

Editorial Comment:

Let's Turn Our Lights On Nebraska Education

Among the many promotional ideas to enhance the status of Nebraska as a state that Governor Ralph Brooks recently proposed, was one to leave the lights on the tower of the capitol building all night.

Now, there is no doubt Nebraska needs promoting as a state. The attitude of most Nebraskans toward their native place runs decidedly on the cynical side. To eradicate a feeling like this and replace it with pride is indeed a worthy project.

But we think that Governor Brooks has overlooked one of the chief avenues of developing state pride.

After all, the best representatives of a state are the young people which a state's educational program produces. These young people take jobs all over the United States in all fields of industry, and the work they do — the level of competency they reach—is the hallmark of the pride Nebraskan's take in their youth and the education of that youth.

By the same token, a well educated young man with a job in this state or any other will take pride in the educational program where he got his training. And he will take pride in the state and the people of the state who provided that education.

Graduated students, therefore, are something more than just engineers, doctors, lawyers or teachers. They are all public relations men bearing the stamp of the educational system that produced them.

To sum it up, a Nebraska graduate who is proud to be a Nebraska graduate is the best promotion—the best advertisement—that Nebraska can have.

The next logical step in any campaign to promote Nebraska and make Nebraskans proud of their native state, then, would appear to be just this:

Make absolutely certain that each Nebraska student is given the best education possible.

To do that, the state government, through the governor's office, the legislature and the University budget, should concentrate their efforts to see that the

University has the best possible instructors and best possible facilities.

This, of course, means more money for salaries and buildings. The University has to bid on the talent market for capable instructors, and in today's talent market, that takes an amount far more than Governor Brooks has recommended.

Governor Brooks claims he doesn't understand the University's accounting system. He claims he won't try to interfere with the administration of the University but leave that up to the Board of Regents.

At the same time, he cuts a University budget recommended by the Board of Regents. He tells the University that they can find the extra money in their accounting system.

This appears to be an unfortunate contradiction.

It is a contradiction that may be explained when the Governor and Chancellor Hardin finish a series of meetings on the budget later this month. We hope that it will be explained because the best weapon in Governor Brooks' entire promotional campaign will be affected by that explanation.

Lights on the statehouse are fine. Empty, black draped chairs and Walt Disney cartoons are fine. But the finest promoters of Nebraska are still the people of Nebraska—well educated, proud people.

So let's turn the lights on the University—let's turn the lights on the people of Nebraska.

Pretty Tough Hombre

They grow everything big and tough in Texas.

A recent news broadcast told this one on the Lone Star State.

A couple were driving down a Texas highway in a small foreign car when a Texas jackrabbit whipped across the road in front of the car. The driver couldn't avoid the animal but when he hit it, the car flipped neatly over on its top in the ditch.

The jackrabbit? Oh, he got off with minor injuries.

From the Editor:

By

George!



I have been promising old Joe that I would write a column about him. Well this is it, Joe.

Joe is from Boston. When he says Boston, it always comes out with an i or two in it. Joe doesn't take chemistry; it's chamstry. And this isn't Nebraska, it's Nebrasker.

Joe is a bright young fellow. He does rather well in his studies, but what study habits! He takes notes on yellow, legal size paper. These notes end up scattered about on the floor or papering the walls of his room.

Joe smokes occasionally. Now that's all right, but . . . Joe doesn't use any ash trays. When he puts a cigarette down, he puts it down with the burning end facing in on shelves or desks or tables or wherever because the other way, "I always burn myself picking them up."

This tends to scar up the furniture a little. Also, once in a while it scars up some of those yellow sheets of notes. The other day, his roommate came in to find a whole pile of those notes blazing merrily on Joe's desk.

Tests shake Joe up a bit. During finals, he had four of them in three days and nearly ended up with a nervous breakdown. His first one was in chamstry at 2 p.m. of a Monday afternoon. Joe was downstairs ready to go at 11 a.m., and spent the time until 1:30 pacing the living room, throwing yellow notes over his shoulder.

When 5 p.m. rolled around and Joe hadn't returned from his test, one or two of us went to see if Avery Lab had been burned to the ground. It was still there and so was Joe's test, but Joe wasn't. We checked back at the house to find Joe sitting glassy eyed in the living room. When we produced his test, Joe's only comment was, "Good grief, I forgot to hand it in!"

If Joe will just keep up the good work, this might be an interesting column after all.

Old Friends

Besides the Associated Collegiate Press convention, which was held this year in Chicago and turned into a real good blow-out, the ACP provides a weekly news

service with articles about what goes on on other campuses.

