

a jaundiced eye

by susan stanley

"The Threepenny Opera," the first offering of the University Theater's 1962-1963 season, opened Wednesday night, casting a bitter negative vote to the question—"Is it worth it to top dog?"

Bertold Brecht's play involves the viciousness of men, even toward the people whom they are, by convention, supposed to love. One of the characters sums the philosophy in Brecht's world with "First feed the face, and then talk about right and wrong."

Polly Peachum, daughter of the proprietors of a begging syndicate in London of the late 1830's, thwarts her parents' hopes of her becoming a prostitute and supporting them in their old age by marrying Macheath ("Mack the Knife"), a powerful thief.

The Peachums in revenge arrange for Macheath to be charged with all his crimes and brought to the gallows. As the rope is put around his neck with vicious efficiency, a "victorious messenger" swoops down the aisle to the stage, with a full pardon from the queen.

Being so out of touch with the reality Brecht had created, the "happy ending, nice and tidy" stands nullified, the original point unscathed.

Don Sobolik, as Macheath is excellent. His deftness and subtle variations gave a character which is incredible credibility.

Cristy Johnson's Polly Peachum had a believable naivete which was comple-

mented by a lovely singing voice. At times, particularly during serious scenes, her acting seemed to lack a variation in levels.

Mr. J. J. Peachum, "The Begger's Big Brother," was well acted by Gene Dybdahl, who alternated bluster with decadence.

Sharon Binfield, as Mrs. Peachum, was energetically slovenly, which is something to see!

Sharon Purbaugh's Jenny (a "fancy woman," formerly Macheath's favorite), didn't always achieve the pathos it might have. Particularly fine, however, was her singing of "Solomon Song" in the third act.

Leta Powell Drake showed still another facet of her considerable dramatic versatility in her portrayal of Lucy Brown who, because of her inability to "stay perpendicular" around Macheath, became pregnant. She is great.

Macheath's gang of thieves was a Runyonesque collection, notable for the performance of Allen Epstein as Walt Dreary.

The sets were very effective; the use of a scrim at the opening of the scenes served to remove the action and the characters from the reality of 1862. John Moran's musical direction was notable in that it didn't distract from the action and song lyrics, which were of a narrative nature.

Dallas Williams' production of "The Threepenny Opera" runs through Saturday night. Go see it—it's well worth it!



Omar Harold Called Petty

To the Editor: How petty are we going to get in determining Greek-Independent relations?

It is very commendable that Greeks and independents have been working hard for closer cooperation between these two factions.

It may be noted, however, that freedom of choice is one of the privileges that we Americans enjoy, whether it be in doing the family marketing or inviting guests to a party.

When the Delta Tau Delta pledge class planned their street dance, they did not intend to offend Greek-Independent relations. The Deltas had a very successful party; it may have been even more successful if independents had been invited also. But the important point involved here is that we as Americans have the right to ask who we want—when we want—where we want. If Omar Harold (Oct. 19) were to give a party, he would exercise this same privilege.

It is people like he who who magnify the problem of Greek-Independent relations on campus. It is people like you who destroy Greek-Independent relations by blowing

up petty trivialities, and finally, it is people like he who are slighting or misunderstanding the independents. Sincerely, J.M.B.

Stand Clarified On Migration

To the Editor: I would like to further clarify my statement as printed in the Nebraskan (Oct. 18) concerning the motion on an official migration.

First, I would like to say that I am not against migration, official or unofficial. I feel that it would be fine for students to attend every away game, were it possible.

I do not think classes should be cancelled this year for migration. Scholastic reports are due Nov. 3, which is the Saturday immediately following the Colorado game. This is also Homecoming. I can see no advantage in moving examinations back one week to Homecoming week. Plans could have been made to accommodate this situation had it been on the school calendar. I hope that future migrations will be incorporated into the school calendar so that problems will not exist for either Administration or students.

I observed something last Saturday after the Kansas State game which I hope will not happen at Colorado next week end. Walking back from the game I was confronted with the scene of a kernel and his date being bothered by an obnoxiously drunken Kansas State student. I hope next week-end Colorado students will be favorably impressed by the conduct of Nebraska students.

Sincerely, Steve Honey Teachers College Student Council Representative

A Yes Vote Does Not Mean 'Yes'...

To the editor: In the Oct. 17 Nebraskan, John Reiser (Political Contrasts) states that Congressman Beermann voted "yes" twenty-four times.

This does NOT mean, however, that he voted FOR twenty-four bills. Beermann votes "YES" just like Sen. Carl Curtis. Here is an example of this method:

In the last session of Congress, Javits of New York introduced a bill to prohibit the use of federal funds in the construction of segregated hospitals. Sen. Curtis voted "yes" to a motion to table the bill. He voted "yes" but to a motion to KILL the bill!

