

## The New Dean

### By Choice or Chance?

Chancellor Clifford Hardin has announced his decision for the successor of J. P. Colbert, Dean of Student Affairs. The decision to name Dr. G. Robert Ross to the position has been met with mixed reactions on the part of students across the campus.

We would like to discuss, briefly, some of the facts behind the selection and criticisms.

According to Dr. Hardin, the decision was difficult to make. All three of the candidates were deemed very capable and in many respects equal by the board and those who interviewed him. All three were young men, had earned their doctor's degree in specified areas. All three men came to the University for interviews and were highly recommended.

Several students speculated that the Dean was selected by ouija board, a device consisting of a planchette and a board with alphabet and other symbols. It is a device used in spiritualistic seances to convey the hidden meanings and give one the right answers.

After talking with the Chancellor, we can see that this is not the case. We have been made aware of the fact that there will be several changes in the functions of the Division of Student Affairs. The Chancellor and the committee felt that there had to be a good administrator in the position. They felt that he should come from a similar situation bearing comparable authority and responsibility.

Dr. Ross has been their selection. He has a sincere maturity, is able to meet and work well with people, and is fairly progressive in his outlook on education. He feels that activities, living groups, fraternity and sorority chapters all have a

place in the total educational picture. He is also in favor of corrective discipline and is not opposed to the tribunal as such. He does reserve opinion as to effectiveness, but was not familiar enough with Nebraska's to make a judgement.

What will Dr. Ross's responsibilities be? He will supervise housing, admissions, Junior Division, scholarships; he will coordinate Student Health, Student Union, foreign student activities. In short, any activity which deals with the student.

Dr. Ross does believe in the fraternity system and its potentials. He feels they should constantly work to develop their position on the campus in relation to the total educational pattern. He was not affiliated at Texas A and M as they did not have fraternities. However, Dr. Hardin pointed out that his record with fraternities at Ball State has been impressive.

The decision has been made. Dr. Robert Ross will succeed Dean Colbert. Only the formal approval of the Regents remains. Dr. Hardin is very enthusiastic over the prospects of a revitalized Student Affairs under Dr. Ross. Those of us who have been critical of the selection should consider the fact that a great deal of time, effort and money—not to exclude the experience—was extended to make the right decision. We are certain that the Chancellor has made that decision.

We are also hoping that there will be a more enthusiastic approach made in Student Affairs. We hope students, who have ideas on the function of that office, will not be afraid to express them to the Chancellor's office. They are now in the process of making the decisions as to its functioning, and we have been re-assured that student opinion will be appreciated.

## SCBC Slate

### Lack of Independents

The Student Council Betterment Committee (SCBC) has released its slate of 13 candidates. We would like to point out the fact that only ONE of those slated was an independent, and that a good number are also on the IPC slate. We are, however, concerned over the lack of qualified independents on the SCBC slate.

Why weren't more slated? Was it a lack of interest on the part of the independent student? Was it a lack of applicants? Was it the failure of active support from RAM?

We are pleased to note that the SCBC this year looked not just at potential; but that they went further in seeking students with background and interest. It appeared to us last year that these ingredients were, for the most part, neglected.

Now the field opens and the candidates move out into their campaign. A special orientation session is slated for tonight in which the candidates will hear a short pep talk from President Steve Gage and learn of rules from Don Witt. Candidates will also be given Nebraskan information forms for our series on the candidates.

The next event in the election is the Monday session with Edward Garvey, president of United States National Student Association (NSA). We were pleased to see the Council mandate the All-University convocation and equally pleased that the Administration accepted. Next Wednesday the Council will meet one-hour earlier to discuss affiliation with the NSA.

Continuing the election calendar we point out May 4. The Nebraskan will publish a special political election supplement to discuss the candidates and the issues in the election.

The election is the following Monday, May 7.

## The SPEAKEASY

SPEAKEASY.

There is a new magazine a-brewing on our campus. It's called the SPEAKEASY. For a short time there was a conflict over whether or not the book would be allowed under Publications Board provisions. But the book has finally cleared that hurdle—under condition.

The first issue, expected to be ready for sale next week, will be weighed very critically by the board for its content, its financial structure and need. If it is deemed A-OK by the Board they will be allowed to continue publication.

We are very enthused over the magazine. The SPEAKEASY contains humor, satire, literary efforts, short stories, cartoons, and all of the ingredients of success. It also carries a low price-tag. It has stories about campus events; campus personalities.

It does fill the need. Nebraska is one of the few colleges without a college HUMOR magazine. A few years ago the CORNSHUKS died, partly due to finances and "smut" content. But now we have the SPEAKEASY. Why not try it.

## Dean Selection By Ouija Board?



## Daily Nebraskan

Member Associated Collegiate Press, International Press Representative; National Advertising Service, Incorporated Published at: Room 51, Student Union, Lincoln, Nebraska.

