

Staff Views

Over the Top

By Norm Beatty

As a four-year member of the Nebraskan staff, I have experienced what this newspaper has been trying to see for as long as I can recall. Naturally, I am speaking of the action taken against the two members of a sub rosa fraternity.

I am not a sadist (as some may think) in this respect. Nor are the members of this media out to help persecute any individual or individuals for a pure satisfaction of twisted desire. The Nebraskan has made its case quite clear in the past and it is my hope that succeeding editorial staffs continue to take similar stands.

It is my personal observation that sub rosa organizations are faltering. Certainly these groups are not what they were when I entered the University as a freshman. Why? Mainly because these groups have been exposed for what they are for the general public to view. Students for the most part will not go out of the way to jeopardize their education pursuit. Pi Xi, TNE, and Red Dot all require their members to take a chance. Rational people, being what they are, will not gamble with something as valuable as a college degree without some assurance of a compensating return. Sub rosas cannot even offer a decent return, say little of guaranteed return. Naturally, I do not expect these individuals affiliated in subversive organizations to admit either that they are withering away or that they have nothing to offer. Facts are facts, however. Look around.

In the near future the two students suspended from the University will appeal the Student Tribunal and Dean of Student Affairs decision. To me it is inconceivable to think that they have any ground to stand on. There is, of course, the possibility of pleading for mercy. They might come clean and beg that they be allowed to stay in school. If they attempt to persuade faculty members that they are not affiliated with Pi Xi they would have been better off accepting the original ruling.

Sub rosa fraternities are not unknown to faculty members and they certainly do not accept living as a valid defense. In either case (pleading for mercy or denying the charges) I cannot help but feel that these two individuals are representing the whole system of subversive groups. They have been cornered and now they are showing their nobility by resorting to pitiful confession or indecent lying.

There must be no reversed decision for these two individuals. To grant them anything less than what they have already received is to give all subrosas a shot in the arm. If these students can show that they are actually rejecting their association then they already have all the mercy they deserve since they may re-enter the University after June 7, 1962. Anything less is a miscarriage of moral justice.



"IT'S BETTER THAN NO HORSE."

Staff Views

Out of the Woods

By Jim Forrest

Just what is a tribunal? By definition it is an official body whose specific function is to protect the individual plebeian citizen from the arbitrary action of the patrician magistracy; hence, any defender of the people.

The University has such a defender of people, or students, the Student Tribunal, which was given existence some four years ago to hear and make recommendations to the office of the dean of Student Affairs on "all student violations except those involving sexual morality."

The Student Tribunal was set up and still operates on principles that are founded in the Constitutional rights of this country to fair trial and counsel. The same principles on which the nation's judicial system was framed. In fact, the Student Tribunal is to the student as the Supreme Court is to the citizens of this country as a whole.

Therefore, the court on the student level at this University should show the same regard in respect to other segments of the outside world which have also been reduced and applied at the student level. The relation in point is that between the courts and the press-press freedom.

It cannot be disputed that the right to a fair trial and the right to a free press is not only desirable but essential to the existence of a democratic society such as we have in this country. In such a society the courts and the press have responsibilities. The courts have a duty to assure fair and impartial trials; the press has a duty, no less vital, to inform the public. This also applies to the student government, judiciary and press at this University. The public being the student.

This week it was announced that two University students had been sus-

pending by the dean of Student Affairs after accepting the recommendation of the Student Tribunal. THIS CAME AS A SURPRISE TO the campus and with good reason. No names were included in the announcement which appeared in the campus newspaper. The campus press had been barred from the courtroom during the hearing (Dec. 7) as well as the student spectators at the "request of the defendants"—in accordance with Tribunal rules: The two students were arrested on Dec. 1 and again the press was not allowed to print the news.

Through the entire process of deciding the fate of the two students the operation of student justice was hidden which resulted in an uninformed public (students) because the rights of a free press had been violated. I cannot help but to think of the Court of Star Chamber of 1587. The horrors of this Court, whose operation was secret, were fresh in the minds of those who wrote the First Amendment to the Constitution. The New Collegiate Dictionary defines the Star Chamber as an ancient high court exercising wide civil and criminal juris-

diction; "hence, any secret or irresponsible tribunal."

