

Just A Thought

By Dave Calhoun

The Daily Nebraskan has just received release number one on the Peace Corps. Applications are now available to those interested in volunteering. Two thousand of these applications are available for campus distribution and others may be obtained at the local Post Office.

The applications contain a detailed questionnaire covering such things as language proficiency, area preference, and special skills which would be an asset to one working for the Peace Corps.

Since the University is a possible site for a training school in conjunction with this program, it is important that the students understand and know more about the Peace Corps. To assist in developing interest a poll will be conducted in the Crib soon. This poll will consist of a number of questions concerning personal attitudes about the Corps.

Since this program and the problems which it is attempting to solve are of such vital importance not only to us as citizens of the United States but also to the citizens of all the countries of the world, some attempt should be made by the students of the University community to arouse interest and at the same time better inform themselves about the Peace Corps and the problems which it will work toward solving. Reports from three other Nebraska colleges (Nebraska Wesleyan, Creighton University, and Omaha University) show very little student interest. This indicates that if anything of positive value is to be done about creating interest in this area, the leadership must come from the University.

What can the students do to create interest? There are a number of partial solutions. The obvious one is to be interested themselves and to express that interest strongly. The University could make an important contribution by encouraging the establishment of a central training center for the Peace Corps here. The work which has been done in cooperation with Turkey shows Nebraska's potentially great experience in ag development. The excellent studies of Latin America provide the University with the opportunity to do some vital and significant work in this field.

It might be suggested that the students form an organization to aid the establishment of a Peace Corps center. The purpose of this organization would also be to discuss the issues and areas with which the Peace Corps is concerned. Very few of the students at this institution have any conception of the social, political, cultural factors at work in such areas as Africa, Asia, the Far East, the Middle East and Latin America. An organization of this type would allow interested people to meet to hear qualified guest speakers and to discuss with them the areas which are of importance.

We have in the past few years heard the criticisms of the foreign policy which the United States has used in the underdeveloped areas of the World. The Peace Corps is a bold new plan to alleviate some of the problems facing us. With the wholehearted support of individuals all over the United States it can become a major factor in the attempt to attain more complete understanding between people of different cultures.

No serious student of foreign affairs can seriously doubt that the United States is rapidly losing its position of world power. We are surrounded by nations filled with starving and half-starved people. Revolution is an ugly word to rich America, but it is the sound of hope to thousands of diverse tongues and literally billions of poverty stricken people. The nations of the world would feel themselves fortunate if most of their people were as well off as the denizens of Tobacco Road.

No amount of foreign aid or propaganda is going to convince these nations that it is not desirable to take our wealth from us and give it to their starving citizens whether by economic competition or otherwise. Our only hope, and it is a rapidly disappearing possibility, is to reach these nations on the precinct level and convince them that we are doing our best to help.

Only the best trained people will be of any use in foreign cultures far different from ours, cultures which are so different from ours as to make Russia look like Town Meeting, U.S.A.

Nebraska's stake in this is as large as any one of the fifty states, and in view of our understanding of the means of solving the problems of hunger perhaps we, who know not hunger, but only the minor problems of surplus are uniquely fitted to carry the message of plenty to the world.

Certainly if any leadership is to be exercised by the state of Nebraska in this, the most pressing problem of the time, it must be done by the students and faculty of the University of Nebraska.

A survey of Omaha University, Creighton University, and Wesleyan shows that virtually no students are interested in the Corps on their campus.

This writer's only comment can be that they simply do not have an interest in understanding the world situation. These students point out that the Peace Corps involves personal sacrifice and the support of programs of the Democratic administration. They say that it is impractical and idealistic. The people of the world are not impractical and their ideals at the present time consist of throwing off the centuries of ignorance, disease, and poverty. They will do this with or without our cooperation.

The force unleashed by the demand for more food by one and one half billion persons is far stronger than that of any fire, war, flood, earthquake or other emergency known to man. Fighting an emergency threat has never been profitable: it has always been necessary. Acting to prevent that emergency is not only necessary—it is far more profitable than losing all of the wealth and power of the United States through a vain attempt to ignore the meaning of current history.



Calhoun



GREAT LEAP FORWARD

Western Economists, Ideologists Can't Understand Indies Problem

Eric Sevareid

Trinidad, W.I.—What is happening with the "underprivileged" peoples on this earth, virtually all of whom are, by giant coincidence, dark of skin, is something happening inside individual breasts. It is for poets, novelists, artists—those who observe persons—to understand it; it is not for economists or ideologists—those who observe people—however much they dominate the Western approach to the phenomenon with their funds and missions and committees and propaganda.



Sevareid

This much penetrated my own skin, calloused by years of exposure to the dry winds of sociology, after some travels through Africa. Now, moving through the supposedly tranquil islands of the West Indies en route to see the new Brazil and its massive crisis, I can feel again the prickings of this uneasy, ill defined awareness.

An American woman artist was talking on the veranda of her lovely villa on one of these jeweled "holiday" islands. She could see the Negro fishermen stretched in the strip of shadow beside their boats on the curving beach, the local taxi-man sound asleep in the front seat of his Chevrolet. Her domestic servant, dressed in flowing, antebellum garb, including bandana, padded among us with the ice-cold daiquiris and slipped away with the silent submissiveness of the British-trained black.

When she was sure the servant was out of hearing, the artist said, "They are all so quiet and pleasant. They seem so contented, even grateful. But I can feel it in them, the way you sense that another person is in a room even when you don't see him. I guess we'd never get anything like the Congo in these islands, but I know it's there, this hatred. Last month, on the dock, a white officer of a sloop thought one black loafer had insulted his wife. He slammed the man up against the shed and—My God! every loafer on the dock had a shovel or a stick in his hand in a flash. The quickness of it! Pure reflex action. The facts, the moral pros and cons didn't matter. The officer was white, they were black. That's all."

