

EDITORIAL OPINION

# Nigerian Protest Is Corps Hurdle

The new Peace Corps program met its first outside criticism last weekend in the form of a student protest in Nigeria, Africa, which has caused an uneasy feeling in several quarters concerning the Corps.

The demands of the Nigerians called for the ousting of a Peace Corpswoman and the entire program in that country because of a postcard written by the American girl calling the living conditions "primitive."

The Students' Union President Dapo Falase of the University of Ibadan, where the postcard was reprinted and circulated among 1,500 students, said the Peace Corps intention was first to spread what he called American imperialist propaganda in Africa and second "to spy on what you are doing."

In writing the postcard we feel sure the girl, 23-year-old Margery Michelmore of Foxboro, Mass., had no intention of condemning the country for its present living conditions. She probably, we feel, was surprised at the way the Nigerians lived and merely wrote facts on a card.

There may be a lesson in this experience. As was pointed out by the Daily Nebraskan in earlier issues after talks with the assistant director of public relations for the Corps, these students in Africa are among those who are well-versed in the Marxist doctrine which does not exactly support our way of life. It is natural to expect the Nigerians, especially the students, to be cautious of the visiting Corpsmen. By the same token, these same young American citizens should be the first to recognize their own close surveillance. The lesson: When in Rome do as the Romans do or better yet, watch your actions when you are guests in a foreign country. Like it or not the Peace Corps is barely off the ground and the chances for a major crash is entirely possible.

Another point which should be brought out at this time concerns the relative freedoms a Corpsman should expect in a foreign country. As the case often times is the Peace Corps has been compared to foreign military service. When an American citizen enters the service, he agrees to curb some of his freedoms. Such is the case if this country is to maintain a purposeful and useful armed force for national security. We feel the acceptance of a Peace Corps position requires basically the same thing. The main point being this: these Americans are visitors and they cannot expect to run around blasting everything and everybody in sight because they had the right to do so back in the states.

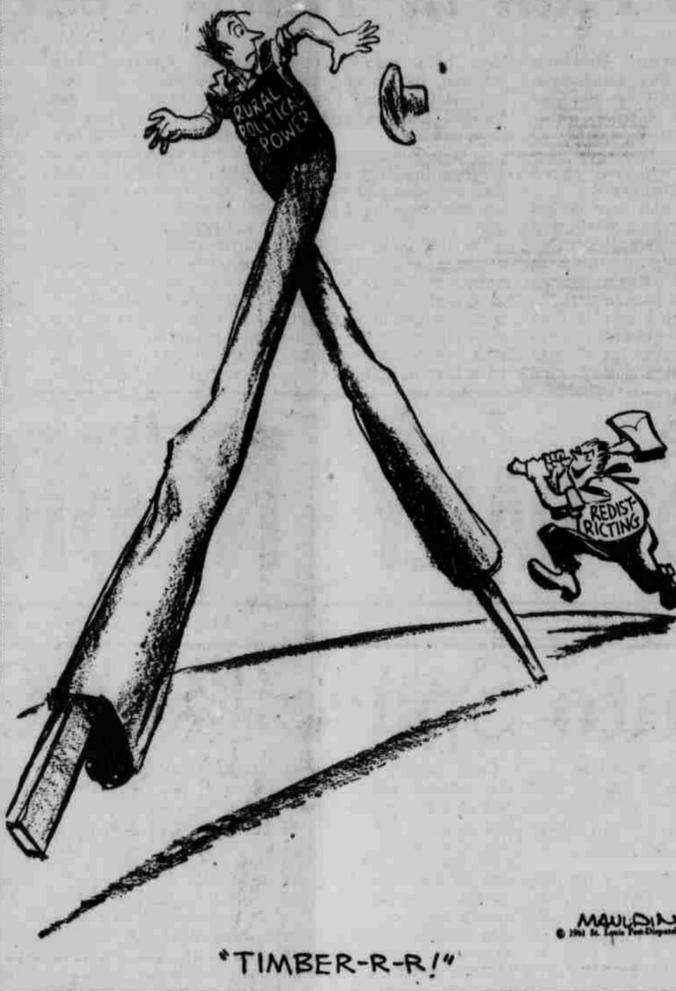
However, it is our feeling that the Nigerian Students' Union acted in haste. Although we do not condone the postcard we feel several things should have been clear to the Nigerian who attacked the Peace Corps before he issued his statement.