14th & R Telephone NE 2-7651 ext. 4225, 4226, 4227 Subscription rates are \$2 per semester or \$4 for the academic year.

Entered as second class matter at the post office at Lincoln, Nebraska, under the act of August 4, 1918. SEVENTY-ONE YEARS OLD

The Daily Nebraskan is published Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday during the school year, except during vacations and exam periods by students of the University of Nebraska under authorization of the Committee on Student Affairs as an expression of student opinion. Publication under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Student Publications shall be free from editorial censorship as the part of the Subcommittee or as the part of any person outside the university. The members of the Daily Nebraskan staff are personally responsible for what they say, or do, or cause to be printed. February 1, 1962. BUSINESS STAFF: Bill Gurdieks, Assistant Business Managers; John Zellinger, Tom Fitchell, Bob Cunningham, Jim Treasurer.



## Lend Me Your Ears

Friends, scholars, countrymen, lend me your ears. I have come to bury language, not to praise it. Walk across the campus in any direction, listen to the speech of every student and faculty member. Can you understand every word they say? Of course you can. We have spoken English since speech was possible. In the Student Union, for example, you see a senior girl pat her tummy. She says, "It belongs to Tom and I." Of course, she should have said, Tom and me, but we know what she meant. Yes, we can understand English, write a letter to momma, and read a letter from our sweethearts. We make gross errors in grammar. Many of us cannot work the mechanics of English. But is that important? Of course not, because we can be understood—sometimes.

The University realizes that all students who can talk fast enough to get into college know enough English to last them the rest of their lives. For example, note that in the Arts and Science catalog three words and four figures outline the entire English requirement. But then, Administrators in industry recognize that all students who graduate cannot communicate, and they provide night classes to teach their employees a little practical English. Thus, the University is justified in not bothering to require enough English. Our students' ignorance is profitable to the textbook industries who know that students do not know about mechanics and grammar and save money by not hiring an English proofreader. They can publish books with many mechanical mistakes. Does this stupidity matter? Nah, some of these illiterate books pass from hand to hand year after year and no one ever notices their mistakes.

What do we do with them? We study foreign grammar. That is required. The foreign-language department requires practically every student to take semesters and semesters of their languages. Of course, they realize that anyone, whether he has ever gone to school or not, could acquire a speaking knowledge of any foreign language by living in the country for a short time. If he cannot, he has not lived with the natives and does not need to learn it anyway. On the other hand, the foreign-language department can never teach a speaking knowledge of it in the classroom.

The University realizes all this but still outlines

carefully in its catalog, in four hundred words plus fifty figures and more, exactly how a student cannot escape taking a foreign language. Every student has, in effect, a "minor" in a foreign language. The student cannot escape that minor unless he can obtain a grade of 6 in the fourth semester. Why not this requirement for English, and since we are pressed for time—cheat the foreign language—not English? Of course, we cannot do that either—what a pity.

Yes, when a student graduates from college, he is able to write home to momma in a foreign language. Of course, momma cannot read the letter and will not send the ten dollars it requested, but maybe that is the purpose of the foreign language department.

Is something wrong here? Do we really have people who believe that a foreign language which cannot even be spoken in the classroom is more important than English which is used every day? There are such people, and we must spend not two hours outside of the hour classroom in order to pass their courses, but beaucoup de heures of memorization which is almost useless in actual speech for the average student who finds himself in a foreign land—or anywhere else. If the average student cannot write and speak perfect English after sixteen years of school, he will not learn an unspoken unheard foreign language in the few hours a day available for a foreign tongue. Why not teach only foreign literature? We should feel cheated without that, but teach grammar in grammar-school.

(Continued on page 3)

## BOOK REVIEW

### 'The Naked Communist'

by jim woodson

College students today are well aware that Communism exists. They know it constitutes Democracy's deadliest rival for men's minds.

But do they know how it functions or what its actual goals are? They tend to shy away from the obscure complexity of texts on this ideology because in the drawn-out list of names, dates and platitudes they normally feel they are only groping about in a vacuum of unknown quantities.

In this light, it is enjoyable and rewarding, to say the least, when one occasionally finds a contemporary author capable of making his subject live for the reader.

Such is W. Cleon Skousen, who has recently published his tenth edition of *The Naked Communist*, a bright, interesting and comprehensive study of Communism from its birth to present-day activity and ultimate goals. This book begins with the teachings of Marx and Lenin, carries its reader on through the Russian Revolution, World Wars I and II, the tragic story of China, Korea, the UN, and up to date with the RB-47 and U-2 incidents.

Skousen attributes his facts well and succeeds in keeping his reader interested. The book is printed in large, easy-to-read type and fairly brief chapters so that the reader can pick it up again later without backtracking to refresh his memory of what has already transpired.

