

An Open Letter—

NU Sorority Women Re-evaluate Activities

Ed. Note: The following is a letter from thirteen activities chairmen of 13 campus sororities. Their views on the activity scene do not necessarily express the views of the Daily Nebraskan.

Are you in activities more and enjoying it less? Or have you said simply forget it? The reasons behind both questions were explored at the recent activity chairmen workshop during Panhellenic Week. Is it a coincidence that thirteen activity chairmen agreed that University of Nebraska campus activities are unbalanced? There is an activity for every interest area, but their significance to the student and the campus rates investigation.

This year a great influx of workers hit campus organizations. Which organizations? Just a certain three or four. Some committees in the "certain" organizations which usually have twenty workers now have fifty with the same amount of work to be accomplished throughout the year. What will these workers have to do? Many of them nothing! The areas of public relations are overflowing. Only those students with concrete ideas in this field will remain while the areas of dramatics, music, women's athletics, religious student houses, off campus service organizations, honoraries, international students, and surely others are sadly lacking.

What will be the effect on the student? The worker will lose his identity in the mass—he will be just a worker with no chance to use his own creative power. His chances for becoming a leader are so small. His real abilities cannot be shown. As a college student, he will be a leader of tomorrow without a place to train during his college days.

How will this affect these organizations? They will be literally choked by the large number of workers. They will be found in a position where their program of activities is not broad enough to accommodate all of these enthusiastic freshmen. The leaders of the group will necessarily have to be more organized and all round better leaders. Their responsibility in picking successors will be a burden when there are ten equally good applicants for one position.

The question remains, if campus leaders, activity chairmen, heads of organizations, committee chairmen, etc. are aware of this overcrowded situation and the effects on the students and activities, why do certain organizations remain crowded? The fact is that ambitious freshmen and upperclass transfers are encouraged to join just certain few activities on this campus. Woe to the activity chairman's neck who ignores the potential leaders she is helping to guide and allows them to blindly choose their activities for their areas of interest rather than for their political status on campus.

At the workshop for activity chairmen these problems were discussed. We were not surprised at all to find that we all had the same problem and complaint about the philosophy of activities. We obviously do not want to encourage over 1/3 of a pledge class to join the same three or four activities on campus. The question is why should anyone hesitate to encourage a hardworking, enthusiastic freshman to join an activity which does not have as much status politically as others. The answer is recognition and reward. We certainly do not mean by this that individuals in all activities on campus

