

Editorial Comment This Mitchell Case

The Liaison Committee, which was instructed by the University Senate to present recommendations on the case of C. Clyde Mitchell and the abridgement of academic freedom, has prepared a report which will be presented to the Senate next Tuesday.

In part the report says, "The Liaison Committee, in search for a guide for possible action, has examined the documents relating to the powers and responsibilities of the Committee on Academic Privilege as well as those of the Liaison Committee."

The report goes on to list the general powers of the Liaison Committee which includes "to represent the faculties generally upon any matter involving the general interest of the faculties of the University and to convene for consideration of such matters upon call of the chairman or upon request in writing of three members of the committee."

The next paragraph presents, what in our opinion, is the crux of the report. It states:

The Liaison Committee finds that the Senate Committee on Academic Privilege, which alone has had the benefit of hearing the evidence presented by both sides in this controversy, made no recommendation for specific action. We must assume that its failure to do so did not stem from a lack of courage but from a conviction that the publication of its findings would constitute action enough. The Liaison Committee concurs in the decision of the Committee on Academic Privilege to make no recommendations for action against any University official. It feels that to make such recommendations would not be consistent with the functions which the Liaison Committee is designated to perform and that it would seriously impair the committee's ability to perform the liaison function in the future."

There is a minority report, too, which two members of the committee signed.

It states that two recommendations will be made in the Senate, 1, that the Liaison Committee be instructed by the Senate that it has the responsibility and power to make recommendations for action to the Senate in any situation where it deems recommendations advisable. It's other recommendation is that . . . "The Liaison Committee should be instructed by the Senate to prepare a report of the alternatives under discussion. This report shall be formulated in such a way as to permit the Senate to express effectively the sense of the faculty on these questions."

Now when this report is presented in the University Senate, it obviously can be accepted or rejected.

Since the failure to make recommendations by the committee seems to stem from a lack of complete understanding that the committee has the power to recommend censure of an individual, the Senate might clear up this matter and ask that specific recommendations for censure be made.

It seems to this newspaper that the failure to make recommendations does not stem from any fear to do so.

Rather it might be presumed that the committee has turned the whole matter over to

the University Senate—which we believe is the rightful place for such censures to be made—and that body can make the recommendations which it deems advisable.

* * *

Here are some considerations, however, which different schools of thought might have on this matter.

1) At the very outset of the committee's meetings, the full power of the committee should have been explained to that body so that no misunderstandings of duties could creep into the picture.

2) At the present time it would do little good for any official of the University to make public apologies to any individuals. This would again bring the Mitchell Case into a limelight which would serve no useful purpose for the University.

The mistakes have been made. We don't—we cannot—condone them. But, on the other hand, the Committee realizes that new steps are being taken by the administration to select deans and departmental chairmen. The rational solution of the Mitchell case—and the results which should be desired by all in the University—is that the situation which had been would no longer be; that the problems of the past, having been brought to light, are being solved. This apparently is what is happening in the University community and it is desirable.

* * *

The report of the Committee on Academic Privilege pointed out that Dr. Mitchell's academic freedom had been abridged on three counts.

The report of the Liaison Committee does not "whitewash" the facts as presented by the Privilege Body. Instead it recognizes that the situation is being corrected.

One question still remains.

What will the University Senate do about the report? Will the members of the Senate get up in arms about the report? Will they believe that there is a whitewash? Will they believe that the machinery of the committee was bogged down by red tape?

We are curious as to whether there will be much dissension in the Faculty Senate meeting next Tuesday.

* * *

Those who have barked loudest about the "whitewash" of the Mitchell Case will have an open forum in which to express their opinions. They will be given a chance to make motions recommending further investigations, further study.

We are hoping that those who have dissented will speak up.

Here, after all, is a brilliant opportunity for the University faculty members to demonstrate to the student body whether the apathy they charge the students with is not a product of the faculty's own actions.

But either way, the Mitchell Case has been thrown into the lap of the Senate and each and every member can now voice his views on the Mitchell case.

The Mitchell Case is finally coming home to roost—and rest, we hope. We trust that the faculty members in the Senate will use their good judgment and decide on the Liaison Committee's report in accord with the convictions of their consciences.

from the editor—

First Things First...

by Jack Pollock

was above that shown by Missouri students Saturday—both in enthusiasm and good taste.

The Pros and cons of sitting before that mystery of bottled light casting figures upon a screen have been hotly debated. In addition to the (grade) students' delight (i.e., the "Hawk" and "Cheyenne"), TV has proved itself in at least one field—education.

The University TV station in Temple building, KUON-TV, with a vast array of professional equipment boasts of one of the top-notch and one of the best-equipped stations in the Midwest. Next week the station broadens its educational scope to include evening programs.

Some 700 students in 22 Nebraska high schools are receiving part of their instruction this year through the University station. Last year's offering of one algebra course has been expanded to seven courses this fall, including three in mathematics, one in senior English, one in beginning high school Spanish, one in art and one in physics.

The potential of this TV education is in its swaddling clothes but the attire is being swiftly updated and outmoded, thanks to many University sponsored stations such as KUON-TV.

