

Editorial Comment:

Proposed ROTC Program Still Shows Shortcomings

The changes in the Air Force and Army Reserve Officers Training Corps programs authorized by the Air Force and Army Departments—when and if approved by the University regents—are a step in the right direction.

The revisions involve the substitution of

Union Doors Are Closed Too Early

When the Student Union fathers opened up for business this fall, they set up week-day closing hours at 11 p.m.

The Crib was to end service at 10:30.

Supposedly then, the building would be kept open until an hour before midnight. But nearly every evening the doors at the south entrance of the Union are locked tight before 10:30.

And students ready to leave the Crib after a late cup of coffee find nothing short of breaking the door down will let them get out the south side of the building if they wait too late—like about 10:40.

They have to retrace their steps and exit via the northern doors.

Closing the southern entrance/exit so early with the number of fraternities, sororities and other residences lying south of city campus almost seems like a matter of discrimination.

If hours for Union patrons have been established at 11 p.m., why close shop any earlier? It's no fun to traipse an extra block from S to R St. in a snow storm at 10:40 in the evening.

And for unwary girls who have only limited time to make it back to their southern-oriented sororities, it often amounts to a few late minutes when the doors of the "old Union" are shut even before 10:30 shows on the clock on the Crib's east wall.

academic courses of general nature for portions of the basic two-year Air Force program and the advanced two-year Army program.

The changes were probably made to deflate the current drive on many campuses to make ROTC courses voluntary. (Feb 5th Daily Nebraska editorial comment).

Although they will have limited success in this respect, there are, none-the-less, other evident shortcomings:

1) Major objections to the ROTC curriculum have been aimed at the labs. These drill sessions will be continued even in the revamped Air Force basic program. Few will be much happier with this limited change. Good labs are still a goal to be advanced.

2) The Air Force advanced program makes no provision for the substitution of University-taught subjects for the ROTC courses as does the Army department. This will tend to overload the Army ROTC with students interested in working for a commission and the Air Force branch with students who are looking for an easy way to fulfill their ROTC requirement.

The Army department, while not allowing any course substitution in the basic program, does make provision for "revitalizing" its basic program by the elimination of a weapons instruction course and the substitution of a course on basic tactics.

Also the number of hours of American military history will be increased, with a decrease in individual weapons and marksmanship instruction in the Army basic program.

These changes are good, but how about the substitution of university-taught courses in basic tactics and military history?

And, does this resolve the basic issue, "the freedom of student to decide whether or not they want to take ROTC?"

More Information

To the Editor:

Because public knowledge of the provisions of the National Defense Education Act is somewhat hazy, I believe that the column in last Friday's Nebraskan which discussed the act needs some amplification.

Students particularly should understand some of the reasons that some institutions (Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Amherst, Oberlin and 15 others) have withdrawn from participation in an act which provides for federal funds for needy students. (Forty other colleges and universities have protested against the act.)

The most important point to be recognized is that the universities are not opposed to the loyalty oath contained in the Act. What they oppose is the so-called disclaimer affidavit which accompanies the oath of the allegiance.

Title X, Section 1001 (f) of the Act contains both the oath and the disclaimer. The disclaimer requires the loanee to swear that "he does not believe in, and is not a member of and does not support any organization that believes in or teaches, the overthrow of the United States Government by force or violence or by any illegal or unconstitutional methods."

The point that the universities make is that the disclaimer is superfluous when joined with the oath of allegiance. It would not seem necessary to make a man say, "I am not a disloyal American," just before he is to say, "I am a loyal American."

This superfluousness of the affidavit is what President Eisenhower attacked his press conference of Dec. 2 when he said that "one oath is enough." The President has since called for the repeal of the affidavit in his budget recommendations to Congress.

Another reason for opposition is that the Act directly and financially involves the universities. Not only do the universities administer the disclaimer, but they also must contribute 10 per cent of the monies for the loan in order to qualify for the program.

For every \$1,000 given by the federal government, the university must give \$100. Thus some universities have felt that they have been forced into a position of contributing to something in which they do not believe.

As was pointed out in Friday's paper, it is certainly unfortunate that some needy students have been blocked from receiving federal aid by the action of

the non-participating universities.

But I do not believe that the universities in dropping the program have presumed to speak for the students. They were speaking for themselves.

For the affidavit requirement is not limited to students taking loans; it applies to faculty fellowship recipients, faculty personnel who sign direct contracts with the Health, Education and Welfare Department; and it may apply to faculty and staffs of foreign language, guidance, visual aids and other centers established with NDEA funds.

The universities which have withdrawn have done so because both their money and their personnel are involved. Regrettably, the students have been caught in the middle.

The universities also believe that the Act is discriminatory in that it singles out students and faculty in requiring the signing of the affidavit. No other recipients of federal aid (farmers, veterans, wives of deceased veterans, beneficiaries of direct or indirect federal subsidies) are asked to sign such a statement.