I don't know, either, whether Congos, in miniature, will ever happen in the West Indies, many of them now federated on paper and moving toward independence, but I have learned a few apparent principles of behavior among the "emergent" peoples. One is that the closer, not the farther away, they stand in relation to realization of the inchoate desires in their breasts, to release from their ancient frustrations, the more angry and violent they become.

"Pure reflex action." We are seeing it now on a world scale. Centuries of white racism have produced the inevitable black

racism. It is racism, not Communism, that is likely to become the dominant characteristic of this generation, and Russian Communists will be no more able to escape its ravages, in the long haul, than Western democrats.

We have treated black men as a race apart so long that they are bound to act like a race apart, in spite of the appeasements of citizenship and "civil rights."

It is too late—many generations too late—to expect general integration save in terms of public institutions. It will not happen in terms of private human beings. This is so no longer because of the white man's racism only, but now because of the black man's racism as well.

It is one of American history's bitter ironies that while the Supreme Court has thrown out the old southern "equal but separate" principle in respect to public institutions, it is this very principle in all other respects that millions of Negroes now seek, in

their hearts.

It is not to be wondered at, I suppose, that, in the foreign policy gyrations over the Congo and Lumumba, great numbers of American Negroes reacted as Americans second and as Negroes first.

I do not understand all the psychological mysteries involved in man's reactions to pigmentation of the skin. But I am aware that even in countries like Brazil, officially unsegregated in all realms of life, the blackest men generally do the roughest and dirtiest work; that the same is true in the all-Negro Republic of Haiti; and that in the rising rebellion against economic exploitation all over Latin America the ideology of skin shading is a very real, if unacknowledged, force for hostility.

But the age of the conquistadores is long past. This is the twentieth century. One can hope, at least, that dark men in power in this age will prove white men in power in their dark ages.

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By Dick Stuckey

In this land of good things, when a good thing is so seldom a good thing, we have come across a good thing—the coming "Damn Yankees" evening this Saturday.

The first Greek Week was held in 1916 at the University. Actually the first Greek Week was held in the fourth century, B.C., but since they didn't have an "egg race" then, of course that one doesn't count.

Highlighting Greek Week in 1916 were the Greek Games. The featured events on this memorable day included the 400 meter hurdles and a ritual sing for the men, and for the women, the 1916 games initiated the tricycle marathon and the egg race which we see today as remnants of the original happy hours.

The theme of the games was "Responsibility or Bust." Old TNE initiation ceremonies were sold for eye shades, and participants tracked by the hundreds to the games site on the east lawn of Student Health.

An account of those same frolic moments has recently been discovered in the attic of Harold G. Jumparound, prominent Lincoln mimeograph machine, and past director of the games.

Jumparound's account is as follows:

"It should be stated at the outset of this account that it is written purely as a non-profit venture, and with the hope that it may aid future Greek Week games directors here in this attic here. At no time in this account have I purposely or unwittingly given any information which I feel would be detrimental to the Greek system, the student body, the city of Lincoln, the world or hardly anything I guess..."

Then follows Jumparound's most exciting pas-

sage, a description of the women's egg race:

"... and I hope to tell you I never seen such a sight. All them women out there with them eggs in their mouth and their elbows and armpits and this guy from the Jr. IFC trying to line 'em up and everybody a laughin—it were the most ridiculous thing I ever seen. Then somebody hollers 'Go' and they all took off, a running and a jumpin and almost killed this poor fellow from the Jr. IFC. Stupidest damn thing I ever seen."

Following Jumparound's account of the egg race, co-chairman of the games Miss Lettuce Muffit issued a statement concerning the overall purpose. She said, in part: "Overalls are not to be worn to the games. It is not becoming a social organization to allow their members to attend such an event in such shabby attire. It is the hope of Greek Week that each house will include as many different pairs of pants as possible in these events and thus contribute to the support and spirit needed to supply a 'climax' to the Greek Week activities. We want the houses to keep in mind that although the games provide a basis for competition, this must not undermine the basic purpose of Greek Week—a successful egg race."

Included in the information which was found in this gentleman's attic was the song, "Ode to the Greek Week Games." It is reprinted here in the hope that the IFC and Panhellenic things might use it again this year in keeping with the outstanding program which is programmed.

ODE TO GREEK WEEK GAMES
Egg race, egg race, rah rah rah!
Tricycle marathon, Omph pah pah!
Thirty dirty fratrats tied in a knot—
What yeeeah lizard skin victrola!

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Nebraskan Letterip

The Daily Nebraskan will publish only those letters which are signed. They may be submitted with a pen name or initials. However, letters will be printed under a pen name or initials only at the editor's discretion. Letters should not exceed 200 words. When letters exceed this limit the Nebraskan reserves the right to condense them, retaining the writer's views.

Students Urge More Comment

To the editor:

We wish to congratulate the Daily Nebraskan for the courageous stand it has taken on the exposition of the sub-rosa element on the University campus.

We would like to see more such editorials. It is good for the Greek system and the University as a whole. It shows that Mr. Calhoun

and his sources are mature thinking adults and have the benefit of our school at heart.

It is our sincere hope that the University students and the Administration stand behind the Daily Nebraskan in its efforts to expose groups whose actions may be detrimental to the Greek system and the University of Nebraska.

Charter Members of the Dick Basoco Fan Club.

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