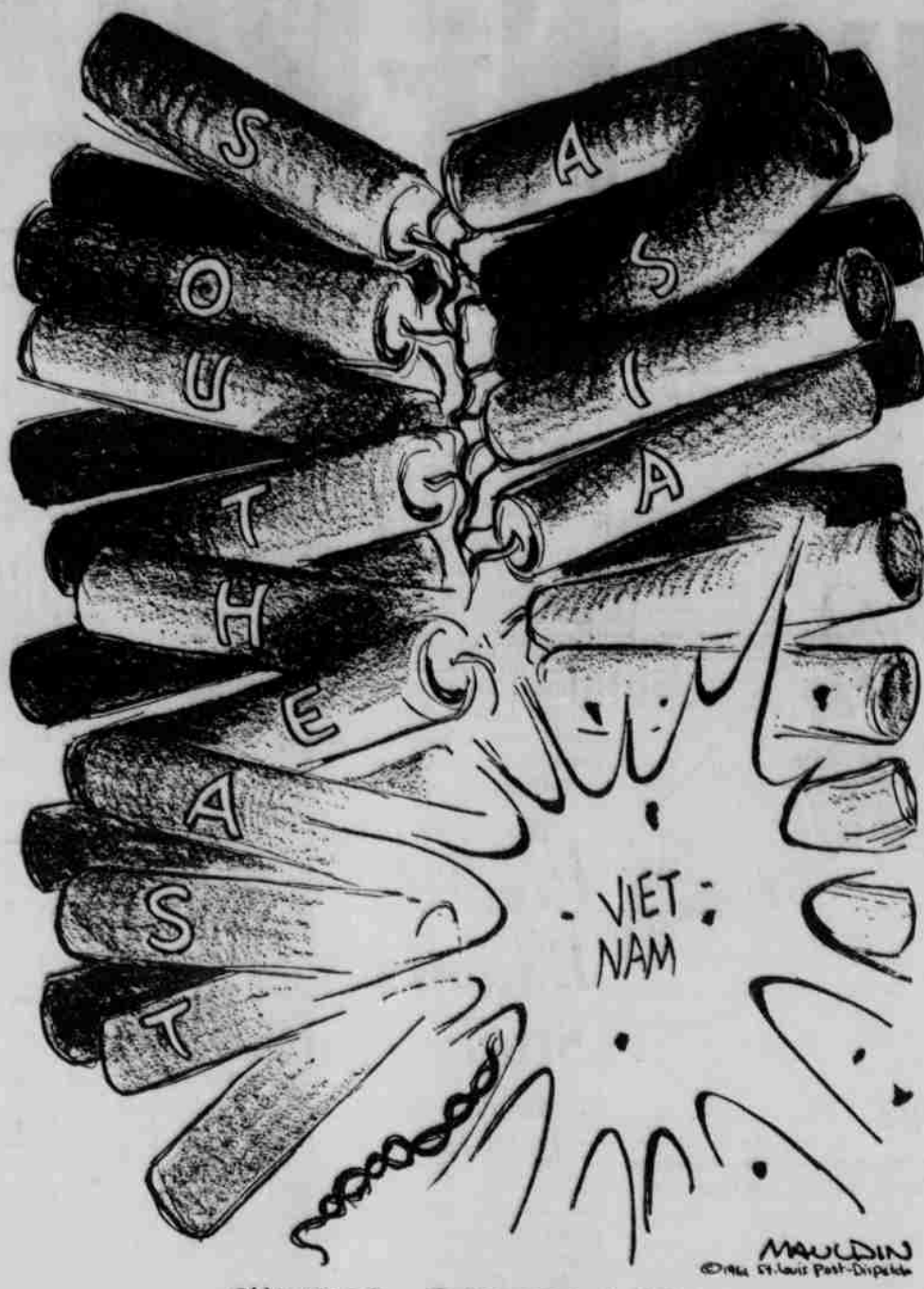
do not receive recognition for themselves and the organizations or reward for themselves and the organization. What we do mean to imply is that when students are considered or interviewed for offices in organizations and all forms of campus honors, the amount of time and work and energy put into some organizations is not considered with equal worth with these same efforts in other organizations. Granted that the same officer does not have the same duties in all organizations, but it does not necessarily follow that those individuals in less recognized activities on campus do not do a particularly outstanding job for their organization.

The point at hand is that a job done well, no matter what the organization, deserves the recognition that even a job poorly done in a major organization receives. Reward for work in activities has gone to people who are in a certain three or four organizations. Because of this, there has been an all campus push by activities chairmen, and organized groups to get their people "up" in these activities. Seemingly, a board position on one of these coveted organizations assures you of a name and campus prestige. We are not saying that people who have displayed leadership qualities should not be respected, but we are saying that certain positions, too few we may add, are overemphasized. We are concerned because we feel that both the students on campus and the activities are harmed because of this.

The small number of prestige positions on campus explains negativism on the campus concerning activities. We believe negativism results from the fact that our activities have become political rather than functional. Thus many people working in certain activities are not there because this is where their interest lies, but because these activities are the ones that "really count". There are too few activities that are considered important, or important enough to be recognized, and of course of the hundreds of people on campus only a few are able to secure these positions of "importance". Other people were interested in working in activities, people that were talented and ambitious, but the odds for these people were overwhelmingly poor. Consequently they left the activity world feeling that they hadn't made the grade in "the" activities, so why waste their time in something that would go unrecognized.

