

Editorial Comment:

Tougher Courses A Benefit

A recent study by the vice president of the University of New Hampshire and two of his students for the American Council on Education has found that colleges can build character by stiffening course work.

The study was made over the course of one year on 20 college and university campuses in 17 states.

Dr. Edward Eddy Jr., the New Hampshire official, said the chief conclusion of the study was that "conditions conducive to the development of character are those conducive of good teaching and learning and you accomplish one by accomplishing the other."

Ominously, however, Dr. Eddy added in an interview that "many American colleges make a great many pretenses of doing this but the pretense is matched by little accomplishment."

In other words, many colleges make a pretense of toughening instruction but too few do anything concrete about it.

This harkens back to the toughening courses controversy which was aired in print on this page some weeks past. The controversy on this campus tended to indicate that the University was actually making an "accomplishment" toward "good teaching and learning."

One of the surprises of the survey was

the revelation that students generally support the move to toughen courses. At the University of Wisconsin, 200 students sent the president a petition asking for higher standards of work.

This is a surprisingly mature attitude taken by average students of a generation which is supposed to favor taking "the easy way out."

A typical student reaction was: "If I'm allowed to slip by I'll do it every time. But if I'm really expected to perform, I'll come through or go down fighting."

Another surprise in the study was the revelation that, although students respect faculty members who are not afraid to voice their convictions on a subject, most faculty members won't offer their opinions. This phenomenon hides behind the label of objectivity.

It is our hope that the "fetish of silence", as the survey labels unwonted objectivity, does not or has not invaded this campus. Free expression by faculty members of their opinions and ideas on world affairs in the pages of this newspaper lead us to believe that it has not.

And if the University wants to keep on tightening courses, its all right with us. After all, the survey shows our character benefits from it.

Apologize?—We Do Too Much

The latest potshot at student apathy comes from an out of state instructor.

The man is Colonel Vernon Rawie of the University Army ROTC department.

Colonel Rawie is amazed at the apologetic attitude taken by University students toward their school and state. In an interview with the Daily Nebraskan, he stated that "In my experience here I feel that the student body doesn't get the picture—they have much theoretical knowledge but they don't know how to use it."

Colonel Rawie elaborates with the comment that the University could develop pride through the observances of ceremonial and traditional events.

He concludes by saying that he has visited many other campuses, and he thinks that University students have much to be proud of.

"Students should be proud of their state and University. They should stop apologizing for both of them," he maintains.

There is a good deal of truth in what Colonel Rawie has to say. In many respects the University has a student colony

of grippers and not doers.

However, it would only be fair to note that organizations like Builders and AUF and even our rival publication, "The Cornhusker" make a fetish out of doing.

As for the observance of ceremonial and traditional events, the ROTC departments have certainly done little to promote their observance themselves. The biggest single example is the ROTC participation in the Centennial parade.

Since this conflicts, as we noted yesterday, with the biggest traditional and ceremonial occasion of the school year, Ivy Day, the ROTC departments themselves are doing their part to undermine tradition.

However, as usual, both sides have a good point. Colonel Rawie, we must admit, is right when he says that University students apologize too much for their school.

In the future students ought to resolve to apologize less if the legislature and administration will give them less to apologize for.

The Spectrum

High school administrators, or at least one of them who professed to represent the group, are rather quick to act when their honor or character is impugned.

That can be instanced by the recent Nebraskan editorial-Letterip-column dealing with so-called featherbedding.

One Nebraska administrator apparently rushed headlong to his typewriter, armed with derogatory words and 200-word sentences, to try to save the NU student world from thinking badly of their old principals and superintendents.

His letter, I'm sure, hasn't or won't influence many Nebraska-educated University students, but if D. B. Scott Jr. is speaking for the state prep administrators in general, as he seemed to be, why didn't he mention such things as failure among that group to show even the slightest interest in the proposed IFC outstate rush program or the Student Council-suggested All-University Open House?

Although administrators apparently are quick to write nasty comments about people who might have been a little uncomplimentary about them, less than a handful answered the IFC about the rush trips or the Council about an open house.

Both projects could have been good ones for both the University and high schools. But the high school administrators apparently chose between these things and attacking fraternities and even sororities

for rushing practices and coming to Lincoln on excursions.

