

Editorial Comment

'Neighborly' Race Relations To Receive Emphasis Sunday

"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another." John XIII, 34

This Sunday the annual race relations message of the National Council of Churches will be read from thousands of pulpits throughout the United States.

The message will be delivered as a part of race relations Sunday and will be addressed to the 38 million members of the 34 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox denominations represented by the council.

We all may find much food for thought in the message. It declares that "the commandment to love our neighbor has been honored more in the breach than in the fulfillment."

"A neighbor is anyone of any color, in need, wherever he may be," the message adds.

This Sunday might be a good time to stop and carefully review our own "neighborliness."

This holds true not only with persons of other faiths or races, but with our daily associates as well. The question is, "Are we being good neighbors to one another?"

"Biased teachings have left some of us with distorted views of many of our neighbors. A

difference in customs, a difference in skin color, a difference in speech dialect... these and many other small factors often divide us.

Last month a Negro family in Lincoln felt the lack of this neighborliness.

More than 50 persons assembled in one area of the city to hold a protest meeting in order to determine the status of the Negro family that had moved into their once all white neighborhood.

A lawyer who represented the protesters reportedly told the press that the meeting was called because the people "don't want the Negro family here."

We may be thankful that the campus has escaped any outward signs of racial prejudice. But let us not be so smug as to feel that we are free of many "hidden" prejudices.

These are the prejudices which cause us to silently disrespect the minority and to belittle him with unnecessary slanders; to exclude him from our clubs or activities.

The big factor in racial relations is accepting each person as a real individual with individual values and individual flaws.

Let this be our special thought as race relations Sunday is observed this weekend.



Letterip

Papa Image Ike

To the Editor: Doc Rodger's statement to the effect that the Truman Administration deserves the blame for our tardiness in the missile field is a prime example of the misconceptions people are subject to when their scientific understanding is greatly surpassed by their political enthusiasm.

The growth of knowledge in a given technical field (which can be judged pretty accurately by the amount of material published on the subject) is geometric; that is, the amount of results in one year is roughly a multiple of the amount in the previous year. Occasionally, when a break through is achieved there will be a sharp upswing.

U.S. missile expenditures have shown the same pattern of increase; examination of the graph published in Time, Nov. 4, 1957, proves this. It is probable that they have lagged behind technical feasibility; however there has been no abrupt increase since 1952 indicative of Republican omniscience. Indeed, the lag has been largely due to the tightfistedness so often characteristic of Republicans in Nebraska and elsewhere.

Blaming Truman for spending less than Ike is like blaming Ludovico Sforza for not going into lock to develop Leonardo Da Vinci's rudimentary airplane design. On the other hand, the Eisenhower Administration and Republicans in general, have continually hampered science, ignored opportunities, and minimized the need for a stronger initiative. They produced or tolerated the situation which led to Gavin's resignation, Nickerson's court martial, inaction on the Jupiter-C project, which could have beaten the Reds, and served Red security by classifying Russian scientific papers, kept American work secret from men who could have used it to advance our cause.

Papa-image Ike and his cabinet never realized the situation until public opinion rammed it down their throats. Theodore G. Reiss

Too Many Ads

To the Editor: You may have a different looking paper after "powdering your nose" as you call it, but why the devil all those ads?

I realize that it takes more than subscription money to keep a paper going, yet surely it doesn't take more than half of your paper space in ads to supplement your income.

That's my big complaint about the Rag, except for the fact that I never did see a list of second semester graduates.

And while I'm letting off steam I'd like to get my word in on this expanded union project.

I'm not against a bigger and better union like a lot of people seem to be, but you can mark me down as opposed to an expansion of the present "Crib" chow service.

If they are building a bigger "crib" only in order to let more people suffer through their basket specials I suggest they use the space for handball courts.

Something like 50 cents is too much to ask for a hamburger, coffee and a badly treated stack of overly greasy potato lumps.

