

Nebraskan Editorials:

Toward A Stronger Council

Both the Interfraternity Council and the independent governing bodies are in the process of drawing up slates for the forthcoming Student Council elections.

The IFC had extremely good fortune with their slate last year, as all but one of their candidates was elected to the Council. The independents did not fare well at all when running against an IFC-backed candidate.

This was due partly to a lack of interest and organization on the part of the independents, and partly to the great support IFC-backed candidates received from fraternity men. Also, the independent candidates themselves may not have been strong enough.

This year, the independent slate committees are faced with the same problem they faced last year—that of breaking the hold that fraternity candidates have maintained on Student Council positions for the last several years.

In this year's elections, the independent slate will have the advantage of a year's experience, and better organization. Their only real problem is that of finding freshman and sophomore candidates that are strong enough and active

enough to win a Council seat, no matter who their opposition is, or how well organized.

The main trouble with a strong IFC slate versus a strong independent slate is that the elections will be reduced to a competition, with fraternity men voting their slate, and independents voting theirs. This, however, would be better than fraternity men voting an IFC slate, and no one else voting at all.

Whether or not independent candidates win more Council seats this year than in the past, or even present a stronger slate, indications are that independent strength on this campus will be stronger in years to come.

Additional dormitories and better dorm organization make this fact almost certain.

Thus, the task before the independent slate committee is to provide strong candidates. This would mean more independent representation on the main campus governing body, and more independent interest in the internal workings of their University.

It might even mean a stronger and more effective Student Council. This is the important thing.—F.T.D.

Stronger Links

Interfraternity Council officers for the coming year might do well to look at the task before them with a little uncertainty and a great deal of determination.

Although the University enrollment is gradually increasing, men participating in Rush Week and men pledging fraternities is on the decrease. Several fraternities, if their fortunes do not improve, will not be on the University campus in five years.

A noticeable trend that is appearing on the horizon is more extensive control and regulation of fraternities by the University administration.

Building plans call for more University housing for men in addition to the Selleck Quadrangle. Another development the size of the Quad might possibly cut the University fraternity population by a third.

Behind this year's junior class there is a rather obvious void among fraternity men participating in campus activities, publications and student government. While some fraternities may scoff

at the activity man, this individual keeps the fraternity in contact with the administration and also represents the Greek system in campus life.

More strength is needed by the IFC in its control over individual fraternities if it is to be what it is supposed to be—a governing body for fraternities. A sort of "states rights" tendency is developing among several members of the IFC. Viewing past discussions and debate on the IFC floor, it seems entirely possible that in the foreseeable future, dissenting fraternities might oppose IFC rulings. This dissent, in the past, has taken the form of undercover opposition such as illegal initiations and disregard of rushing rules.

Newly elected officers of the IFC and new fraternity officers should realize that it is quite possible in a few years that fraternities could be fighting for their existence. If this is the case, the fraternity system must be made of strong links and stronger links—not of weak and crumbling metal forged into several unjoined chains.—S.J.

It Happens Every Year

The 44th annual Engineers Week will be held on the University Campus the last week in April. This event, or rather series of events, occurs every year about the same time, and involves the same part of the University curriculum.

But each year it deserves notice, not only because of the fine examples of engineering and science it presents to the public, but because it is one of the better University-sponsored activities available to people off the campus.

The parts of E-Week most interesting to someone outside the College of Engineering are the exhibits offered by each of the engineering schools.

High school science teachers send their students to the campus to observe these various bits of modern science. Even the disinterested taxpayer in and around Lincoln finds time to drop around and see what his University is doing with all the money it gets.

Of course, E-Week offers other phases, perhaps not as interesting to the average person, but pretty exciting to the engineer. These include

lectures, awards, a picnic and the annual Engineers Ball.

E-Week is perhaps the only concentrated activity on this campus that is not an "activity" in the ordinary sense of the word.

The students who run the show are not usually those prominent on the campus activity scene. The students working on the various committees care little for activity points or worker hours.

The whole show is put on as a community project, purely by the College of Engineering and Architecture, to be presented to the campus and the general public as an example of what the College is doing.

There will probably be no Mortar Boards masked or Innocents tackled as a direct result of Engineering Week. There will be no quick shuffling of activity points, or frantic scrambling to get one person or another "ahead" in this activity.

There will, however, be the 44th annual Engineers Week. This in itself is good for the engineers, and for the whole University.—F.T.D.