We have more freshmen than ever before. They should all have the opportunity to contribute to their University if they desire. What can we do to help them? We can help by remembering that all activities, whether they are of direct service to the University or of service to the community from the University ARE WORTHWHILE, and take work, leadership, and enthusiasm. We can help by remembering this when we are on a board that is evaluating people for positions of responsibility or bestowing rewards for service. Everyone has a duty to change the emphasis in our activity system from the political aspect to the functional aspect. Remember that a person works best for himself and the activity when he is in an activity because he liked it and not because someone had told him the cold truth that you had to be in this to get "up".

Thirteen Sorority Activity Chairmen



America Not a Nation of Fascists, But a Country of Self-Scolders

Eric Sevareid

There is not the slightest danger that America is going to become a nation of Fascists or Communists, but a returned native has the impression we are becoming a nation of common scolds.



Sevareid originally

True to our tradition of innovation, we are scold other people, we scold ourselves.

It has become impossible to pass a newspaper and magazine stand without feeling the hot blasts of flagellation. "Are You A Good Mother?—Take This Ten Point Test!" "How to Make Your Husband Smile Again." "Is Your City Dying?" "What You Can Do About Cancer"—or Juvenile Delinquency, Desegregation, River Pollution, the Melting Polar CPA Atomic Fallout, Cholesterol, Bad Breath, Crab Grass, the Population Explosion, the Narcotics Racket, Itching Scalp, Middle Age Spread, Psoriasis, Greek Orphans, Neighborhood Blight, Illiterate PolyneSIans, Smog, Apartheid, Body Odor, Protein Deficiency in Africa, the Creeping Girdle and Scrofula Among the Eskimos.

The biggest big business in America is not steel, automobiles or television. It is the manufacture, refinement and distribution of Anxiety. It is the only business based on the maxims, "the customer is always wrong," "we aim to displease" and "send 'em away unhappy." Anyone from the age of ten is a potential buyer and, once hooked, may be a customer for life.

It is entirely possible

that Khrushchev need not spend his money and energy on alternating threats and promises in his Pavlovian attempt to induce the ultimate state of nevolya—will-lessness—in the American people. We can do it to ourselves at our own expense. Our large, economy size do-it-yourself Anxiety kit contains a book of instructions which begins with the reminder that Americans are personally and collectively responsible for each and every ill of mankind and can rectify all of them if the tools in the kit are properly used.

Logically extended, this process can only terminate in a mass nervous breakdown or in a collective condition of resentment that will cause street corner Santa Clauses to be thrown down manholes, the suffering to be left to pain, and aid delegations from Ruanda-Urundi to be arrested on the White House steps. Either result would be marked on the credit side of the ledger for the next Congress of Communist Parties.

Anyone, for any cause, may now deal in the open market of the American Conscience and make his profit.

We stand in the world's dock, convicted of the double crime of success and stability and, having testified against ourselves, discover that we are sentenced to the Guilt Complex for the rest of our natural lives.

The American convicts suffering the most are, of course, many of our finest citizens—the sensitive, the imaginative, the liberal minded, the men and women of conscience who wear not only heart but liver and lights on their sleeves. It happens, or so certain psychological studies inform me, that the liberal has a deeper personal sense of

insecurity than the conservative, the lunatic fringe aside. He suffers more for others partly because he suffers more with himself. He has an inborn, unjustified sense of guilt and vainly seeks to work it off. I do not belittle this; without this trait in our society, life both here and in many places abroad, would be considerably worse than it is. The American Hair-shirt has kept a lot of bodies warm from the Arctic to Bengal.

Yet a mass breakout from this suffocating prison into the clean air of common sense is long overdue. The great Guilt Complex, exploited for gain both commercial and psychic, is unnerving and distracting us, breaking stride, wounding our natural pride and confidence. Our strength ought to be, but is not as the strength of ten, because—we think—our heart is impure.

