

EDITORIAL OPINION

Student Ideas Must Be Aired

In regard to Wednesday's letterip entitled "Writer Predicts Democracy Collapse," the Daily Nebraskan would first like to point out our reason for printing the letter.

We feel the letter, although shocking and inconsistent with American ideals, should be published because such a philosophy which might be found not only on this campus but elsewhere in this nation, should be recognized. We presented the letter with the intent of bringing this person's thoughts into public focus to be judged.

If this letter proposes to be what it seems at face value, we have an individual on this campus parroting the Communist doctrine per se.

The author, in our opinion, exhibited his agreement with the totalitarian communistic way of life. By the same token he has rejected America in every sense of the word. If these things be true we can assume that the student who wrote the letter is guilty of advocating a doctrine which is completely against everything we hold dear as Americans.

Somewhere along the line, this student has lost his common sense and his ability to see what America means to countless millions. If he knows what he is saying, he has fallen for the commie line hook, line and sinker.

The writer pointed out that democracy is faltering before the "brilliance of the Red Star, a brilliance fed by the Soviet Union's dynamism on the international scene and by its magnificent accomplishments in the realm of science." These are words that might well come from a communist propaganda leaflet or from the mouth of Mr. K himself. His statement can be proven to be illogical and untrue the same way our national leaders dispute Khrushchev's lies and predictions.

America was not built in a day and it shall not die in a day. There is an inherent will found within free thinking peoples of this country which will consistently rebuke the big red lie, even if it means war. In this battle between democracy and communism this confused student will find America does not stand on shaky legs.

Communism works underground as much as it does in the open. There is one thing communists cannot afford: exposure. If this or other students on this campus belongs to or advocates the Communist Party, they should be dug out and shown to the public. This was the purpose of printing the letter.

It is our feeling that such beliefs should be identified and dealt with. We are certain the University officials join us in this belief. This institution undoubtedly takes the same stand as other democratic organizations should in this matter. There is nothing to hide here. If there are communists among our ranks, let them be found. N.B.

Diagrams comic strip with four panels. Panel 1: 'DEAR GREAT PUMPKIN, HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?' Panel 2: 'WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR COMING ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT WITH YOUR BAG FULL OF PRESENTS. I HAVE TRIED TO BE A GOOD BOY ALL YEAR.' Panel 3: 'HAVE YOU NOTICED?' Panel 4: 'YOU'RE AT IT AGAIN, AREN'T YOU?' Panel 5: 'THE GREAT PUMPKIN RISES OUT OF THE PUMPKIN PATCH ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT, AND FLIES THROUGH THE AIR!' GOOD GRIEF! Panel 6: 'HOW CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT?' Panel 7: 'I HAVE TO BELIEVE IT... I'VE ALREADY SENT OUT FIFTY-SEVEN PUMPKIN CARDS...' Panel 8: 'IT WOULD BE ECONOMICALLY DISASTROUS FOR ME NOT TO BELIEVE IT!'

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Nebraskan Letterip

The Daily Nebraskan will publish only those letters which are signed. Letters attacking individuals must carry the author's name. Others may use initials or a pen name. Letters should not exceed 200 words. When letters exceed this limit the Nebraskan reserves the right to condense them, retaining the writer's view. The opinions expressed in these letters do not necessarily express the views of the Daily Nebraskan.

Readers Answer Letterip

To the Editor:

In regard to R. L. Siegel (Oct. 25, Daily Nebraskan) The statement was made that "Democracy is a fragile form of government unable to withstand crisis."

Democracy has been in existence in this country for over 180 years. During this time it has withstood crisis including a civil war and two world wars and still stands undefeated.

If Democracy has lost its power maybe Mr. Siegel would like to explain why the individual from such Communist states as East Germany and Hungary are trying to escape the iron curtain each day.

One other point seems worthy of note. Mr. Siegel seems very content now to live off the "wealth and-lecherous capitalists." Indeed he is now receiving his education from them. He is also willing to use the democratic right of freedom of the press. Can Mr. Siegel explain his views on these two points? Can he explain why the tax payers of this state should support his education? Maybe he should apply to one of the "great" Russian Universities.

If the "Stalker" is grinning now to paraphrase an old American saying, "He who grins last grins best." He won't win. He won't win.

G. N. Cooper; D. E. Whittemore

To the Editor:

This is the most despicable abomination imaginable. It reeks with belligerence, deceit, hate, rancor. Why in the hell is Eisenhower returned to activity. Knock and I'll say something good about the Kennedys. Then you're really in trouble, bud, cause there's not an American alive who doesn't have some prejudice about politics.

Or better yet why not cut the Catholic's sack. How about the Presbyterians? Or better yet, degrade the Seventh Day Adventists who have sent teams of doctors to communist infiltrated areas of the world. You think you can exist without a republican form of government to compete with. Well listen. You communists are nothing but slob. Cheer up, you've got only two factions to work with: the intelligible communists and the unintelligible ones. John Richard Hemmer

To the Editor:

Mr. Siegel might have offered a trial balloon to the public in an attempt to measure the reaction upon publication of his letter. If not, I take grave exception to his remarks.

His letter represents a man caught in a most horrible paradox; through living in a democracy, he is completely infatuated with the essence and existence of communism and dictatorship. We cannot bear to see this man suffer under such a burden. Let us buy him a one-way ticket - \$590.00 United Airlines - to the country in which the "brilliance" of the "Red Star" is reflected in all its dynamic glory, China.

