

Nebraskan Editorials:

Battle Of Atlanta

It isn't often that a student newspaper can condone a riot. Few student riots have an excuse, much less a justification. Last spring's demonstration at the University chagrined and disturbed almost everyone. But Georgia Tech's uprising in Atlanta last Friday is a different matter. Heavily as The Nebraskan deplors riots, it admires the purpose behind this one. Georgia Governor Marvin Griffin had announced that he would ask the Board of Regents to bar state college teams from playing schools having Negro players or participating where spectators are not segregated. Tech has a contract to meet Pittsburgh in the Sugar Bowl Jan. 2. Pitt's reserve back, Bobby Grier, is a Negro and their block of seats in the New Orleans bowl is not segregated. Georgia Tech's students and administration reacted immediately—and violently. Two thousand students paraded into downtown Atlanta, then to the state capitol and governor's mansion, carrying signs and burning an effigy of Griffin. In the all-night riot, doors to the capitol were broken down, a guard was knocked down, patrol cars and police cars were summoned from Atlanta and three adjoining counties. That is quite a riot. Griffin reportedly laughed, saying that it "was just a bunch of college boys having a good time and I never get excited about that." Griffin had better get excited. This was apparently a kind of riot bearing no relation to aimless, and destructive, "panty raids." Georgia Tech students were standing up not only for their school's right to play in the Sugar Bowl but for their views on segregation. Segregation is a political issue in the South, obviously, and Griffin appeared to be making the most of it in playing up to his "White-supremacy" voters without going against the Supreme

Court decisions eliminating segregation in trains, buses, state parks and state recreational facilities. Instructing the Board of Regents to keep college teams from playing opponents having Negro players may or may not be strictly legal. But it directly opposes the developing liberalism on the subject and provoked violence from the students affected. Involved in the governor's edict is not only the slow death of Jim Crow, but the continual issue of academic freedom. In this case Georgia Tech was following an atheistic policy of racial tolerance. Most Southern schools have been playing mixed Northern teams without incident. For a state official to interfere in a legal and practical college policy is not in the best interests of his state or of higher education. Supporting a state university is a risky business for some taxpayers. In Georgia, the students are exhibiting an attitude completely opposed to the narrow-minded apathy that elects and keeps in office white-supremacy officials. A younger generation opposed to segregation should end the practice more effectively than any Supreme Court decision. The ugly remnants of segregation are but one issue educators and demagogues tangle over. Tech students' resistance to being told what to think is laudable. Their riot was against the state government, not their own sympathetic administration. A revolt against the intolerable is not "college boys having a good time." It is citizens resorting to extremes. No one urges violence as a remedy against even so crass an action as Griffin's but one wishes the extreme of riot had not been provoked. The Nebraskan is proud of the motivation, if not the result, of the Second Battle of Atlanta. M. S.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS by Dick Bible



"NOW, LESSEE—WHOSE TURN TO GIVE THE NEXT SPEECH?"



ROTC Utilizes 'Pressure Tactics'

Understand the Military Ball was considered somewhat of a success. It should have been successful, considering the ROTC's pressure tactics used to insure good attendance. The ROTC departments have always been remote in aims and teaching methods from the rest of the academic world. But, last week, the Army used coercive techniques that are completely incongruous with ideal student-faculty relations and that just "don't go" with a lot of students here. The Military Ball, a responsibility of the ROTC departments, has always been reputed to be a little too formal and too expensive for the general run of college students. Failure to sign up big-name bands has hurt it in recent years. Yet it has a semi-hallowed place on campus, and can never be said to be a colorless affair. Behind the Military Ball, however, have been some disturbing pressures. ROTC students are asked to underwrite the thing, and often the requests to underwrite have been in the form of ultimatums. Even then, the instructors in the department were either becoming indifferent to the whole thing, or were moderately subtle in their partisanship. Last week, it appears that the Army ROTC wasn't even subtle. I am told from several directions that junior advanced cadets, at least, were called aside at Lab, when it appeared that the Military Ball ticket sales were not going over too well. They were, I understand, told that failure to attend the Ball was a personal insult to the Colonel, and a slap in the face to the whole department. They were warned that "you just don't do that sort of thing in the Army."

My Bootless Cries

So, advanced cadets had to write their names on their tickets as they handed them in, and the ROTC instructors said that the names of those present would be carefully noted. As for those not present... well, they couldn't be given demerits, but you could be sure that this affront would be considered when promotions were handed out. This sort of thing is little more than a veiled threat. It is another case of letting extra-curricular activities directly affect a scholastic grade. It is the type of petty Prussianism that nauseates notoriously rebellious and independent college students. These SS tactics don't fit in at a University which, as yet, anyway, is not an army camp. In short, the Army, such a stickler on decorum, should remember that "you just don't do that sort of thing" in a University.

Toward A Better University

The following editorial is the second in a series of seven in The Nebraskan's special series dealing with questions voiced in a Nebraskan editorial published Nov. 16. The purpose of this series is to raise thought among all parts of our campus community. They aim to help students and faculty-administration understand the similarity of their problems and the very real similarity of their interests—the betterment of the University. This editorial discusses the role of the University as a tax-supported institution, the pressures exerted by it and upon it and the specific difficulties arising from all of this.