In nature the weak are not permitted to weaken the strong, for then the weak are lost. But it seems to be news to many among us that sensitivity, generosity and compassion are possible without neurotic self-flagellation.

The latest noxious weed to grow from the compost of American neuroticism is the reaction in other, less privileged countries. This is one respect in which we are most definitely winning "the battle for men's minds." We are convincing their more alert citizens that America is guilty, responsible for their troubles.

This comes in very handy for their politicians, intellectuals and local Communists. It removes their own guilt. As things now stand, our self-guilt and their self-pity fit perfectly, hand in glove. The fist is theirs, ours the chin.

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.

Rebel Questions ROTC, Liberals

To the editor: I am exercising what is quite likely the greatest privilege of democracy available to us common folk. I am writing a letter to the editor.

It regards ROTC. I find it difficult to go wild about preparing myself to fight to preserve a society in which the people, led by "crusading liberals," allow the government to confiscate an ever increas-

ing percentage of their incomes and properties in order to provide "welfare," a society in which the people acquiesce to more and more diminution of individual social freedom. (Witness the rise of union sops for example.)

The thought of helping make the world safe for democracy—when it appears that democracy will eventually usher in the far out "liberals" welfare state—leaves me less than aglow with enthusiasm. I don't relish

fighting just so I can pull a lever in a voting booth occasionally or call the President of the U.S. a nushead. I want some hope that my individual freedom won't be hacked away every time Congress convenes. Republicans, nominate a true conservative like Senator Goldwater for President and I will nevermore grumble about ROTC. Elect him and (when I come out of the shock) I'll fall in love with my drill instructor.

Rebel

Staff Views

Chips

By Cloyd Clark

Just so this column is ag-oriented as an ag news reporter's column should be, I am going to mention that in Russia there are pigs and cows and all those other things which characterize the farm just like over here except maybe for castorbeans.

Macabre and horror similar to that of Dr. Frankenstein's basement laboratory were related by a recent visitor to Russia. According to this gentleman, he was shown the Russian accomplishments in the field of medicine. He toured a laboratory in which recently dead individuals were hanging on hooks on the wall while their blood was being drained for the blood banks, the hair for hair banks, the brain for brain banks, the bone for bone banks and the eyes for eye banks.

I suppose this type of thing is to be expected, after all, it's your duty and responsibility to build a strong Russia, so—go ahead and take mom or sis or me and use whatever you need—hair, blood etc., just leave what's left over for the family.

But tone this thing down ag reporter! This thing is just in the experimental phase and too many families have had to sacrifice for the people like this. More than likely not families but individuals.

The point that the gentleman visitor was trying to make wasn't that the Russians were chopping the hell out of the people, but that they are no longer afraid that the United States was ahead. No longer do they have to boast of their advancements and then keep them in secrecy because they either don't exist or they aren't up to the boasted standard.

Dr. John H. Pazar, the acting chairman of the University bio-chemistry department, has just returned from an international bio-chemistry symposium in Moscow.

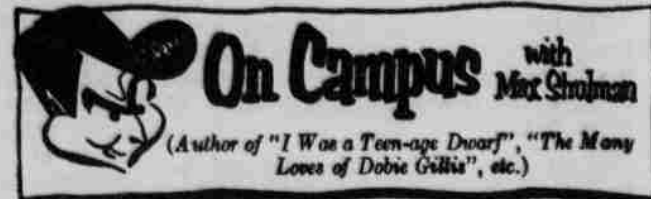
Dr. Pazar, although he didn't bring back any spine-tingling tales of a nation of cadavers, tells of complete freedom in touring the Soviet capital and bio-chem facilities. One time he and several other scientists all jumped into a car and took a tour of the Russian country side minus their guide and interpreter.

This "you bet you can look around" confidence, almost cockyness, that Communism would develop a way of life superior to all others, frightened California barrister, Melvin Belli.

