

# Reapportionment Proposal Is Historical Issue

(Editor's Note: In cooperation with the Student Council's public affairs committee, the Nebraska presents this article as the first in a series concerning reapportionment for Nebraska. Today's article deals with the history of legislative reapportionment.)

By JIM MOORE

Nebraskan Staff Writer Reapportionment, currently one of the most controversial state issues, has actually been a debated topic for nearly 100 years.

The first apportionment of Nebraska occurred under an Act of Congress in 1854 which fixed the membership of the upper house of the legislature at 13 and the lower house at 26.

The territorial legislature was reapportioned four more times prior to Nebraska's entry into the Union on March 1, 1867.

The first state apportionment was made in 1867 under the state's new constitution which organized the legislature of the state on a two-house basis until the adoption of the unicameral in 1934.

Bicameral Period Several reapportionments were made during the bicameral period. The most significant were made in 1875 and 1920.

The 1875 constitution contained the mandatory requirement that the legislature "shall reapportion after each census."

The mandatory "shall" was changed to the permissive "may" in the 1920 constitution.

This permissive wording remains in both the present constitution and the proposed area amendment on the November, 1962, general election ballot.

The constitution during the entire bicameral period provided that population was the basis for the apportionment of members in both houses.

43 Districts Following the 1934 adoption of the unicameral legislature, the old bicameral houses redistricted the state into 43 unicameral districts, using the 1930 census as the basis for the reapportionment.

The difference between the high and low districts thus created was 12,177 inhabitants. The average population in each district was about 31,500.

The 1935 apportionment was carried out under the present constitution which states that the basis of such apportionment "... shall be the population as shown by the next preceding federal census ... the state may be redistricted from time to time."

Between 1930 and 1960, however, Nebraska's population shifted from rural to urban areas, creating a considerable disparity between the population totals in each district.

According to the recent census, one Douglas County district has a population of 100,826, while another district has only 18,824 inhabitants. The difference between these high and low districts is 82,002 inhabitants.

Beginning in 1939, according to legislature records, one or more bills calling for some form of reapportionment or redistricting were introduced in each unicameral session. Prior to the 1961 session, however, every such measure was killed by the legislature or in committee.

Four bills were introduced in the 1961 session, but only one was reported out of committee action. The bill was subsequently passed. It is this bill which has put the area constitutional amendment on the November general election ballot and which has promoted the state's current battle over legislative reapportionment.

The area amendment on the November ballot will read: "Constitutional amendment to provide that in redistricting of the state for legislative purposes, primary emphasis shall be given to population with prescribed weight being given to area."

The act which put the amendment on the ballot further provides that "primary emphasis shall be placed on population and not less than twenty per cent nor more than thirty per cent weight shall be given to area."

The amendment does not alter the working of the present constitution which makes redistricting permissive, rather than mandatory, every 10 years.

Early in 1962, Omaha Sen. George Syas said he intended to take the reapportionment issue to court. On June 6 Syas termed the area amendment a "monstrosity."

Suit Filed On June 18 and June 23 the Lincoln City Council and the Executive Council of the Nebraska League of Municipalities respectively, voted to file suit to force reapportionment of the legislature on a population only basis.

By July 3 opposition to the League's decision was already beginning to build up in western Nebraska. Disension within the League of Municipalities mounted during July over the reapportionment suit. On July 26 the Lexington City Council withdrew support for the action.

On the same day, directors of Western Nebraska United Chambers of Commerce declared their opposition to the League's suit.

AFL-CIO Intervenes The AFL-CIO on July 31 filed a motion to intervene in the reapportionment lawsuit on the side of the Nebraska League of Municipalities.

During the month of August, 1962, the city councils of North Platte, McCook, Dwight City, Ogalalla and Grand Island withdrew their support of the League reapportionment lawsuit.

The reapportionment suit was tried in Federal Court on August 27. The names of five mayors — Norfolk, Plattsmouth, Falls City, Fairbury and Grand Island — were stricken as plaintiffs.

The effect of the Federal Court's ruling was to refuse to order reapportionment on a population only basis and to refuse to enjoin a general election vote on area amendment.

The court did, however, retain jurisdiction in the case. According to Syas, the court decision was a "partial victory" for the population only cause.

