

Lecture  
on Space  
Today, 2 p.m.

# Summer Nebraskan

Magician  
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Wednesday

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Summer Nebraskan

Tuesday June 20, 1961

What Is the Midwest? ARCHIVES

Education Wise?

## Summer Session: It's Value to Nebraska

Editor's note: This is the first article in a series which will attempt to explore the Midwest, specifically Nebraska; its opportunities, its disadvantages, its problems. In this first story we will examine some educators' views in an attempt to put the Summer Sessions into perspective with the development of the state.

**By Gretchen Shellberg**  
Is the academic quality of the Summer Sessions superior to that of the fall and spring semesters? Are Summer Sessions more beneficial to the state of Nebraska?

According to Dr. Frank E. Sorenson, director of the Summer Sessions, the answers to both these questions are yes.

"The summer student is more mature. He's here because he wants to be and the faculty are realizing that," Dr. Sorenson said.

"And," he added, "the quality of the faculty is relative."

Most of the summer staff are now of major rank (associate or full professors) with much experience, Sorenson said. This faculty, coupled with more mature students, results in a superior academic session, he said.

As an example of the maturity of students, Sorenson cited the fact that two out of three students in the University's Summer Sessions are teachers, school superintendents and educational leaders.

**Direct Help**

"The Summer Sessions bring direct help to the state," Sorenson continued. These educators usually stay in Nebraska and the result is direct benefits not only to those educated here but to those members of their community to whom they pass on their learning," he said.

Therefore, "as we improve our Summer Sessions we immediately improve Nebraska. In the fall and spring, students leave the state and we need a longer look to see the benefit to the state," he said.

These students who leave the state, he explained, produce materials and products elsewhere that we use here, however, so we can't actually consider them separated from Nebraska.

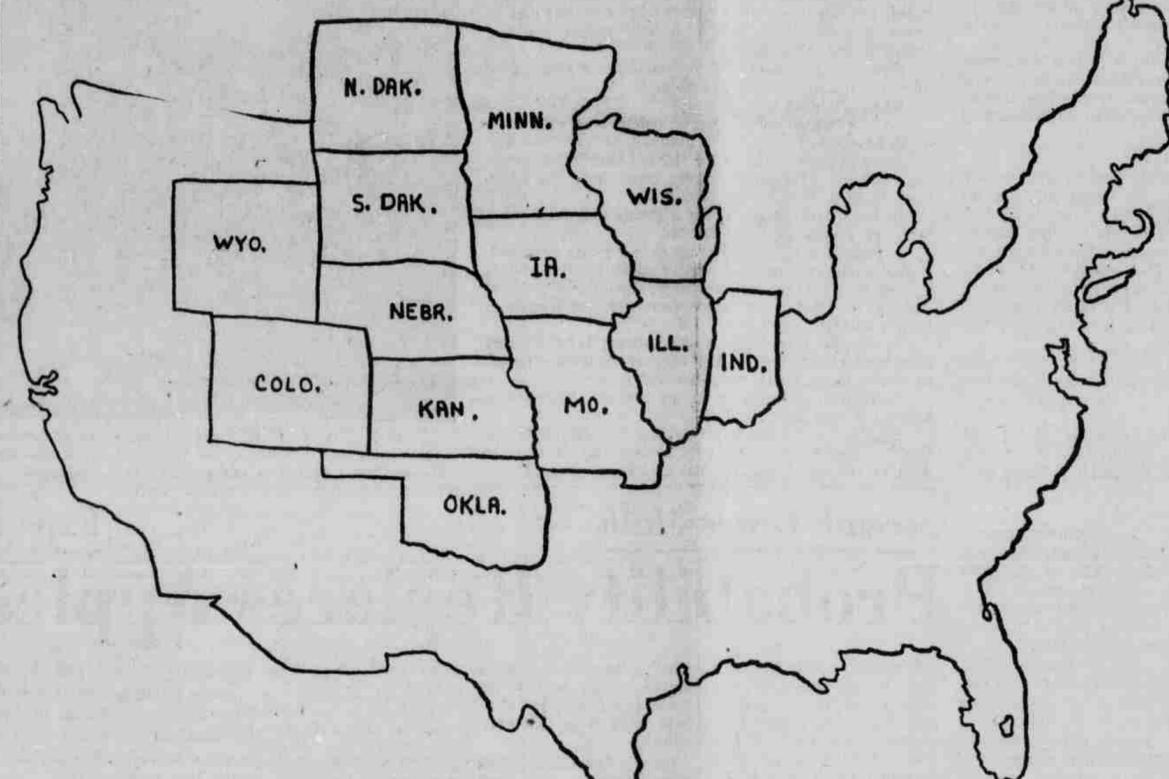
"Nebraska is not 'apart' but 'a part' of the nation and the world," Dr. Sorenson said. "We can't be separate and independent. There's where we make our mistake."