Reiser goes on to state that the principle reason Congressman Beer-

mann voted against abolition of the poll tax was that he didn't like the "ramrod tactics" used to pass it. What relationship is there between the tactics used to pass a bill and the bill itself?

From this intelligent statement we then infer that had proponents of the bill approached Beermann in a friendly fashion, smiling broadly, that after a few pats on the back, Beermann might have seriously considered the bill!

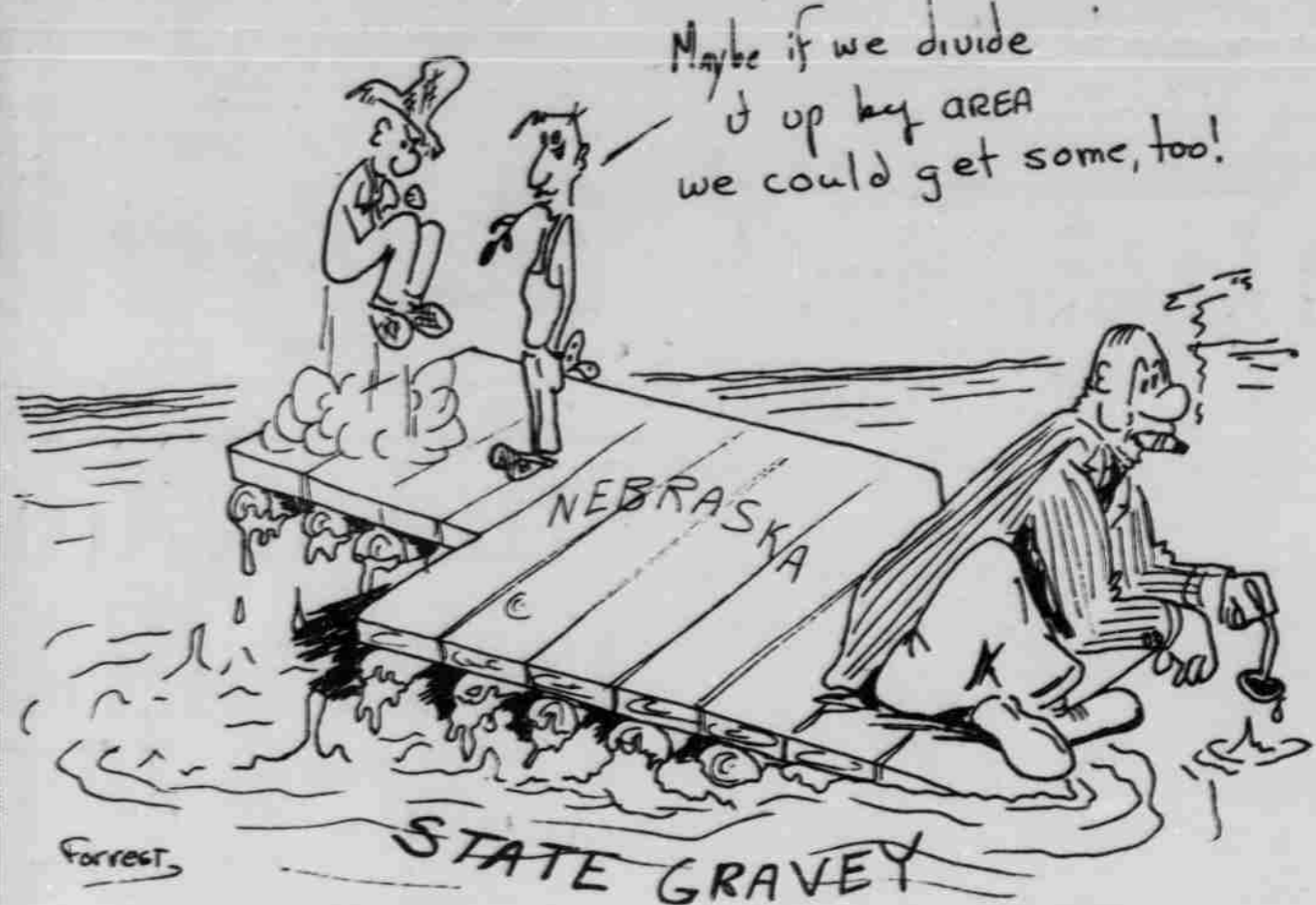
Reiser concludes by saying that Congressman Beermann's record has been one of conscience not of negativism. I heartily agree. Beermann's high integrity compels me to believe that every time he has voted "no" he has sincerely believed that this was the proper vote.

