

# Snafu Rides Again

To wear the robe and crown of a Homecoming Queen is an honor and a privilege which any girl would remember with great pride the rest of her life.

To reign over the activities of the day traditionally set aside for glorification of all that love of school and pride in the institution embodies should be a joy unblemished by any criticism of selection methods, any questions over procedures or any other disturbing factors.

But again this year a snafu crept into the selection process.

This was a sort of comedy of errors—compounded and multiplied until the culmination came on the Friday of the day on which the 10 finalists were to be announced at the rally. It was on this day that it was announced by the Division of Student Affairs that one of the finalists did not meet the eligibility requirements.

That one of the candidates could have survived the panel interview and the eligibility check that should have preceded it indicates clearly that someone goofed and goofed badly.

It is the responsibility of Tassels to handle the details of the Queen's elections. It is therefore their responsibility to determine conclusively that any girl being considered for the position meet every stipulation of the requirement criteria.

By some rapid action on the part of a Tassels officer Friday, the original error which made Sueleal Thompson an ineligible candidate was straightened out. Credit for two hours which were carried on the records as incomplete in an art course was added to Miss Thompson's record when the instructor concerned notified the office of the Registrar that she had completed the course work satisfactorily the first two weeks second semester last year.

Our point here is not to argue with whose fault this credit mixup was. The issue in question is the inefficiency of the checking procedure by Tassels.

It seems inconceivable that any group could conduct an election for a position of the importance of the Homecoming Queen without ascertaining clearly that every girl under consideration fulfilled all the requirements. According to Jane Savener, Tassels president, the requirement which Miss Thompson did not meet was that any candidate for the queen have carried at least 24 hours the two previous semesters without any incompletes or failures. Once the situation was cleared up through the efforts of Judy Truell, Tassels vice-president, Miss Thompson apparently did meet all requirements—and in other words was as eligible as anyone else to be in the running.

Further complicating the situation during the checking stage was that eligibility was verified in the Office of the Registrar, whose records showed Miss Thompson as having ample hours to meet the requirement that the candidate be a junior as

well as having the 5.5 grade average. It is now known that further checking should have been made through the Division of Student Affairs.

After talking with all the persons involved, including the candidate herself, the Daily Nebraskan feels that although all the mistakes were made innocently—that neither Tassels nor the administrative persons concerned were trying to hide anything—this sort of mistake could have been avoided easily by asking the appropriate individuals ahead of time what the procedures were for checking a candidate's eligibility.

Long before any candidates faced the original panel of interviewers, no question of eligibility should have been left undisclosed.

As of early Monday evening, the situation was still up in the air. Miss Savener had been told by a Student Council member that should Miss Thompson be declared ineligible by the administration the Council would have no alternative but to declare the entire election invalid.

All that may be said at this time on the brighter side of the ledger concerning HC Queen elections is that the slate of 10 finalists included some excellent candidates—any one of whom would represent the University well Oct. 31. The interest in the election runs high—as evidenced by the assemblage of signs which appeared over the weekend and the number who turned out to cast ballots Monday.

It should be the fervent hope of all concerned that in the future more care be taken with all phases of the selection process in order that no repetition of this year's snafu—or any variation on the theme—occurs.

## Soviets Boot 'Spy'

The latest friction between the United States and the Soviet Union has resulted in the ousting of the American security officer stationed in Moscow and could bring about a retaliatory move by the United States.

The Soviets claimed that Russell A. Langelle was involved in an espionage plot against the Russian government and ordered him to leave. Langelle, however, was reported kidnapped by Soviet agents who vainly attempted to enlist him as a spy against his own government.

Apparently, the United States will wait until Langelle reports to Washington this week, before deciding whether to expel a Soviet diplomat from Washington.

The fighting fire with fire attitude of the State Department is the only way of dealing with the Russians to show them that the United States government will not tolerate any such unusual treatment to its diplomats.

The incident indicates that the Soviets are by no means completely peace-minded and serves to show that we must constantly be on guard against further such incidents endangering our hopes of a unified peace.

## Staff Views:

### On the Other Hand

By **Sondra Whalen**  
Sometimes you get more from conventions than a juicy steak. (Although steaks are more than nice).

