

Nebraskan Editorials:

The Source Of Authority

The Faculty Committee on Student Affairs, meeting in closed session Wednesday, clarified (1) the lines of authority of the Student Council over IFC, Panhellenic and Student Union Board and (2) the general authority of the Council over all campus organizations.

In regard to the three individual organizations, the committee ruled that they did not fall beneath Council jurisdiction. Concerning the general authority of the Council, the committee voted unanimously to deny the Council jurisdiction over the internal affairs of all campus organizations.

"As long as the organizations are not violating the requirements as set up in their constitutions," Dean Colbert told The Nebraskan in explanation, "the Council has no authority."

And under this interpretation the scholarship standard passed by the Council last fall and the often discussed activities limitation policy rescinded earlier in the year have been completely thrown out.

These rulings, under the committee decision, would be interpreted as influencing a group's choice of officers and, thus, dealing improperly with "the internal affairs of a campus organization."

The question logically arises: Just what authority does the Student Council have in addition to its procedural jurisdiction in reviewing constitutions, supervising elections, electing the student Pub Board members, etc?

Under the committee interpretation, the Council has authority over campus activities of a general University nature and the privilege of recommending to organizations that they set up the requirements desired by the Council.

The desirable advantage of this ruling is that it treats all organizations alike and applies a uniform standard of Council authority to all campus groups. This was not the case formerly, as the IFC, Panhellenic and Student Union claimed exemption because of unique Regent provisions.

Another point is that the ruling is a clear, simple statement of general policy.

However, at this point, the decision of the Faculty committee becomes somewhat ambiguous and will certainly lend itself to ultimate confusion and contradiction.

In other words, in considering this general statement, how will it be applied to individual cases?

How will the Council know, when it passes a ruling, if it is interfering with the "internal affairs of an organization?"

And what is to prevent a group from claiming "internal interference", when it feels a Council ruling chafing?

Where does the fine line of distinction between activities of a "general University nature" and the "internal affairs of an organization" lie?

In short, what authority does the faculty committee decision leave with the Council and in what exact areas does it lie?—B.B.

Feature Attractions

Sometimes everything happens at once. This weekend the University campus is presenting a double load of extracurricular activity that carries outside the boundaries of the school and is recognized across the entire state—All-Sports Day and E-Week.

Of the two, All-Sports Day is perhaps the best known and the most avidly followed. This Saturday will feature the first full-game performance of a Pete Elliott-coached Nebraska football team, playing against an array of former Cornhuaker stars.

There will also be a baseball game, tennis match, and exhibitions in other varsity sports. High school coaches will load their teams on yellow school busses and bring their charges down for a full-days glimpse of the University's athletic department. For some, this will be the first visit to a university or college of any sort.

Alumni across the state and across the nation will follow reports of the game, trying to visualize potential team strength, or even greatness. For a few days, the University will find itself

carried on athletic wings across the country, catching glimpses of old graduates and prospective freshmen alike.

Engineers' Week, too, will project the University outside its academic confines as it puts on its one big show—showing students, taxpayers and any interested persons something of what goes in the College of Engineering and Architecture.

Displays, exhibitions and lectures convey the message of engineering and of all science to the layman. Here is tangible evidence of what is learned and accomplished at the University.

The University of Nebraska is on display this weekend. It should, from early indications, be a good display.

It may, however, be a little difficult for some members of the campus community to realize that there is something more here than politics, intrigue, activities, or whatever is holding their attention.

There is a University, for example, which is proud to show something of what it has.—F.T.D.

It Happens Every Spring

It happens every spring! It is nothing official, nothing organized, nothing planned for in advance. No one ever says much about it, or even thinks about it: It just happens, like birds migrating and beavers building lodges.

It always happens at precisely the same time every spring. About the same things happen each time. Although the same individuals rarely attend two in succession, the crowd each year is just like the crowd the year before, and the year before, and the year before that.

It happens every year for the same reason—people get nervous.

It is a peculiar type of nervousness. It is called The Jitters. Not everyone can have The Jitters. There are certain academic and extracurricular requirements that must be met before one can qualify.

The symptoms are made most apparent by the attempts made to cover them up. Everyone knows who is afflicted, and why, but it is not ethical to come right out and ask.

It is also customary to decline the symptoms, especially if one is especially stricken.

The symptoms are varied, but usually follow general traits. There is a certain wild look to the eyes, brought on by being suddenly confronted with certain individuals. This is either followed by nervous stammering, a nervously familiar greeting or unconsciousness.

Nausea seldom results, although the victim may feel like it.

The symptoms, and the affliction, always come to an abrupt end, however, on a particular spring day. The best cure, according to the experts, is either sudden darkness or a brisk roll on the grass.

