

**Nebraskan Editorials:****A New Year's Resolution**

Sunday was the first day of a brand new year, 1956.

For some it was a bright day, full of sunshines and church music, and great dinners at relatives.

For others it was exceedingly dark brown, full of loud noises and haggard faces, and tall glasses of tomato juice.

At any rate, no matter how the day was spent, it was a day to be reckoned with. It was an important day, one that could very well shape the rest of the year.

For a number of reasons, most of them dating back to ancient traditions and customs, the beginning of new year has been slated as a time for people to "turn over a new leaf" and make great golden shrines to the future, loaded with promises and resolutions.

People have acquired the belief that the new year somehow purges them of whatever is shady or incomplete in the old year, and that they can happily forget what is behind them.

The old year is a trash barrel to receive all of mankind's mistakes and faulty judgments, where they will moulder forgotten and unimportant.

Thus cleansed of his faults, man sets out to brighten up the new year with decorative rationalizations called "New Year's Resolutions."

These resolutions are really all right. They are made with every intent of keeping them, and prove excellent sources of martyrdom for at least a week until creatures of habit regain

their rightful positions. Then the resolutions can be forgotten in fine spirit, and everyone can slip back into that comfortable old sin again.

Perhaps the most people get out of making New Year's Resolutions is the resolving itself, and little else. It is great to stand alone on your own rocky hill, baring your chest to the screaming wind and the driving snow and resolve to completely remake your life.

This involves dropping various and sundry bad habits and eccentric notions which are really quite nice, such as smoking, drinking, wearing imitation wool socks and believing in ghosts.

Then, after the resolutions are made and typed up neatly on good paper, they can be mailed to relatives and showed around to friends, impressing them with the originality and self-sacrifice of the promises.

A bit of nobleness and modesty provides a good touch, too.

What would happen, however, if somebody actually kept his New Year's Resolutions? The repercussions would be heard as far as Togoland. Think what would happen to Our Great American Way of Life!

It really might be a good idea. Since we so easily forget what we have done wrong, passing it all off on the New Year, it might well be a good idea to seriously consider keeping some of these resolutions.

Maybe not all of them. That would be asking too much. Just enough so the whole thing would worth while after all.

It doesn't hurt very much, honest.—F. T. D.

**An All-American**

On Thursday, Grand Island will celebrate its good fortune.

Nebraska's Third City has recently been named as one of the nation's "All America Cities." A Grand Island product, Sharon Kay Ritchie, is the current Miss America and the city's new two and a half million dollar high school opened its doors for the first time this fall.

Thursday's celebration will welcome Miss and Mrs. America and many others, including Bob Reynolds, University 1950 All-American and a Grand Island high school graduate.

In many ways, it would seem that Grand Island is an All-American city. Its high school has produced a Miss America and an All-American football player and its schools are representative of the finest in physical plants and teaching standards.

Many University students had some part in Grand Island's campaign four years ago in which a four million dollar bond issue was passed, one of the largest ever approved by a town with a population of 25,000.

Another city receiving an "All-American" rating was Phenix City, Alabama. The award was given to this southern city for its activities which

stamped out gambling, organized vice and other corruption which had been established in the community for almost a century. Grand Island was recognized for achievement in education.

There seems little correlation between the two cities other than a slight similarity in population. Phenix City had to fight in a bare-fisted, no-holds-barred manner to raise itself to decency and a place in the sun. What did Grand Island have to do?

The citizens of Grand Island had to fight the opposition of large taxpayers who did not desire to pay the increase in property tax. This opposition was organized, but it was fought with words and enlightenment—it was combated with the very elements of the thing it was trying to preserve—education.

Today, Grand Island is exemplary in many ways and because of this fine example, it is indeed strange that a surprising paradox can be found in the pages of the magazine that has honored the city.

It wasn't very many years ago that Look magazine listed Grand Island (along with Phenix City) as one of the worst sin-ridden cities in the nation for the existence of organized prostitution.—S. J.

**New 'Conservative' Look**

A new type of "conservatism" has sprung up within the Republican party.

James L. Wick, author of "How NOT To Run For President," a Handbook For Republicans, is the proponent of this new philosophy. Wick says he is "preserving our constitutional liberties," which he feels are threatened by New Deal "socialism" and "Me Too" Republicanism.

But Wick's plan to preserve the Constitution is to ram through five amendments, the combined effect of which would be a more radical change than the New Deal, the Fair Deal, the Square Deal and the Rotten Deal—all rolled into one.

"The Mundt-Coudert Amendment" (which picks presidential electors by senatorial and congressional districts instead of state-wide blocks as has been done since the days of Andrew Jackson.)

This is necessary, Wick feels, to "cut down the abnormal power of New York state and New York City to determine the presidential nominees of both parties."

However, small states have a great countervailing power in the Senate, which gives them a tremendous advantage in Congress as a whole. To throw out the advantage large states have in

selecting the president would do irreparable damage to the system of checks and balances.

"The Reed-Dirkson amendment" (which would limit income taxes and forbid federal death and gift taxes altogether.)

In our economy of today tax rates are flexible tools of economic policy; they should not be fixed by any arbitrary restrictions.