First on this list of considerations deals in the area of common logic. Let us assume this particular student or even the group he represented may or may not have taken a dim view of the project before the Americans arrived. Regardless, the Nigerian government, according to procedure, agreed to accept the Corps for one single reason—this group of specialists were willing to give their time and effort to help develop certain areas of living in Nigeria. The tangible benefits all go to the foreign country. It would seem only likely that the Nigerians would give the program a chance to work. This is assuming, of course, the people and students of Nigeria did not overwhelmingly object to having Americans in their homes which must have been the case otherwise, no Peace Corps for Nigeria in the first place.

Secondly, when can a letter filled with facts of poor living conditions (most of which we assume are true) be so construed so as to be labeled "imperialist propaganda"? Each year foreign peoples visit the United States and make their own observations. Often times these views are expressed criticisms of our way of life. Often these views are printed or otherwise aired to the American public. Backed by true fact or not, these expressions are not suppressed.

The present situation is not one which we hope will lead to the withdrawal of the Nigerian Peace Corps program. In the same light we, as supporters of the Corps, sincerely hope this is not the start of the crumbling of the total program throughout the world.

As we mentioned earlier, this incident is a test. The Corps must pass it and we feel it will. The Peace Corps will take, however, a dedicated effort on both sides of the picture to enable future success.



"TIMBER-R-R!"

## The University THINK—PART I

By Tom Eason

"How many of you," the philosophy professor asked, "believe in the existence of God?" He walked up and down a little. No hands went up. "Good. I'll give you Anselm's proof for the existence of God." In a few minutes, the professor presented the proof. "Now," he paused. "How many of you see anything wrong in this proof?" No hands went up. "Well, then some of you now believe in God. How many?" Still no hands went up. When the professor told about it later he shrugged. "What can you do when thinking doesn't seem to make any difference?"

The current October issue of Harper's contains a 64 page supplement on The College Scene. The above anecdote and the remainder of this series is paraphrased or quoted directly from this scintillating supplement. The object: to stir one dormant mind to think. Large gaps and qualifications exist in this brief presentation. HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE Many American parents send their children to college because they prefer fraternity beer parties and coeducational cram sessions to street-corner society or early marriage or military service. Some schools tend to perpetuate the high school's

assumption that students are immature and irresponsible youngsters who must be told exactly what to do and shown exactly how to do it. The whole college program becomes an obstacle rather than an opportunity, and the student's relationship with his professor is confined to "figuring out what he wants" and giving it to him. Some undergraduates want their college to be just like any other office, at which they would arrive at nine o'clock to put in eight hours of work for a decent wage of grades and course credits (convertible in due course to degrees and hence cash).

POLITICS In order to maintain his status and his privilege, the student is supposed to keep out of trouble. His politics must be conducted in approved ways. "Student government" is encouraged not to give the students an opportunity to govern themselves, but as a way of rendering genuine political interest innocuous. All the political trimmings are there except the real issues and the real relation between action and power which are the very substance of politics. Anything approaching serious and controversial politics runs the danger of being considered "off-campus" and not sterile enough for student participation.

## PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

In Rifle Row live five officers; they are a Brigadier, a Colonel, a Major, a Captain, and a Lieutenant, and their names (not necessarily respectively) are Grenade, Howitzer, Mustardgas, Tank, and Vereylight. Each of them has one sister and one only, and each is married to the sister of one of the other officers. One at least of the brothers-in-law of Mustardgas is his superior in rank. The following particulars of service are available:

- The Captain did not serve in Gallipoli.
- Both brothers-in-law of Howitzer served in France, as did both brothers-in-law of Tank, but neither brother-in-law of the Brigadier.
- Tank served in Palestine with both his brothers-in-law; the Lieutenant did not.
- The Colonel served in China with both his brothers-in-law.
- Tank served in China with both his brothers-in-law in Gallipoli, but he did not serve in China.
- Vereylight did not serve either in Gallipoli or in Palestine.
- What is the name of each of the five officers? BRING OR SEND SOLUTIONS TO 210 BURNETT Answer to last week's problem: The full name of

each of the players was Jack Conner, Tom Morgan, Bill Wells, and Al Smith. Correct solutions were submitted by Roger Becker, Robert Bramble, Louie Dagger, Keith Kroon, Tom Pralle and William Feisler.