—From The Editor's Desk—

'Challenge' Concerns Industrial Wealth

By Bruce Brugmann Editor

The "Challenge" article written by Howard E. Bowen, president of Grinnell College, which was published in the March 24 Nebraskan, pointed up eloquently the real challenge present in our society today.

Bowen said that "... the ultimate needs of our time is for artists, poets and philosophers who will stop merely condemning our modern industrial society and will show us instead how to translate our wealth into values worth achieving."

"America," he continues, "must not only ask the question: How can we produce more? but also, the question: Production for what?"

This is not only an important question but a real challenge. In other words, the job is not only to raise the standards of living but also to raise the standards of life.

Today, science, industrial know-how and inventive genius have placed before the American public the greatest collec-

tion of material goods and services any civilization has ever seen.

Not only do we enjoy the radio, the telephone, television, automobiles, penicillin, radar, airplanes, etc. but we stand at the threshold of a new miracle world—that of atomic research.

But with the constant production of these many conveniences and comforts, life has become more complex, peace more difficult, the human heart more troubled and the soul of mankind more restless.

Undoubtedly, we have improved the means; but unfortunately, we have not improved the end.

We have better ways of getting somewhere, but we have no better places to go.

We can save more time, but we have no better uses for the time that we save.

In short, we have made progress, but progress toward what?

We have money... we are well housed... we wear the latest in clothing... we ride in automobiles... we have the newest gadgets... we watch

television in our homes...

We all share in America's great wealth—the wealth produced by the industrial society which has so often been criticized by contemporary educators, philosophers, poets, writers and artists.

But it is not the wealth itself which is harmful. This industrial wealth is but the natural outgrowth of scientific research and technological development in a competitive economy.

Instead, it is the use to which this great wealth is put that determines the quality of our lives and our society and, as such, it is the use of wealth—not the wealth itself—that should be examined for criticism.

Production, industry, scientific knowledge, technology—all the symbols of the American wealth—should only be considered as they are used to attain fundamental human values.

The challenge today is for our men of letters to stop criticizing the natural progress of an industrial society but to "show us instead how to translate our wealth into values worth achieving."

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS by Dick Bibler



"WATCH YOUR TALK — THAT'S ONE PSYC MAJOR WHO STOPS TO ANALYZE ANYTHING YOU SAY."



Roger Hankle Year Culminated By Election Time

It's that election time of year again. The culmination of a year's worth of good will and busy-ness is April and May, when organizations, honoraries, and officers pick their new successors.

The Student Council should be active this month, as a show piece for aspirants. The Mortar Boards and Innocents won't have to wear their jackets to attract attention this month; the Junior rabble will scatter out of their way like chickens before a Mack truck.

Brothers and sisters that hated each other throughout the year will become amiable and easy-going when house offices are at stake.

In short, gentleman, sheath your dagger or you'll never get in the monastery.

Of course, some people won't get in anyway. And many of those people will be beaten out by those less qualified than they. This is,

of course, the way the old ball bounces (as Plato used to say), but it is rather frustrating and angering.

Along this line, most eyes will be on the Innocents Society, whom, I hear, picks their successors one of these days. This is the society, you know, about which all underclassmen are reverent and uneasy, and about which all seniors are indifferent or bitter.

Underclassmen are uneasy because you never know when some hooded fellow of the scarlet-and-scream will knock you down and ruin your Ivy Day.

It will be interesting again this year to notice whose Ivy Days are ruined. Innocents has occasionally been guilty (don't say I said this) of a little prejudice and blindness in a few of their selections over the years.

I wonder if this will be another year when they sent a few knowing individuals away from the campus green muttering, "It stinks."

And sometimes it does. Although no one is exactly sure what the Innocents does do, we are led to understand that it is an honorary for the campus leaders in each year's class. This sounds laudable enough, and generally it comes true; most of the Innocents are the leaders in activities at the University.

But each year's selection is ruined, and every man selected put in question somewhat, when certain recognized campus leaders are left out. The cause of this is usually fraternity conflicts, personal dislike, or the fact that the candidate's house wasn't represented with an Innocent before him.

Each year, it seems, a leader or two gets knifed in "a deal" and maybe some second-stringers are put in. Recent examples of campus leaders who deserved membership in Innocents but were not voted in for some of the above reasons, were Marshall Kushner, Al Anderson, Carl Mammel, Norm Veitzer and Jim Cederdahl.

All of these men were outstanding in their years, and should have been near the top of the list of any honorary that chose men purely on merit and achievement rather than personal dislikes or house alliances.

Everybody who was at all associated with activities knew that these men should have been made "Innocents. Those people who knew didn't help being a little disgusted with the pettiness that keeps leaders out of an honorary for campus leaders.