Thus, from all this, comes this yearly nocturnal event, when those most afflicted with The Jitters (sometimes called The May Madness) steal away to a forgotten glen and try to cure themselves by drowning.

It is about that time of the year.—F.T.D.

Afterthoughts

The Challenge

Reports from a spokesman within the Pi Xi's, local secret fraternity, reveal that the organization is toying with the possibility of discontinuing the publication of the "Pixie Press" this year.

"The Press," distributed last year on the morning of Ivy Day, has run into trouble for two reasons: (1) the group has been getting a little squeamish for fear of being exposed, and (2) there are too few literate members to put out a decent paper.

Come children, you aren't going to disappoint your impatient public?

Student Council Platform

Bob Young—Engineering

The following are the views of Bob Young, sophomore Engineering and Architecture candidate for Student Council, on student government and campus issues.

Young believes that Council members should continually strive to make decisions in the best interests of the majority of students. His platform, therefore, is designed to reflect the desires of the student body in general, he said.

The planks in Young's platform are:

- 1. To promote better relations with the City of Lincoln, and its agencies.
2. To seek a plausible solution to the parking problem.

- 3. To create a stronger University spirit through the unification of campus elements.
4. To allow campus organizations more freedom in determining qualifications for their officers.

- 5. To promote removal of the temporary buildings as soon as expedient.
6. To advocate the planting of additional trees and shrubs so as to create a better "campus atmosphere."

- 7. To endorse the continuation of Spring Day and Engineers' Week as separate events.
8. To continue the policy of giving the entire student body the opportunity to express its

opinion, through general election, on important issues such as the Student Tribunal and the Honor System.

Young believes that Council members should be ever mindful of their responsibility to represent the students, rather than to exercise "supreme authority."

Young is a resident of Burnett House, in Selleck Quadrangle. He is a mechanical engineering major. His activities include feature editor of the Nebraska Blue Print, program committee chairman for Engineers' Week and a member of ASME.

Young claims backing from the Engineering Exec Board and the Fusionist Party.

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS By Dick Bibler



"NO-NO! THE NEXT ONE - THAT ONE'S FULL O' BEER!"

—Strength In Diversity—

Regents Support Freedom In First Mitchell Charges

By PAUL L. LEHMANN Author of: Your Freedom Is In Trouble

"Rare is the felicity of the times, when you can think what you like and say what you think."—Tacitus

Something is happening to freedom as Tacitus described it, on the campuses of our country, perhaps on your own campus. Here is a close-up of the situation.

Observe what happened at the University of Nebraska. A professor of Agricultural Economics (Mitchell) had written an article in a farm magazine which brought charges from a farm bureau that the professor was "indoctrinating" his students, and ought, therefore, to be dismissed.

The report to the President and Board of Regents on behalf of the accused professor came from the Dean of the College of Agriculture.

The Dean reported that he and three administrative associates had reviewed the lecture notes and the readings used as references by the professor and were convinced that the charges of indoctrination were without foundation.

Said the Dean of the professor: "Students like his course. He makes them work hard, presents the 'pros' and 'cons,' challenges their imagination and makes them think for themselves."

But a member of the Regents itself pressed the attack against the professor, accusing him of advocating "the destruction of the free enterprise system" Some time before this episode occurred a similar attack had come from the American Legion.

The Regent's statement said in part: "the foundation of America's strength is diversity... Under the philosophy upon which this nation was founded, a great educational system has developed and flourished... In the realm of higher education, the American right to question, to explore, to express, to examine and re-examine, is of necessity exercised continually."

"Were it not so, our diverse intellectual resources would become stagnant. The men and women selected by this University... are expected to understand both the rights and responsibilities of their positions, including these:

- 1. The full right to speak as a citizen.
2. The responsibilities of citizenship.
3. The right, as a professional person, to freedom in research and to publication of the results thereof, limited only by the precepts of scholarship and faithful performance of other academic responsibilities.
4. The right, as a professional

(Eds. Note: The accompanying article was taken from "Your Freedom Is In Trouble," by Paul L. Lehmann, a magazine written for the National Student Assembly of the YMCA and YWCA in 1954-55. Lehmann is professor of Applied Christianity at Princeton Theological Seminary. The professor from the University referred to in the article is C. Clyde Mitchell.

person, to free and thorough expression in the classroom. The right to uphold, to discuss and dissent is the moral fiber of America's greatness. They are like-

wise the strength of a great University."

The University newspaper commented editorially:

"If the absurdity of irresponsible attacks upon the freedom of expression can be exposed throughout the nation as it has on the University campus, the Hand of History might well record the dawning of a new era.