Adam Breckenridge, Dean of Faculties, also stressed Nebraska's being "a part" of the world. In discussing University graduates who leave the state, he said, "I'd be alarmed if people didn't go elsewhere. I'd think they weren't qualified to compete in the nation's market."

**Students Stay**  
Breckenridge stressed the fact, however, that many students from the University, regardless of the sessions they attended, do stay in Nebraska. He cited the following examples:

—one-third of all the living graduates of the College of Engineering live in Nebraska.

—Half of the state's practicing dentists, doctors and lawyers are NU graduates.



WHAT IS THE MIDWEST?

—Of approximately 80,000 living alumni of the University, one half live in the state.

Dean Breckenridge disagreed with Dr. Sorenson on other points concerning the Summer Sessions, however.

According to Dean Breckenridge, the student in September is equally as mature as the summer student. "The September student's here because he wants to be, too," he said.

"During the summer," Breckenridge added, "the majority are enrolled in colleges other than Teachers. There is a heavy distribution in the undergraduate colleges."

Enrollment	
College	1960
Agriculture	118
Arts and Sciences	341
Biz Ad.	198
Dentistry	84
Engineering and Architecture	215
Graduate	781
Law	3
Pharmacy	3
Teachers (undergraduate)	829
Teachers (advanced professional)	688
Junior Division	13
Students at Large	95

Breckenridge also believes that the person who goes to

college doesn't have an immediate distribution of effects those around him when he returns to his community. "He doesn't tuck this fact away and use it on September 31. You don't departmentalize your knowledge," Breckenridge said.

**Opportunity**  
Both men seemed to agree that "opportunity" was the magic force in encouraging or discouraging migration to and from the state.

"Here is an agricultural state," Sorenson said in discussing Nebraska. "Our basic industry, farming, used to employ lots of people and keep the children at home."

"Employment opportunities are not here at the present time, however," he added. "The basic reasons why people come to a state don't shine out."

These, he said, include employment, touring and vacation spots, and taking advantage of educational opportunities, particularly in higher education.

Sorenson said that universities such as Colorado have recreational facilities Nebraska can't offer. Over a period of time they have publicized their university (Colorado) and people have gotten in the habit of going there, he said.

**Life on Plains**  
"We must sell the idea across the U.S. of what life

is like in the Great Plains," he said. "We need to develop our areas and we need to publicize more."

"It takes time to build a tradition of a fine Summer Session. We must advance the quality of teaching," he said. "More will come as we make our environment more complete and comfortable and as we publicize," Sorenson said.

He added that already much of the "publicity" is being done by word of mouth and through the constantly changing bulletin revisions. The World Affairs Previews and the Fine Arts programs also help to "sell the session," he said, "and the Union does a tremendous job in food and recreation areas. The dorms

### Sky Show Depicts Night on Prairie

What did the night sky look like to early Indians, settlers and cowboys? How did it appear to Custer and his men just before dawn of their last day fighting the Indians?

These scenes are part of the University's Mueller Planetarium summer sky show, "A Night Sky on the Prairie," being presented now through July 31 at the planetarium in Morrill Hall.

The programs may be seen Monday-Friday at 2:45 p.m.; Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30 and 3:45

are better too. We are acquiring some maturity."

Dean Breckenridge, on the other hand, said, "the contribution of the summer program is just another period of education. You do most of the same things you do any other time of the school year."

He emphasized the fact that Summer Sessions are a main part of the University program and not a special program.

Special lectures and recreational facilities are also available the year 'round and in greater number, he said. He cited the Montgomery lectures and convocations such as the one last spring featuring U.S. Supreme Court

Justice William O. Douglas as examples.

**'No Difference'**

"Things during the summer are no different," Breckenridge said. "The regular year is flooded with these things and this (summer) is a continuation of this kind of program."

Breckenridge did not give recreational and environmental factors as reasons for drawing students to summer school. He said the program "expands gradually as student interest expands," and he expressed no desire to attract more outstate students to the sessions.

According to the dean, 14-15% of the University enrollment is outstate students.

