

Editorial Comment

A Step Toward Student Vote on Committees Taken

Word has filtered into the Daily Nebraskan office that some faculty members are getting a little tired of hearing about "students right to vote" on faculty committees and "responsibility" and all that sort of stuff.

Perhaps anything so important as assuming a semblance of adult responsibility has to be hammered into the heads of the students ad nauseam. Perhaps it's important enough to the student body (or some segments of it) to mention day after day that there is a feeling that the students are ready to tackle adult problems and the responsibilities which go along with them.

So it was with a great deal of appreciation that the Nebraskan discovered that the Student Affairs Committee is recommending that students be given the right to vote on faculty committees.

There are, of course, numerous arguments against the student vote on committees which are part of the faculty senate. One of these is that students have no more "right" to vote on such bodies than they have to run the University. We, as students, have not demanded the vote.

But we have accepted with some humility the approval of the student affairs committee and hope that the committee on committees and the faculty senate at large will approve the recommendation.

No matter how odious comparisons may be, it is recognized by this office that student membership on faculty committees has grown in number and prestige in colleges all over the country.

One faculty member mentioned that at a particular college the students were on a committee which helped select the president of the University.

Other committees have had more student members than faculty members.

We are not campaigning for such machinery at this University but are merely pointing to the trend and asking that the voting power be given the student members of such committees as Student Publications. As we understand it the student affairs office has requested the student vote for three committees.

It would be a fair trial, we believe, for the Faculty Senate to give student votes to these three bodies. We are pretty much convinced that the student body can handle the responsibilities given it by the faculty.

Now all that is left is to convince the sceptics on the senate that they are dealing with young men and women of responsibility and not high school sophomores.

And the only way to make that statement any more than just a statement is through the mature actions of the students at large.

A big order, but not an impossible one.

'New' Prairie Schooner Full Of Provoking, Rich Works

Just about everyone likes a good controversy. And University English Professor Karl Shapiro is evidently one of the leaders of the masses who is more than willing to step into any battle with the vigor of a man who knows what he's talking about.

Shapiro, who came to the University with a well-established reputation as a poet to take over the job of editing the Prairie Schooner, plunged himself into controversy last year when he charged that the Midwest is the hotbed of uncultural activity. He commented in Washington that Nebraska was "a cultural desert."

And now he has made a new charge—a charge in action more than word which should have mighty repercussions in the literary world.

The unassuming Pulitzer Prize winner has charged the Prairie

the masterpieces of its fathers and stores them in the cellar, where some day they will be exhumed by other judges. In San Francisco they are building the crates. There are plenty of new works ready and they are coming from everywhere: the novels of Bellow, Salinger, Ellison, the poetry of Roethke are already older examples of this second phase of 20th-century literature; and all the San Francisco groups all over the country are emerging from their literary undergrounds enormously talkative, pale as gangsters, but free from the restraints of modern literary propriety and the tradition."

This, then, is something of the spirit and the outlook of the revamped Schooner. It is now a 300 horsepower vehicle of thought scooting its reader from the heart of Middle Western poetry (like the works of Bernice Sletke included in this number) to the San Francisco juggling with tradition.

Circulation of the Schooner has increased, Shapiro noted.

"But with the improvements has come a bigger bill. It's strange, but in the publishing business, the greater the circulation, the larger the cost to publish. We should be coming to the leveling off point, though," he added.



Editor of the Prairie Schooner and Star Karl Shapiro

Schooner with a new spirit; he's given the quarterly a new face, new body and filled it with goods for the mind.

All this contrary to the notion that a quarterly is supposed to look rather dull, handle rather clumsily and sit around the parlors of the University houses as a showpiece to visitors who tour the campus.

The new Schooner is bright. Shapiro claims that it's for the whole University now, rather than for the English Department alone.

He has taken a pencil sketch of a girl done by the late Constantin Brancusi and put it in as the front piece of the magazine. "We borrowed the picture from the Art Department," he said. "And it looks like we'll be borrowing more from them for future issues of the Schooner."

He has borrowed the writing talent of the Art Department, too. Art chairman Peter Worth is author of an article entitled "Source of Excellence" in the current issue of the magazine.

But most significantly Shapiro has jumped into a controversy which began raging on the West Coast last May and very clearly split literary America down the middle.

In fact, from the newspaper clippings he gave us to look over "moral" America has taken definite stands in the battle of the Beat Generation for the freedom to think and act as it wishes.