"The chapter would be entitled, 'The Fifth Freedom: Freedom from Unprovoked Investigation.'" And this is another example where the students, despite the strong support of the professors by the campus paper, took almost no interest in the fact that freedom was in trouble on their campus.

—Cyprus Problem—

Determining Policies Presents Difficulties

By JOHN HEECKT

The determination of Foreign Policy is perhaps one of the most complex of all functions of modern government. It is seldom easy, generally difficult and often impossible to find a solution to the problems encountered in the field of international relations.

To indicate the difficulties encountered in making a given policy in our own government, we may cite the present Cyprus situation for an example.

The Island's population is four-fifths Greek and one-fifth Turkish. However, it is located only a short distance off the Turkish coast and over a thousand miles from Greece.

At the conclusion of World War II the Greeks began agitating for a plebiscite for Cyprus to indicate under whose rule it should actually be. Naturally, a plebiscite would award the island to the Greeks because of its population.

However, population was not the only issue involved. The Turks, who were content to see the British retain the island, said that in all its history the island had never been under Greek rule and that it would be dangerous for the Turks to have Greece gain control, for the Greeks had frequently been at war with the Turks, and the island would put them a thousand miles closer.

The British maintained that Cyprus was to them the same as Gibraltar. If the Allies were to lose this island, it would be a great strategic loss which Britain or the Allies could ill afford.

Greece attempted to take the

problem to the UN, however. Britain claimed that as long as Cyprus was a Crown Colony it was entirely an internal problem and outside the scope of the UN.

Then, a definite minority of Greek terrorists began to stir up trouble on a grand scale for the British, causing a good deal of bloodshed and damage. Greece, asked the US for support, and left us at a loss for an answer to the situation.

The US had these considerations:

1. The US has thrown a good deal of aid to both Greece and Turkey in order to save their friendship for us and their country from the communists. Any decision in favor of one country could make an enemy of the other which would waste all our previous effort.

2. Britain is one of the great powers of the Allied team and one that we can ill afford to lose the support of. However, to support her or not to support Greece may seem to indicate to other countries that we favor imperialism over self-determination.

3. All of these countries are members of NATO, the one organization that holds western European power together, and a serious break between these countries would disastrously weaken NATO if not defeat it. That in turn would be a severe blow to the Western power position in the overall struggle between East and West.

These factors in the Cyprus situation are but a few of the problems of a seemingly impossible solution that our foreign policy must attempt to solve.

Lowell Vestal

Decision Aids NU Leadership



It has finally happened. The 5.7 average requirement for officers of some 24 student organizations has been abolished.

The faculty committee on Student Affairs has ruled that the Student Council had no business meddling in the internal affairs of the organizations.

The news came as the dawn of

The Silent Majority

a bright new day to several Independent organizations. For the news means that once again officers can be chosen on the grounds of qualification rather than on the issue of who can get by the artificially high standard.

If the 5.7 ruling had been upheld and enforced some organizations would have had to pass over their best leadership material in order to fill their offices.

The effect, if not intent, of the exorbitant ruling was to strangle some organizations. The fact that several of the largest and most influential organizations immediately protested and sought to evade the ruling is strong evidence that it was workable and a detriment to good government.

Still the Council members stood behind the thing until they got their fingers burned at the hands of the Student Affairs committee.

A lot of credit for the decisive action in killing the bill should go to Len Schropfer, Council representative of the Residence Association for Men. The RAM, one of the organizations hardest hit by the bill, backed Schropfer in a long campaign against the policy.

The RAM was so confident of its eventual success that it decided to use 5.0 as the qualifying average for its General Elections held Thursday. Some other organizations, with less faith in right winning out, used the 5.7 and probably disqualified some very capable persons from office holding.

As it now stands, the faculty committee has backed the stand taken by RAM that the Council has no right to interfere with the internal affairs of organizations. It can review constitutions and see that they are followed, but it cannot say who can run for office.

Contrary to the opinions of some persons, most independent organizations are in favor of a strong Council. But, they feel, the added strength should be in constructive fields and not in the areas of meddling with organizations.

The Council tries to govern other organizations; yet, it never visits the groups it wants to dominate; in fact its own meetings are often examples of how not to operate an organization.

Petty bickering, schoolboy oratory and procedural entanglements are all too common.

Until the Council shows that it is able to properly govern itself it has little grounds to claim domination over other organizations. Until it takes an active interest in other organizations it cannot justifiably ask for jurisdiction over them. Until a realistic system of representation is adopted the Council cannot be said to represent the students.

When these things have been done, and only then, the Council may be in a position to become a real student governing body. In the meantime it is gratifying that the foolish 5.7 minimum average has been bodily thrown out along with any other notions of telling organizations what they can and cannot do.

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