

Editorial Comment

A Christmas Wish

Peace! The perfect spirit for Christmas. The perfect token for man to carry to his fellow human beings throughout his life.

Once a year when children anxiously await the falling of a gentle and pure snow and parents quietly wrap packages there is a feeling that after the last Christmas eve bus plods past your home all will be calm and bright.

Christmas. The gentle season when men try to forget their troubles and think of the great sacrifice of Christ.

Some suggest that our world has speeded up to such a frantic pace that we can't stop to consider the wonderful gifts of creation—both by God and by the hands of man—which surround us, which make our lives fine and long. This can't be true. For even in the hectic days which come before Christmas and drag into the hours before we go to our families we are thinking of the time for joy and peace.

The Christmas message for youngsters come from Santa, the spirit of giving which they cannot understand, which they need not comprehend. The Christmas message for adults comes from the sweat it takes to satisfy the youngsters. And the Christmas message for

the world over comes from the Christ who was born for us in Bethlehem two thousand years ago.

Man, who has become ever so selfish and ever so rushed, would want to forget the spirit of giving, we suspect. He would want to remember himself but he cannot. Even in the hustle and hurry of the cash register's zesty rush to collect money man is reminded that here, too, is the spirit of giving. Here may be the blackened shadow of greed for the machine, but surely that is based on the love of man for man, the Christ-born love which transcends all mundane motives.

Little more can be said of Christmas, for it is a spirit. And to describe a spirit is beyond our range. Perhaps if man will halt for a moment on these clear nights and look to the West he will see that gloriously bright star which has mystified our inexperienced minds. But it is there and it grows brighter each night, each hour. This speck of a reminder of the spirit of Christmas, this fleck of creation must remain not in the sky for centuries to come, but in the hearts of those men who look at it and know that it was created by the hand of God. Alone it shines upon our lives, our hearts.

May our Christmas prayer, that every man find this same small and brilliant star within his heart, linger there, through the months and years to come.



S. Claus

The Tribunal Changes

The Student Council was handed a fine Christmas present Wednesday when Dave Keene and his Tribunal committee presented the proposed changes in the charter of the judiciary group.

Keene, who has been working diligently on the charter since September says that he hopes the council will act on the changes immediately after vacation and that the students will be given a chance to vote on the changes at a general election sometime in January.

The tone of the changes suggested and the work which has gone into the time-consuming project are both of superior quality. Whether all students agree with the changes as proposed is another matter which they will be given an opportunity to settle at the election.

But it is encouraging to note that the council has taken an active and a rapid step toward improving the student-administration and the intra-student relations. This tribunal committee deserves the congratulations of students who respect hard work and conscientious effort.

As for the changes proposed, they seem enough organized and written so that every student can read and understand them. Now it will be up to the council and eventually the students to make a sincere effort to handle these issues wisely.

changes in the charter it might be noted. This newspaper has some objections to the

qualifications for senior members are under Article IV and Section two of the charter lined. We are led to believe that junior members will be made candidates for the senior positions. But we are not told whether new candidates for the senior positions will be considered. This would seem to exclude those seniors who may not have been qualified in the past but who would make fine judges during their senior year. Council members themselves are included in that important category.

However, like all legal documents, we presume that Keene and crew has written the charter revisions with the idea in mind that interpretation can be made in accordance with the demands of the times.

The qualifications for the judges are much clearer under the new proposed charter than they had been before. The Daily Nebraskan is happy to see that the changes eliminate some of our major objections to the original charter which the student body voted on last May.

In conclusion may we say that the job of the charter tribunal committee is most pleasing to this newspaper which has been one of the great antagonists of the charter for the period of the present semester. It is a credit to student ingenuity that these changes have been made. We hope the charter will be appreciated by students who merely skim over this fine work.

A Few Words Of a Kind

—e. e. hines

The following is an answer that might have been written to a little girl who wrote a newspaper for an answer to a typical childhood problem.

Dear Editor: I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Scrooge. Please tell me the truth, is there a Scrooge?

