

As I See It

By JOEL LUNDAK

If ever there has been a single week filled with campus activities...

The People-to-People registration is meeting considerable success. Students are responding admirably to the challenge!

People-to-People is an opportunity for each individual to become acquainted with another individual from an entirely different culture.

For the American, People-to-People is an opportunity to show an international student many aspects of our way of life which he would not otherwise experience.

There is also a challenge for the international student: to accept our efforts, and to open his mind to our ideas and way of life just as we are trying to understand him.

There are many aspects of the People-to-People program which offer a wide selection in ways of contributing to it.

The second major step this week will be the introductory organizational meeting of the Collegiate Council of the United Nations.

filed with the Student Council Judiciary Committee.

Dr. Robert Hough, the CCUN's faculty advisor, gave a brief explanation of related organizations which have existed in the past.

Bob Salisbury, transfer student from McCook who served as president of McCook's chapter of the CCUN, will explain the programs of their chapter.

In addition, possible areas of action which the national organization suggests will be considered. We do not expect the CCUN to overlap and compete with any of the other related organizations on campus — such as NIA or People-to-People.

There will be opportunities for the CCUN to work in co-operation with other groups, but its function will be strictly its own. We are depending upon interested students to take the initiative and come to consider the alternative programs available for us.

The third major action occurring this week will be the appearance on the NU campus today of Michael Neff, one of two programming vice-presidents for the USNSA.

Mr. Neff will also be explaining the USNSA and encouraging students to

consider the educational and political issues which are now part of the work and policy of the Association.

It is important that students take advantage of this chance to hear from one so closely connected with the NSA the Association's own attitude toward the controversies which it is involved in.

The NSA resolution, to affiliate Nebraska with that organization, could well become the central issue of the spring Student Council elections, and it is in the best interests of everyone to follow the debates which will be taking place during the next six weeks.

The People-to-People program, CCUN, and the ensuing NSA debates all offer to the student body an opportunity to support campus political activity based on actual issues and problems not related to our campus social system.

Student leaders have worked for a long time to achieve such a political atmosphere. Now it depends upon the interest and support of students in general to prevent falling back to what existed before.

'Liquor by Drink' Topic of Discussion

'Shall Lincoln have liquor by the drink?' will be the topic of discussion on the FM radio program 'Equal Time' Sunday.

'Equal Time' is jointly sponsored by the YWCA public affairs committee and KFMQ-FM radio and is broadcast live by KFMQ every Sunday night from 8 to 9.

The public is invited to come and participate in the live discussion.

Problem Of the Week

Sponsored by Pi Mu Epsilon, National Mathematics Honorary Fraternity.

What is the only possible conclusion to these five statements?

- 1. No kitten that loves fish is unteachable. 2. No kitten without a tail will play with a gorilla. 3. Kittens with whiskers always love fish. 4. No teachable kitten has green eyes. 5. No kittens have tails unless they have whiskers.

Bring or send answers to 210 Burnett.

Answer to last week's problem: 18,596 sq. ft. Correct answers were submitted by Ronald Cutts, Roger Dingerman, Norman Langemach, and Robert Werner.

CAMPUS FORUM



a conservative mop speaks

Did the student council defeat the motion placing CCUN under its jurisdiction because there was a lack of student interest? where was Mr. 1 when this motion was defeated? it would be interesting to know, because 'as I see it', the conservative element of three people (incidentally not a majority number of council members for those of you who don't know) proposed that CCUN should be outside the council for the main reason that there were interested students in the

campus 'mop' and that as an independent body, CCUN could thrive on this student interest and replenish itself as an independent body. Mr. 1 should be grateful to the nasty conservatives in defeating the motion for now he is responsible for CCUN and it has been lifted from their unclean and tainted hands.

Isn't it interesting that the three conservatives alone could not defeat the motion? yet, it was defeated by a majority vote — perhaps Mr. 1 would

subscribe to the diagnosis of 'mopism' recently mentioned as a prominent illness found often in student council members?

This talk about student apathy is becoming more interesting every day — and more ironic every student council session. April 11 — the big day FOR STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBERS not for the student body. NSA, Mr. 1 says, will be defeated students show no interest. But doesn't he really mean that NSA will be defeated if the students do show interest. Perhaps this is why the council has assumed the responsibility and closed the vote to the campus — so the apathetic student body won't hinder affiliation with NSA. OK LEADERS—you want student interest, you want the mass of uninterested Nebraska students to take part in campus issues and to express how they wish to be represented on the student council — then WHY NOT OPEN THE ISSUE OF NSA TO A CAMPUS VOTE? WHY NOT? Why NOT? why not? — a conservative mop.