But then, it's their game.

—The Challenge— Two-Level System

(Ed's Note: Today's Challenge column was specially authorized by The Nebraskan by Walter Allen, British novelist, literary critic and radio commentator. At present he is a visiting professor of English at Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Ia. He was a visiting lecturer in English at Iowa University in 1955.

Education in England has been universal and compulsory since 1870. Until 1944 the lowest age at which it was possible for a child to leave school was 14; it is now 15. But, much more than in the United States, the English educational system is, as it were, two-tiered.

There is the state system of education, which is in fact organized and administered by local authorities, and there are the "public" schools, which are not public at all but essentially private, since normally to send a child to one of them depends upon the parent's ability to pay pretty heavy fees.

There is the clue to the English public schools. The mid-nineteenth century saw the great rise of industrialism in England; and the public schools came into existence then in order to turn the sons of new-rich manufacturers into gentlemen. Another way of stating the same thing is to say that their job was to absorb the sons of the new rich into the ruling class. In other words, the business of the British public schools has always been to produce an elite.

In 1944, R. A. Butler, who was minister of education in Churchill's wartime government, which consisted of Conservative and Labor ministers in about equal proportions, introduced his education act into parliament.

This guaranteed universal and free secondary education for all children. Until then, only primary or elementary education had been universal and free.

Parents see the difference between the two kinds of school as the difference between the sheep and the goats. And the division takes place, as a result of examination and intelligence tests combined, at the age of 11.

The division need not be sacrosanct; but that is partly a matter of luck or geography, which can be the same thing, Mr. Butler's act, which in principle everyone in England applauds, was made law at an economically unfortunate time. To fulfill it required far more teachers than were available and a program of school building beyond the resources of the country; the result has been in many cases, that the secondary modern school turns out to be the old elementary, primary school under a new name.

It is true that considerably fewer boys and girls in Britain go to a university than in America; yet comparison between the two countries is difficult. As Professor Kneller says: "In a sense, the first-year and possibly the second year student in a British university may be more nearly compared with a third-year student in an American college, with certain added characteristics of the American graduate school, particularly as regards individual responsibility for scholarly production." The standard, in other words, at the age of leaving the secondary school seems to be higher.

Amidst all this, the public schools which, as I said earlier, are essentially private, remain supreme. Theoretically in a semi-socialist England in which the range of income is rapidly shrinking, they ought to have disappeared. In fact, they boom as never before. The solution of the paradox is simple. They have the weight of tradition behind them, so much so that it seems certain that whoever is prime minister, Conservative or Labor, he will be a public school man. They set the pattern, the tone, for the rest of the educational system. And they still manage to provide a bigger ration of teachers to students than the state schools. As long as all that obtains, middle-class men will mortgage themselves to send their children to them.



Intellectuals Mold World

By LEN SCHROPPER Although I hate to deviate from the inobtrusive medium which I had chosen for myself, I have decided that perhaps "dear Mother" is not quite flexible enough to meet certain exigencies.

It's a pity that the foundations of the Bridey Murphy case have been shivered, for then the Goddess of Journalism might be able to lay claim to a previous existence as Jeanne d'Arc and-or George Sand.

As it is, she really has only two alternatives to avoid being eternally humiliated at the thought of her mediocre alma mater: She may pull a coup d'etat and take over the editorship of the Rag, staffing it with her many apostles, or she may seek out the sanctity of a foreign land in true Byronic fashion.

What formidable ramparts this intellectual world has thrown up around itself to keep out the poor bewildered masses of our wretched University community! Let's see, we've got a good share of them vanquished already, don't we?

Some are little-minded because they presume to find out what they can not possibly know in the

first place, others are damned for having their pictures in the Cornhusker more than once. No one has really beat the drum against the mediocrity of smoking for a long time; anyone care to volunteer?

Why don't they all just go back

The Parvenu

home and take up the plough once more? There are a few truly productive people around; these will fulfill the cultural obligations with which a university is charged.

Perhaps they could raise the Union, the Coliseum, and Selleck Quadrangle, and take up residence in the bell tower, after converting it to a facsimile of Mount Olympus. Then they could erect a high wall around the campus and cover it with surrealistic murals. What fun it is to mold the world!

Miss Elliot, your ending was rather weak; you might have said something like this: (In the words of our immortal Joan) "What I am, I will not denounce. What I have done, I will not deny." Here's my hankie — freshly laundered, by the way, wipe the blood from your fevered brow, clutch your spear, and charge again.