Marilyn O'Lofton Dear Marilyn, Your little playmates are wrong. They have been fooled by the bright smiles and last minute heart openings of this season. As sure as parking tickets are given in snowstorms there is a Scrooge. Your little friends think that the tinsel on Christmas packages and the smiles beneath Christmas trees are signs of the disappearance of all Scrooges. But they forget the eleven other months of the year when most men forget how to "keep Christmas"; the days in which the motto "Peace on earth" takes second or third place behind "get ahead at any price" and "anything for a buck."

Yes, Marilyn, there is a Scrooge. He exists as certainly as petty hates and lies and Russian dictators exist. And how dreary life would be without Scrooges!

We would never get to gossip behind our friends' backs, we would have to think of people less fortunate than us, we wouldn't need to test atomic bombs or superjets, we would have to know the meaning of brotherhood. It would be a dreary world indeed.

Not believe in Scrooge! You might as well not believe in drunken drivers! You might as well try to keep little dogs from wagging their tails. The most real things in the world are those which are often the best disguised. That's why sometimes people forget that there are Scrooges.

Ah, Marilyn, in all this world there is nothing else real and everlasting.

No Scrooges. Thank the Devil! They live and live forever. A thousand years from now... yes, ten thousand years from now Scrooges will continue to make sad the heart of childhood and all mankind.

The end of Scrooges will come, Marilyn, only when all men "keep Christmas twelve months a year" and remember what the Child of Christmas said:

"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.

"And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Letterip

Emphatic 'No'

To the Editor: Such sententious hogwash! Such ————!

That editorial saying "There is a Santa Claus" is a flagrant example of an assault on clear thinking. Little Virginia O'Hanlon wanted to know whether or not Santa Claus existed—a real flesh and blood Santa Claus such as children think of. The editorial letter to Virginia answered with doubletalk, on one plane insisting that Santa Claus existed (an obvious lie within the sense of Virginia's question) and on another plane began to redefine Santa Claus! It is as if I had asked "are flying saucers real," and the answer came back, "Yes, they're real. You can't see them or touch them, etc., and your small mind just can't understand them, but flying saucers are more real than anything else; they make life worth living."

The whole answer to Virginia is based upon the idea that mankind must place its faith in unproven myths and subordinate thinking to emotional wishes. These courses of action can only lead to slavery and disaster. An unscientific faith in Santa Claus shares the same general grounds as faith in Communism — neither have proven themselves.

No, Virginia, there is no Santa Claus.

Melvyn (Buck) Eikleberry

To the Editor: It was interesting to note the strong stand taken by the editorial page editor of the Daily Nebraskan in opposition to the placing of a Kosmet Klub representative on Student Council.

The contention that because Kosmet Klub is a special interest group and therefore should have no voice in formulating student policy is fallacious, and if it were true, it would apply to organizations that are at present represented on the Council. Corn Cobs and Tassies are groups of the same nature as Kosmet Klub with limited membership and not representing any large body of students. The naive idea that organizations on Student Council should represent a large number of students is ridiculous. I would be very disillusioned to find that the YWCA and the YMCA organization on the Council is not a service group and that it represents a segment of the student body.

KEN FREED

Christmas Poem

By Eddie

Once again Christmas has come With brisk days and pie of plum.

And so kind greetings are in order And we give them out because we oughter.

Here's to Chancellor Cliff our pal We hope his Christmas will be swell.

A greeting to Pitt and Breck May Santa bring a scarf for the neck.

A smile for the Red Lion and Casey's too In the next few weeks we'll drop in on you.

We couldn't forget our good friend Frank Or Police Chief Joe who runs the tank.

And to the regents we'll tip our nog Looking at their projects all agog.

Here's to the queens galore this year From Ruthie to Kay Nielson dear,

From Jones Sara and Hawkins Sadie To the Howell Theatre's Astor Lady.

We'll sing a carol to Phi Beta Buck We hope her brain won't run amuck.

To Jerry who hands out the cash And Stephany who plans the Union hash.

To handy Bob and Mr. Lake Let's toast them with a bite of cake.

To Elliott Pete and Glassford Bill While you lasted your job was swell.

But to Coach Jennings may we say For many years may you stay.

Here's to Jerry and his Bushmen Let's make mince-meat of the Big Ten.

