

Summer Nebraskan Editorials:

The King's English

Tuesday, a large Omaha daily concluded its series on the state's and particularly the University's teachers colleges and teacher certification requirements.

The Summer Nebraskan only hopes that the facts and figures revealed in the series will not be shrugged off by Nebraskans. The amount of University students enrolled in remedial courses, learning in University what they should have learned in high school and even grade school, should serve as conclusive proof that a change is needed.

To meet a pressing space-shortage, and raise standards the University of Illinois has given the state's high schools a four year warning concerning the instruction of remedial English courses. By 1960, no such course will be taught by the University of Illinois and all freshmen students will be required to take college-level English. Those who flunk the course will be asked to leave the school.

This "get-tough" policy seems to be the only alternative. The University wastes the time of numerous instructors teaching remedial courses when they are qualified and want to teach college level courses. In the day of space shortages, instructor shortages and rising enrollment, the waste is magnified. The University needs all its facilities to teach the student who is capable of college work; students who are not capable of such work as is entailed in Freshman English are a drag on the brighter students and the University.

The above mentioned instance is one of many. The same thing as observed in English can be seen in many other fields. The root of the trouble lies with the University. It is the responsibility of the Teachers College to require its students to know what they will teach.

According to the paper which carried the critical series, most of the state's English teachers are University of Nebraska graduates. From the number of students in remedial courses, they are not doing their jobs adequately or today's teenagers are much less perceptive than their parents. Perhaps this is because teachers cannot teach what they have not sufficiently learned. -J.B.

The Flame Flickers

In Tuesday's edition of the local evening paper, two of the lead stories dealt with a destructive force: the atomic bomb. American citizens were horrified a few weeks ago when one of the nation's leading television variety shows featured a British-made short concerning the possibilities of destruction now known to man.

Both of these instances should serve to alert the typical American citizen to the possibilities of total destruction in our time. Although Bikini will never again be inhabitable and the animated cartoon left no inhabitants whatsoever, the bulk of the nation's citizenry are apathetic, oblivious or blindly fearful regarding the destructive potential of nuclear weapons.

It is not wise or expedient for citizens to become panic-stricken and construct vast underground hide-outs and live in constant fear. It is, however, wise to be cognizant of the changes wrought by the discovery that the atom can be split and the possible consequences. It is also wise to encourage scientists' efforts to harness atomic energy and to work for intelligent control of atomic resources.

The British short feature ended with the sentence: "The flame flickered and then, that, too, was gone." It is frightening to think that the flame of human intelligence should cause its own destruction.

Perhaps the atomic bomb is to this generation what the Phoenix was to a much earlier one, but neither is a fitting end to civilization. The atomic bomb and the Phoenix have, each in their own time, have unleashed great fear among peoples of the world. Only when that fear becomes irrational and makes intelligence its slave, can the flame flicker and die. -J.B.

The Summer Nebraskan

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New Faces, Budapest Ghetto, 'August Moon' Mentioned

By JEAN DIBBLE

New Faces of 1956 will open on Broadway this week. Like the familiar New Faces of 1952 its headliners will be singers, dancers, and comedians never before featured in a Broadway show. Perhaps some of you saw a sample of its talent on a recent Ed Sullivan show.

It was interesting to note in a recent magazine that at least one reason that Rocky Marciano retired was that he had nothing financially to gain from enlarging his income. Federal income taxes would have taken 90 per cent of additional earnings in his high income bracket.

The aim of the man who directs Marlon Brando in "The Teahouse of the August Moon" is to have Marlon fool even the people he is imitating. Marlon portrays an Okinawan interpreter. He must learn to talk Japanese like an Okinawan and to speak broken English like a Japanese. Besides learning the speech and mannerisms of an Okinawan, he must have an hour and one-half daily make-up job. He has dieted so that his cheekbones are accentuated and his tear ducts are filled in by pasting rubberlids around his eyes. It was impossible for MGM to duplicate the ragged sets of clothes to be worn in the picture and the Okinawan farmers are still wondering why the property man paid a good price to take the old rags off their back.

If you're in the mood for some fascinating and sometimes bizarre

reading be sure and check Christine Arnothy's "I Am Fifteen and I Don't Want to Die." It was written from notes scribbled by a fifteen year old girl in her underground coal cellar home during the Russian "liberation" of Budapest.... Also among the new books is a rather unusual one is "The Sweet Flypaper of Life." An intensely warm and human book about family life in Harlem, it contains more photographs than text.

Of particular interest to the American women should be the fact that the G.I.'s in Japan are marrying Japanese girls at the rate of 100 per week. One of the main reasons seems to be that the Japanese girl "puts the American man on the pedestal" which the service men like. Could be that a few of our independent American women should take note.

For all wearers of contact lenses, tiny contact lens sunglasses have now been developed. They come

in blue, black, green and many other shades.

Steve Allen will begin his Sunday night TV career this week. His program will be along the comedy-variety line. The initial show will feature Kim Novak and the second show will have Elvis Presley as guest.

Come Again?

Recently in the Harvard Alumni Bulletin, there appeared the following correction: "The Editors of the Bulletin apologize for an extraordinary error in the issue of April 7, when it was reported that Lyman Beecher Stowe had married his daughter-in-law. The lady in question, Louise Bootwright Miley, is the wife of Stowe's son, Robinson Beecher Stowe. The Bulletin also gave Lyman Beecher Stowe a step-daughter, who, belongs, of course, to his son.

That certainly clears the whole thing up.

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