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The Daily Nebraskan

Editorial Comment

English Vs. Journalism

Some members of the University faculty are in the midst of a current controversy started by the Nebraska Council of English Teachers. The English teachers have recommended a change in state law that would require 4 years of English for high school graduation without allowing substitution of speech or journalism to fulfill part of this requirement.

It is no great secret that the English department does not agree with many of the views of the Journalism school and vice versa. The big disagreement is probably reflected in the views of Dr. James Miller, chairman of the University English department, and Dr. William Hall, director of the University School of Journalism.

Miller contends that the proposal "is aimed at strengthening the student in every area including speech and journalism." He says that to allow substitution of another course for a basic English course "is to mislead and short change the students."

Hall, meanwhile, answers that he believes the English instructors who made the proposal were making a mistake in promoting literature at the expense of 'the fundamental skill of communicating well."

There is little doubt that few College students have been subjected to extensive views of literature before enrolling in a college English course. There is also little doubt that an appreciation of the great literature of the world is an essential part of being an educated man. There does seem to be a need for more emphasis on the reading of literature in high schools, and not just the drilling of grammar do's and don'ts. It would be desirable to see 4 full years of "basic" English study in high schools.

At the same time, it is just as important to high school students to be able to clearly express their own ideas-both in writing and speaking. Journalism and speech courses are then also vital to developing a person into an educated man.

No matter what one may personally know, unless he is able to communicate clearly with others he weakens his own knowledge by failing to use it to its full potential. Journalism in high school helps to train the student to concentrate on getting the facts of an event, getting them right, then recording them in an interesting manner. This is a type of experience which few English courses can daily provide, but which-as stated-is vital.

Speech is probably one of the most ceive teacher's certificates.

ignored subjects in our nation even though talking is the way in which we most directly inform and persuade other people. The majority of college students, high school students and what have you point up the sad state of oral communication in the United States by their inability to stand in front of more than 3 people without turning green or making such a bundle of nervous gestures that their message is destroyed. More emphasis on speech courses, then, would appear to be the answer.

But then you get to the point where you realize that these are all important and that it probably isn't possible to stress any of these subjects as much as any ' group of instructors might desire. This seems to be the case with the English teachers proposal. It makes sense if it can be done without sacrificing journalism and speech, but it doesn't make sense if either of these courses are ignored in order to concentrate more on the so called basic English courses.

