

Editorial Comment:

# NBC Telecast Destroyed Belief in Iwo Flag Scene

On Sunday, March 27, a television broadcast shattered the belief of millions of Americans that the Joe Rosenthal Pulitzer-Prize winning picture of the Iwo Jima flag-raising was true.

For this NBC telecast, based on the play, "The American," gave, as Editor and Publisher put it, not only Rosenthal but newspapers and news photographers in general an unmerited black eye by calling the flag-raising a "phony."

The story, written by Merle Miller, was based on the life of Ira Hayes, a Marine participant in the Iwo event who died in 1955.

The character who played the part of Hayes, a supposedly moody Indian, said: "They'd taken about 10,000 pictures that day — everybody knew it was a phony. Everybody on the island was laughing about that phony flag-raising picture."

The end result—nearly every one of the millions who saw the telecast not only lost faith in an American legend and symbol but in the press itself. The program left the idea that the photographers, newspapers and the press services which distributed the pool picture all conspired to deceive the public. And there was an implication that this is a common practice.

The sad part about the whole affair is that the flag-raising really was spontaneous, unposed and real. And as E&P says, it's hard to see how "literary license" by the script's author required such misrepresentation.

NBC gave an epilogue to the program and could have set the record straight—but didn't. Here are the facts given by Editor & Publisher which have been published repeatedly since 1945:

"There were two flag raisings on Mount Suribachi that day and both of them were

reported at the same time. The second one—where a larger flag replaced the first and where Rosenthal got his picture—was spontaneous, unposed and unrehearsed—while the Marines were still shooting it out with the Japanese. The raising of a small flag and its replacement by a larger one that could be seen from the whole island was adequately reported the day following—the day the picture was distributed.

"The next month a Time magazine broadcast quoted its correspondent as saying the scene was reposed. Presented with the facts Time broadcast a correction and apology the following week. Rosenthal's own account of the flag-raising and picture was printed in Collier's in February, 1955. E&P that month quoted a story from the Knoxville News-Sentinel in which a fellow Marine reported Ira Hayes had told him aboard a troopship returning to the U.S.: 'We then tied it down. Then a Marine hollered to us and said our picture was taken. About 20 yards away we saw Joe Rosenthal and a couple of photographers. We didn't know they were taking our picture.'"

Neither the nation's newspapers, the AP nor Rosenthal tried to hide the fact that there was a double flag-raising on Iwo. That has been known ever since the day it happened that the first and smaller flag raised on an iron pipe was snapped by an Army photographer.

Rosenthal's action shot of the second raising contained the drama.

It is hoped that NBC and the nation's newspapers will help retell the story of the Marines and the Iwo flag. Rosenthal's picture is a classic example of the spirit of the American fighting man during World War II.

It truly is a national symbol that represents all the good things we strive and have striven for.

Staff Comment

## Balm and Sage

By Herb Probasco

(Second of two articles on the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education.)

Why was the University chosen by the Kellogg Foundation as the site for a center of Continuing Education?

The "tremendous impact for change" which the Missouri River Basin is under in regard to agricultural improvement, expanded irrigation, balanced industrial growth, electric power development, flood control projects and forest, wildlife and recreational programs "vitality affects perhaps twenty millions of people."

Noting that these developments "will change from inchoate visions to actualities largely to the degree that educational programs encourage and help adults and young people to develop their individual leadership abilities and to reinforce their training to meet the demands of changing times," the brochure cites this aim as that to which the new center is dedicated.

The 1.8 million dollar grant given to the University by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation—contingent upon 1.5 million dollars later raised in pledges by the University Foundation — was announced little more than two years ago. Latest estimates say that the center will be completed by 1961.

An evaluation program prior to the opening of the center, according to Dr. Knute Broady, director of extension, will be two-fold: "1—to measure the effectiveness of the center's programs, activities and methods; and 2—to stimulate interest in and coordination of the development of a vigorous program of social economic and education research relative to the Missouri River Basin."

Course offerings will include professional postgraduate refresher studies reflecting the resources of the University's colleges concerned with agriculture, home economics, engineering, architecture, the arts and sciences, teacher education, law, business administration, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and the other health sciences. Present television facilities, along with a studio and control panel to be installed, will provide links between the center and the College of Medicine and the Nebraska Psychiatric Institute in Omaha.

Updating and amending of vocational

training including many aspects of merchandising, office management and home-making will be the subject of institutes and workshops. Through discussion of community living and social and citizenship training, it is hoped that adults will become better citizens, while the youth program will include such activities as Boys' and Girls' States, 4-H Club and Future Farmers of America.

"Lack of accommodations no longer will impair the FFA, Boys' and Girls' State programs and the science, homemaking and journalism institutes," the brochure points out. Annual conferences for Future Homemaker Assn. members, a series of four conferences a year for the senior 4-H Club organization, orientation sessions for girls participating in 4-H Club activities at the Nebraska State Fair, a 100 per cent increase in "Homemaker Days" and the expanded youth training programs desired by the Farm Bureau Federation, the Grange and the Farmers Union will now be feasible.

Most unique feature of the programming for the "Hall of Nebraska Youth" is the recognition given by a state university of its obligation to the forty-nine per cent of today's high school graduates who would not otherwise enter an institution of higher learning and to the large number of students who drop out of school before graduation. A plan is set up to encourage them to come for a two to four week period, learning some of the knowledge that they as young adults need in order to attain success in vocational, recreational, family and civic responsibilities.

"The young men and women will be encouraged to return several times during their twenties to add the knowledge, skills and understanding suited to their maturity," the booklet notes.

Chancellor Clifford M. Hardin recently summed up the feelings of most education-minded Nebraskans when he said, "The Center represents a wonderful opportunity for the University and for Nebraska. It clears the way for the University to extend its educational influence to additional thousands of out-of-school people, both youths and adults."