Friday's trip to the managing editors' Associated Press conference in Beatrice produced several interesting talks on the way home.

One idea emerging from the various discussions on non-conforming hats and the merits of Homecoming mums was the honor system. One fellow journalist thought that such a system might start the ground work of a spirit revival-pride-in-the-school concept.

#### Like a Charm

Maybe it would. He further informed us that such a technique had been tried in ROTC and was working like a charm. True, an honor system would build the morale of the students. True, if it worked, tensions between students and the administration might be lessened.

Now, he suggested, the students regard the faculty, (or at least portions of said faculty) as an extension of the iron arm of the law. Tests are taken in an atmosphere of supreme secrecy with prior threats of drastic punishments making a student wonder if he will be struck dead should he sneeze. That grab for a Kleenex

could well be the grab for a crib-note! Would the students stick to it should an honor system be installed?

It's all a question of the chicken or the egg and which comes first.

Rather, must we have pride in our school and state to adhere to an honor system, or must we have an honor system to have pride in our school and our state?

But it's an idea, it's worked in other schools and it might work here.

Nothing tried, nothing gained.

**Mum Headquarters**  
Our office is no longer the Daily Nebraskan headquarters. It is Mum Sales Headquarters, as proclaimed by our beloved editor Diana Maxwell.

Di has plastered the walls with advice to all campus males, suggesting that they get their dates now, for the dance, so they may buy their mums soon.

"No girl would dare be seen Oct. 31 without a mum," she claims.

My roommate, Polly Doering, is another salesman of the things. She sold one to her date at an Ak-Sar-Ben ball even yet.

The things some people won't do to make a quota!

**Green Bugs**  
Interesting thought gained from same convention and uttered by man sitting across from me after I had discovered four lovely green bugs in my lettuce.

"A half bug is worse than a whole one."



## Writing in America—II

### No Realist Shows Thundering Boredom

By **Doug McCartney**

Leading writers and critics in their articles on writing for Harper's Magazine, did not only give their views on writing but on life.

Frank Yerby (Foxes of Harrow and The Vixens) charged that "the novelist's job is to entertain." He explained that most people don't want novels that are realistic, or true to life.

**Thundering Boredom**  
"No realist," he writes, "would ever dare pinpoint on paper the most realistic of all life's attributes: the thundering, crashing boredom of the life of the average man."

When he made an examination of several classics, he found they "are all good, rousing tales, and fun to read." They also laid down several simple rules. First, the protagonist must be picaresque, in other words, a charming scoundrel, and a dominant male.

He thinks this quality appeals most of all to American women readers (who incidentally, read more than the men). "For," Yerby states, "after having had their mothers and grandmothers convert the United States into a matriarchy with their ardent feminism, and reduce the bearded patriarch that grandfather was into the pink and paunchy Caspar Milquetoast of today, the average American female reader subconsciously enjoys reading about a male who can get up on his hind legs and roar."

#### Sex Depends

The second rule, "Sex neither helps nor hurts a book; it all depends upon whether the novel, itself, is interesting." The third rule, or essential, is a strong, exteriorized conflict. The plot should be dramatic, and finally, there must be a theme.

Yerby also blasted those who condemned "escape literature," stating, "That novels written with the deliberate intention to amuse and entertain have—or should have—a very real place in contemporary literature."

Another critic of American literature, Alfred Kazin, said, "I am tired of reading for compassion instead of pleasure." He complains of "the increasing slovenliness, carelessness, and plain cowardice of style in fiction today."

Most of the trouble, is that the "individual does not have to invent human values, but only to rediscover them."

**MacLeish's View**  
Archibald MacLeish, whose play "J.B." won the Pulitzer Prize for drama this year, and who teaches a course in creative writing at Harvard University, writes that "creative writing . . . can't be taught."

"You have to have a writer who can write before you can teach him how." In explanation, he says you can't teach this kind of a course, because you don't have a subject, just an object—the student.

The last article in this series is one entitled "Letter to a Young Man About to Enter Publishing," by an anonymous author.

It states, "The typical American regards reading as work and prefers in his free hours to be distracted by entertainments which range from hell-fire revival meetings through professional sports contests."