Iowa State students last week spread word their campus humor magazine (*The Green Gender*) was on the stands with the poetic cry, "The Goose is Loose."

Campus politicos take note: Talk of a third party in Washington does not concern Mike Todd.

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Through These Doors

george moyer

About two weeks ago, an article appeared on one of the feature pages of that oracle of conservative opinion in Nebraska, the World Herald, in which the virtues of the state were enumerated in a style designed to pluck the heartstrings of the average reader.

The state was presented in panorama from the tall corn area of eastern and southern Huskerland to the vast, cattle dotted Dismal River country and the beautiful Pine Ridge area in the west.

To this point, the article was a very good one. Then it switched to the University and immediately changed character.

It changed character because the writer began to ask Nebraska students what they thought of their state and why here was no pride in it or its institutions. In brief, it asked where the spirit was at the University.

The student reply to the World Herald query was: "We've got it but we just don't show it." Following on the heels of this sterling comment was a column in the Daily Nebraskan by Ernie Hines which poked sarcastic fun at the people at the University who exhibit their spirit in tangible demonstrations. Coming behind this column was a letter by Bill Smith in which he inferred that pep rallies and other such "tangible demonstrations" were "purile" and "high school."

Mr. Smith at the same time begged for a reduction of emphasis on football which I think is laudable. The import attached to the efforts of eleven men gyrating on a Saturday afternoon has gone completely out of the bounds of common sense. After all, when it can cause the World Herald to fill whole pages with copy purporting to investigate the football situation at the University as if it were a colossal missile scandal, things have gotten little out of hand.

However, I cannot stomach the silent spirit part of either Mr. Smith's argument or Mr. Hines'. The football team struggling out there every Saturday is the maniacal spirit part of either Mr. Keyes who wants to be declared officially "in" on something. Finally there are the Delta who are looking for more scrap lumber for their homecoming display, and the AOP's who would like the Phi Psi's to come back and finish what they started on Tuesday last or the whole furshlugener thing off their lawn.

This week we have a number of requests from people who would like free advertising in the Daily Nebraskan. First and foremost is Burt Weichenthal, Cobs publicity chairman for Homecoming, but he is already appearing on the front page. Second is Georgeann Humphrey who pleads, "Buy your Homecoming Dance Tickets please!" (As in "turn off the bubble machine please.") There is Biff Keyes who wants to be declared officially "in" on something. Finally there are the Deltas who are looking for more scrap lumber for their homecoming display, and the AOP's who would like the Phi Psi's to come back and finish what they started on Tuesday last or the whole furshlugener thing off their lawn.

PEANUTS



BLOUSSON



Charlene Anthony,

Alpha Chi Omega on

our College Board,

gives her black and

white stripe jersey a

quickie check up

before her halloween

date appears. Note

the fashion news:

blouson overblouse.

Dateline Jersey, \$29.95

FASHIONS FROM THIRD

Into The Limelight

Dave Rhoades

Monday's fine editorial com-

menting on the work of the Stu-

dent Tribunal Committee raised

an interesting question in my mind

concerning the judicial power

of the Tribunal.

What power, if any, will

this Tribunal have over other

campus organizations such as AWS

and the IFC?

Will the Student Tribunal

hear all cases of infractions

of the University

rules and policies?

Will it act as an appeal board when action

is not taken in campus organiza-

tions?

These questions become impor-

tant when one reviews the action

taken not too long ago against

Theta Chi fraternity.

Why did the IFC

act with such quick and harsh

results? Did the IFC desire to pun-

ish this house because it violated

the IFC's rules concerning "hazing"?

It seems to me that this

Council took this action because

(1) the incident occurred with a

sorority, and (2) the story was

on the front page of the "Star" the

morning after it had happened.

Had this incident involved a fra-

ternity instead of the Tri-Delt house,

nothing would have come of it.

The IFC was literally forced

into action.

The reason for the conclusion

that nothing would have come of

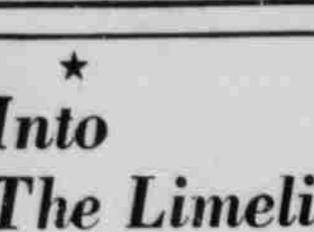
this "hazing" incident had it oc-

curred in another circumstance

arises out of another "event"

which also happened about this

same time. This incident, involv-



Rhoades

ing a fraternity, pornographic films, and, of course, beer at the cave, is certainly no secret to the IFC. Yet this incident, far worse morally than the Theta Chi prank, has not and will not see action by the IFC not because it is difficult to prove but because no one wants to ruin himself or his fraternity by making an issue of this.

Can we expect the IFC in the future to rule fairly (if at all) concerning such events? I think not, and the above incident proves it.

Therefore, it is hoped that the Student Council Tribunal Committee will take serious note of the suggestion to include judicial power over all campus organizations (realizing, of course, that this Tribunal will have the power to act on more than those cases referred to it by the Division of Student Affairs or the Senate.)

And since I cannot see the IFC giving up their judicial power (and frankly, I think they should settle their own difficulties) perhaps it would be wise to include in the Tribunal Constitution some sort of an appeal power enabling them to have jurisdiction over cases not handled by a particular