What's the Holler

Dear Forum Editor: What's the holler about campus apathy? Maybe students who don't pay attention to what's going on wouldn't play follow-the-leader with The Council even if they had known what's going on.

What makes our campus leadership think they can lead us better than we can lead ourselves?

What makes them think they know where we want to go? Bob Ray

About Letters: The Daily Nebraskan invites readers to use it for expression of opinion on current topics...



'HOLD ON THAR, MEN — AH HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS.'

DECLARATION OF FAITH...

By BEN HIBBS Editor, Saturday Evening POST

(Ben Hibbs, who relinquished his position as Editor of The Saturday Evening Post on January 1, wrote the following editorial. We reprint it by special permission of The Saturday Evening Post, copyright 1961, by the Curtis Publishing Company. Hibbs calls his article "a declaration of faith in a country that I love deeply.")

THIS IS OUR last issue before Christmas, and traditionally this should be a Christmas editorial. It will not be. It also happens that this is the last issue of the Saturday Evening Post in which my name will appear as editor, and there are some things I want to say. I came to the editorship of The Post in a time of national crisis—in the black early months of World War II—and now, twenty years later, I am leaving the editorship in another era of crisis and doubt. I suppose you might call this editorial, if indeed it is an editorial, a declaration of my faith in a country that I love deeply.

There was a time when our way of life in America was simpler and easier, when human values seemed to be more nearly black and white, when the currents of national pride ran more strongly than they do now. The younger generation cannot remember those times, I do, and while I am not

ancient enough or foolish enough to wish vainly for the return of an era that is past, I think it is urgent that we recapture some of the national fortitude, the ebullience of spirit, that were so evident in the time of our fathers and our grandfathers.

As a kid growing up on the Kansas prairies of fifty years ago, I often listened to the yarns of the old sodbusters as they sat around the stove in my father's hardware store on a winter evening. These were the leathery old pioneers who had lived through drought and blizzard and the devastation of the grasshopper years, who had subsisted on very little and who in the end had taken this gray plains country by the scruff of its neck and turned it into a gracious and smiling land.

Among them were men of foreign extraction. Some were veterans of the Civil War, which was still recent enough to be green in the memories of our elders, and some had fought, even later, in the final Indian wars of the Western prairies.

Doubtless there was an element of fiction in the tales they told, but there was also a deep and justifiable pride in what they had accomplished. And above all, they possessed an abiding faith in the future of America and a profound gratitude to the country that had given them their chance. In those days the

Fourth of July orators called America "the land of opportunity" and "the greatest country on earth," and we believed them. In our schools and churches and our homes we were taught pride in country, and on holidays the bands played and the flags waved. It never occurred to anyone that all this was unsophisticated or corny. Although the prairie country of my youth was closer to the pioneer days than most of America, the same spirit of pride and belief in our destiny pervaded the nation as a whole during the early years of this century.

This was the atmosphere in which I and millions of other young Americans, who are now past middle age, grew up. It was an atmosphere, a state of mind, which gave meaning to life, put some purpose into toil and struggle, fired the soul of many a young man with a consuming desire to "be somebody."

Now America is no longer an insular country. In a brief half century we have had to grow up and take our place among the nations of the world, as it has been a painful, and often confusing, experience. We have made some mistakes and have learned that we have some national faults. We have become indisputably the leaders of the Western World, and we have found that such

leadership involves some awesome responsibilities.

We also have learned that a leader is always the target for criticism of all kinds, much of it captious and unreasonable.

The heads of neutralist nations come to this country and lecture us on our faults, at the same time asking for financial assistance. The press of many so-called friendly countries carries on a constant drumfire of criticism of America and its actions — and even sometimes of its motives. We are told by people who don't really know us, who don't know what America is like, that we are all materialists, with but little desire or capacity for the finer things of life; that we are brash and cocksure; that we are psychopathic about the threat of world communism; and so on and on down the list of our sins — personal, national and international.