**Schools at Fault**  
The fault "lies with the public schools who make literature 'dull, difficult and painful'—dull, because it is made available only if it is harmless or has been rendered harmless by unmerciful bowdlerizing; difficult and painful because the student reads so little that he

never really learns to read at all."

Another rarely known fact of the publishing world, is, "The average hardcover book published in this country doesn't sell enough copies to repay the publisher's investment in it."

## A Few Words . . . . . . Of a Kind

by **e. e. Hines**

Appreciation courses deserve appreciation.

They're eye-openers.

Not only do they make one aware of the remarkable accomplishments of men in the fine arts, but also they direct attention to the diversified educational opportunities at the University.

Art appreciation—discovered to be anything but an easy grade by students of Asst. Prof. Philipp Fehl—first of all provides the student with some inner light on the ways and means of art and artists. Then, as the student wanders in and out of Morrill Hall, it acquaints him with the museum and art exhibits.

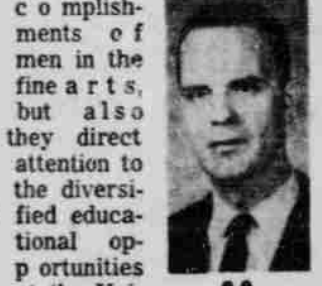
**One Day**  
One day he pauses in front of some polished stone exhibits before hurrying on to class, another day finds him stalling in front of some Indian artifacts, another time he's halted by an animal stuffily trying to look natural in his unnatural natural habitat.

Eventually, curiosity and instructor's encouragement carry him up the stairs to the art exhibits. There his curiosity changes to surprise, wonder, shock, disbelief, scorn, and "I like the colors but what is it?" as he steps from modern work to modern work.

And the work, the newly initiated student of art thinks, is more exhausting for the trying-to-understand viewer than the apparently splash-happy artist.

Part of the answer to his big "Why this stuff?" is provided in visits to class: "Many artists no longer concern themselves with trying to paint things as they are, that's for the photographer to do. They must do other things which the camera cannot or does not do."

Music appreciation, in turn, provides an inner peek



e. e.

# Errant Thoughts

by **caesar**

dear di a couple of errant thoughts have crossed my mind recently

for instance the really great athletes don't have to show what fine competitors they are by elbowing opposing players in the face

and it will be interesting to note the response or perhaps more likely the lack of response on campus to the forthcoming homecoming dance it may well be the first time in the history of the event that the intermission entertainment is the big name rather than the dance band itself

such is the way of broken contracts

and by the way boss is the university illustrious board of publications actually performing a necessary function or is it merely another bureaucratic red tape committee

the way i understand it the pub boards chief functions are those of picking the paid staffs of the rag and cornhusker and the awarding of contracts for the printing and engraving

of said publications but do they actually do this

hasnt overruled from the rumors i hear the pub board hasnt overruled an editors recommendation for years and rag selections have offered little more excitement one reason for this is undoubtedly the pitifully small number of applicants for the paid positions on both staffs but my point is that i doubt that the pub board would be able to make accurate selections if they really had to choose from several candidates

ive heard tell that faculty members of the board are seen around either office only at the time of the christmas party and therefore dont really know what any one individuals qualifications may or may not be except from what they may pick up by word of mouth

this must certainly be true of the cornhusker where they dont see a finished product until the book is out and by that time the staff for the following year has already been picked

one alone and how about the rag which they see four times a week there is one lone journalist on the board who might be able to figure out whether or not a person is deserving of advancement by how he or she has written for the paper the previous semester while the other members of the board are undoubtedly good people in their chosen fields i find myself wondering on what basis they consider themselves qualified to pass on matters they have had little real contact with

stan musial is a very fine ball player but this doesnt mean he knows what breakfast food is best for me

**bigger type**  
and the student members of the board are picked by the student council most of whose members probably dont know the difference between a headline and a cutline except that one is in bigger type

these student members do tromp down occasionally im told but i would suppose that they are like the faculty members would be if they went down to visit the dungeon offices that is they dont know what theyre looking for anyhow so they probably wander through looking terribly important and acquiring vast knowledge about the time of day what the weather is like and various other subjects they may actually know something about

no wonder they dont go down there more often and i hear that contracts are usually let to the low bidder anyway so that function seems rather nil too