**When asked if a wider representation might not be more beneficial to Nebraska's development as "a part" of the rest of the nation, Dean Breckenridge said "Nebraskans are not as provincial as or less provincial than those who've never been west of the Hudson."**

"There's no magic in percentage figures of mixed population (representing different geographic areas)," he said. "There is no way to determine what makes a good mix. I know of no level to set that would be better than it is."

Breckenridge added that there is no open recruiting

program at the University because there would be a chain reaction of more students, requiring more facilities, requiring more money, resulting in more students, requiring more facilities, etc.

**War Babies**

He did anticipate, however, that in about 5 years there will be a surge of more outstate students — the war babies — in all University sessions because other Universities are filling up and Nebraska's enrollment is still low and entrance requirements are not as strict.

Breckenridge also listed lack of opportunity as a factor in student migration, however he felt it causes University graduates to leave the state rather than failing to draw outsiders to the state. "Students leave because they go where the opportunities are," he said.

"Architects go where there's lots of construction. Teachers want adventure, to get away from the home region and more attractive salaries, perhaps in a larger community," he said.

When asked why he thought students come to the University, specifically the Summer Sessions, Breckenridge felt many people enter teaching to do work related to education outside of the classroom. "Teachers don't have the magic means to gain or discover new knowledge, put under the broad umbrella of research, so they must attend Summer Sessions to gain that knowledge," he said.

"Many faculty don't want to engage in the teaching function the year round. They need time without interruptions to do research and additional study," he said.

Summer Sessions also provide opportunity for the high school graduate to begin college, Breckenridge added. "We've always had this program... but this year there's a new idea." The emphasis is on a special program for students not academically well prepared for college work judging from their high school record. We have suggested two courses instead of three for these students, Breckenridge said.

**Trimester Plan**

Breckenridge listed a third reason why he thought the Summer Sessions were popular. "Some people favor the trimester plan," he said. This would involve creating three semesters instead of two which would run year around instead of nine months long.

The dean said he felt there was no difference between this plan and the present system of two semesters with a summer school. "Students can go year 'round now if they want to," he said. "The trimester doesn't help since you've still got to have a Summer Session beginning in June for the school teachers who aren't free when the third semester begins in April."

## World Affairs Previews Will Provide Adventures to Space, Southeast Asia

Dr. Everett T. Welmers, director of Satellite Systems of the Aerospace Corp. and one of the nation's leading space research executives, will speak at the University today at 2 p.m. in Love Library Auditorium.

The lecture, "Adventures in Space," will be open to Summer Sessions participants and the public as part of the World Affairs Previews.

The second lecture in the series will be presented next Monday at 2 p.m. in Love Library also. It will feature Dr. Robert A. Scalapino, professor of political science at the University of California, Berkeley. His lecture is entitled "U.S. Responsibilities in Southeast Asia."

Both speakers are authorities in their respective fields.

**Dr. Welmers**  
Dr. Welmers has recently been associated with the Institute for Defense Analysis in Washington, D.C. In addition to many government and industrial assignments, he was a former assistant to the president of the Bell Aircraft Corporation for long-range planning.



DR. EVERETT WELMERS



DR. ROBERT SCALAPINO

During World War II, Dr. Welmers was responsible for the navigation programs taught to Air Force and Navy personnel. As a research specialist he has been a member of several special study groups for the Department of Defense and has lectured on dynamics, computers, applied mathematics, operations analysis, reliability and aerospace problems.

His early experiences have included testing of jet aircraft and as early as 1949 serving as chief of missile dynamics for the Bell corporation.

**Dr. Scalapino**  
The second guest lecturer, Dr. Robert Scalapino, holds an equally impressive record. An authority on the Far East, he holds a B.A. degree from Santa Barbara College and an M.A. and

Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Scalapino, who will present the second lecture in the World Affairs series next Monday, also held a Carnegie Foundation Grant, a Rockefeller Foundation Grant, a Ford Foundation Grant and was a Social Science Research Council Fellow. He is currently a professor and vice chairman of the department of political science at the University of California, Berkeley.

In addition Scalapino has served as a consultant to the Governmental Affairs Institute, a University of California extension representative in the Far East for the Armed Forces program, vice chairman of the Institute of International Studies for the University of California, a research consultant for the American Assembly at Columbia University and a consultant to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (on Asia).

He lists many publications to his credit, including articles for the Far Eastern Survey, Foreign Policy Reports and the American Political Science Review.

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