By Sept. 25, a group of state senators and laymen met in Grand Island to play their support of a statewide movement in support of the area amendment on the Nov. 6 general election ballot.

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REHEARSALS CONTINUE—With less than a week to go before the opening night of the "Threepenny Opera," University Theater stars are hard at work. Featured in a sneak preview of the scene "The Beggar's Big Brother"

are (left to right): Frank Vybral (Filch), Gene Dvhdahl (Mr. Peachum) and Sharon Binfield (Mrs. Peachum). The "Threepenny Opera" will be presented Oct. 24-27.

## University Theater Season Opens Next Week With Performance of 'Threepenny Opera'

By SUE HOVICK Nebraskan Staff Writer Opening the "Threepenny Opera" with a kaleidoscope picture of a fair, Bertolt Brecht presents a satire upon a decadent society. Opening night will be

Wednesday in the Howell Memorial Theater, and the play will run through Oct. 27. It is one of the fiercest artistic indictments against society ever seen on the stage.

It was premiered Aug. 3, 1928 in pre-Nazi Berlin. Five years later, after his play had been banned, Brecht was forced to flee Hitler's Germany because of his subversive views.

Brecht's play is based structurally on John Gay's satiric "Beggar's Opera" of 1728. However, it is much more than socialist propaganda, and its Marxist potential is submerged in a greater theme. This theme is based on the idea that society has made men so base that they have forgotten their humanity; in order to survive, they must be cruel, and in order to be saved, they can only beg for mercy.

Leader Macheath, known as Mack the Knife, is the leader of London's most notorious gang of thieves and cutthroats and is one of the main characters in the play. The "flaw" that brings about Macheath's downfall

is not sensuality, but trust; trust in a human nature that his own conduct had proved untrustworthy.

Theoretically, the inhabitants of the three penny world go counter to orthodox human nature; but when the mocking chorus tells the people, "If you wish to stay alive, for once do something bad and you'll survive" the implication is clearly not confined to the stage. Brecht has put into words the active philosophy by which the real world is run.

Asks Compassion Before Mack makes his march to the gallows, he asks compassion for his plight, brought about by the circumstance of social necessity. He calls down violence upon the base men around him; and then, knowing his own sins, asks for their pardon. This is

man's fate in a threepenny world; to destroy and to be forgiven.

The ending is filled with brittle humor; just as in the real world, evil of great proportion has been reprieved and rewarded, while the suffering of the exploited little people remains unanswered.

The cast of characters for the play is as follows: STREETSINGER George Mechtling JENNY Sharon Purbaugh MR. J. PEACHUM Gene Dvhdahl MRS. PEACHUM Sharon Binfield FILCH Frank Vybral MACHEATH (MACK THE KNIFE) Dan Sobolik POLLY PEACHUM Christy Johnson READYMONEY MATT Jerry Egan CROOKFINGER JAKE Elijah Powell BOB THE SAW James Trester WALT DREARY Allen Epstein REV. KIMBALL Richard Watkins TIGER BROWN, Commissioner of POLICE Ed Gaitner BETTY Mameen Prater MOLLY Bonnie Benda DOLLY Kris Romo GAZEKER Mary Meckel WARDEN SMITH Thomas Grubbs LUCY BROWN Leta Powell Drake 1st BEGGAR Curtis Green 2nd BEGGAR Melvin Grubb 3rd BEGGAR Jay Freed 4th BEGGAR Noel Thomas 1st CONSTABLE John Nibler 2nd CONSTABLE Robert Hall

## Finalists Presented Tonight

Ten junior coeds will hear their names revealed as Homecoming finalists tonight at the pep rally at 6:30.

Wes Grady, president of Corn Cobs, and Nancy Sorenson, president of Tasseis, will present the girls to the students for the first time. Dennis Claridge, Husker quarterback, will be the featured speaker.

The ten finalists have been chosen from among 28 candidates submitted by sororities and independent women's houses. All girls nominated are juniors with a cumulative average of 5.5 or above and carrying at least 12 semester hours.

The Huskers will meet Kansas State tomorrow in the second conference game of the season. Cadence Countesses, the University girls drill team will perform for the first time this year in pre-game ceremonies.

Coeds will spend much of the weekend cutting wire and stuffing to get a head start on their homecoming displays.