The Jan. 1 edition of this "Feature Service" contains a little excerpt from an editorial by Hal Maier of the Cincinnati News Record. Hal is an old friend of ours, since we shared about two hours of conversation with him in Chicago.

Hal is mulling over elections right now and especially bemoaning the fact that Ohio's senator Taft is no longer here to lead the nation's demoralized Republican forces.

The editorial is profoundly a conservative one, as are many of the other such pieces from student newspapers all around the country. It makes one wonder what happened to the good old tradition of student liberalism in the United States.

The answer may lie in the changing political tradition of the United States. When our nation was founded, a liberal was a person who fought for the rights of the individual—his right to vote, to be represented in the councils of his administration, to be independent from governmental supervision or gratuity.

Certainly the last of these traditions is now equated with the conservative viewpoint. And all three of these hallmarks of the old liberal still constitute a constant student plea to their respective administrations.

Thus, it isn't the student's viewpoint that has changed, but the national definition of a liberal.

Double Whammy

Speaking of the ACP convention recalls a question one rather pulchritudinous young lady in a tight brown sweater asked the convention's featured speaker, Al Capp (of Little Abner fame).

"Mr. Capp," she wheedled, "how do you learn to throw a double whammy?"

Quick as a freshman on his way to an eight o'clock came the reply:

"Just keep wearing that sweater, gal."

Geo. Meyer

Daily Nebraskan

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Brooks' Policy on NU One of Non-Intervention

This is the first of a series of interviews and features on people and events of major interest to the University and its student body.

By Carroll Kraus

"I'm not going to coach the team, tell the Big Eight what to do, or impede the acts of the Board of Regents."

So explained Gov. Ralph Brooks his policy towards the University of Nebraska, which, as he puts it, amounts to "no policy except what's required by law."

Plenty Of Work

The Governor has enough work to attend to, he explained, without "sticking his nose" into fields where he has no business.

His point gained strength when during the interview his phone buzzed twice and three more people were awaiting conferences.

"My only policy towards the University is based on a principle of administration," the former McCook superintendent said. Delegation of control is largely in the hands of the Board of Regents, he said, and he stated his intention to leave it that way.

The Governor said he couldn't even understand why he was invited to appear at the University's first semester graduation exercises. "It must be a custom," he said.

"The next time I'm going to wear a cap and gown and try to hide," the Governor quipped.

Accounting Causes Trouble

The main difficulty that the University and the state administrators have had springs from the account system used by the school, Brooks said.

"I don't understand it and I don't think there are many other people who do either."

Large parts of the Legislature's appropriations for the University are already "cut and dried," he said. Funds for many University activities have already been promised and do not need to be included in any suggested appropriation by the Governor, he said.

"The trouble with Nebraska is that we don't have the money to do what

we ought to, not just for the University but also for the state's roads."

Policy Only Suggestions

In addition, the Governor said, the only policy he could have towards the University would only be one of suggestion, since the Legislature must approve new laws which grow out of new policies.

Has Brooks' former job as a school superintendent influenced his thoughts towards the University? The Governor did state he had "no policy" but said that he has "surprised a lot of people" by dealing with the problem he has faced so far.

"All of the things I've run up against as Governor" were things similar to that which he faced as superintendent in McCook, he said.

Same Thing

For instance the Pardon Board hearings are similar to that of a superintendent facing parents of a boy expelled from school, he said. Administration in the Governor's office deals with "the same sort of thing" as that of a superintendent, Brooks said.

Commenting further on the University budget, the Governor said that the problem at this time is not pressing since the Legislature will not decide on the appropriations for a time.

After the University requested a budget of nearly \$27 million for the 1959-

61 biennium, an increase of nearly \$6 million, Gov. Brooks recommended nearly \$4 million less.

Essay Topic Announced

"Should states have right-to-work laws?" is the topic for this year's essay contest sponsored by "Industrial Relations News" and the American Society for Personal Administration.

Awards for the contest, open to any college student majoring or minoring in labor relations, are a \$25 savings bond and a Plaque for first place and honor certificates for the two runners-up.

Closing date for the contest is midnight, April 30, 1959. Awards will be announced June 17.

Entry blanks may be obtained for "Industrial Relations News," 230 West 41st St., New York 36.

Biz Ad Honorary Elects Schidler

New officers of Beta Gamma Sigma, Business Administration honorary, are: Dorothy Schidler, president; Donald Iburg, vice-president; and Judson Burnett, secretary-treasurer.

New initiates of the honorary are Conde Noriega, Edgar Spencer, Sally Wiesenth, Robert Dolezal, John Fifer, Ralph Delmont, Ronald Smith and Lewis Parent.

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