We've left out Vic, that affable guy, And Mr. Kendall that Captain Bligh

We've forgotten to mention Morgan Holmes And haven't mentioned Oley's helper Jones

Jensen Sam who still hangs around And that nice guy who runs lost and found

Doc Elliott and Carpenter Terry All deserve a Christmas Merry.

To Dave Keene and Remington Rand-To Helen Gourlay too, we think you're grand.

To Mister Claus and our man Cranston May everyone cheer you from the grandstand.

The journalist's friend Etaoin Shrdlu We think should get a card, don't you?

So now we'll close this Christmas hail Wishing one and all a bundle of mail

We'll hope you remember our Xmas cheer For Christmas comes but once a year.

Traditional Christmas Tale Once Again Told

By Ellie Elliott

Deeply inspired by your reprinting of "Yes Virginia" the other day, I scrambled through my archives for the following, which is in its own way another of our heritage stories:

"In the days of Anderson, the Governor of Nebraska:

"And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Mayor Martin, that all the town should be decorated.

"And all went to shop, every one into his own store.

"And Joseph also went up, to shop with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

"And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in disposable diapers, and laid him in a parking lot; because there was no room for him at the Cornhusker.

"And there were in the same town policemen abiding on their corners, keeping watch over the traffic by night. And lo, the angel of Walt Disney came upon them, and the glory of Walt Disney shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

"And the angel said unto them; Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the City of Lincoln a Savior, which is the son of Donald Duck. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in diapers, lying under a neon sign.

"And, suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude of the mercenary host praising Walt Disney and saying, "Glory to Walt Disney in Hollywood, and in Lincoln commerce, good sales for businessmen.

"And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning these apparitions. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the policemen.

"And when there were only eight shopping days left, the child's name was called Davy Crockett, which was so named of the Chamber of Commerce when he was conceived in their skulls.

"And when Davy was born in Lincoln of Nebraska in the days of Anderson the Governor, behold, there came farmers from the west to Omaha, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Wild Frontier? For we have seen his neon signs, and we are come to purchase him."

Merry Christmas.

The Gadfly

Sara Jones

A very merry Christmas to you all and God bless us every one.

It's really an excellent time to start a new year. All the old worn-out issues have gone by the way and the University faces a year which may be one of the best in its history. I'd like to give some special Christmas presents and best wishes to people who really deserve them.

To Dave Keene, for one, and his new Tribunal. The Student Council committee has come up with a charter which ought to be acceptable to almost everyone, if we can set it up for next year.

Both students, who ought to be able to run as much of their own affairs as possible, and the administration, who will be relieved of a lot of the nasty jobs that create often-undesired ill will, will benefit. A special round of applause to Dave, who took much-needed time from his law studies to work.

To Duane Lake, whose new Union is finally being built. Rumor has it that the much-joked about delay was due to Mr. Lake's insistence that the new Union be

one the University can really be proud of. So, though the Gadfly may feel that barber shops and bowling alleys are not awfully essential to a college education, I will probably enjoy the Union as much as the much confirmed Crib jock.

To the members of the Faculty Senate, whose return of the student vote on faculty committees went unnoticed in the general confusion over Mitchell. Thanks!

To the University administration, with whom I disagree about everything it's possible to disagree about, but whose job I wouldn't have for the world.

To all my instructors, to whom I owe term papers and whose classes I do not attend, and a special Merry Christmas to instructors whose classes are so interesting I only cut them once a week.

To Dr. Robert Cranford, who, far from fulfilling my worst expectations about faculty advisors, has become one of the nicest things to happen to the Rag in some time. Greetings also to his cohort, Dr. Hall.



Into The Limelight

Dave Rhoades

Recently eleven professors in the Arts and Sciences College requested that the authority for certification of teachers be transferred from Teachers College to the Office of Registration and Records which would recommend students who have been approved by the pertinent subject departments. This certification would allow a certification of teachers who are not now matriculated in TC or have not completed the required number of professional courses in education.



Rhoades

Before any more student groups rush to one side or the other in the controversy, perhaps a review should be made of some of the assumptions it is possible to draw from a knowledge of the A & S proposals and see if they are valid.