## Engineering Society To Meet at Center

The Kansas-Nebraska section of the American Society for Engineering Education will meet at the University today and tomorrow with approximately 150 in attendance.

At a banquet tonight in the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education featured speaker will be Dr. Preston Hammer, director of the Numerical Analysis Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin.

A highlight of the Saturday meeting will be a 10 a.m. address in Love Library Auditorium on "The Effects of Computers upon Engineering Education" by R. W. Hamming of Bell Telephone Laboratories.

## University Publications Receive ACP Ratings

### —Polar Studies Talk— Goldthwait To Lecture On Glacier Fluctuations

Dr. Richard P. Goldthwait of Ohio State University, a specialist in the field of glacial geology, will visit the University Tuesday. Dr. Goldthwait is the 1962 national lecturer for Sigma Xi, national science honorary.

He will lecture on "Glacier Fluctuations since the Ice Age in Southeast Alaska" in Bessey Hall at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. The public, as well as Sigma Xi members, is invited to attend.

A graduate of Dartmouth, Dr. Goldthwait received early training in geology on summer expeditions with his father, a professor of Geology at Dartmouth. He went on to graduate school at Harvard and received his doctor of philosophy degree in 1939. Dr. Goldthwait taught at Brown University and Ohio State University until 1948, when he began his expeditions.

In the spring of 1948 he served as the geologist with the Reynolds-Boston Museum

expedition to China. He has participated in two privately-sponsored expeditions to Alaska to study glaciers in that region.

In 1953 Dr. Goldthwait was asked by military services to head a 15 man group to northwestern Greenland, only 800 miles from the North Pole.

In 1957 he traveled to New Zealand to conduct glaciological studies under a Fulbright grant, and visited U.S. bases in Anarctica serving as consultant in directing work on glaciology for the International Geophysical year.

Presently he is the director of the Institute of Polar Studies at Ohio State University. The Institute gathers information on the Arctic and other polar areas.

### Cornhusker, Nebraskan Rank High

The 1962 Cornhusker received an all-American rating, and the Daily Nebraskan a first class rating yesterday from the Associated Collegiate Press.

The all-American rating is the third straight for the Cornhusker.

The ACP said: "A worthy candidate takes its place in line with recent all-American Cornhuskers. This is a very fine volume, marked by careful editing and picture layout ... with an outstanding 'Greek' section."

Special commendation was given to the book for its color sections. The rating is based on a point system for each section of the book. To be rated all-American, a book needs 6,100 points — the Cornhusker had 6,270.

The book was rated in a class of schools from 7,000 to 10,000. Next year it will be rated in the 10,000 plus class because of increased enrollment at the University.

The Daily Nebraskan missed an all-American rating by 80 points. A total of 3,500 points are needed for an all-American paper — the Daily Nebraskan scored 3,420.

University papers are rated on the areas of coverage, content and physical properties. The Daily Nebraskan scored excellents in all three areas.

Sports layout and coverage of real campus problems were areas the association said the Daily Nebraskan excelled in. The paper received low ratings in reproduction.



GOLDTHWAIT — to visit NU Tuesday.



CAMPUS QUEEN—Pat Schmadeke, Delta Gamma sophomore at the University, has been chosen as a candidate in Sport magazine's 12th annual Campus Queen Contest. Miss Schmadeke was a 1962 Cornhusker

Beauty Queen, a finalist for Junior Interfraternity Council Queen, Miss Wheat Heart finalist and a candidate for Sigma Phi Epsilon Sweetheart.

## Educators Group Meets in Lincoln

One of the most difficult problems facing the United States today is the replacement of outstanding teacher-educators, according to Dr. Elmer J. Clark, graduate dean of Indiana State College.

Dr. Clark met with six other nationally recognized United States educators at the University recently. The men make up the executive committee of the National Society of College Teachers of Education (NSCTE).

Dr. Clark said the organization started long ago in helping develop and locate talented people, but that much

more must be done. "I couldn't agree more with your own Dr. Breckenridge (University vice-chancellor) when he said that at least 20,000 more Ph.D. level educators would be needed in the United States within eight years just to maintain the status-quo," he said.

Dr. Clark cited the University for its increased emphasis on graduate education, which has and will continue also to be one of the most important objectives of the NSCTE. This is the first time the executives of the organization have met in Nebraska.