If they can afford to take off a day from their crowded schedules to come to Lincoln to talk to their former students, why couldn't they have taken just a couple of minutes to at least just tell the Council and IFC that they weren't interested.

The IFC cooperated with the administrators in looking over the problems of rushing of high school students and came up with rules that will limit the difficulties. But the administrators gave hardly an answer to the proposed rush trips, which handled properly probably would have benefited the administrators themselves as well as the high school students.

And if the principals would rather not deal with the fraternities at all, why didn't they tell the Council that they couldn't attend. All year long high school groups depend on Builders and other organizations to show them around and orient them. But the Council stepped up and offered an all-University open house event and the administrators snubbed it.

No interest in a University Open House or explanation of the University fraternity-sorority scene? Is this what the principals and superintendents don't care for?

Or is it that they'd sooner ban fraternity associations with their students and write uncomplimentary letters to the University newspaper?

Carroll Kraus

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Buckshot

Civilization ought to be destroyed. How we have been deceived! We first used crude sticks as plows to help us, but now machines take our jobs! Agriculture fed us until we were billions of people suffering from over-population. Even Eikleberry



Eikleberry

with the most fantastic agricultural equipment, civilization has a "farm problem." The sedentary life of primitive agriculture allowed us to build cities, now concrete canyons like blemishes upon the fair green of nature, cities devoid of the majesty of the bleakest desert. Our weapons, from club to cobalt bomb, have constantly been improved by civilization, and these "civilized" weapons are in turn our biggest problem and primitive man was never apt to kill everyone in the world with his club. This, my friends is civilization: not just machines to help us, but an attempt to keep ahead of our problems by new and complex methods — always leading to new, more complex, and more dangerous problems!

Our attempt to escape the natural (primitive) way of living has been a failure because we ourselves are products of nature. We ignored nature and used medical techniques to preserve scores of unfit: the cost of this mistake will be racial degeneration, and great amounts of pain and doctor bills for our descendants.

You may tell me that civilization can solve this problem too, and I would ask you what new problems will be posed by your solution — what new complexities involved that our primitive minds cannot grasp. Natural living meets the problem of the survival of the fittest quite simply.

You may object to the pain of primitive living, and I answer that the demands of civilization — its burdens and caprices — are no less painful. And what pleasure is there in being a robot always answering the demands of our "servant," the clock? I daresay that primitive man never gulped his food to catch the bus, never worried about good grades, inflation, the draft, income tax, shaving or Parish fashions.

Then one day primitive man started drawing animals on his cave wall; this was an insane retreat from the world of reality into the world of symbolism. This

initial sign of decadence reminds us of the "primitive" artists of today whose blotches of paint are even more insane.

No longer content with the music and emotions of reality, primitive man resorted to the symbolism and artificiality of making music on instruments, until today our modern music—the greatest produced by civilization — includes the horrors of Bartok, Stravinsky, and Shostakovich.

The greatest retreat occurred in the development of literature and education, wherein reality can no longer be accepted, loved and lived, but must be constantly explained to death by a constant stream of words in the classroom and on the printed page. Whatever meaning words may have is soon lost in the torrent of text books.

Of course I don't believe that civilization ought to be destroyed, although it might well destroy itself, but the arguments do have a grain of truth, don't they?

Melvin Eikleberry

Considerable Speck

It is spring, and as in the past, that great and awesome monster that stays in camouflage every winter creeps out to flex its might and show to all the world that conformity and uniformness will reign supreme. Yes, ROTC has come out for its spring debut.



Now after six months of anxious waiting all the unfortunate souls of which I am certainly included, will be able to view the force that will stand ready to defend us against evil, threats to motherhood and Bob Ireland.

That could be more inspiring than the spectacle of a thousand sweltering, semi-uniformed, staggering soldiers (I say that because I can't think of a worse term) marching around and around on the mall and the playground behind University High.

This is the manifestation of what is being taught to

every male college freshman and sophomore. Everyone learns the great value of being able to work together. Now in a letter home we can all relate what we have learned today:

"Dear Ma, Guess what! Major Guideright taught me that if I put my left foot in front of me, then put my right foot in front of that, I can walk."