## Daily Nebraskan Letterips

### Wheat Distribution

To the Editor:

Our Friend (Norman) Cousins came up with some good ideas (at his University appearance Friday) but he was a little too idealistic. He proposed that the United States solve its farm problems by attempting to feed the world.

He proposed that we give away the grain the government now pays approximately \$400 million annually to store.

At first glance this seems quite fine. But upon closer examination it is not as sound as it seems.

First of all giving away wheat would wreck the world market. Countries such as Canada and Argentina would be ruined.

Most foreign governments are striving toward an industrial utopia similar to the United States. The first step in solving economic problems by industrialization is a sound agricultural economy. Free grain would do nothing for the economy of a foreign nation just as it would tend to wreck farm prices here if grain were given away by a foreign government.

Before industrialization can take place the agricultural problem must be solved. In the U.S. we have always been able to produce more than enough food. As a result we have been able to direct activity toward industrialization.

In past efforts, free grain has been turned over to the government for distribution. In order to preserve the economy it must sell the grain. Since these people

cannot afford to pay for the grain. Since these people cannot afford to pay for the grain they would buy it from the U.S. if they could. The situation is unchanged. America cannot therefore unload its surplus grain at all.

The only solution is the loaning of American money to industrialize these countries. Industrialization would provide sufficient income for them to purchase our grain.

Faber Jenkins

### Lincoln Problem

To the Editor:

Recently Letterips have been written concerning the problem of discrimination. Recently a letter was written about the segregation taking place at Sellaek. An editor's note suggested that the writers of these letters "might like to devote their efforts towards constructive ends, with groups now operating chiefly in the East." It also said that these letters "have shown that many students favor demonstrations and other means to bring about better conditions for the Negro in the South."

This all sounds very nice, but why point the finger at the South and East when we have a problem right here in Lincoln and also on the University campus. What can be more constructive than giving the Negro equal rights with the White in Lincoln? Many people will say that there is no problem. But the Minority Housing Survey that was conducted a short time ago

shows that the Negro is, in effect, a second class citizen in Lincoln.

I am sure that many do not know of the problems of the Negro students. In the dorm he is carefully roomed with another Negro. Outside the dorm he finds that many rooming houses will not let him live there.

I have seen Negro foreign students turned down at more than once place when there were rooms available.

So, the Negro and foreign student are restricted as to where they may live. Is it right, morally or otherwise, for segregation to exist right here on the campus? Why are we hiding this problem. Or worse, why are we ignoring it? Why not face the problem instead of pointing to the South. Lincoln and the University campus have a big enough problem of their own.

Francis Schmidt

### Kennedy Leading in Wisconsin

Returns from more than half of Wisconsin's precincts showed Sen. John F. Kennedy is leading over Sen. Hubert Humphrey in the presidential primary.

Kennedy was leading with a 184,516 total while Humphrey compiled 175,019 votes.

Vice president, Richard Nixon, lagged in third with 156,714

votes. The republican was unopposed.

### Foreign Flick Is 'The Gold Rush'

The Foreign Film Society's movie to be shown tonight is "The Gold Rush" with Charlie Chaplin.

The black and white production will begin at 8 p.m. in the Nebraska Theatre.

**On Campus** with Max Schulman  
 (Author of "I Was a Teen-age Dwarf", "The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis", etc.)

### "NO PARKING"

As everyone knows, the most serious problem facing American colleges today is the shortage of parking space for students' cars.

Many remedies have been offered to solve this vexing dilemma. For instance, it has been suggested that all students be required to drive small foreign sports cars which can be carried in the purse or pocket. This would, of course, solve the parking problem but it would make double dating impossible—unless, that is, the boys make the girls run along behind the car. But that is no solution either because by the time they get to the prom the girls will be panting so hard that they will wilt their corsages.

Another suggested cure for our parking woes is that all students smoke Marlboro cigarettes. At first glance this seems an excellent solution because we all know Marlboro is the cigarette which proved that flavor did not go out when filters came in—and when we sit around and smoke good Marlboros we are so possessed by sweet contentment that none of us wishes ever to leave, which means no gadding about which means no driving, which means no parking problem.

But the argument in favor of Marlboros overlooks one important fact: when you run out of Marlboros you must go get some more, which means driving, which means parking, which means you're right back where you started.

Probably the most practical suggestion to alleviate the campus parking situation is to tear down every school of dentistry in the country and turn it into a parking lot. This is not to say that dentistry is unimportant. Gracious, no! Dentistry is important and vital and a shining part of our American heritage. But the fact is there is no real need for separate schools of dentistry. Dentistry could easily be moved to the school of mining engineering. Surely anyone who can drill a thousand feet for oil can fill a simple little cavity.



Take the case of dental student Fred C. Sigaloca... This experiment—combining dentistry with mining engineering—has already been tried at several colleges—and with some very interesting results. Take, for instance, the case of a dental student named Fred C. Sigaloca. One day recently Fred was out practicing with his drilling rig in a vacant lot just off campus. He sank a shaft two hundred feet deep and, to his surprise and delight, he struck a detergent mine. For a while Fred thought his fortune was made but he soon learned that he had drilled into the storage tank of the Eagle Laundry. Walter P. Eagle, president of the laundry, was mad as all get-out and things looked mighty black for Fred. But it all ended well. When Mr. Eagle called Fred into his office to chew him out, it so happened that Mr. Eagle's beautiful daughter, Patient Griselda, was present. For years Patient Griselda had been patiently waiting for the right man. "That's him!" she cried upon spying Fred—and today Fred is a full partner in the Eagle Laundry in charge of pests and ruffles.

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