

Editorial Comment:

'What Can I Do?'— Just Write a Letter

Friday Norman Cousins, editor of the Saturday Review, shocked many members of his Coliseum audience out of their complacency with a few vivid descriptions of the tremendous power wrapped up in some nuclear bombs possessed by nations of the world today.

For instance, a million trucks—each carrying 20,000 tons of TNT—would only equal the blasting power of one large nuclear weapon.

A thousand planes dropping "blockbusters," the type of bomb that devastated Cologne, Germany, in World War II, could fly missions every day for 14 years—and still equal only the force of one of the atomic weapons we—and our potential enemy—have today.

And these weapons could be delivered—by intercontinental ballistic missile—from a country like the Soviet Union to the United States in only 14 minutes. And as Cousins said, with this prospect, how can there be any real hope in bomb shelters—in the whole concept of civil defense?

Power has never been as great or as uncontrolled, Cousins said. And never has rational control been so low. At this point, we have reached the ultimate in human irresponsibility.

Cousins suggested that the best solution

was to make the United Nations a really effective form of world government. Mandatory disarmament, division of powers, support of the national government's steps towards peace—all these things are needed.

And time is one of the most important factors. Even now, some learned men have said, the nuclear bomb is obsolete. It has been replaced by the specter of CBR—chemical-biological-radiological warfare, a potential "weapon" which is not as costly as missiles and bombs, more easily developed and capable of production in many more nations than are atomic weapons.

Cousins said 100,000 letters to the President to back him in his search for disarmament and peace would produce positive government action. If a mandate of the people might lead towards a real peace, then we should certainly give the President and government that mandate.

The audience at the Cousins Convocation would produce two and a half percent of the 100,000 letters that the Review editor spoke of. In light of the whole country, our potential number looms large. And this is certainly no time to utter the "ugly sound" of "What can I do?"

As Mr. Cousins said, "We are called upon . . . to play the role of individuals . . . to justify the role of life."

Unopposed Election—Potential Harm

In the IFC election of last Wednesday the two top positions were filled without any opposition or discussion. This was a drastic departure from the practice of recent years. In 1958 there were three candidates for top offices and again in 1959 there were three candidates. In both cases there was extensive discussion and presentation of campaign platforms.

The pity of an unopposed election in an organization as big and as important as the IFC is not that it automatically means that you will get poorer officers. The officers could be as good by this method as by any other if the selections by the old executive board were made on the basis of merit.

The real harm from unopposed elections is that there are no platforms or campaign speeches. Without platforms there is very little chance for the members of the IFC to air their own thoughts on the qualifications for officers and the proper criteria for an IFC program.

In the elections for secretary, treasurer, public relations chairman and rush chairman, the matter went far differently. In each election there were extensive and varied platforms, lengthy discussions on the relative duties of each officer, and a careful examination of the experience and other qualifications of the candidates.

Several small houses aired the view that they should have representation on the IFC executive board in order that they might be more favorably treated.

In other words, simply because there

AUF Faculty Drive Deserves Full Support

In case no one has noticed the rather stunning bulletin board in hall outside the Student Union cafeteria, the AUF faculty drive is on.

The faculty drive is a sort of shakedown cruise for the major event to come next fall. We refer, of course, to the AUF student drive.

Every organization is supposed to have a purpose. But in no organization is that purpose more clearly defined than in AUF. AUF is the one opportunity that University students have (officially) to donate to a charity. It is their one opportunity to share their plenty with someone less fortunate.

Considered in terms of similar organizations on other campuses, the University's AUF is remarkably successful. At the conclusion of its fall program, the organization had collected approximately \$4,000.

At Kansas, Kansas State, Iowa State, Colorado and even wealthy Oklahoma, campus organizations figure they are doing well if they collect half that much.

Of course, this is no excuse for complacency. The University has a fine tradition for generosity when worthy causes are involved. AUF supports five worthy causes. Give what you can.

was opposition for these posts, the basic ideas of the IFC members and their expectations toward future officer performance were aired. This gave the members a more democratic participation in fraternity government and it gave the officers a much clearer picture of what they would be expected to do.

The extension of contested election into the two top posts would have been a slam at no one and of benefit for all. It is to be hoped that other organizations will not take up the IFC's recent practice whether out of a noble motive such as a desire for unity or out of selfish political desires.

Only 9 Care About Union Programming?