And where did that chef of theirs come up with your chili recipe? The stuff is pure, unadulterated swill.

I burp at the table occasionally, so no one has ever called me a gourmet. I'm not trying to even talk like a gourmet. I'm just talking like a guy who can't stand to eat potato boiled in oil left over from some vats they didn't dump over the side of the castle in medieval days.

Do those folks ever change that oil? Some places put up signs like, "Keep clean, don't spread disease." Maybe the "Crib" should post a sign saying, "Change the oil and save the stomach pump."

Good luck to you. May you boil in oil the next time you put out a campus advertising sheet. Tom Boerschinger

Dirty Campus

To the Editor: I am one of those people who gets tired of hearing requests to keep the highways and streets and cities clean. But sadly enough it seems like the people who keep screaming these things are right.

The campus is littered with papers and beer bottles. Why don't some of these campus minded fraternities and sororities do their bit to get the junk off their lawns?

The University cleanup crews might take a look around some of the campus buildings also. The Student Union is surrounded by stacks of paper clustered about in the bushes and on the grass.

Apathy is about the only word I can think of to describe the feeling of most of the people I know. You ask them to pick up something they've dropped and they look at you as though you were a feeble-minded child who belonged in a mental institution.

Pride seems to be sadly lacking around this University. Why don't the people concerned get on the stick and at least keep the area clean? I'm afraid it's too much for me to do. That is, pick up after the other 7,000 of you paper tossers. JAC.

Traffic Congestion

To the Editor: The campus police should do something about traffic congestion at 14th and S during rush hour (e.g. at 8 a.m. on week days). Both students and cars do their best to ignore lights and basic traffic laws as they madly rush to early classes. DISTURBED

My Weal Or Woe By Dick Basoco

"What is this mish-mosh?" It's supposed to be stylish to start out with a quotation so I thought I might try it.

It is also necessary to identify the source of a quote, so I must admit that I am indebted to Bobbie Holt (you know her — that renowned Mortar Board freckle frame) for this interesting if not too literate expressions.

In this case "mish-mosh" — the meaning of which is somewhat obscure and can therefore be readily applied to fit almost any of a number of circumstances — refers to some rather disturbing words that have reached my ears concerning the recent Rag staff selections. These words have carried the message that Pub Board went into the interviews with a closed mind and with the major positions already picked. It's enough to make a person wonder.

There are probably three factors involved in the selection of paid Rag staff members. These would be the individual's past performance, the recommendations of the retiring editor, and, finally, the individual interviews.

Because of the importance of their selections, Pub Board members must necessarily make it their business to find out how an individual is doing in the job which his present position requires. It would be easy to take somebody else's word for it, but, from personal experience, I know this isn't the case.

We, the student body, elect the members of student council. They in turn select the members of Pub Board. Therefore, we, in a sort of indirect way, select the members of PB. So let's have a little faith in their decisions.

Anyhow, maybe the defeated ought to swallow their pride and realize that there is someone somewhere on this big, wide campus who may be a little — just a little now — better qualified than they are. It just may be, too, that these "better qualified" people I mentioned are the ones that did get the positions. And may the not too mute mouthings of those who gripe for the lack of anything else to do fall upon deaf ears.

Let's stop this silly second guessing and let's have no more of this "mish-mosh."

Basoco

Not that it hasn't been done, but I like to think — and I admit I may be an idealist of sorts — that the selections are comparatively non-political.

Editor's recommendations and personal interviews, however, provide the applicant with an opportunity to rectify himself in the eyes of PB. Pub Board doesn't go into these interviews with a closed mind; it can't afford to. The student publications just are not activities and cannot be classed as such. They are businesses — businesses that deal in the thousands of dollars — and a Pub Board member would be cutting his own throat if he let personal prejudices get in the way.

'Swashbuckling' Gone

Talk about de-emphasis! Why the University fencing club has not only been de-emphasized, but also forgotten!