Fine Form

The University has shown itself in fine form once again. After spending a great amount of money for that huge factory on 16th street, better known as the Regent's Folly, the administration is just beginning to think about what to do with it. I have a plan that is far more practical than conducting classes or administrative duties within the hallowed walls of Nebraska's Pink Elephant.

Reward

On behalf of some interested students I am offering a reward to anyone who can identify the fungus that presently enhances the upper lip of our beloved editor of the Nebraskan. If someone doesn't hurry, I am afraid that George's face will be eaten away by this malignant growth exposing the only perfect vacuum in existence today.

(Editors note—The fungus above referred to has departed under medication, thus preserving the aforementioned vacuum. We regret that we find it necessary to create a vacuum on the editorial page by printing the above comments.)

Ken Freed

Photo Play

State Theatre manager, Clayton Cheever has come up with what might be the money idea of the year. Having long been associated with the exhibition of Walt Disney pictures (the most recent success has been "The Shaggy Dog"), and having a far from ordinary idea about what children enjoy seeing in films, Cheever suggests that Disney animate Biblical stories.

This would seem a natural! Who better than Disney could imaginatively, and reverently, treat religious history in an appealing way for young people? 75 minutes of "The Ten Commandments," with at least a little humor, could perhaps better inspire youthful interest in the Bible than DeMille was able to do in three hours of spectacle.

The drawback might be superficiality, but Disney more than adequately covered various nature studies in his True Life Adventure series. As a suggested first vehicle, how about "Noah and the Ark?" Here would be a great opportunity for some fine animal routines, at the same time providing animated high drama at its very best in a Technicolor storm sequence. Whatever, thank you, Mr. Cheever. It's all yours, Mr. Disney. And Walt, the stories are in public domain.

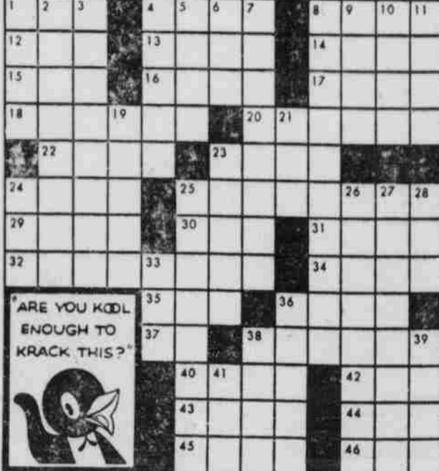
Concession

The Varsity's "Gidget" is obviously an industry concession to the juvenile trade. Gay and carefree, it is certainly harmless fare, but not much more may be said. Sandra Dee whines throughout, and James Darren is embarrassing a someone called "Moonoggie." It's fine if you're still in high school (or better, junior high), but an evening with "The Late Show" is better recommended. Color, location photography (one one of California's most picturesque beaches) are an eyeful, but this is not enough.

John C. West

KOOL KROSSWORD No. 22

- ACROSS 1. Not a longhair 4. In Name's league 8. Kools are Fresh 12. Microrepresentation 13. Pudding powder 14. With 10 Down, an order 15. Make a bonobo 16. Fly talk 17. Unclouded (poetic) 18. Gets married 20. Bet acceptors 22. It's dished or potted 23. You Quaker 24. All sounds (slang) 25. More playful 29. Misfortune 30. Texas subwd 31. One and 32. Good advice during exams 34. Ducks 35. Kind of elf 36. Beat 37. Kind of notorious 38. A type of year 40. Big Greek 42. End of the scene 43. Where to dig 44. Sgt. or Cpl. 45. Wolf look 46. Take five, twice
- DOWN 1. Nickname for S. C. college? 2. He wears a black-and-tan coat 3. This is awful! 4. Dough, for instance 5. Cheers 6. Make of it 7. Western elevation for a tenderfoot? 8. Will the Penguin's abant 9. Negative arrangement of open 10. See 14 Across 11. Gets hitched 19. Catch on 21. Adlai's initials 23. Double date minus one 24. Top half of a bikini 25. Chiropractist's party? 26. You can't blame him 27. Fancy stuff 28. Railways (abbr.) 33. AFL associate 36. Blind-date arranger 38. Cover with lettuce 39. Fountain hunter 41. GI, or any guy



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