Here he may live a life of luxury on three or four ounces of rice a day. He could relax under the radio-active Siberian air currents. He may be fortunate enough to stand guard at the border and shoot the peasants who are fleeing to the world of dying democracy or be invited to build a wall to keep out the decadent ideas of democracy. If he should tire of a single communist concept, let him write a letter to Pravda or the Red Star; he would soon receive an education in salt production, if he were lucky. Donald L. Cleveland Graduate Student Political Science

To the Editor:

This is being written in response to the letter by Mr. R. L. Siegel printed in the Wednesday edition of the Daily Nebraskan. Mr. Siegel's thesis was that "Democracy is a fra-

gile form of government unable to withstand crises" and that therefore, the struggle of the free world to remain free in the face of Communist pressures is doomed to failure.

I would suggest that Mr. Siegel re-evaluate his sweeping generalization concerning the stability of the democracies in the times of crisis. Certainly, our own form of government has withstood many periods of stress and strain since the founding of the Republic. Indeed, at their respective times in history the various crises to meet no doubt appeared equally as foreboding and as menacing as that with which the United States is faced today. There were defeatists, cut from the same mold as Mr. Siegel, who predicted that the young nation of the 1790's could not survive a Civil War; that it could not survive the Great Depression; that it could not survive the Hitlerian menace, ad infinitum. But this nation did survive.

Again, Mr. Siegel should consult additional sources before generalizing about the future of democracy in the under-developed areas where he claims that "it is difficult for democracy to flourish." It is true, of course, that these areas are faced with problems. However, the mere existence of problems is not sufficient grounds for undue pessimism concerning the long-run chances of success of democratic forms of government. In fact, the experience in Latin America since 1952 has been greatly encouraging for the future of democracy, freedom of expression, and of other human "rights" is a strong one as the experience of Hungary in 1956 so well attested. I do not think, Mr. Siegel, that the majority of rational human beings around the face of the globe are struck so dumb as yourself with "the Soviet Union's dynamism on the international scene and by its magnificent accomplishments in the fact, it seems to me that one of the several motivational forces behind the newly emergent areas is the desire to govern their own affairs and to determine their own relations with the rest of the world - both of which are antithetical to the "dynamism" of the Soviet Union.

As for the supposed fragile nature of the democracies, a statement by a university professor is appropriate: "A pyramid standing on a broad base is much more stable than an inverted pyramid standing on its apex." A government based upon and responsible to the factor of public opinion is in reality more able to successfully meet crisis situations than a government resting in the hands of one man, answerable to no one, and susceptible to the many frailties of human nature.

If Premier Khrushchev makes a mistake, the Soviet pyramid runs the risk of tumbling. If President Kennedy makes a mistake there is the chance for corrective action through pressures of public opinion. The lack of such corrective pressures in the Soviet Union to take up the slack when Mr. Khrushchev, who is not infallible, makes a mistake can be a serious weakness for any so-called monolithic political system. Nazi Germany provides a convenient example of this phenomenon for Hitler's uncorrectable mistakes brought to an abortive end the prospects for a "one-thousand year Reich."

Brent L. Chambers

To the Editor:

I would like to reply to the letter of Mr. R. L. Siegel, which appeared in the Daily Nebraskan on October 25.

Only in a nation such as the United States of America could such a letter appear in the public press. In the Soviet Union, this type of letter would immediately cause the writer to be arrested and imprisoned for counter-revolutionary activities.

In answer to Mr. Sie-

What's Happening?

By Dick Stuckey

Halloween is the most wonderful time of all at the University. What other day in the whole wide year is given over to the spooks.

Thousands of witches will get out their brooms and go look for some goblin. The campus will be held in the captive mystery of the night; the clouds will cover the moon; you'll hear a knock on your door; you'll open it; some mortar board will be selling mums.

But often the young folks tend to loose the spirit of Halloween. They think that college demands a higher sophistication. But this need not be the case. There are several Halloween parties already scheduled, and we hope that these several suggestions help make your Halloween a more collegiate one. Button down your jack-o-lanterns.

1. Bobbing for Apples: The old game, once a moment of glee in our lives, has now lost its appeal for our Halloweens. The people can't quite see the dignity of bobbing in and out of a tub of water for an apple. The novelty and purpose of the thing have left us. Fill it with vodka.

2. Pick the Tail on the Donkey:

Few of us appreciate the quaintness of the donkey as we used to. Even the concept of the tail has changed - and so must the game. Let the company choose an appropriate young lady, strap her to the upended dining room table, and have the blindfolded young menoust about with their fraternity pins. Tremendous sport.

3. Trick or Treat:

Divide the party into groups of 40, and have them "hit up" the homes of several member of the faculty. Suggest that they rent railers from U-haul, and once the man's door is down, should be respond with "Show me your trick," or some such wit, show him. Live effigies add a good deal to the spirit of Halloween.

4. Tipping Over Out-houses:

There are few such

structures left on campus or in Lincoln, but apt substitutes should not be difficult to locate - campus police cars, city buses, library book racks, union tables, sorority furniture, Andrews Hall, the girls' dorm, the state capitol.

5. Costume Parties:

The administration has suggested a new touch for Halloween costume parties. Have your guests come as different members of the Division of Student Affairs, the Chancellor's office, the Faculty Senate. Then, after a fantastic evening of apple cider and grain alcohol, when the unmasking time comes, won't everyone be surprised that about four of those funny masks won't come off.

6. Hold Your Own Witch and Spook Trials:

If recreated in the spirit of Salem, these can be "party makers." Your Builder's Directory can furnish an adequate list of defendants and matches can be obtained from the Homecoming Display Committee.

Mum's the Word

Homecoming mums may be purchased from any member of Mortar Board for \$1. The sales end next Wednesday. Mums will be distributed to campus residences and the Student Union on Homecoming morning.



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