The author has lectured on Communism at many state and national conventions. He attended school in three different coun-

tries—Canada, Mexico, and the United States, and also spent two years in Europe. He also served for 16 years with the FBI and then became Director of Public Services at Brigham Young University.

The author took a leave of absence in 1956 to serve as Chief of Police in Salt Lake City and, completing that assignment in 1960, became the Field Director of the American Security Council in Chicago.

The impression this writer had, after reading *The Naked Communist*, was that Skousen presented a fairly accurate picture but still was unable to completely cover up his stand as a "super-patriot."

An interesting suggestion for the press, brought out in this book, and more or less shedding a little unintentional light on Skousen's beliefs reads: "Use quotations from American patriots for box stories and fillers."

If the reader examines the book with this in mind, a large amount of knowledge can be acquired to help him understand the actions of the Communist Party today.

## Nebraskan Applauds

### STUDENT EDUCATION

Association (UNSEA) has elected the following new officers: president, Sharon McClay; vice-president in charge of programming, Steve Honey; vice-president in charge of membership, Jan Quible; secretary, Gwen Showalter; treasurer, Sue Blevins; and historian, Betty Alberts.



## CRAM COURSE NO. 2: BIOLOGY

The grisly shadow of final exams looms over us, so today in this column instead of merry quips and homely saws, you will find hard facts—quick cram courses to help you through the ordeal ahead.

Last week I gave you a rapid survey of Modern European History. Now let us turn to Biology.

Biology is divided into several phyla, or classes. First is the protozoa, or one-celled animal. All life stems from the one-celled animal. Over a space of millions of years, life slowly evolved until today we have animals with as many as 12 cells. Some larger mammals claim they have 14 to 16 cells, but you know how larger mammals lie.

The second class of animals is the periphera—a shadowy category that borders often on the vegetable. Take, for example, the sponge. The sponge is definitely an animal. The washcloth, on the other hand, is definitely not.

Next we come to the arthropoda, or insects. Most people, of course, find insects fairly repulsive—and yet, if one will but look, there is exquisite beauty in the insect world. Who does not remember the lovely insect poems of William Cullen Bryant—such enchanting lyrics as *Tumbling Along with the Tumbling Tumblebug*, *Fly Gently, Sweet Aphid*, and *Grats My Mother Taught Me*. Mr. Bryant has been inactive since the invention of DDT.

Our next category is the mollusca—lobsters, shrimp, and the like. Lobsters are generally found under rocky projections on the ocean bottom. Shrimp are generally found in a circle around a small bowl containing cocktail sauce. Marlboro Cigarettes are generally found at any tobacco counter or vending machine.

What have Marlboro Cigarettes got to do with biology? Well, actually, not very much. It must be remembered, however, that the makers of Marlboro pay me for writing this column, and they are inclined to get surly if I fail to mention their product.

Mind you, I enjoy singing the praises of Marlboro—and so will you once you try that flavorful tobacco, that fine filter which lets the flavor come through undiminished. It is a great pleasure to smoke Marlboros and a great pleasure to write about them, but sometimes, I must confess, I find it a bit difficult to work the commercial into the column. Some years ago, for example, I did a piece about Alexander the Great, and, believe you me, it took a heap of stretching to drop in a plug for Marlboro. The way I finally managed it was to have Alexander go to the Oracle at Delphi and say, "Oracle, I have conquered the world and tasted all its pleasures, but somehow I am not content. I know that somewhere there must be a joy I have not yet experienced." To which the Oracle replied,



There is no great difficulty distinguishing the two

"Yes, Alexander, there is such a joy, but, alas, the time is not yet. I refer to Marlboro Cigarettes which will not be invented for another 2500 years." Whereupon Alexander fell into a sulk from which he never recovered. Well sir, there is no question I sold a lot of cigarettes with this ingenious commercial, but the gang down at the American Academy of Arts and Letters gave me a mighty good razzing, you may be sure.

But I digress. Back to biology, and the most advanced phylum of all—the chordata, or vertebrates. There are two kinds of vertebrates—those whose backbones run horizontally and those whose backbones run vertically. Generally, there is no great difficulty in distinguishing the two varieties. A fish, for instance, has a horizontal backbone, and a man has a vertical backbone. Occasionally, however, you run into a problem—like a fish who swims upright and a man who spends most of his time in the sack. How, in such a case, do you tell one from another? Science struggled with this sticky question for centuries, but finally Sigatocs of M.I.T. came up with a brilliant simple answer. Offer the creature a Marlboro. If it is a fish, it will refuse. If it is Homo sapiens, it will accept. In fact, the more sapient, the quicker the acceptance.

The makers of Marlboro, upright vertebrates all, remind you that their fine cigarettes are available in pack or box wherever cigarettes are sold in any of the 50 states.

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