



DAILY NEBRASKAN

Private Eyes Play 'I Spy' in Class

St. Onge: Confused Instructor

Rejected in Nebraska... May Stay at Ohio State

By Norm Beatty

A young instructor who wanted to go west to teach has changed his mind... or had his mind changed for him.

Henry St. Onge, currently an assistant instructor of English at Ohio State University (OSU), and whose Wayne State Teachers College contract was recently revoked by the Nebraska State Normal Board, may find he will be teaching once again at OSU next fall.

Although there has been no formal action by OSU officials, the chairman of the English department said he would "most certainly be glad" to have St. Onge remain on his staff.

In a telephone conversation with the Daily Nebraskan Tuesday, Dr. Robert Estrich, chairman of the English department at OSU, said, "I would be very glad to have him continue in our department."

Confusion

Estrich and other campus figures admitted confusion in connection with the recent contract cancellation.

The answer to the Ohioan's question, "why?" was given in part Tuesday afternoon in Lincoln by Dr. Freeman Decker, state commissioner of education and also member of the Board.

"Speaking for myself alone," Dr. Decker said, "it did not appear that Mr. St. Onge would be a proper person to teach in Nebraska."

According to Dr. Decker, the action by the Board was unanimous.

Dr. Decker said there was no question as to St. Onge's political beliefs, nor was there any thought that St. Onge had violated any law.

Responsible

But, "again speaking for myself, a member of a college faculty must be responsible" and in his private life, not reflect upon his employer, Dr. Decker said.

St. Onge came into the public's eye in April when William Marx Mandel, outspoken critic of the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC), spoke from St. Onge's back porch.

Ohio State University had refused to let Mandel speak on the campus. The OSU authorities said that St. Onge's invitation to Mandel did not constitute an official invitation by the University.

St. Onge is not regarded as an OSU faculty member, although he teaches the faculty load of nine hours a week, according to Dr. Estrich.

St. Onge said his invitation was issued because of interest in Mandel.

St. Onge, who had made a personal invitation, was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Backyard Talk

The Ohio State Lantern, OSU student newspaper, reported the following to be the main points of Mandel's backyard talk:

-That the United States would be beaten disastrously in any war with the Soviet Union.

-That the philosophy of the House Un-American Activities Committee is "fascism and fascism is the rule of the big business gone mad."

-That Communism is the most popular idea in the world today.

-That the solution is "accommodation" with Russia, a voluntary agreement on the part of each nation to yield some of its views.

Husker Delivery

The Cornhusker, University yearbook, will be distributed on Saturday May 13th from 1-3 p.m. and on Sunday the 14th from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

The yearbooks, however, will be given out as long as they last.



DAIRY QUEEN FINALISTS

University coeds who will vie for the title of Dairy Queen in the Dairy Royal Thursday night on Ag Campus are (from left) Suzi Haberman, Kappa Alpha Theta

sophomore; Karen Moesiger, Alpha Xi Delta junior; Jean Olsen, Chi Omega sophomore; and Judy Birney, Alpha Phi freshman.

Who Is William Mandel?

The background on William Marx Mandel, the instrument that has apparently cost Henry St. Onge his job at Wayne State, was portrayed in the last issue of the Wayne Stater, the official college newspaper.

William Marx Mandel, who stood on Henry St. Onge's back porch one night and shouted a few defiance to Ohio State University students, was accused of being a Communist propagandist before the Senate Internal Security Sub-committee through testimony given by Louis Budenz on August 21, 1951.

Mr. Budenz was at that time editor of The Daily Worker. Mandel's refusal to answer such accusations on May 13, 1960, when he appeared before the House Un-American Activities Committee was based on the Fifth Amendment.

Mandel was a writer for the Institute of Pacific Relations, which was "a vehicle used by the Communists to orientate America's Far Eastern policies toward Communist objectives." This organization was added to the subversive list after the Senate Judiciary Committee Report 2050 of July 2, 1952.

He was associated with the American Russian Institute cited by Attorney General Tom Clark April 27, 1949, as a Communist front organization. The ARI was also cited by the Senate Judiciary Committee on July 2, 1952, as a Communist controlled organization intimately linked with the IPR. They were cited as specializing in pro-Soviet propaganda.

"The Soviet Far East," a book written by Mandel, also came under investigation by the Internal Security Sub-committee. The Sub-committee termed the book to be "largely Communist propaganda."