## AFROTC Test Set

The U.S. Air Force officer qualification tests will be given at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 21 in the Drill Hall of the Military and Naval Science Building. All applicants for advanced AFROTC in February and May of 1962, as well as students without particular AFROTC intentions may take the test.

A date to remember . . .  
SUBJECT: Caterpillar Interviews for Engineers  
DATE: OCTOBER 30-31

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## Flowerpot

By Gretchen Shellberg

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Soon there will be Homecoming displays springing up in yards all over the campus. And they will be displays with catchy slogans and corn cobs with muscular kernals and shot down J-Hawks. But all this with no direction. Movement (via pledge power) maybe, but no direction. Homecoming will have no direction (other than home) because we have no theme. Its just a bunch of kids who spend time stuffing in the hopes that it will help our guys beat their guys. And its a bunch of the far removed old salts coming back to join the young peppers in watching Big Red go. We need a theme. A suggestion to next year's Homecoming display chairman — since it is too late this year — when we zap 'em, or shoot 'em down, or barbeque them, or jimx 'em, or tweet 'em wuff, why not stop aiming in the dark for a slogan? Those who made the trek to CU last year for migration saw how well their "Americana" theme worked. By limiting the field of ideas to history, the campus had displays depicting many different events in history which still had some degree of unity (they were all historic). By limiting the themes to a general area, you actually get better house displays because groups don't run off in 50 different "fantastic" directions which are never really that fantastic. Another suggestion for next year's Homecoming displays: combine men's and women's houses. Girls have that natural stuffing ability but are nihil with a hammer while boys are adept on a step ladder but dislike diddling with chicken wire. A perfect combination. The men's house can carpenter, the women's house can cover the display. This system



would certainly save money, and what group couldn't use an extra \$100 in the treasury? And besides, kiddies, there's nothing more fun than coeducational activities especially if they aren't educational. And so, children (freshmen, sophomores and juniors who will be around next year to effect some change), look around you come November 4. What a hodgepodge it will be. Girls, think of your banged up thumbs from those lecherous old hammers and boys, think of your cramped legs from a long stuffing session. And everybody think of the parties you could have with the money you could save if you combined efforts on next year's Homecoming display. And then do something about it.

## 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 writers views.

To the Editor: Concerning the University Talent Show:

Since the Big Eight Talent Show of three years ago proved to be too much of a burden financially for other participating schools, Nebraska was forced to drop the idea. It was felt that the idea of presenting Nebraska student talent was good, however, and the campus talent show was continued.

In conjunction with this year's Talent Review, Nebraska Union has originated the idea of providing a file of available talent. Calls to the University requesting talent of all sorts are channeled to the Union Program Office. This file will be a service to the Lincoln community and to the students who may benefit financially from it. All faculty and student acts auditing will be ranked

(Continued on page 4.)

OVAL  
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PEANUTS  
COUGH, PLEASE... COUGH! COUGH! COUGH!  
STOMP!! STOMP!! STOMP!! STOMP!! STOMP!! STOMP!!  
I'M AFRAID I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GIVE UP MY PRACTICE... GIVE UP YOUR PRACTICE?  
I'VE STOMPED SO MANY GERMS MY SHOES ARE WEARING OUT!  
Courtesy of Omaha World Herald

Daily Nebraskan  
Member Associated Collegiate Press, International Press Representatives, National Advertising Service, Incorporated  
Published at: Room 51, Student Union, Lincoln, Nebraska. SEVENTY-ONE YEARS OLD  
14th & R  
Telephone HE 2-7631 ext. 4225, 4226, 4227  
Subscription rates are \$5 per semester or \$5 for the academic year. Entered as second class matter at the post office in Lincoln, Nebraska, under the act of August 3, 1912.  
The Daily Nebraskan is published Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday during the school year, except during vacations and exam periods, by students of the University of Nebraska under authorization of the Committee on Student Affairs as an expression of student opinion. Publication under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Student Publications shall be free from editorial censorship on the part of the Subcommittee or on the part of any person outside the University. The members of the Daily Nebraskan staff are personally responsible for what they say, or do, or cause to be printed. February 6, 1955.  
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