

## HIGH COST OF WAR . . .

### Is Death So Expensive?

Those citizens who are disturbed and alarmed about the "high cost" of our arms program have not really studied the economics of modern warfare. The total picture is bright indeed.

The billions we are spending for armaments may seem high, but in reality the cost of killing men (not to mention women and children) has become cheaper than ever before. It is almost, one might say, a bargain.

It has been estimated that in the American Revolution, it cost about \$500 to kill a single man. During the Civil War, the cost rose to about \$5,000. In World War I it was \$25,000; in World War II it was \$65,000.

Thanks to the brilliant technological innovations of the last dozen years, in a nuclear war we will be able to kill a man for only \$50. As Norman Cousins, editor of the Saturday Review, has pointed out, "a hydrogen bomb with the power of 20 million tons of TNT costs no more than \$250,000. If TNT has been used, the cost would be more than \$10 billion."

Nuclear bombs have extremely high explosive power per dollar of investment. When you double the destructive power, you don't add much to the cost; even when you increase the power a thousand-fold, the cost is low.

Attractive as this is to us, from a sound bookkeeping point of view, it is also democratic—the nuclear bomb is a boon to the smaller, poorer, more back-

ward nations. After the initial investment, the smaller countries can afford to stockpile enough bombs to blow up half the world. This gives them a parity with the larger nations, and allows the less privileged people of the world to share the blessings of the more advanced nations.

At last, we are becoming thoroughly democratized. In the darker ages behind us, only large countries were able to wage effective war—usually against their smaller and fatter neighbors. In the atomic age, however, even a third-rate power can amass enough bombs to blow our planet into the next galaxy. The nuclear bomb offers real equality of opportunity to all.

On a cost-accounting basis, not many men were killed in World Wars I and II. The ratio between fatalities and total war expense was embarrassingly low. Men were hardly worth murdering at those exorbitant prices.

Modern efficiency, however, has finally caught up with the facts of extinction. The cost of living may be rising steadily, but the cost of dying has become a source of fiscal gratification. When you can kill tens of millions at only \$50 a head, you are pretty near the break-even point.

I hope that these warm and encouraging words give heart to the distributed among us. No dollar the government is spending brings such a high return on investment as the nuclear bomb program.

You can be dead certain of that.

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

## FRESHMAN

His face is like a girl's, heart-shaped and beardless. He would like to seem more weathered than he is. But how? Puppies betray with silky coats and bungling paws they are not dogs.

Grandmothers see their sons in him, grandfathers their own early strife, matrons would love to pamper him, girls to marry him, and teachers to shine their honor through his mind. But he is wary of them all.

Only one thing can help him: TIME that hardens saplings into logs and wrings the girl-face of a boy into the old man's anguished mask. —dilly laing (from THE REPORTER with permission)

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Yes, it was a beautiful day for Cornhusker football. We can all be proud we're Nebraskans today as the boys from Devaney Hall stretched their win streak to three with this thrilling battle against the Iowa State Cyclones. No one watching Saturday's game could dispute the magnificence of Husker play in a great show of power. The stadium is about empty now as the happy Husker crowd files out with visions of Orange Bowls dancing in their minds.—Oh, I see a lone spectator sitting across the field . . . must be a Husker fan too happy to move.

—from local radio station broadcast

## CAMPUS FORUM



### Republican Tactics

To the Editor:  
In this present campaign, on both the state and national level, I have noticed that charges of "blind obstructionism" have been leveled at the Republican party.

I had not paid much attention to these charges until I saw them so blandly admitted by the University Young Republicans in the "Political Contrasts" column which appeared Wednesday (Sept. 26).

The section of the column to which I refer reads as follows:

"Morrison failed in leading the Legislature to accept the budget proposals of the University administration. Senon will have a great deal more influence over the predominantly Republican legislators to get the needed money."

In other words, the author is saying that in spite of the fact that Morrison made an unprecedented appearance before the Legislature to appeal for the full budget proposals of the University administration, the Legislature, being predominantly Republican, did not approve it simply because he is a Democrat.

To prove this point, the author goes on to say that if we elect a Republican to the office of Governor, the Legislature, being predominantly Republican, will be ready to go along with him.

I now see that there are definite grounds for these "blind obstructionism" charges, and it upsets me to see that these tactics of the Republicans have deliberately crippled the

efforts and expansion of our University.

Bruce Rollinger

### Questions For 'j.j.'

Re-reading the recent criticism at the Greek letter fraternity system I am stimulated to ask and am questions. By necessity and for simplification I direct them to j.j.g.

How many members of this campus community will you be able to consider as intimate friends upon your graduation?

How many personalities are you permitted to really study?

In whom are you finding admirable or distasteful characteristics?

Upon what are you building your own scale of values?

In other words, just how are you developing your own individual personality without the benefit of knowing what a personality is.

Is your realm of realism at the "little art theater" or in the latest "Tropic" novel? I would suppose your sociology and psychology textbooks have the necessary graphs and scales needed to guide you on the path toward being a well adjusted, well-rounded human being.

Fiddle-Sticks!  
You had better try life. Live with fifth or sixth close friends, exult in their triumphs and share their failures, and just try remaining shallow and insignificant.

A 3 a.m. bull ses-

sion can be more valuable than eight semesters of 9,000. You had better study your fellow man, and study him intimately, prior to judging what is to be respected and what reformed (The reformation of one juvenile alcoholic is mere challenging than any research paper).

Our world is a demanding one, and to face it one must have a scale of values. Where else are you going to find the whole panorama of values if it is not here and now? Remember, one must live life to enjoy, change, or contribute to it.

Life itself is dynamic and kaleidoscopic, its properties peculiar in what they become apparent only in relationship to one another.

--- a.g.b.

### Is It Bad Again To Be An 'I'?

Is it bad to be an 'I'? Is a meeting and falling in love and respect and effort and recognition and

tradition and idealism and entertainment and security and pride and leadership and a goal essential to college life? Do these things called fraternities help the student here? Are they the key to success—Here at the University? Must one learn how to live with and grow

up among his fellow man to be outstanding? Is it bad to be an 'I'?

the GIB

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