We of course, can live through this senseless sort of carping. It is also true that in some cases we deserve the censure that is leveled at us. The bungled-Cuban invasion of last spring is a sad example. What worries me, however, is that this barrage of nagging criticism from abroad, this posture of superiority on the part of our friends, is having its effect on our own national attitude of mind. The seeds of doubt — doubt of ourselves — are becoming too strong within us.

It is right, of course, that we should examine our faults, and I honor our American writers who do this chore fairly and honestly. I have published much of their work in The Post. It was in The Post, for example, that the provocative book, "The Ugly American," was the first given to the public. For it is only by a free discussion of our

errors that we can correct those errors.

But throughout all this, in the name of heaven let us remember that we still have a great deal to be proud of. We Americans have become so sensitive about what the rest of the world thinks of us that we are now inclined to lie down and roll over whenever the finger of criticism is pointed our way. Yet there is no reason to be apologetic about America. Other nations have also made their mistakes, and it would be hard for any one of them to match the decent idealism which we have brought to our role in world affairs.

IN WORLD WAR II we did more than any other nation to destroy the evil forces which were determined to dominate the earth. After the war it was our Marshall Plan which helped restore Western Europe and kept Communism at bay in that vital part of the world. We have continued to pour out our wealth and our manpower in an attempt to shore up freedom and human decency in other parts of the earth — sometimes without success, but we keep trying. We are now attempting, insofar as our resources permit, to assist the undeveloped countries and the emerging nations, and we know that the end is not in sight.

We do these things because we believe they are right, not for territory or trade or the love of power. We have demonstrated that on the national scene we are an unselfish people, and we all know, even if it doesn't occur to our foreign critics, that the wherewithal for all this comes right out of our burdensome and that in many families there is hardship because of our national generosity. Foreign legend to the contrary, we

are not a nation of millionaires.

Back in 1948 that wise old statesman, Bernard Baruch, wrote an article for The Saturday Evening Post which he titled A FEW KIND WORDS FOR UNCLE SAM. It was a resounding pronouncement of his pride in his country. I think it is high time that we all start saying a few kind words for Uncle Sam whenever the occasion arises, and perhaps even when there is no obvious occasion. Somehow we must revive in the hearts of our young people the deep pride that all Americans must have in their heritage.

Elsewhere in this issue of The Post there is a fascinating survey of the attitudes of some 3000 typical young Americans, boys and girls of high school and college age, on a variety of matters, made with scrupulous care by the Gallup organization, and it was done on such a broad and scientifically balanced base that its results can hardly be challenged.

The thing that emerges most clearly from this study is that far too many of our boys and girls these days have a curiously flabby and uninformed attitude of mind about our country, its history and its future, and about their own lives and their own futures. To many are interested chiefly in security, an eight-hour day and a relatively easy way of life. If the spark of ambition is there, it is buried pretty deep in some of them.

Now, this may be nothing more serious than evidence that the first stirrings of maturity are slower in coming these days. But I am afraid it is a bit more than that. I am afraid that somehow we have lost the ability, or perhaps the will, to fire our boys and girls with the human

spark of pride in self and country, with the urge to accomplish something and to be somebody in this land of opportunity. And if this is true, we must not make the mistake of laying the blame entirely on the schools. The place where these things are best taught is right in the home — by examples as well as by word.

These are bewildering times, fearful times. The shadow of atomic destruction hangs constantly over us. I am not one of those who believe the shadow will become reality, but I cannot deny the possibility. In any event our only safeguard is to remain strong, strong in heart and fiber as well as in arms. This I believe we shall find a way to do. This is the basic faith I have in America. Perhaps it is too simple, but there it is.

Last June my old friend, MacKinlay Kantor, famed novelist who writes of the Civil War era and pioneer days in the West, was given an honorary degree by Iowa Wesleyan College, and I have before me a copy of his address. He discussed, in far more eloquent language that I can command, some of the same things I have dealt with in this editorial. His tone was one of firmness and hope.

At the end of his speech he addressed his remarks to the spirit of old Abe Lincoln, and his final paragraph was this: "The dreams are ever around us, Mr. Lincoln. There is medicine in the breeze and an enzyme beneath the sod; and we still have a yearning and a gallantry, sir."

I like that high trumpet note from Mac Kantor. I echo it. I think we still have it in us to dream and to achieve, to be gallant and proud, to stand up on our hind legs and be Americans.

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