Business Fraternity Elects New Officers

Delta Sigma Pi, business fraternity, elected Ray Bulin president for fall semester, 1961.

The other officers elected are: Doug Teaford, first vice president; Larry Fiori, second vice president; Gaylan Abood, treasurer; Ken White, assistant treasurer; Gary Brooke, secretary; Daryl Swanson, chancellor; Roger Stuhr, historian.

Council Adopts Faculty Rating Asks Professional Evaluation

By Ann Moyer

The final report of the Student Council faculty rating committee was accepted by the Council recently with the recommendation that it be submitted to Chancellor Clifford Hardin for consideration.

The approval of the report by the Council means that the Council desires that a plan of student-faculty evaluation be instituted at the University which would be professionally prepared, administered on a University wide undergraduate scale and that it be voluntary with the students and faculty.

The committee research on the faculty rating program indicated a definite interest in such a program both by University students and faculty members. In a random poll of 407 students, 81% thought an evaluation would be worthwhile. Also, of the 29 departments which replied to the committee inquiry 27 were strongly in favor in receiving a systematic evaluation by students of the instructors in their department.

Freedom Lecture

Prof. J. W. N. Watkins of the London School of Economics and Political Sciences will lecture on "Human Freedoms" today in the Love Library auditorium at 9 a.m.

The committee polled other schools which have used an evaluation system and the results indicated that such programs had proved successful to administration, students and faculty.

Replies were received from 30 of 42 schools solicited concerning the matter. Fourteen reported they favored student faculty ratings, seven had never tried such a system and none of the schools which opposed an evaluation had ever tried one of the type contemplated by the committee. In most cases where the rating had been unsuccessful the evaluation administered had not been professionally prepared.

The Universities of Purdue, Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa and Washington contributed documented studies of their rating systems. These studies show that students treat faculty ratings with respect and do not give biased answers based on personal prejudice.

The reports also indicated that there was no correlation between the evaluation

submitted by the student and that particular instructor.

The first attempt by University students to organize some type of faculty evaluation came during the spring semester of 1957 when the Daily Nebraskan took up the cause in a series of editorials.

The Student Council assigned the investigation of a student-faculty rating to committee but no further action was taken by the Council.

In November of 1960, Council member Steve Gage asked that a special committee be appointed to investigate a faculty rating system.

Faculty Senate Approves Report

The Faculty Senate unanimously approved the reports of the policy and liaison committees at its May 9 meeting.

Chancellor Hardin, in a brief discussion of the Legislature's budget committee meetings with the University, said the outcome was not yet clear, but that he "felt like an expectant father" in awaiting the budget outcome.

Newspaper coverage of the meetings between the University and the budget committee has been accurate, he noted.

Solons Ask Closer Ties with NU

By Nancy Whitford

Informing each state senator of the students attending the University from his district would be a definite aid in strengthening ties between the two groups, said Sen. Ross H. Rasmussen of Hooper.

At present there are few University students who visit the legislature to see how it works, he said.

Rasmussen feels ties could also be strengthened if a third party, such as industry would come back to the legislature and tell how it has benefited from the University's educational programs.

Rasmussen said it is hard for an institution to "brag about itself."

"The University needs to be supported by the groups which benefit from its educational facilities."

Sen. Elvin Adamson of Cody said University relations with the legislature can be improved if the University will "come directly to the lawmaking group with its problems."

Adamson criticized a recent report that the University had contacted outstate alumni to write letters to the Budget Committee.

He said this action was "an attempt to bring pressure on the legislators from the people at home which is very easily detected."

Adamson, a member of the Education Committee, said that at times there appears to be a feeling at the University that the legislature is attempting to dictate policy.

"In turn, the legislature often feels the University is indifferent," he said.

"Several professors feel they aren't welcome at the legislature. They should meet more with committees and have a first hand knowledge of the problems discussed."

He said professors should let it be known to the chairman of a committee that they are available for questioning on technical subjects.

He said the University "should be heard more during the lawmaking process rather than complaining about it afterwards."

Adamson said students should also attend the legislature more often.

"University students are conspicuous by their absence," he noted.

Leaders Say Not At NU

By Mike MacLean

In a recent newsletter published by Cowles Magazines Inc., the publishers of Look, a private investigating agency claims it has planted its agents in classrooms of a number of colleges to investigate those it calls "controversial" professors.

