmet Klub itself is the victim of mismanagement—and a hasty, ill-considered decision.

In one short meeting, five days after the show, and on the basis of one written complaint, the faculty committee on student affairs stamped out the KK Fall Revue. That this decision had previous consideration, or that opinions were gathered from many people **actually in the audience**, is doubtful.

Obvious contradictions between The Nebraskan's coverage and the Dean of Student Affairs' printed remarks on this action led us to dig a little deeper to see just what did transpire at this now famous meeting.

Dean Colbert was quoted as saying "The action was based on comments of the committee members who saw the show." Yet the same Nebraskan story said only one member attended—Dr. H. L. Weaver.

* * *

This is confusing, since Dr. Weaver, who is also KK advisor, told the committee how KK had tried to clean up the show, promised future improvement, and then, because of his double role, abstained from voting.

Dr. Weaver was **not** the only committee member in the audience, although attendance by members was light and not all those members who were so eager to banish the show were there.

The members of the student affairs committee might do well in the future to attend some student affairs.

The Nebraskan also reported "the group was not warned this year to clean up the show." KK was warned, and they did try to comply. KK checked every skit script for obscenity. The curtain acts were planned to take up more of the time usually used by the MC to tell dirty jokes. The MC was chosen because he was a former member of KK, and he knew he was supposed to keep the jokes subtle, rather than smutty.

It is interesting to note, and a compliment to Kosmet Klub, that no specific objection has been made—or for that matter should be made—to the show skits themselves. The objection has been to off-the-cuff, off-color remarks by the MC.

For this the whole show has been banned.

* * *

What other precautions could KK have taken? You can tell an MC what you want, but once he stands before the mike, neither Kosmet Klub, the committee on student affairs, or anyone else can control him.

According to University by-laws, Kosmet Klub has the right to appeal the decision. At first it was thought appeal would have to be made to the same committee.

However, Dean of Faculties A. C. Breckenridge told a Lincoln paper that "it would not be fair for KK to appeal to the same group which made the decision." So apparently some other body will hear the KK appeal, which they plan to make soon.

Tale Of Two Cynics

Breckenridge called the ban only "temporary." But if this was the intent of the committee, why wasn't KK just put on probation or made subject to stricter supervision? Ban, according to the dictionary, means "to prohibit as evil; to forbid."

This ban of the show for even one year will probably have the effect of killing the Klub, for it is their money-making project for the spring show. With neither show, KK has no longer any reason for being.

* * *

Breckenridge also said "There'll be a good many months to get things straightened out." But the committee must have thought there was reason for **haste**, when they took such immediate and thorough action—prompted only by hearsay and one letter.

It seems this haste might have been caused by thoughts of the "effect" that publicity of such a quick administrative crack-down would have out in state where voters are concerned with protecting the character of students away from home. Whether such action was justified was apparently not considered.

The committee would not heed KK's explanation. Nor could they see that a suggested remedy—elimination of the MC and substitution of an announcer, with more curtain acts to fill in—would have prevented the same objections to future shows.

* * *

The committee thought the show was a pain, but instead of applying a cure, they cut off the whole finger to spite one cut. This sets a dangerous precedent—can the next campus organization to make a mistake expect to be chopped off as well?

The trouble is, we all make mistakes—even faculty committees.

Mr. Mackey

All We Need: One More Kick

If somebody would just give this place another good, stout kick, I'm sure it would roll over and die.

Maybe that'd be best. Put the poor thing out of its misery. There's hardly a spark of life left.

So let's all get in line please, and wait our turn.

The Faculty Senate gets first crack. The zealots who compose this body have only recently proved themselves quite adept with the Big Boot—and a wagging finger thrown in. Just last week, in fact, these apostles of virtue—or Great Levellers, whichever you prefer—brought this institution to its knees with a telling blow.

So step back, everybody, and let these ministers of King Conformity have one more well-placed kick.

Then—Utopia.