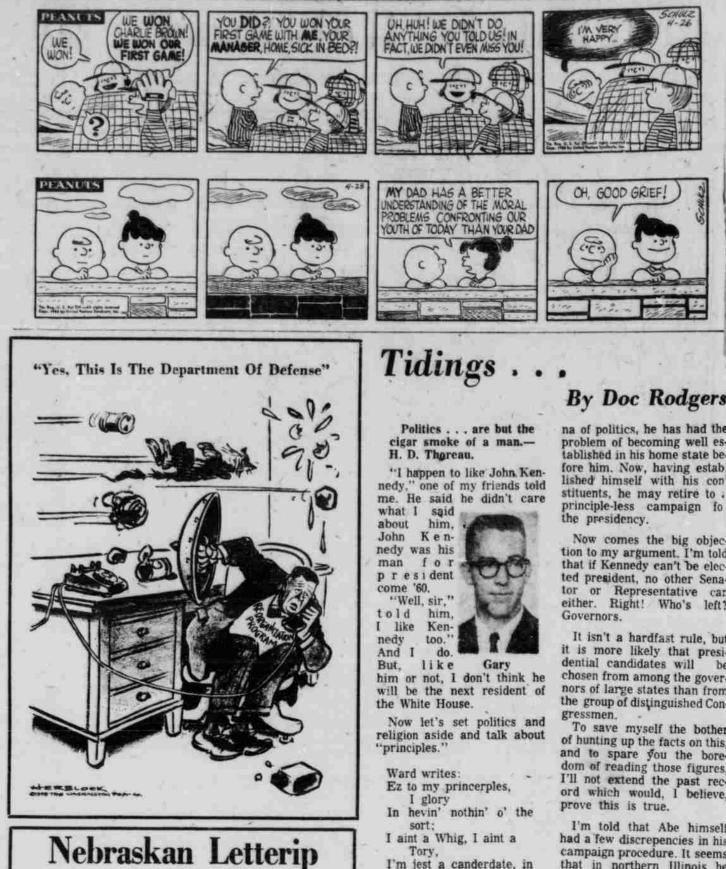
* **Teacher Tangle**

Figures released by the National Education Assn. point out how important the teacher controversies really are. The Association has estimated that 116,000 new teachers will be graduated in the United States this year, but that only about 85,000 of these will actually teach. How many are needed? The Associa-

tion says the schools could use 220,000. This means that the classrooms will be shy about 135,000 teachers next fall.

One of the big detriments to the procuring of sufficient quantities of new teachers is apparently the salaries paid by private industry in contrast with school salaries. The education group estimates, in fact, that since 1953 about 100,000 persons qualified to teach have not entered the profession after graduation from college.

Nebraska itself has felt the effect of large exoduses of newly graduated teachers to out of state positions because of better wages. One of the things which local school boards must do, possibly with state help, is loosen the purse strings wider. And here at the University, the administration might do its best to improve the available teacher picture by assuring that needless red tape-such as dual matriculation-does not rob the state of prospective teachers because of the blind refusal to allow persons other than those in Teachers College to re-



To the editor:

Concerned people from all walks of life have petitioned our government and the Russian and British governments to stop nuclear bomb tests. Scientists from all over the world have raised their voices warning the governments against continuation of those tests.

In protesting continuation of tests nobody assumes that stoppage of bomb tests by itself will be all that is needed to avert nuclear war-though thoughtful people can't adopt the naive pretension, offered to us from East and West alike, that preparation for bigger threats of massive retaliation - which bomb tests represent - preserves the peace. What are the arguments of- " fered for continuation of bomb tests? To develop 'clean bombs' for tactical use, says Teller. We ask: who can reasonably expect that the introduction of nuclear weapons into tactical warfare will not in due course lead to their general application? Nuclear warfare does not follow rules of the 19th century type localization to battlefields and enemy territory. Not to mention even the perversion of calling an instrument of killing 'clean'. To develop clean antimissile and antiaircraft missiles, says again Teller, While I visited Los Angeles last year I witnessed some public instruction on this topic. A drone's electronic system went out of control and so the drone was supposed to be shot down to prevent it from falling into Los Angeles. Even though this event was foreseeable, some 80 shots failed to bring the thing down-it went of its own accord out into the Pacific Ocean, and half a dozen forest fires started from those antiaircraft missiles. We ask: can the antimissile missile defense system be taken seriously. Even a 90% effective antimissile system is no good in preventing destruction from the 10% missiles coming through, enough to finish us off. To have the lead in offering a threat of instant retaliation, says the SAC. Dr. W. H. Pickering, the eminent leader of American rocket research, Director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory of Cal Tech, was asked by the New York Herald Tribune, Jan. 22, 1958, to give his judgment about the automatic push button rocket defense system. We can but

quote him. 'Within a few years every city on the globe will be living with a threat of sudden death - it's life dependent on one man's action the soldier on guard in an isolated ICBM launching site . . . Military strategists have concluded that the only answer is the threat of immediate and total retaliation

. To attain the capability of instant retaliation the military planner finds himself calling for long range radar I'm jest a canderdate, in short.

Joke though many do about it, it's a mighty sure thing that sometimes principles do a politician more harm than good. Everything a candidate says. every stand a politician takes is bound to make a few more enemies for him. Someone is bound to disagree with each thing.

And so, when Mr. Kennedy stands up on the floor of the Senate and takes a stand on civil rights, for instance, he is gaining the votes in Massachusetts that he needs for reelection to Congress, but at the same time he is losing votes in the South that would be needed to elect him president.

na of politics, he has had the problem of becoming well established in his home state before him. Now, having estab lished himself with his con stituents, he may retire to a principle-less campaign fo the presidency.