"The books of the 'Beat Generation' of the 'Gang,' as they're sometimes known, were seized by the Treasury Department upon arrival in San Francisco," the poet told us. "But they had to be released."

Well, the San Francisco police grabbed all the printings of one of the books called "Howl" (and it's something to howl about, mind you) by Allen Ginsberg and copies of a literary magazine called "The Miscellaneous Man" because they were "obscene and unfit for children to read."

It's a juicy battle that's been raging in San Francisco over the right of the books with the dirty words in them to be circulated.

Literary critics such as William Hogan of the San Francisco Chronicle and even the Chronicle in its sacred editorial passages have gotten into the war stating "I would like to see it distributed (free if necessary) (Hogan) and "Here is a new and startling doctrine and one which, if followed to the letter would clear many of the world's classics from local bookstores, not excepting the Bible, wherein in many a chapter and verse not recommended for perusal by tiny tots." (The Chronicle.)

Editorially, the Schooner takes the same stand. Shapiro writes in this issue, "Each age takes down

Shapiro, whose office, cluttered with magazines from other great Universities, looks out on the new grass planted to the south of Andrews Hall, said, "I wish we could sell the magazine out there. The Greeks should have it; anyone who is interested in just about any phase of culture can pick up the Schooner now and find something in it for him."

It's strange that at the home of the famous quarterly it is little known.

"This could be because of the price. A buck is a lot of money for a magazine," Shapiro quipped. But the yearly subscription price is just three dollars for four issues, a savings of one dollar."

The editor said that the magazine can be purchased downtown at the large department stores, or at the Prairie Schooner business office at 1125 R Street in the Administration Annex.

Summing up, the Schooner has changed. Any way you look at it it seems better. It has some of that freshness of Midwestern culture spiced with metropolitan works. Well worth the time and money for the enjoyment derived.

—Dick Shugrue



And Next Year's Election

It's not too early to start thinking about next year, Tassels.

We don't know what the figures on the voting Friday night were for homecoming queen, but we warrant you weren't as pleased as you might have been had the election been conducted in a more reasonable manner.

As last minute suggestions we felt it would be wise to extend the hours for the election so that it would be more of an all-day affair.

We felt that the excuse for the brief election—to avoid politicking—was quite flimsy. We heard girls marching up and down the lines Friday night saying vote for so-and-so, she's . . . such-and-such sorority.

We overheard students saying as they moved

up the line to the voting table, "who are the candidates?"

All in all we believe the election was held in a very shoddy manner and you would have had a much more representative group of students voting had you extended the hours and released the names, activities and pictures of the candidates to the Daily Nebraskan for Friday release.

This election was, we believe, just another example of how special interest groups are holding the strings of a very important election on this campus.

We hope the student council will take steps next year to outline more precise regulations for conducting all-university elections.

Or is that too much to ask?

Spirit's Awake

Associate Dean Frank Hallgren outlined the situation pretty well Saturday.

He said that too often students complain about the University saying what a terrible place it is. These people, the dean added, do nothing about the situation but gripe. Then pretty soon the University will be just that.

But he commended the spirit of two men who had heard enough about University "lack of spirit" and did something about it.

These two men saw to it that banners, shouting and football spirit was at a high Saturday afternoon for the Syracuse game.

The local press commented that spirit seemed so much better. The Sunday Journal and Star quoted cheerleaders as saying that there was a great deal more noise from the students this Saturday than in the past.

And it was all due to two men who believed that griping will get you nowhere and action can get you somewhere.

The spirit launched by the two proves, we be-

lieve, that spirit can be great even if the Huskers aren't winning. It proves that a winning team isn't the only earmark of a fine University. Grantland Rice's statement that how you play the game is what counts became obvious here Saturday.

This newspaper can hang its head in shame for not participating more fully in the campaign. One of the men who were responsible for the spirit campaign approached the Nebraskan and asked us to print the cheers in order to make them available to our readers.

We didn't. But we saw that the efforts of two individuals could change the picture of Nebraska spirit.

And we say that we wouldn't dare refuse to boost the Cornhuskers in the future for now we have some true idea that the students want to get out and cheer their schoolmates on the football field, despite anything the press of the state might claim.

And so, belatedly, we congratulate Dick Gustafson and Maury Niebaum.

from the editor—

First Things First...

by Jack Pollock

The five Homecoming candidates—though undoubtedly honored over their selection as finalists—have been cheated.