Or Tiddleywinks U., depending on how you look at it.

But wait, gentlemen! There's another group waiting to test their toe.

It's the Selleck Quad battalion, no less. And all the way over from the Big Red Barn—where college spirit means as much as halitosis. Well, Cluck, Cluck, Cluck—and let them through. It's been said that these fellows haven't enough gumption to walk on the grass, nor enough initiative to dot their i's. And I thought they had gone to seed for the winter.

Once upon a time, Fraternity Row might have been expected to step forth and revive this institution. To pump new vigor into its lifeless form.

But today? Fraternity Row—they might as well board it up. No spark there anymore. No imagination, either. In fact, no nothing.

So it looks as we're just around the corner from that melting pot of mediocrity—the Classroom Campus.

And you, my friend, can have it.

On Campus with Max Shulman

(Author of "Barefoot Boy with Cheek," etc.)

SCHULTZ IS A MANY SPLENDORED THING

Beppo Schultz, boulevardier, raconteur, connoisseur, sportsman, bon vivant, hail fellow well met—in short, typical American college man—smokes today's new Philip Morris Cigarettes.

"Why do you smoke today's new Philip Morris Cigarettes, hey?" a friend recently asked Beppo Schultz.

"I smoke today's new Philip Morris Cigarettes," replied Beppo, looking up from his 2.9 litre L-head Hotchkiss drive double overhead camshaft British sports car, "because they are *new*."

"New?" said the friend. "What do you mean—new?"

"I mean modern—up-to-date—designed for today's easier, breezier living," said Beppo.

"Like this 2.9 litre L-head Hotchkiss drive double overhead camshaft British sports car?" asked the friend.

"Exactly," said Beppo.

"She's a beauty," said the friend, looking admiringly at the car. "How long have you had her?"

"It's a male," said Beppo.

"It's a male," said Beppo.

"Sorry," said the friend. "How long have you had him?"

"About a year," said Beppo.

"Have you done a lot of work on him?" asked the friend.

"Oh, have I not!" cried Beppo. "I have replaced the pushrods and rockers with a Rootes-type supercharger. I have replaced the torque with a synchromesh. I have replaced the tachometer with a double side draft carburetor."

"Gracious!" exclaimed the friend.

"I have replaced the hood with a bonnet," said Beppo.

"Land o' Goshen!" exclaimed the friend.

"I have replaced the gasoline with petrol," said Beppo.

"Crim-a-nentlies!" said the friend.

"And I have put gloves in the glove compartment," said Beppo.

My, you have been the busy one!" said the friend. "You must be exhausted."

"Maybe a trifle," said Beppo with a brave little smile.

"Do you know what I do when I'm tired?" asked the friend.

"Light a Philip Morris?" Beppo ventured.

"Oh, pshaw, you guessed!" said the friend, pouting.

"But it was easy!" cried Beppo, laughing silverly. "When the eyelids droop and the musculature sags and the psyche is depleted, what is more natural than to perk up with today's Philip Morris in the red, white and gold package?"

"A bright new smoke in a bright new pack!" proclaimed the friend, his young eyes glistening with tears.

"Changed to keep pace with today's changing world!" declared Beppo, whirling his arms in concentric circles. "A gentler, more relaxing cigarette for a sunnier age, an age of greater leisure and broader vistas and more beckoning horizons!"

Now, tired but happy, Beppo and his friend lit Philip Morrises and smoked for a time in deep, silent contentment. At length the friend spoke. "Yes, sir," he said, "he certainly is a beauty."

"You mean my 2.9 litre L-head Hotchkiss drive double overhead camshaft British sports car?" asked Beppo.

"Yes," said the friend. "How fast will he go?"

"Well, I don't rightly know," said Beppo. "I can't find the starter."

©Max Shulman, 1955

The makers of Philip Morris, who bring you this column, assure you that whether you're in a sleek new sports car or the old family sedan, your best driving companion is new, gentle Philip Morris.