In an exclusive story, the newspaper discovered that the club has tried to gain recognition not only from the University but also from the Big Eight. The latter? In order that intercollegiate fencing matches can be held at the expense of the University not the expense of each individual member of the squad.

What are the apparent reasons the fencing outfit has not been recognized by the University Department of Athletics?

Doesn't it bring in enough revenue? Isn't it a healthy sport?

Aren't there any persons interested in the sport?

Is it frowned upon by some persons who seemingly are more important in revenue than in honest, challenging and beneficial?

Answers are not at this moment available for every one of these questions. However it can be said, and it will be said by such persons as Paul Armato, University English instructor who doubles as fencing coach without pay, that fencing is probably one of the most challenging physical disciplines known.

"It is a sport as much as football. It doesn't bring in the revenue as football, does, however," Armato will tell you.

Why is it not recognized as an intercollegiate sport?

Athletic Director Bill Orwig says as far as he knows no action has been taken to make fencing a recognized sport.

Armato denies this. Says he, "I asked Orwig and he told me that it would be senseless to try, adding that he (Armato) would meet with failure."

The whole business comes down to these considerations:

1) There are students at the University who are interested in fencing as an intercollegiate sport. They have doled out their own cash to travel to such places as Iowa University to participate.

2) One University faculty member has made an effort to get the sport recognized as a varsity activity, but has met with a block from the Athletic bigwigs because "it has never been done before."

3) Other members of the University family, faculty and undergraduate alike, are disappointed with the Athletic Department's policy to choke the fencing activities on the campus by forgetting it takes money to have a varsity team.

4) The Athletic Department owes some explanation as to why fencing won't be given a chance, as to why the University can not join with schools such as SUI or the Air Force Academy or the University of Colorado and inaugurate a program of intercollegiate fencing activities.

Or is there some other consideration for the criterion of good sport besides the fact that it is one of the most demanding physical and mental experiences and exercises?

From the Editor

private opinion

... dick shugrue

While dial twisting on my Admiral Sunday morning, I saw some gentlemen discussing education.

Some of them were on the "right" side; others took the "left" view on the quality of Nebraska high schools and high schools in general. Bill Bogar, principal of Lincoln High School, was all for the schools and the job they are doing to prepare the young set for the job of keeping house, painting cars and understanding world problems.

However, on the other side of the fence throwing clever remarks here and there was James E. Miller Jr., chairman of the University's English Department. Miller said he believed colleges have had to lower their standards because high schools have lowered their standards.

The real academic subjects have been forgotten in an effort to educate everyone equally, Miller commented.

Furthermore the Whitman scholar said that the real task of education is to prepare an individual to the best of his ability. This might entail that individual's taking some courses he doesn't want to take, such as the basic subjects of English, foreign language, history.

It would be safe for me to say that Miller believes a thinking man should precede a skilled man.

And the job of the college education is to teach an individual how to think creatively, analytically.

Also on the panel, and thinking along the same lines as Miller was Dr. James C. Olson, chairman of the History Department.

Olson stated that the major solution to the

problem facing all levels of education will come when citizens are willing to pay for good teachers and basic education.

In lieu of these comments, let's take a look at some figures sent us by Rep. Phil Weaver showing where Nebraska rates with other states in the field of education.

—34th in the number of persons completing four years of college with only 5.1 per cent of its population in that category.

6th in the percentage of the population with less than five years in school (4.9 per cent).

—13th in the average number of school years completed (10.1).

—12th in the percentage of the population which has completed four years of high school (38.5 per cent).

—10th in the percentage of draftees disqualified by the mental test (4.9 per cent).

—35th in the percentage of elementary school

teachers with four years or more of college (26.6 per cent).

—42nd in average annual teacher salaries for 1957 and 1958 (\$3,250 compared with California's \$3,750).

—29th in the amount spent for education per pupil per year (\$255).

Is it any wonder, then, that teachers are leaving the schools of Nebraska in flocks?

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