A Dual Responsibility

As a tax-supported state institution dependent upon the legislature for funds, the University is responsible to the will of the people of Nebraska. Nebraska statutes provide that the government of educational institutions receiving tax support shall be left to the faculties of the institutions. The Board of Regents is the only policy-making body governing a state institution that is elective. In this way the state statutes provide wide latitude of freedom and self-government for the University. No matter how free an institution may be, however, there are always problems. The administration of the University is no exception. Indeed it would be strange if this were not so, because the Administration, acting as an agent of the Board of Regents must try to equate Regent's policy with outstate public opinion and expressed student wishes. Theoretically the administration is to act only at the direction of the Board of Regents and then in a purely administrative capacity. It is obvious, however, that even the most conscientious Regent cannot keep as closely in touch with the University problems as officers of the administration. Thus much of the brunt of the responsibility falls to the Administration and to the Chancellor in particular. To both the people of the state and to the students, the Chancellor represents the University. It becomes, therefore the duty of the Chancellor to weigh and equate the pressures brought upon him from several sides. There have been occasions in the past where students have felt that the Administration was yielding to outstate pressures. Administration sources say, however, that protest from outstate is at a minimum. If active outstate pressure is not the determinant of policy, what is, students may ask. Even in the absence of active public opinion, the administration must remain cognizant of its dual responsibility—to the citizens who support it, and to the students which are the reason for its existence. It is obvious that the two are inseparable. Without the tax-payers this University could not continue; without the students it would have no reason to. The Chancellor is well-aware of his double responsibility. His tours around the state, on the one side, and his Cornhusker Roundtable with student representatives, on the other, are examples of how the Chancellor seeks to meet this responsibility. There are other examples. Certainly, however, this is not all that could be done. The students need to be made more aware of reasons for actions—not necessarily through formal statements of policy on a specific issue, but through a general outlining of plans and programs for the future. A State of the University address is one suggestion which the Chancellor is considering to deal with this problem. It needs to be understood that while admin-

Correction Coming

The Faculty Senate will vote next Tuesday, December 13, on what to do about classes after the Christmas vacation. The present calendar calls for classes to be held on Monday, Jan. 2. Monday will be a legal holiday, since Jan. 1, New Year's Day, will fall on a Sunday. Thus, the University should not start classes until Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1956. The only reason classes are presently slated to start on Jan. 2 instead of Jan. 3 is because the Faculty Calendar Committee overlooked the presence of a legal holiday Jan. 2 when they drew up the calendar last year. The Calendar Committee and the faculty as a whole are aware of this error. It was an understandable mistake, and one that will be easily corrected. The Nebraskan and the student body are confident that the Faculty Senate will act wisely next week and vote to start classes Tuesday, Jan. 3, instead of Monday, as the calendar now reads. It is simply a matter of procedure. Besides, who wants to be in class while the bowl games are on.—F. T. D.

The Nebraskan

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Ellie Elliott Davy Crockett For Christmas



As I stood on the busy corner of 13th and O the other day, a sudden wave of nostalgia overcame me. The beautiful street and shop decorations reminded me of our great Christmas heritage. I remembered our stories of Christ's Mass. . . . "In the days of Anderson, the Governor of Nebraska: "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Mayor Jeary, that all the town should be decorated. "And all went to shop, every one into his own store. "And Joseph also went up, to shop with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. "And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in diapers, and laid him in a parking lot; because there was no room for them at the Cornhusker. "And there were in the same town policemen abiding on their corners, keeping watch over the traffic by night. And lo, the angel of Walt Disney came upon them, and the glory of Walt Disney shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. "And the angel said unto them; Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of Disney a Saviour, which is the son of Lady and the Tramp. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in diapers, lying under a neon sign. "And, suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude of the mer-

cenary host praising Walt Disney and saying, "Glory to Walt Disney in Hollywood, and in Lincoln commerce, good sales for businessmen. "And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning these apparitions. And all

Given 'em Ell

they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the policemen. "And when there were only eight shopping days left, the child's name was called Davy Crockett, which was named of the Chamber of Commerce when he was conceived in their brains. "And when Davy was born in Lincoln of Nebraska in the days of Anderson the Governor, behold, there came farmers from the west to Omaha, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Wild Frontier? For we have seen his neon signs, and we are come to purchase him." Merry Christmas.

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SMOKER'S CHRISTMAS NEEDS CLIFF'S SMOKE SHOP 121 N. 12th

Quick Quips

Men seldom make passes in eight o'clock classes. A policeman stopped by a pool in the park. In front of the pool was a huge sign which read: "Swimming positively forbidden." In the pool a man was splashing about. The officer walked to the edge of the water. "I'm going to arrest you," he said, "as soon as you come out of there." "Ha-ha-ha!" the man chortled, "I'm not coming out, I'm committing suicide."

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COLLEGE JOURNALIST

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