Belli, one of the nation's foremost criminal lawyers, was more startling and convincing that Dr. Pazar because of his training, courtroom elegance and speaking ability, but both carried the message that the Russians believe that Communism will win and they are ready to sacrifice anything for victory.

Dr. Pazar told of an all-day parade in which the people of the fields and industries marched and enjoyed marching. He, himself, was "dead on his feet" from

Continued on page 4



HUSBANDS, ANYONE?

It has been alleged that coeds go to college for the sole purpose of finding husbands. This is, of course, an infamous canard, and I give fair warning that, small and spongy as I am, anybody who says such a dastardly thing when I am around had better be prepared for a sound thrashing!

Girls go to college for precisely the same reasons as men do to broaden their horizons, to lengthen their vistas, to drink at the fount of wisdom. But, if, by pure chance, while a girl is engaged in these meritorious pursuits, a likely looking husband should pop into view, why, what's wrong with that? Eh? What's wrong with that?

The question now arises, what should a girl look for in a husband. A great deal has been written on this subject. Some say character is most important, some say education, some say appearance, some say education. All are wrong.

The most important thing—bar none—in a husband is health. Though he be handsome as Apollo and rich as Midas, what good is he if he just lays around all day accumulating bedsores?

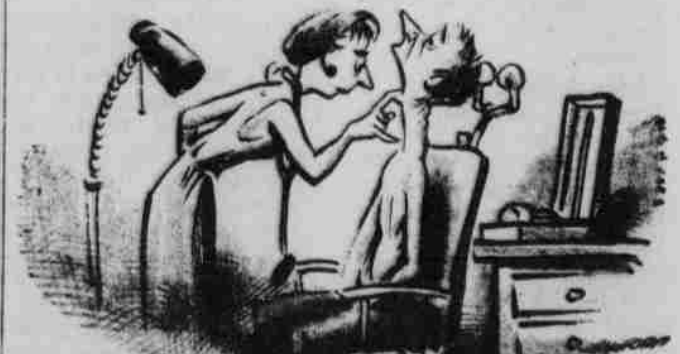
The very first thing to do upon meeting a man is to make sure he is sound of wind and limb. Before he has a chance to sweet-talk you, slap a thermometer in his mouth, roll back his eyelids, yank out his tongue, rap his patella, palpate his thorax, ask him to straighten out a horseshoe with his teeth. If he fails these simple tests, phone for an ambulance and go on to the next prospect.

If, however, he turns out to be physically fit, proceed to the second most important requirement in a husband. I refer to a sense of humor.

A man who can't take a joke is a man to be avoided. There are several simple tests to find out whether your prospect can take a joke or not. You can, for example, slash his tires. Or burn his "Mad" comics. Or steal his switchblade. Or turn loose his pet raccoon. Or shave his head.

After each of these good-natured pranks, laugh gaily and shout "April Fool!" If he replies, "But this is February nineteenth," or something equally churlish, cross him off your list and give thanks you found out in time.

But if he laughs silverly and calls you "Little Miss!" put him to the next test. Find out whether he is kindly.



The quickest way to ascertain his kindness is, of course, to look at the cigarette he smokes. Is it mild? Is it clement? Is it humane? Does it minister tenderly to the psyche? Does it coddle the synapses? Is it a good companion? Is it genial? Is it bright and friendly and filtered and full of dulcet pleasure from cooker till the heart of darkness?

Is it, in short, Marlboro? If Marlboro it be, then clasp the man to your bosom with hoops of steel, for you may be sure that he is kindly as a summer breeze, kindly as a mother's kiss, kindly to his very marrow. And now, having found a man who is kindly and healthy and blessed with a sense of humor, the only thing that remains is to make sure he will always earn a handsome living. That, fortunately, is easy. Just enroll him in engineering.

Joining Marlboro in bringing you this column throughout the school year is another fine product from the same makers—the king-size, unfiltered Philip Morris Commander. Here's sure, clean smoking pleasure. Try a pack. You'll be welcome aboard!

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