One university group believes that the Act directly questions the integrity and loyalty of the academic profession.

There are other major reasons for opposition. Among them are the beliefs that the affidavit extends beyond the law into matters of personal conscience and that it sets an undesirable precedent for federal aid to higher education.

For anyone interested in pursuing the matter further there is a clear statement of the problem and the universities' position in an article by Yale president Whitney Griswold in "The New York Times Sunday Magazine" for Dec. 20, 1959.

Editors Note: Enactment of the disclaimer clause in the National Defense Education Act — avowedly passed to improve our nation's position in the space and military race, not as a precedent for further federal aid to higher education — had as its purpose establishment of a mechanism to prosecute conspirators who would use our own tax money to defeat our government.

More Communists have been prosecuted for saying they are not Communists, than for merely being Communists.

Loan Program

To the Editor:

Congratulations. There may have been other college newspaper editors—and I hope there

have been—who have not been ashamed to speak up in defense of the loyalty oath provisions of the Student Loan Program—those who do not deem it a violation of their sacred, personal rights to be required to pledge their loyalty to their country.

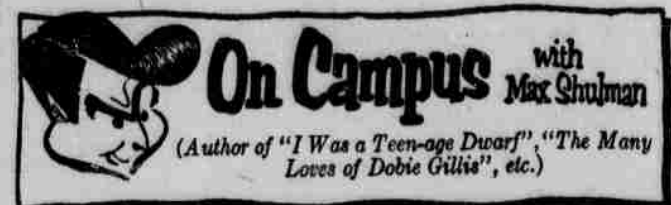
I sincerely hope your fine editorial will be read by many and that it will help remove from the spotlight the rot being circulated as representative of the way our college

youth feel about this oath. I'm sure your views are more representative of the multitudes than the others which are making the headlines.

I hope it expresses and is representative of the views of both our faculty and student body at NU.

I am cheered that you have not been brain-washed by our so-called prestige schools of the east.

I am prouder than ever that I am an alum of NU. Betty Arnold



THREE WHO PASSED IN THE NIGHT

Last year, as everyone knows, 1,210,614 undergraduates dropped out of college. 256,080 flunked; 309,656 got married; 375,621 ran out of money; and 309,254 found jobs. As you have, of course, observed, this accounts for only 1,210,611 out of 1,210,614. What happened to the other three?

Well sir, to find the answer, I recently completed a tour of American campuses where I interviewed 40 million students and sold several subscriptions to The Open Road for Boys, and it pleases me to report that I can now account for those three elusive undergraduates.

The first was an LSU junior named Fred Gaugin. He was extremely popular, always ready with a smile, fond of folk dancing and pralines, and last semester his Chi Psi brothers unanimously elected him treasurer of the fraternity. This proved an error. Gaugin, alas, promptly absconded with the money and went to Tahiti to paint. The fraternity is bending every effort to extradite Gaugin, but Tahiti, alas, is currently observing the feast of Diphthong, the Sun-God, a five-year ceremony during which all the islanders wear masks, so nobody, alas, can say for certain which one is Gaugin.



Nobody can say for certain which one is Gaugin.

The second missing undergraduate is William Cullen Sigafoos, Oregon State freshman, who went one day last fall to a disreputable vendor named A. M. Sashweight to buy a pack of Marlboros. Mr. Sashweight did not have any Marlboros because Marlboros are only sold by reputable vendors. However, he told Sigafoos that he had another brand which was just as good, and Sigafoos, being but an innocent freshman, believed him.

Well sir, you and I know there is no other brand as good as Marlboros. That fine filter, that flavorful flavor, that pleasure, that joy, that fulfillment—are Marlboro's and Marlboro's alone. All of this was quickly apparent to young Sigafoos and he flew into a terrible rage. "As good as Marlboros indeed!" he shrieked, kicking his roommate furiously. "I am going right back to that mendacious Mr. Sashweight and give him a thrashing he won't soon forget!" With that he seized his lacrosse bat and rushed out.

Mr. Sashweight heard him coming and started running. Now Mr. Sashweight, before he became a disreputable vendor, had taken numerous prizes as a cross-country runner, and he thought he would soon outdistance young Sigafoos. But he reckoned without Sigafoos's stick-to-itiveness. At last report the two of them had passed Cleveland. When they reach the Atlantic Seaboard, had Mr. Sashweight will get his lumps from Sigafoos, you may be sure, and I, for one, am glad.

The third missing undergraduate, also named Sigafoos, is a Bennington sophomore named Celeste Sigafoos and, ironically, she never intended to leave college at all. She was merely going home for Christmas on the Natchez, Mobile, and Boise Railroad, and during the night, alas, her upper berth slammed shut on her. Being a Bennington girl, she naturally did not wish to make an unseemly outcry, so she just kept silent. The next morning, alas, the railroad went bankrupt, and Miss Sigafoos today is lying forgotten on a siding near Valparaiso, Indiana. Fortunately she has plenty of Marlboros with her.