**in the boxes**  
well kid i doubt that my thoughts will cause a y stir at all because after all the campus in general doesnt care one way or another about pub boards as long as the rag is in the box in soc and burnett at eleven and the cornhusker comes out in the middle of may

and the people concerned you paid staffers have to mind your ps and qs because selections are coming up at the end of the semester and at the end of the year and you cant afford the pub board theyll still be picking paid staffers

your obedient servant caesar

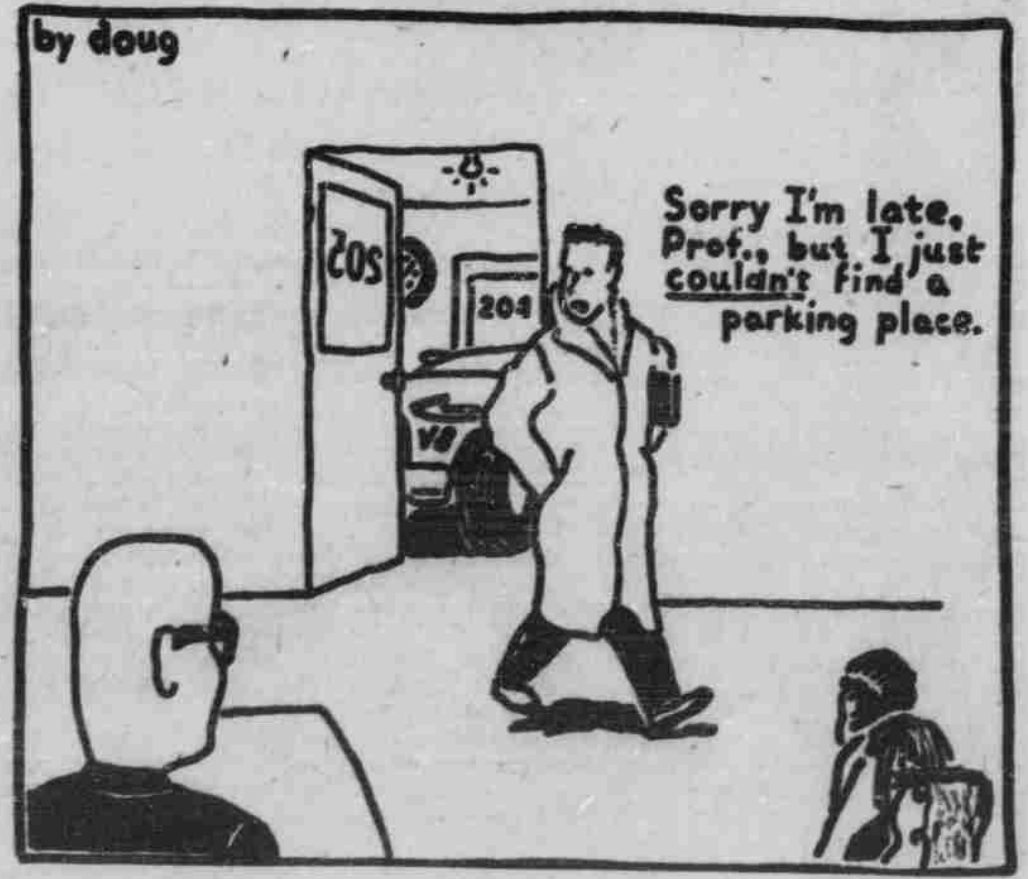
Fraternities and sororities opened their houses Sunday evening for the Muenster Choir which presented a concert at the Student Union Sunday night.

Fifty-seven persons were in the group which arrived in the United States less than a month ago. The company entered Lincoln Sunday afternoon and after a short rehearsal, took a tour of the campus.

After the tour they went to the "houses to change clothes. The group ate dinner at the Crib.

An estimated crowd of 800 viewed the concert. The company now travels to Wyoming and Colorado.

## Greeks Host Muenster Choir Members Sunday



## Daily Nebraskan

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