Perhaps the most basic idea which the proposal assumes is that to allow certain students to receive teacher certification without taking the required number of professional courses will automatically guarantee more teachers for the "fundamental courses". The professors said in their proposal that "the able students in the fields of the sciences, mathematics, language, and even history and English have frequently been unwilling to submit to the certification procedures imposed upon the prospective teachers." Yet can one imagine an "able" student turning down a salary three times larger than Nebraska's starting salary of \$3,400 just to emphasize the "fundamentals" in a high school? As Dean Breckenridge commented in the Daily Nebraskan when the proposal was first made, "Lack of desire stems from lack of incentive."

Another claim which the proposal makes is the assumption drawn from the request that teacher certification be made by the subject matter departments that because an individual has successfully completed a course of study in a "basic subject", this person is qualified to teach that subject. Passing by the obvious question as to which subject matter department would do the recommending, a more important question may be raised. Can one assume that educated students simply because they have learned certain materials are competent to teach that subject? Most educators will tell you and surveys reveal that teachers who fail in the field do so not because of a lack of knowledge of the subject matter but because they lack the ability to put the material across to high school students and because they lack the necessary human relations skills to encourage motivation and incentive.

The statement by the eleven Arts and Science professors emphasizes a continuing need to evaluate all programs from year to year as new developments occur—in this case, a need to seek answers to the teaching shortage and the lack of emphasis on the "fundamentals" in high school. Nevertheless, the proposal, based on several erroneous assumptions, is hardly a practical answer to the problems involved.

from the editor—

First Things First...

by Jack Pollock

The University gets a double-barreled Christmas package this year, a new Tribunal set-up and a new Union.

At the orphans party given by the Interfraternity Council Wednesday evening, Santa said that because of lack of snow he had to arrive by Sputnik. I understand the next U.S. Sputnik—though they don't know how far it will go—will be equipped with curb feelers.

Coed comments overheard on campus: "This is the time for mistletoe and missiles, for St. Nick and Sputnik."

Then there was the one who was worried about her weekend activity. Seems her operators license is expiring.

The new Union plans—to a great extent—follow requests on the campus-wide "Needs Survey" taken by Union consultant Porter Butts of the University of Wisconsin two years ago.

The survey showed that the Ballroom and small party room received their strongest support from Greek houses and dormitories by a wide margin, despite prediction by most Union chairmen (students) that houses would continue to hold their parties off campus regardless of improved Union facilities.

Rated low on the survey were all fun and games except bowling, which ranked sixth in "essential" category. Expansion of the fountain lounge (Corn Crib) and a book store were the top two items in demand, in that order. A small auditorium ranked fourth and barber shop eighth.

Ranking first in the write-in category in the survey was a beer or bar service (estimated at over 300 votes). This service was supported by eight per cent of the 3,686 who completed the questionnaires. The Union consultant said this

compared to comments of four per cent to five per cent of students in other Union surveys. Commented Butts, "It is assumed however, that Nebraska and University policy would not permit bar facilities in the Union."

On the other hand, the second most frequent 29 write-ins, representing an 0.8 per cent interest. Butts' report to the Union stated this was "extremely low" with some Union surveys giving that facility write-in votes up to nine per cent.

According to the survey, interest in the barber shop was "overwhelming" compared to other campus surveys. Forty per cent of the men regarded it as essential and 23 per cent ranked it desirable. Ranking eighth in the Nebraska survey, Butts said this figure was "unprecedented in other surveys."

Two-thirds of the existing Unions include barber shops but rarely has a question or complaint been raised concerning competition, according to Butts' report, since one of the existing shop operators ordinarily moves into the Union on a lease basis. Thus, there is no additional competition, but rather a change of location of an existing shop to a point more convenient to students. There is no element of the University in competition with business, because the University does not operate the shop.

Negative thinking was at a minimum in the survey. Only 15 comments or 4 per cent of those completing the forms, expressed negative attitudes toward the new Union. This compares to other Union surveys as high as three per cent or almost ten times greater. Seven students said the University should "build other facilities first," five said "provide better Union facilities for Ag campus," one said the present Union is adequate, another said a better looking present building would be sufficient and another wanted to "spend more money on faculty salaries."

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