They've been cheated of publicity. Cheated by time of the voting on a weekend night for a small amount of suspense.

There's little news value about the candidates after the voting takes place. Some Big Eight schools release even the name of the Homecoming Queen in advance to be assured of state-wide and campus publicity.

The Daily Nebraskan—your University's student publication—finds no pride in printing the photo and names of the candidates after all other state papers.

By withholding the names until pep rally time, only those attending the rally are informed of the Queen candidates. It's certainly not commendable for students waiting in line to ask, "Who's up for Queen?" as happened in years past and again this season. Only by glimpsing at the ballot do the students know for whom they're voting—and then only by name, no identification, no picture, no previous publicity.

The state of Nebraska—thanks to the efforts of a University staff member—received national recognition this week.

For the Cornhuskers tradition now known as Band Day, Sports Illustrated magazine this week devoted a double-page colored-spread to the pageantry of color and harmony that originated at the University 10 years ago. The impressive half-time ceremony is now carried out by uni-

versities and colleges from coast to coast.

Saturday, the members of Mortar Boards and Innocents, on behalf of the student body, honored those responsible for making Band Day the success it is today.

A scroll read during the ceremonies said, "Band directors, throughout the state, high school participants, the University band and the University band staff members have enthusiastically contributed to make Band Day a colorful tradition for the entire state to enjoy."

"But," the scroll continued, "the most instrumental in promoting Band Day, and the spirit with which it is associated is the director of the University Band, Donald Lentz."

It was in 1938 that Director Lentz invited 10 high school bands to participate in a program instituted for community bands by John Seleck. From its inception then, it has grown to the spectacle last Saturday with 70 bands, 3,500 musicians and 300 twirlers, plus its growth from coast to coast.

It was Lentz who each year devoted endless hours perfecting Band Day. It was for his devotion and the cooperation of his supporters that the honor was bestowed Saturday by the University students.

Bronched about the success of Band Day, Lentz shrugged off his contribution. But it is to him that Cornhuskers owe thanks—for placing Nebraska into a favorable limelight, as well as Lentz's project and the University.

Daily Nebraskan

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Letterip

To the Editor:

Sustained reading of the Daily Nebraskan (a weakness to which I admit) prompts me to offer criticism, acrid perhaps, but sincere. I refer primarily, but not exclusively to your editorial and feature page.

I do not know what the paper's policy may be if it has one, but am forced to assume that it is to foster ignorance, illusion, and puerility. My reasoning is as follows:

In the first place your repro- torial vision seems absorbed with such puerile phenomena among mature (?) students as "Queen" election, fraternity squabbles, football rallies (sic) student spirit drives, Hello Girls, coed-kissing under the pillars, etc. Are these the burning interests among Nebraskan students? In fairness I would concede it appear (sic) so. But isn't it particularly more so of freshman students, and if so, why not retitile the newspaper more realistically? I would suggest "The Daily Freshman's Sop," or something similar. (I apologize to the freshmen who are exceptions to the rule.)

In the second place the deplorable absence of stimulating political, cultural, or intellectual items in the Daily Nebraskan is evidence that you are unconsciously fostering ignorance. There are, after all, still a few issues of significance in the world around us. Would it be impractical for the Daily Nebraskan to take a lead in opening the doors to this outside world?

Finally, the Daily Nebraskan fosters the illusion that the students are still in the comfortable womb of High School. The tenor of much of your copy is that of a sophisticated high school column. It appears that the Daily Nebraskan is influenced to some extent by the Greek word (in the false sense of the word, unfortunately) and hence reflects the synthetic values of fraternities and sororities. I cannot conceive that a significant portion of 8,900 students are interested in the shabby, superficial issues and events mentioned above.

While I thus criticize the Daily Nebraskan approach, I will make one weighty concession. You are dealing with difficult material—namely puerile institutions and people. Obviously such horrendous institutions as housemothers, "Aurs" and Prohibition to "minors" do not safeguard and shelter the fragile morals of our coed girls and boys. Rather, they thwart embryonic tendencies toward true moral integrity and maturity. Is it any wonder, then, that the issue of coed-kissing under the pillars should become a pulse-quickening image to some students under these conditions? You are therefore, I grant, partly a victim of circumstances, but a rather willing victim, I would say. Is your intellect really so captivated by the phillistine topics you discuss?

