

EDITORIAL OPINION

Greeks, IFC Flaunt Rights; Act In Fear

Now that two fraternities have paid, or agreed to pay, for the actions of their pledge classes, we are told that the editorial staff of the Daily Nebraskan (in last Friday's editorial dealing with the same subject) not only "reflects the incompetency of its author but also displays the lack of knowledge on a subject which has been consistent editorial policy this semester."

The comments come in a letter to the editor signed by fraternity officers of two of the fraternities involved and a member of a third fraternity.

Fine. Let's all unquestionably follow the decrees of our governing body; not hesitating to wonder if we have lost some of our rights in submitting to their will. Such a philosophy might well be that of these and other fraternities on this campus in regard to their respective relationships to the IFC. However, we feel such a philosophy is not inclusive enough.

Let's get down to the basics which render themselves necessary at this time. Two fraternity pledge classes did not take their sneaks at the same places that they had registered to take them. Naturally we have a violation. What most people may not know is that at least one of the classes went overboard in their fun and were reported.

Such hell-raising trips cannot be defended by any fraternity or the IFC itself. It is tradition within each house. This is the only reason such trips still exist. Therefore, any poor public relations which come out of pledge trips leaves the University administrators, IFC and the fraternities open to criticism.

Perhaps the Student Affairs office, being sensitive to bad publicity, asked the IFC to handle the situation themselves in such a manner as to offset rulings of conduct and/or social probations.

This information was, in fact, relayed to the fraternities themselves by the IFC. It is our feeling that the IFC and the fraternities panicked and handed down the \$200 fines. Fear of being put on probation caused the fines to be so high. A man cornered in a dark alley will gladly give up his money to forfeit worse penalties.

Our whole argument was based around what we call the right to justify actions and the right to appeal. These fraternities did not appeal the fine handed down. In fact, two of their own members were among those deciding the amount of the fines. Is \$200 a drop in the bucket to fraternities supposedly endangered by financial burden? We think not. We feel these fraternities payed the fine out of fear of being put on probation. We accuse the IFC of setting high fines instead of cutting them down and granting the fraternities enough maturity and sensibility to learn a lesson without paying a high sum of money.

If fraternities care not to defend these liberties and would rather actively support the steps taken against them, we certainly can do little to help them or preserve the rights concerned in this case.

N. B.

Individual, Group Rights Important On Campus

The subject of the powers and the purpose of the Interfraternity Council (IFC) has been brought out and, to our thinking, needs clarification.

We heartily commend constituents who support their organization. However, we do not suggest blind following. In the same light, those affected by the rulings of a higher authority should not concede any rights due to fear.

As we mentioned in Friday's editorial specific former actions taken by the IFC do not seem justified.

The forced "vote or pay" decree during the Student Council elections in the past is as unconstitutional as labor unions forcing their members to vote.

After talking to President Don Ferguson of the IFC, we are happy to announce that this resolution will no longer be in effect. And why not? It is evident that IFC slated candidates will not sweep the Student Council elections again. Last year a significant breakthrough was noted and we predict non-slated candidates will increase their number of victories. This is one area where the IFC saw the light. This instance coupled with the present issue and the question of the merits in inviting a new fraternity to come to campus have brought our opinions out to the public.

Going to class is only one part of an education. Here is where democracy is put into practical use. When we do not keep within the bounds of democratic practice we are only fooling ourselves. It does no good to fight the obvious foe from the outside who is dedicated to destroying us when we fall apart on the inside. When we forget individual and group rights here, we invite and encourage the same actions after graduation. We as students must remain open-minded enough to recognize such restrictions. We cannot do it by refusing to accept contrary opinions.

(N. B.)

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PARTY LINE

Americans Must 'Get Tough,' Not Losing Foreign Image

Eric Sevareid

President Kennedy has reminded this quarrelsome country that American foreign policies cannot be encompassed "in one slogan or one adjective, hard or soft or otherwise," and that belief in "total victory" or "total defeat" is a dangerous illusion.



Sevareid

Yet there is ample testimony that the beginnings of a sea-change in the spirit of the administration's approach to the world are now detectable in the private winds of the White House and State Department. The drift is in the general direction of the "hard line." The Kennedy group took over last winter persuaded that the United States was in trouble because it had not tried hard enough to find a basis of accommodation with Khrushchev, had not treated our major allies with sufficient respect, had disregarded the yearnings of the neutrals and had blunted the effect of foreign aid by formalistic and bungling application.

What is now slowly and privately developing is a thread of official thought running in precisely the opposite direction. Bitter disappointments, beginning with the Vienna conference and including Laos, the Belgrade conference, the listless response of our allies to the Berlin crisis, and the apparent collapse of the first serious effort at social reform in our hemispheric white hope, Brazil, have started a basic reappraisal, not in a mood of resentment, fortunately, but in cold sobriety.