Judging from the response to the Student Union advisory cabinet filings, it would seem apparent that only nine persons are interested in channeling criticism of Union programming in a constructive or effective way.

The Union, avowedly established to serve the students, has an activities program geared to the students' needs. And since the Union activities program is financed totally by student fees, it seems reasonable that the student body would wish to have a voice in how its money is spent.

In an effort to improve this programming and budgeting, the Union board created an advisory cabinet with the sole purpose of representing the various sectors of students at the University.

It is obvious that the student body has opinions about the activities in the Union since comments are heard daily. Why not channel those comments into a representative group created for that very purpose?

In order for such a group to exist, there is a need for interest in it. With so few applicants an apparent assumption is that there is passive interest, if any, or no need for change.

The Union recognizes an important factor—it is easy to program an event because it always has been held. It is much harder to try to be creative and just in planning events.

Filings are still open for these positions on the advisory cabinet and interviews will be held Saturday, April 23. Applicants are needed for the following sectors: Men's Dorm, Women's Dorm, Independent Men, Commuter Students, Graduate Students, Fraternities, Sororities, Married Students, Foreign Students and Independent Women.

Applications may be picked up in the Union Activities Office. We hope the number filed by April 23 is many times larger than the present pathetic number.



The Essence

By Doug McCartney

I have just finished reading a book which struck me with the impulse of a sledgehammer. It was Nevil Shute's *On the Beach*.

A short while ago I also saw the movie. Both versions filled me with horror—not at the sights or the words, for little gruesome detail was exploited, but at the idea—the end of mankind through his own unseeing ways.

The story describes the aftermath of a nuclear war, from which there are no survivors.

But the most frightening aspect of this book, is that it is NOT science fiction. It could become reality today!

This is an acknowledged fact, but no one listens, no one seems to care. Can the human race be so unreasoning, so stupid as to end his brief existence in such a pitiful way? I wish I could answer "no," but generations of mankind seem to have proved otherwise.

War could have stopped with the crossbow, with gunpowder or with aircraft. It could have stopped because people wanted it stopped. People could have said, "Let us end this, it is foolish to kill." But they didn't.

With the creation of nuclear weapons mankind and his science have risen to technical levels where they hold their future in their hands. It is as if God had given mankind this vast energy and said, "You have not learned from the Flood, the Sermons or the Cross! I give you one more chance to mature. Make your own future, or your grave!"

The events of *On the Beach* supposedly take place in 1964. Shute writes that by this time almost all countries, large and small, have nuclear weapons. His war is precipitated not by Russia, but by Egypt, who A-bombs Washington and London with Russian-built bombers. The United States, believing the attack came from Russia, retaliates. A month later the war is over, the entire northern hemisphere destroyed. Radiation slowly envelops the rest of the globe and the final chapter is written of the human race.

Is this to be our bleak future? Circumstances certainly point that way. Many of the world's smaller countries are very close to developing nuclear weapons today. Shute had a name for these, "The Irresponsibles." And I think of the type of men heading the Castro regime in Cuba. Even now they hurl hate and defiance at us. What if their heavy fingers could push a button firing a missile as easily as they trig-

ger their machine guns. A prime example of an "Irresponsible."

Any time in the near future we may have our self-centered, unthinking way of life blasted to oblivion. If we're lucky we won't be around to see a bleak ending such as Shute describes.

Now, more than ever before in history, we, the common citizen, must act!

How? What? It would take greater minds than mine to supply an answer.

But for a start the author, who evidently has done a great deal of research and thinking on the subject, writes this conversation between two dying people asking the question, "Couldn't anyone have stopped it?"

"I don't know . . . Some kinds of silliness you just can't stop. I mean, if a couple of hundred million people all decide that their national honour requires them to drop cobalt bombs upon their neighbor, well, there's not much that you or I can do about it. The only possible hope would have been to educate them out of their silliness."

"But how could you have done that, Peter? I mean, they'd all left school."

"Newspapers," he said. "You could have done something with newspapers. We didn't do it. No nation did, because we were all too silly. We liked our newspapers with pictures of beach girls and headlines about cases of indecent assault and no government was wise enough to stop us having them that way. But something might have been done with newspapers, if we'd been wise enough."

Two challenges, two hopes for the future. One is education, the other, the press.

Study history, find out what man did; study psychology, find out why he did it and what he might do next; study international relations and economics and find man's needs; study science, and solve them.