This may well be unjust criticism, yet I will attempt to list a few concrete considerations which at least one reader would like to see promoted in the Daily Nebraskan:

- 1. De-emphasis of football—it is, after all, stultifying in its present proportions.
- 2. Abolition of housemothers—let the girls and boys have a peek at unchaperoned and unsheltered life.
- 3. Promotion of interest in student "downhill meetings."
- 4. Promotion of cultural films.
- 5. Inversion of sequence in Mr. Pollock's (sic) column "First

Things First" (which are invariably football) to "Last Things First."

In conclusion and isolated commendation, let us see more thought-provoking articles of the caliber of "A Few Words of a Kind" by E. E. Hines in the Daily Nebraskan of October 14.

Bill Smith

Ed's Note: Mr. Smith, apparently, sees no distinction between the personal views of the columnists in this newspaper and the policies of the paper. He would also, it seems, have this be less a campus newspaper and more a general newspaper. He would, it appears, encourage the Daily Nebraskan not only to tell its columnists how to write but what to write about.

To the Editor:

The action of the Administration in referring the case of the Theta Chi "hazing" to the IFC ought to be condemned.

The IFC acted as sternly as could be expected. But by the very nature of the organization, it could take action only against the fraternity as a whole and nothing could be done to the individuals who were actually responsible for the action.

The violence done was more than a fraternity joke. It was a crime

punishable in the law courts. Yet the six or seven men responsible have been punished only by a mild fine levied by the fraternity itself. Simply because they are members of a Greek house, they are not blamed personally, though suspension or probation would certainly seem justified.

I believe that students should be given the power to judge their peers. But I also believe that individuals should be held responsible for their own actions, not allowed to hide within their group.

Sara Jones

To the Editor:

I simply cannot understand why the University administration has not placed me on conduct probation.

Not only have I failed to return a book checked out eight days ago from Love Library, but I have received two notices that it is overdue. The fine, I would imagine, amounts to about 35 cents.

Other students, notably those on the Rag or Student Council, (Big, Big, real Big wheels), are methodically placed on probation for such infractions.

Why am I, but a dorm student with no activities, and certainly carrying a grudge against no one, discriminated against in such a fashion?

Naive

'Producer' Awards Spectacle Planned

—University Theater—

Winners of University Theater's 1957 Honorary Producer campaign will be named Wednesday night at the opening of "What Every Woman Knows," according to Harry Silver, faculty member in charge of the presentations.

According to Silver, everything possible is being done to make the presentation of the trophies and gifts one of the most significant ceremonies conducted on campus. "We want the houses to realize that we appreciate their help in selling tickets and that the good job they did will be noticed," he said.

The winners of the competition are from the organized houses on campus which sold the greatest number of University Theater season tickets in proportion to their membership.

The trophies will be presented by Governor Victor Anderson, according to Joe Hill, student organizer of the campaign. Names of the winners will be announced by Kay Nielson, Miss Nebraska. Master of ceremonies for the presentation will be Charles Weatherford, president of Masquers, the drama honorary sponsoring the event.

According to Hill, invitations have been extended to Mayor Martin Bennett of Lincoln, to the city council, and to a number of campus leaders. "We are also hoping for television and newspaper coverage in order to publicize what we think will be the biggest opening night in the theatre's history," he said.

Follow the Crowd

College students seem to be so busy with classes, activities, work, and (oh yes) socializing, that we don't have the time or money to waste on finding a good place to eat.

Kings Drive-In's have solved this problem, however, by offering quick service, tasty meals and atmosphere at minimum prices.

Follow the college crowd to King's now!

Advertisement for GOOD OL' CHARLIE BROWN. It features a cartoon of Charlie Brown and Snoopy. Text includes: "WHY DOES EVERYONE LAUGH AT ME? IT COULD GIVE YOU A COMPLEX." "The truth is that everyone does laugh at GOOD OL' CHARLIE BROWN, leader of the famed Peanuts gang, the funniest kids in the world. If you don't know them yet, get a copy of GOOD OL' CHARLIE BROWN today and begin a long-lasting, long-laughing friendship." "GOOD OL' CHARLIE BROWN The New Peanuts Book by CHARLES M. SCHULZ" "Also read the rest of the Peanuts saga—PEANUTS - MORE PEANUTS - GOOD GRIEF, MORE PEANUTS!" "\$1 each at all bookstores. Over 400,000 copies in print." "RHINHART & CO., INC."