"The Byrd-Bridges amendment" (which would require a balanced budget annually except in wartime or time of open hostility.)

Such a rigid requirement would bind the hands of the government to balance the nation's entire economic load.

"The Bricker amendment" (which would limit the government's power to make treaties and put them into effect.)

Already, however, treaty-making is more difficult than in most governments, as almost all presidents have volubly complained.

"The Reed-Walter amendment" (which would give states the power to amend the Constitution without federal action.)

This is the new type of "conservatism," which would put the treaty and amending power back to 1780, the nominating power back to 1820 and the taxing power back almost to 1914.—B. B.

**Afterthoughts****Unfit . . .**

Unfamiliar as classes seemed yesterday after more than two weeks of suspended animation during vacation, one thing made school real again—the traditional smell of a class building, compounded of chalk, shoes, overcoats, paper, lint, cigarette smoke, radiators and floor wax.

New buildings on campus may have to be broken in by spraying with a synthetic or by holding a couple of poli sci seminars in the halls before they will be fit for classes.

The students will get a shock when they enter

the University and discover we are still doing hard thinking on hard wood, and taking lumpy notes on extended chair arms covered with Greek letters, initials and slogans dating back to the Spanish American War.

If progressive education ever infiltrates the University, chair seats may perhaps be matched to the class's subject matter—green for botany, red for Russian history and cowhide for Ag college.

The new juke-box in the Crib has brought all kinds of comments.

In view of its 200 selections, one of the strangest ones came down a rather disgusted student. After studying the machine for several minutes, he stuffed his money back in his pocket and announced to his companion, "Can't find anything to play."

**Natural Setting**

University High School, according to the news stories, has abandoned the old idea of hard desks for its pupils and has substituted natural seating arrangements of tables and attractive chairs.

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**The Nebraskan**

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**LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS**

by Dick Bibler



"GEE, ERVIN, WHY DIDN'T WE THINK TO BRING A HAMMOCK?"



Roger Hahn  
**Dante's 'Inferno'**  
**Inspires Display**

inventor, maker of model airplanes and constructor of torture devices.

This particular bull was made so that when Phalaris (a fun-lover, always good for a laugh) stuck a victim inside it, and roasted him to death (what else could you do

**My Bootless Cries**

with a victim inside an iron bull?), the victim's screams of agony passed through certain tuned pipes and emerged as a burlesque belching of the bull.

Transplanting this to the home scene, an enterprising fraternity or sorority could build an iron buffalo (or Buff, as it is known when we play Colorado), and jam a pledge inside, roast him about medium rare and listen to the bellows of the buffalo. What judge could pass it up?

This would necessitate pledging several extra boys the September before, since the judging and viewing period of homecoming lasts quite a spell, and you'd want a few peons left over to beat and flagellate the rest of the year.

The pledges sacrificed for dear old Greek Letters (or even dear old Quad, for that matter) could be quick frozen, and when the alums came over after the game . . . but then, it seems to me that Jonathan Swift (after whom Swift meatpackers are named) went into

Good idea, eh? I thought it up last Christmas Eve.

(eds. note: Young Henkle has a fairly good idea. However, we must say, that it has already been tried here at Nebraska with little success.)

**VARSITY**

GARY COOPER  
IN  
"The Court-Martial"  
of  
Billy Mitchell"  
Chas. Bickford  
Ralph Bellamy

WEBB JACK  
in  
EXTRA!  
Years Most Exciting  
Short  
"24 Hr. Alert!"

turn for promises that have never yet been kept.

The alternative method is to stand by the principles of the self-government of peoples which have been boldly proclaimed in President Wilson's Fourteen Points, in the Atlantic Charter and in the Charter of the United Nations.

I am glad to join with others whom the Daily Nebraskan has invited to send a special message to the students of the University of Nebraska.

My message is: Don't be afraid to do what is right. For such fear is the best weapon the Communists have in their effort to destroy the liberties of your Christian civilization.

Everyone knows there is something very much wrong with international relations in the world today. The fact that affairs are going badly for the free nations is proved by the mastery the Communists have won over more than 800,000,000 people in the past ten years, and by the success they are having right now in shifting several hundred more millions toward their side through propaganda and diplomatic influence in India and Southeast Asia.

What is wrong is not difficult to determine. The cardinal fact is that the Communists know what they want and are making tremendous, disciplined and continuous efforts to get it.

Meanwhile, the free world is divided in a very loose alliance, is not even sure what it wants to achieve, and is unwilling to make sacrifices to maintain justice, democracy and freedom.

The basic error of the free world is in insisting that its goal is not freedom and justice—but peace.

Actually, peace is never difficult to preserve (for a while) if a sufficient price is paid for it.

Czechoslovakia got peace by surrender. India is seeking peace by insisting that it can see no difference between Communist imperialism and democratic self-defense.

The United Nations won a temporary peace in Korea by agreeing to a truce that flatly contradicted its own aims, as set forth in a resolution adopted on Oct. 7, 1950, calling for the liberation of northern Korea and the unification of the nation under a freely elected government.

Thus far, the free world has sought to deal with Communist aggression by entering into conferences in which the democratic nations make concessions in re-

turn for promises that have never yet been kept.

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