The stark aloneness of the United States in terms of generous, "other-directed" government policies has become almost frighteningly apparent to all who think rather than wish. It is now clear that waiting upon our allies to agree on a policy of forcefully prosecuting this cold war would be an endless wait because their historical suspicions are too deep, their self-confidence too far gutted; that the big neutrals are and will remain neutral as an article of faith, not of strategy; that even the emergence of the liberal political revolutions we should like to see in so many backward countries would not guarantee solution of the harsh, physical realities of population versus arable land shortages; that no over-all set-

tlement with Khrushchev is possible because he desires none.

It is going to require the exertion of all our skill and diplomatic daring to produce acceptance of a strong and vigorous American leadership amongst allies, neutrals and clients alike; to "get tough about it" without losing our American image. We have made a first beginning in principle with the President's warning that we shall henceforth distribute aid with one eye on the policy position of recipient governments in this desperate cold war. It is entirely possible that we shall have to take a plunge and deliberately make examples of one or two countries which have grossly misused our aid, though we shall have to pick the spots most carefully. The latest illustration of the fact that our present posture is no longer tolerable in respect both as to effectiveness and the national mood is the attitude of Cheddi Jagan, extreme leftist Premier of British Guiana, who arrives to demand our aid as a matter of right while "warning" us not to apply any political strings to it.

This summer an eminent American statesman reproved this writer, saying, "You must realize that we are in the position of a father of many self-centered, immature children. Without endless patience we can keep no order in the household." My answer was that, in any family, prolonged parental permissiveness inevitably destroys order, because the children take their privileges for granted and respect for the parent erodes. Any father unwilling to spank upon occasion is lost.

Those who feel that the general attitude herein stated represents repudiation of the liberal foreign policy make a profound misjudgment. Those who think it amounts to embracement of Senator Goldwater's apparent notion that we can dash about the world with a cocked gun, wrap up a total cold war victory and do all this on the cheap, are thinking in the crudest alternative terms.

When Senator Fulbright told Goldwater that he was "oversimplifying," he was right. But what so many high-minded citizens do not realize is that when Goldwater retorted that Fulbright was "over-complicating," he, too, was right. The Goldwater approach could, if extended, paralyze this country, the only western country where a massive, moral will remains alive and without which the free world is lost.

The President seems determined that he shall neither yield to frenzy nor allow our native hue of resolution to be sicklied over by the pale cast of dubiety. A little re-reading of the official life and times of an essentially simple man named Harry Truman, who dealt with a crisis or two, would not be amiss.



Courtesy of Omaha World Herald

Staff Views

Chips

By Cloyd Clark

Record crops in Nebraska beets and soybeans are expected for 1961 and the returns of corn and the other Huskerland grain crops are expected to be near records. Economics teachers preach that "over-production" is the plague of the agricultural situation.



Clark

"Too many farmers." "Too much corn." "Why do the taxpayers have to put the farmer through?"

At the same time another factor comes in to view — a shortage of trained ag workers. How can there be a shortage when the U.S. maintains such an efficient agricultural force that it can combat nature and governmental controls and still multiply production?

This morning Chancellor Hardin stated before the Centennial Nutrition Conference of the Midwest Feed Manufacturers Association that universities have a "main mission of helping large numbers of capable people develop their abilities to the fullest so that they can live for themselves the most meaningful lives and make a maximum contribution to the welfare of all mankind."

Several weeks ago Duane M. Nielsen, a former Nebraskan, now in the United States office of education, also suggested the shortage of trained ag workers. Nielsen pointed out that: "Every year about 93 thousand farm operators and workers die or retire. Each year about 200 thousand farm boys reach 20 years of age, more than enough to fill the vacancies. But the 10 thousand secondary schools that teach vocational agriculture are graduating only about 70 thousand young men a year who have completed three or more years of such training."

Of the 70 thousand vocational agriculture graduates, fewer than 25 thousand take up farming as a life's work. Farming is more complicated than a handful of seed, a hoe and a couple of dead fish. Now the farmer can use an education in the mechanics of a slide rule to figure how much water — how fast and how long — will be needed to make a kernel of corn grow.

It may seem ironic that agriculture needs more workers of a kind, trained or untrained, but if the United States expects to continue to stride forward in agricultural technology and science the importance of agricultural training and research must be understood by the American people.

In France it was reported by a University professor who toured Europe examining its agricultural developments, only one out of eight or ten students who wish to be educated in agricultural technology can enter the colleges because of the country's selective testing program.

The program in France was compared to some of the engineering and scientific qualification exams which are practiced in the United States. We have the facility and the talent, but the attitude and the interest of the people of the country must recognize that demand for food will grow stronger year by year and the question of who will fill the annual vacancies on the farms will become particularly urgent.

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