April 25, 1958

Now comes the big objection to my argument. I'm told that if Kennedy can't be elected president, no other Senator or Representative can either. Right! Who's left? Governors.

It isn't a hardfast rule, but it is more likely that presidential candidates will be chosen from among the governors of large states than from the group of distinguished Con-

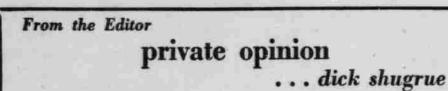
To save myself the bother of hunting up the facts on this, and to spare you the boredom of reading those figures, I'll not extend the past record which would, I believe, prove this is true.

I'm told that Abe himself had a few discrepencies in his campaign procedure. It seems that in northern Illinois he would tell them one thing, and in southern Illinois he would conform to a different kind of politics.

But that's neither here nor there, in fact it might well be hogwash.

The fact is, a candidate must be careful that nothing he says will lose him votes. And often the best way to avoid this is to say nothing.

And there's where the governors come in. Who says less gover They declare a few special holidays, designate weeks as "careful drivers week", "potato planting week" and "old maids week" but all these make friends, no enemies,



lieutenant said as he shook my hand Saturday afternoon. It was Sam Jensen speaking. Sam. Still smiling, pudgy and happy. Sam, serving Uncle Sam down at Riley, had come home to the University to spend a few hours renewing old memories.

"What do you have in mind?" I was tempted to say. But I know what Sam would have had in mind. Run Pogo for Congress this year, he might have said. You remember he was " running the swampy little guy for president last year.

That would be a good issue. Compare the traits of Pogo with the traits of Phil Weaver. Would Pogo be prompted to study closely an issue which a constituent asked about? Or would he give a direct answer?

Yes, I certainly think Sam was right when he advocated the creation of new issues. But I'd like to leave Pogo out of the picture and drag on some new names to the comic book scene.

1) Student council members could be equated with that fun loving, blanket hugging, dog patting gang from Peanuts. Those Charles Schultz characters have no rhyme or reasons for doing what they do. And yet they go ahead with wreckless abandon. Just like the council tossing out helpless journalists from the council chamber when it comes to electing tribunal members.

2) Faculty committees (in general) could be equated with Jiggs. Always able to get out of tough spots - and usually unscathed. Of course, Jiggs rarely ever passes his predicaments on to his friends, to say it . . . and so forth.

"Stir up a few more issues," the young as committees so often refer troublesome business to other committees.

> 3) The Division of Student Affairs could be equated with Daddy Warbucks. Powerful, shifty, using devious means to reach a hoped-for goal. But, who would be the Punjab of the Adminy Hall group?

> 4) The AWS could be equated with Juliet Jones. Pure, wholesome, looking out for the best in people, avoiding all sorts of real problems if possible and sitting in judgment of the folksies around. yet rarely ever catching the people who really give the University a bad name.

> 5) And even the Daily Nebraskan could fit into this comedy scene. I've heard the paper compared with Donald Duck, always squacking, using little ducks to stir up trouble and having a close relationship with Goofy.

No one's immune from being called names, then. The paper, for example is either remembered as a rabble rouser or a do nothing. There doesn't seem to be a middle of the road. I for one would like this paper to be remembered as a rabble rouser.

I think the rabble can be roused with some tact. I think some problems can be brought out into the open which might have lay back and slept for twenty years. But if a good-old college paper can stir up a little thought among the students and faculty-provoking some, satisfying others as well as telling the news, then the paper is doing its job.

And it's a satisfying feeling to know that people around you might violently fisagree with what you say, but at the same time will stand behind your right

Good For Grins

Just before Christmas a college professor read the following on an examination paper: "God only knows the answer to this question. Merry Christmas." Across the paper the professor wrote: "God gets an A; you get an F. Happy New Year." (The Reader's Digest)

devices, elaborate computers, and a complex communication network. Under these circumstances if a period of international tension lasts for any length of time. failure of the equipment is almost inevitable and mutual destruction cannot be

avoided' Bomb tests should be ended because they are immoral. Already the fallout from bomb tests, and still more so that from an ever increasing number of bomb testing nations, causes thousands, perhaps millions of people to die prematurely, each generation on earth, not to talk of the more serious genetic damage affecting our progeny.