Then, press of the world, tell and teach the world, warn and beg them, but get

Music Department Plans Tone Talk

A University music symposium featuring a demonstration and discussion of 12-tone music will be held Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union.

The symposium will be sponsored by the music department under the direction of Wesley Reist, Jack Crossan, Arnold Schatz and Priscilla Parson. All of the directors are members of the music faculty.

Bailey To Join Language Pros

Prof. Dudley Bailey, director of freshman English, has accepted an invitation to join an international committee of authorities on language and usage.

The committee will advise upon editorial policies of the University Dictionary, a college dictionary which is being prepared.

The editorial committee is composed of English language scholars in America, England, the European Continent and Australia.

Campbell Soups Give \$2,000 Grant

A \$2,000 unrestricted grant has been presented to the University by the Campbell Soup Company.

The manager of Campbell's Nebraska plants, W. L. Parvin, told Chancellor Clifford Hardin that the money could be used "for any purpose you consider worthy and beneficial to the University."

The grant was part of a large program on the part of the company to stimulate aid to education in the United States.

"We hope that grants such as these will encourage others to lend similar education support," Parvin said.

Just a Reminder: Applications Due

Freshman applications for Innocents Scholarships are due today in the Office of Student Affairs in Administration.

NOTICE TO SENIOR MEN STUDENTS

If you require funds to complete your education, apply to the undersigned. STEVENS BROS. FOUNDATION INC. 610-612 Endicott Bldg. St. Paul 1, Minn. Phone Capital 2-5184



HIP, HIP, HURRAY for the GREYHOUND way to save money!

Table with fare information: CHEYENNE \$11.25, KANSAS CITY \$5.35, MINNEAPOLIS \$10.20, DES MOINES \$5.25. Includes text: Got the good word about Greyhound Scenicrider Service? It's the latest, the greatest way to go... with air-conditioning, picture windows, air-suspension ride and complete restroom! You'll have a ball headin' home on a Greyhound—it's often faster than other public transportation, and always less expensive!

BAGGAGE PROBLEMS? You can take more with you on a Greyhound. Or, send your belongings by Greyhound Package Express. They arrive in hours and cost you less!

IT'S SUCH A COMFORT TO TAKE THE BUS...AND LEAVE THE DRIVING TO US!



320 So. 13th HE 2-1071

Too Many LARGE BILLS for Big Cars? QUARTERS CRAMPED in Small Cars?

Go Rambler—Get the Best of Both: Big Car Room and Comfort, Small Car Economy and Handling.



Lowest-Priced U.S. Car—RAMBLER AMERICAN 2-Door Deluxe Sedan \$1795. Cut car costs by hundreds of dollars with the compact Rambler... save when you buy, save when you drive, save when you trade again. Get room for six big 6-footers. High, wide doors. Turn more easily, park anywhere. See Rambler soon... first to understand and meet your new motoring needs. Choose 6 or V-8.

GET FREE AUTO X-RAY BOOK AT YOUR RAMBLER DEALER'S

Daily Nebraskan

SIXTY-NINE YEARS OLD Member: Associated Collegiate Press, Intercollegiate Press Representatives: National Advertising Service, Incorporated Published at: Room 20, Student Union Lincoln, Nebraska 68503 Telephone NE 2-7651, ext. 4224, 4225, 4227 The Daily Nebraskan is published Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday during the school year, except during vacation and exam periods, by students of the University of Nebraska under the authorization of the University Student Affairs as an expression of the student opinion. Publication under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Student Publications shall be from time authorized... on the part of the Faculty of the University, or on the part of any person, outside the University, the secretary of the Daily Nebraskan shall be personally responsible for what they say, or do, or cause to be printed, February 8, 1960.

Subscription rates are \$1 per semester or \$5 for the academic year. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, Nebraska. EDITORIAL STAFF Editor: Carroll Evans Managing Editor: Herby Probst News Editor: Dave Calhoun Sports Editor: Mike Long Copy Editors: Pat Dean, Gary Roberts, Gretchen Shelberg Night News Editor: Pat Dean Staff Writers: Mike Murray, Jim Meyer, Gerald Lanthorn, Dave Weithorn, Jim Farnell, Nancy Brown, Nancy Whitford, David Clark, Chip Wood, John Jeff, Hal Brown, John Nelson. BUSINESS STAFF Business Manager: Stan Kistner Assistant Business Managers: Bill Grady, Charles Dean, Ardith Elbert Circulation Manager: Doug Youngblood