The agency, the newsletter says, has written to several school presidents advising them that a number of other schools are already using the system and finding it "very beneficial and informative."

Dr. Adam C. Breckenridge, Dean of Faculties at the University, said, "I have never been contacted by such an organization and am not interested in their services."

The organization's agents enroll, attend classes like regular students, the newsletter continued, then report to the agency, which in turn analyzes and reports to the administration of the client-school.

In its letter of solicitation the agency assures the presidents that almost every department of a college has a teacher that meets a "controversial" description and could bear watching.

"The college administrator who places undercover agents in classrooms must feel terribly insecure and distrust his institution's staff, its method of faculty selection and retention, and his own judgement," says Breckenridge.

"One can not comprehend the undercover agent in the physician's office," he continued, "nor in relation to the lawyer with his client. Neither can one comprehend the unidentified agent in the classroom."

More Exhaustive

Appraisals of prospective staff members for colleges and universities are probably more exhaustive than any similar employment, he explained.

These appraisals are made by careful consideration of their past achievements and records and by contacting those who know them best, those who have had close contact with them.

An instructor's retention and promotion depend on the continuing observation of his colleagues once he is on the staff.

An instructor's fellow workers will soon perceive whether objective presentation of ideas are the norm in his teaching methods.

'Great Purpose'

Breckenridge feels that "the great purpose of most education is understanding the necessity for the free exchange of ideas and methods, in whatever areas of knowledge."

If an instructor cannot freely promote this exchange, he would be a spokesman for a partisan cause rather than a teacher, he added.

If the student is to be able to learn, new knowledge must be introduced to him as soon as it is gained. The progress and failures of trials and experiments must be analyzed if we are to learn in a free society, said Breckenridge.

Dean Breckenridge thinks that the object of placing an undercover agent in the classroom is to define exact limits on what is to be learned. When this is done, the students, and all of society are the losers to those who fear knowledge.

"If there are to be undercover agents of this kind to watch over the faculty I should want a group to watch over the watchers," Breckenridge said.

Nu-Meds Meet

The Nu-Meds will meet at 7:30 tonight in the Student Union Little Auditorium. Dr. Paul Peterson will speak on rhino-oto-laryngology.

Who Is Henry St. Onge?

Henry St. Onge is presently an English instructor at Ohio State University and until the meeting of the State Normal Board earlier this week, was to be an instructor at Wayne State Teachers College next fall.

He is married and has three children, one of the factors that prompted him to consider going to Wayne in order that he might provide activities for his growing family in the Nebraska area and climate.

He is the founder of the Thomas Tusser society, considered by some to be a mysterious, secret movement, probably entrenched with Mandelian philosophies. Others claim that St. Onge created the society as a joke.

Thomas Tusser was a poet in sixteenth century England. He wrote a handful of poems about husbandry which were reportedly terrible. As a result Tusser was snubbed by his own generation, let alone the scholars after him who have forgotten him. T u s s e r died in a debtors prison and presumably, accomplished nothing.

St. Onge ran across Tussers writings one day and at morning coffee sessions, with tongue-in-cheek, proposed that the coffee drinking group be known as the Tusser society.

When questioned about the society by other newspapers, St. Onge kept the reporters guessing about the purpose of the society as he allowed his joke to run its course.

The Mandel appearance climaxed the growth of a joke that was suddenly more than a joke and far from being funny.

Today, St. Onge is despondent. He believes, "For all practical purposes, I am a dead duck in Nebraska. I have no job next year. I have a wife and three children. I'm tired of being a nice guy." He is reportedly a brilliant scholar and a vibrant classroom personality.

Return Pictures

Students are reminded that all pictures borrowed from the Union Picture Lending Library should be returned to the Union Music Room by Thursday or Friday.

TODAY ON CAMPUS

Wednesday:

4-H Club Picnic, Peter Pan Park, 6 p.m.

VHEA senior tea, 3421 E. Summit St., 4 p.m.

University Faculty Women's Club luncheon, 1 p.m. Student Union ballroom.

"Children of the Sun," 8 p.m., Ralph Mueller Planetarium, Morrill Hall

Thursday:

Block and Bridle Quarter Horse Show, Fair Grounds Coliseum.

Dairy Royal, Ag College Horsebarn

Visiting poets, D. W. Snodgrass and John Frederick Nims, informal hour, 10 a.m., 115 Andrews

ROTC annual inspection, parade, 5 p.m., 14th and Vine