Fallout' connected with bomb tests is, however, but one evil. Bomb tests, missiles, air-bases and similar ensignia of 'strength' breed fear and distrust and are the most potent causes of an accelerated arms race, and that must be stopped.

The actual guilt of bringing about a nuclear holocaust certainly does not lie in the perhaps quite accidental launching of the so called first shot put in the preparedness and willingness to incinerate millions of innocent people, and in engaging in power politics based on threats of massive retaliation. If any nation is sincere in not being willing to be a part of that crime, the proof of her sincerity lies in the end of preparations of weapons for it, and in a change away from a national policy based on imagined military strength to one based on co-operation and mutual aid.

Why single out bomb test ban to start with? Because bomb tests are easy to detect. The hearings of Senator Humphrey have shown a lot of interesting facts. Bomb tests in which the military establishments are interested, i.e., either superbomb tests or tests of missile warheads, are selfpolicing; they cannot be hidden. Even underground tests which are of practically no importance at all, and might therefore even be tolerated, can be detected from far away. Inspection can therefore be achieved by a handful of internationally trusted people.

Cessation of bomb tests will bring trust, confidence, faith and hope-an honest step towards peace. HERBERT JEHLE

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It would seem that the best policy for the ambitious person in Mr. Kennedy's position would be to keep his mouth shut. I believe he has become more and more aware of this. Lately the policies he advocates, like the politician running on the platform of mother, flag and country, will lose no votes.

But since the Senator is a relative newcomer to the are-

by dick basoco

the imagination most of the

people at Nebraska. Why, 200

people hardly even constitute

And probably most of those

loyal individuals who did take

a break in their beer drinking

to watch the proceedings

wouldn't be there if they didn't

have to sing in their group's

a minority out of 8,000.

The up coming week end has made me start wondering about what the "Cornhusker tradition" you hear about every now and then really

Like I've heard that the migration to Colorado every two years is getting to be "tradition I think this means that trundle

we

the

out to Boulder to cheer team on

heights. But it would probably be nearer the point if we admitted that somewhere between the time we enter the city and the time we are supposed to be at the stadium, most of the "tradition" upholders get lost in the dark confines of Tulagi's, and about the only cheering that is done is by the bartender as he pushes another pitcher across the bar. And it's the students, not the team, that gets the effects of "the "cheering" in regards to 'height."

And such is the coming week end. All these people, myself included, are running around saying, my, aren't Spring Day and Ivy Day lovely traditions? and Nebraska certainly has a fine tradition in Ivy Day, etc.

But a tradition sort of connotes something that is enjoyed or participated in by most of the people involved in

Del Rasmussen tells the one about the candidate for re-election who stopped his automobile in front of the farmhouse, and addressed the old farmer who was sitting under the apple tree:

"What are your politics, neighbor?

'Wal, stranger, politics is kinder mixed up here at our place. I'm a Republican, the old lady is a Democrat, the baby is wet, and the cow is dry.

My Weal Or Woe the "tradition." And I doubt

that the two hundred people who gather to see who gets crowned May Queen, tackled Innocents, or tapped Mortar means. Board is by any stretch of

chorus. Spring Day, which is almost non-existant this year, is on to greater the way out for sure if something can't be done to improve

> If all Spring Day is going to amount to is a bunch of fraternity boys and sorority girls pulling each other through a pit of mud, I think nobody will really miss Spring Day too much anyhow. Except that

maybe we'll have to go to school that Friday; and that would certainly be a bad deal. It's been suggested that maymaybe Spring Day could be Iowa State's "Viesha Day." It sounds like a pretty good idea. By inviting a bunch of high school students down for the weekend, the U of N could get in a real good "rushing"

That is, if Spring Day could be made impressive and Ivy Day meant something to some one besides who ever happens to be honored that day. And both can, indeed, be "traditions" in every sense of the word.

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