And how about the rest of you? Do you have plenty of Marlboros? Or if you like mildness but you don't like filters, plenty of Philip Morris? Hmm? Do you?

Staff Comment:

A Leftist's View

By Sandi Laaker

The American hobo is vanishing from the scene. So says "informal traveler" Jack Kerouac in one of his true-to-form articles in the March issue of "Holiday."

"The American hobo has a hard time hobnobbing nowadays due to the increase in police surveillance of highways, railroad yards, sea shores, river bottoms, embankments and the thousand-and-one hiding holes of industrial night.

"Great sinister tax-paid police cars are likely to bear down at any moment on the hobo in his idealistic lops to freedom and the hills of holy silence and holy privacy. There's nothing nobler than to put up with a few inconveniences like snakes and dust for the sake of absolute freedom."

Yep, society is closing in on us. Everybody talks about "togetherness"—"security". Ugly. Oh—is adventure for the sake of good old freedom dying?

"In America camping is considered a healthy sport for Boy Scouts but a crime for mature men who have made it their vocation," Kerouac says.

Put a man in short pants, give him a walking stick, tie a pack on his back, let him sleep on a park bench—and he'll get picked up for vagrancy.

"In Brueghel's time children danced around the hobo. He wore huge and raggy clothes and always looked straight ahead, indifferent to the children, and the families didn't mind the children playing with the hobo. But today mothers hold tight their children when the hobo passes through town because of what the newspapers made the hobo to be—the rapist, the strangler, child-eater.

"Stay away from strangers. They'll give you poison candy. Today the hobo's made to slink. Everybody's watching the cop heroes on TV."

What is it that characterizes that once happy and honorable breed? Writer Kerouac puts it thusly:

"The hobo is born of pride, having nothing to do with a community but with himself and other hobos and maybe a dog. Proud was the way the hobo walked

through a town by the back doors where pies were cooling on window sills. The hobo was a mental leper, he didn't need to beg to eat.

"Sometimes hobos were inconsiderate; but not always; but when they were, they no longer held their pride, they became bums. They migrated to the Bowery in New York, to Scollay Square in Boston, to Madison Street in Chicago, to 12th Street in Chicago, to Larimer Street in Denver, to South Main Street in Los Angeles, to Downtown Third Street in San Francisco.

"There's something strange going on," he says. "You can't even be alone any more in the primitive wilderness, there's always a helicopter comes and snoops around. You need camouflage."

The only thing for a hobo to do now is "sit in a room and get drunk and give up your hobnobbing and your camping ambitions because there is not a sheriff or fire warden in any of the new 50 states who will let you cook a little meal over some burning sticks in a hidden valley because he has nothing to do but pick on what he sees out there on the landscape moving independently of the gasoline power army police station."

So Kerouac's going to another world. Maybe.

Hope he finds this bum-absent hobo world.

The other day a professor asked members of a class how many would enjoy being shut up in a room for a period of time—no radio, no TV, no verbal communication possible. Just books. Amazingly, almost everyone sprang to the defense of the confinement idea. Solitude. Absolute freedom. Hobos. There's still hope.

Meanwhile, back to this shrouded world, kindly editor C.J.K. has asked me to point out that due to the vast amount of "Letterips" pouring into the office some regularly appearing columns have been omitted.

They will appear. They have not been torn up. They have not been burned. They have not been submitted for publication in another learned journal. They will appear.

By George!

By George Moyer

May 12 through 14 the University Theatre will present one of the finest stories of human dignity to come out of World War II.

The Diary of Anne Frank.

The play dissects the life of a young Jewish girl growing up in Nazi-occupied Holland, a homeland which she sees only through the windows of her attic hideout—a homeland that has become one huge swastika plastered crematorium for her and other members of her race.

The courage of Anne Frank and her friends and relatives who share the attic ranks as a monument to the basic dignity and decency of man. In times such as ours with swastikas popping up in odd places like the droppings of dementia and a segment of Congress so set against civil rights that legislation has to be sneaked onto the Senate floor in the skirts of a harmless appropriations bill, Anne Frank ought to be a lesson worth the price of admission to Howell Theater.

The trouble with Howell Theatre, however, is its size. Too few will get a chance to see "Diary." Too few will have the opportunity to view one of the best departments at the University producing a show they can really do well.



Moyer

Daily Nebraskan 60th Anniversary information including membership, representatives, and contact details.

Daily Nebraskan staff list including Editor, Managing Editor, News Editor, Sports Editor, and Business Manager.

College Men Need Several Arrow Oxford Buttondowns advertisement featuring an illustration of a man and woman and promotional text.