—New Policy—

Communists Repudiate Old Leader's Doctrines

(Ed's Note: John Heeckt, Arts and Sciences student and a political science major, is the newest Nebraskan columnist. His column on international affairs and world politics will appear regularly in The Nebraskan.

By JOHN HEECKT

It is interesting to note that there has been a recent shift in the doctrine of the Communist Party. This shift, in effect, repudiates the doctrines of the great Communist leaders from Marx to Stalin, and serves to condemn the policies and preachings of these individuals as the basis of the Communist ideology.

This change has apparently been produced by the present Communist leaders in an attempt to alter

The Portfolio

their doctrine from the old line of Western incompatibility to one of mutual co-existence.

One reason for this may possibly be that the Russians are finding a great degree of merit in using the American-style economic approach to the Cold War rather than their old stand-by of oppression through fear.

Though the new policy may serve to produce further gains of this type, it is believed that the Russians will have good cause to wonder about its feasibility.

Not only have the blasts against Stalin been most embarrassing for some of the pro-Stalin Communists of importance, (such as was the case with Malenkov during his visit to England), but the complete reversal of the Communist doctrine will undoubtedly serve to confuse — if not to alienate — the leaders of the Communist Satellite countries, and the leaders of the Communist Party in non-Communist countries.

This group has been reared in the tradition of a set doctrine; and to find it suddenly changed by the Russian leaders should serve to prove to many of them, and their followers, that the Communist ideology is nothing more than a tool of the Russian leaders to serve Russian national ends.

This change may incite thought to the effect that instead of working for a world society they (the non-Russian Communist leaders) have been mere pawns in a game of Russian Nationalism, such as were the Nazis of Germany and the Fascists of Italy in the past.

Should the United States take full advantage of this situation, we may find the threat of Communism a much less powerful force in the future.

Regardless of whether we do or do not, the farce of World Communism is being laid bare to the world as nothing more than Russian Imperialism.

Letterip

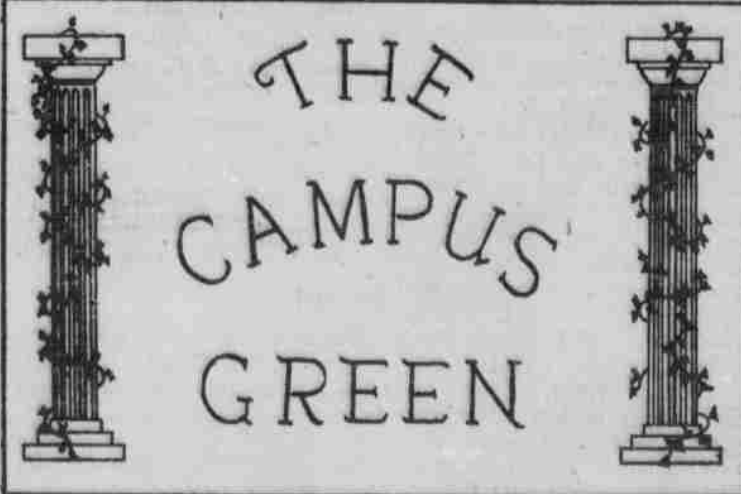
Spiritual Needs

To the Editor:

I think that Religious Emphasis Week is one of the best things to ever hit the U of N campus. All of the speakers were very inspiring, but their purpose was not to provide enough religion in five days to last for the rest of the year.

With this fact in mind, I enter a plea for a meditation room in the new Union. If the Union is to serve the needs of students, it cannot deny their spiritual needs.

Wayne Smida



Forsaken

Dawning! The rose is gold, Glistening spider webs Hold diamond drops like memories Of you.

—Connie Berry

Epitaph

Come you muses and you critics who have not And read. Explore the best of me, Now that I am gone and only my works stand Against withering time.

My poetry grows in stature every day, And college classes will in time appraise it. While professors there, the all-perceiving, all-knowing ones, Will pace before them to relate the source Of such works.

Home, family, education, talents and emotions— All will be studied. As mechanics check the factors that play, Let this suffice here.

Note here the conclusive evidence of stern parents, See here the brush's touch, he studied art. And wait! Here lie the effects of drink And sin—and journalism, too, see line 16! A strong guilt complex is manifest in this work, Look! His mother's charity overflows there. See!

Stop them, mighty critics, stop such idle babbling. Move on, ponderous, humbly powerful ones, tell Them the truth. Be not swayed by them. Let men know your awesome conclusion. Yes, Surely it was not Noble who wrote Noble's works, But some other artist, sunken into an obscure grave.

—John Noble

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