True, in the Student Tribunal rules defendants are given the right to have a closed hearing and the general practice of the student jurisprudence is to keep all actions of the Tribunal secret until the decision of the dean of Student Affairs has been announced "since our (Tribunal) decision is only a recommendation, says one Tribunal judge.

Rules or laws do not necessarily make that which has been enacted proper. If such a rule as this was justified, every court in the nation would adopt such a one to close the doors of the courtroom, barring the press. But this our Constitution will not let them do; in fact, verdicts have been ruled invalid by appellate courts because they were not a public trial. In several opinions "public" trial means that the news media must be present. In "Niemann Reports" of January, 1956, a case is mentioned where the Court of Appeals of New York invalidated the conviction of a socially-prominent young man charged with profiting from the

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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 writer's views.

Student Satirizes Graduation

Occasionally there arises an issue in the Daily Nebraskan which is so utterly ludicrous, written by such utterly stupid people who are so utterly typical Nebraskans, that it causes even the most listless of beasts to take up the one-quilled-bandit and express its biased opinions on the subject.

Floating around in the air are such terms as graduation, tradition, Mueller Tower, hell hole, coliseum, and Pershing Auditorium. To the untrained ear Pershing would probably be associated with World War I, or spook, or rifle; graduation would be associated with drinking, or drinking, or drinking, or passing military science 21; tradition would be associated with the football team's record or with the Grill or with Dean Colbert; Mueller Tower would be associated with bells, hangovers, Ralph, or God; the Coliseum would be associated with handball, or K.U., or Buh; Auditorium would be associated with KK, or CF, or MB, or FH X HS; Hell hole would be associated with English, or Barn, B-21, or the Crb. However, to the few important people around campus, who have nothing better to think about except where graduation will be held, these terms have an entirely different association: Mueller Tower and Coliseum are associated with graduation. Pershing is associated with Auditorium, and together they are associated with graduation. Also to people who have graduated, or attended graduation in June, the Coliseum is associated with Hell hole (implying heat).

It seems that the main argument of the negative with respect to moving graduation to Pershing is, "I've gone to this here U

of Nebraskassy for 23 years and for 22 of these years (except '41 when graduation was held in Casey's) graduation has been held in the Coliseum with the traditional walk from Mueller Tower. (Note in '41 the traditional walk was from the D. B. & G.) Now the Negative, it seems, expresses the belief that the main reason one attends this eleemosynary institute is to walk from Mueller Tower to the Coliseum some fine June while every realist knows that one attends this institute either to dodge the draft, keep from working, or catch a husband. (Note this disregards completely the utterly absurd view of the administration, that one attends the University to gain knowledge.)

On the other hand, the Affirmative believes that there might possibly be a deeper reason for attending the University than walking from the Tower to the Coliseum some June. It might be in order to point out that one can walk to the Coliseum from Mueller Tower without even graduating! Now the Affirmative states that the primary purpose of graduation is to receive that coveted degree which will enable them to secure a fine job, as a filling station attendant, or a con man. Also the primary thought of the affirmative on that fine June thorn is to get their hands on that scrap of paper and run over to the administration and pick up the real thing. The Affirmative also contends that one should try to be as comfortable as possible during this last little inconvenience that the University imposes on him.

After looking over the cases presented by both sides, I am forced to express my belief, that the tradition of '41 should be rejuvenated.

George Krauss

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For the MATURE MALE PORT-A-BAR



The Captain's Walk 1127 "R" UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

RAD Program Stimulates Talk

Rural Areas Development, a self-help program which has stimulated a good deal of interest over Nebraska in recent weeks, will be one of the key topics at the 46th annual conference of the University of Nebraska Agricultural Extension Service staff this week. Some 275 county and state extension personnel — agents, specialists and administrators — will hear a discussion of the Rural Areas Development (RAD) program Wednesday morning by E. W. Aiton, assistant administrator of the Federal Extension Service, Washington, D.C.

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