The reason I am for Callan, and the issue here, is that Callan's basic beliefs, those his conscience will hold him to, are more in accord with my own than are Beermann's. Sincerely, Jim Steinman

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Constitutional Amendment No. 7



PRO CON

Down at Grand Island Sept. 25, State Senator Fern Hubbard Orme of Lincoln delivered an address that all Nebraskans should read and ponder. She spoke specifically in favor of the area-population plan for re-districting the Unicameral—and before supporters of this Constitutional Amendment No. 7 which will be on the Nebraska ballot.

It is my concept that legislators are required by the State Constitution to assume full legislative responsibility. The responsibilities of a legislator cannot be discharged if the interests of the entire state are ever put in second place.

To define legislative responsibility is simply recognizing this position of trust and obligation to represent all people in all districts regardless of population. Representation should be given to the interests of all people in all parts of the state. The interests of the legislative district should be analyzed carefully and pursued with vigor when the position does not jeopardize or harm the state of Nebraska.

In adopting the Constitution the founders were fair. The founders did not forget the vast unchartered wilderness of a future nation and provided for new states to have a voice in national government even though most of the states did not even exist. Had our forefathers been selfish in their concept of government this nation would never have flourished and developed.

The Nebraska representation must—in the interests of our future growth and development—be based upon future ground rules that are fair to the smallest populated counties as well as to the largest metropolitan areas. We cannot permit the building of a "psychological Berlin wall" around metropolitan Omaha and metropolitan Lincoln.

Counties such as Douglas and Lancaster have a built-in legislative advantage that gives these counties an advantage over other counties of the state. This "legislative advantage" is in existence because the record shows that the 7 senators of Omaha normally vote together to the benefit of Omaha and Douglas Counties. The same observation can be made of representatives in Lancaster County.

A study of present legislative districts will show that 7 legislators in the western portion of the state represent 31 counties. Seven legislators representing 31 counties cannot coordinate and agree on issues as easily as the 7 senators who represent Omaha. Block voting is the natural result of politics and of common interests. It is a fact that 7 senators from Douglas County have more common interests on vital issues than 7 senators representing 21 counties. The area involved and the variance in viewpoint in 31 counties make analysis of common interests most difficult. Would you not agree that Omaha senators can more readily agree on objectives and define mutual interests concerning any issue than can senators who represent many counties with diversified interests and where conflicts on vital issues are usually apparent?

In my opinion this built-in legislative advantage of several senators from one county goes a long way to offset the lack of representation in the Legislature on a 100 per cent population basis.

Let us examine the record established over the years whereby representation is on the basis of area and population. The Interstate Highway construction program was started in Douglas and Lancaster Counties. Did the so-called outstate senator put restrictions on the program? Did the outstate senator vote against logic and reason?

I propose that Nebraska senators vote logically and reasonably. The Interstate is designed to take care of traffic in times of national emergency and in an effort to move a greater number of vehicles and to reduce mass murder on the highways. Even though the outstate senators had the votes they did not discriminate against eastern Nebraska.

Let us examine state appropriations that go for existing or new projects of state government. There is no evidence that outstate senators normally cast their votes on the basis of "What do I get?"

Highways, state institutions, educational facilities, resource development, industrialization, and tourism promotion are all items of state-wide concern. These issues cannot be bottled up or controlled by only a few of the 93 counties. To restrict or unreasonably control legislative representation would retard the progress of all Nebraska. We would have a state divided against itself. Outstate financial interests could hesitate to do business with our large and established banks in eastern Nebraska. Ranchers and farmers could readily market their products at points outside of Nebraska if resentment were present. Young men and women could be encouraged by their parents to seek higher education outside Nebraska.

The whole future program of planned progress could be reflected on every vital vote.

Our forefathers established a state government whereby eastern businessmen have no advantage over the businessman in Sidney, McCook, Tryon, Falls City, Antioch, or my former home town of O'Neill.

Our forefathers did not intend that groups, within our society, who have quantitative numbers in Lincoln and Omaha should be able to use reapportionment as a means to increase their voting strength within the Legislature.

The limited viewpoint of representation based entirely on population can only be interpreted as a move to cram eastern Nebraska dominance down the throats of all Nebraska.

I would rather be defeated on this issue than to participate in a plan that would create a divided state on important issues that affect all of Nebraska.

(Editor's Note: The following is an editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald Monday, Sept. 24. We present it here as an outstanding example of the faction in the state against reapportionment by area only.)

Now that the panel of Federal judges has decided to take no action in the Nebraska Legislative reapportionment dispute until the people have had a chance to vote on November 6, we think it is time for calm, thoughtful voters to begin weighing the issue.

This is the proposed Constitutional Amendment that will appear on the November 6 ballot.

"The Legislature may redistrict the state from time to time, not more often than once in 10 years. In any such redistricting, county lines shall be followed whenever practicable, but other established lines may be followed at the discretion of the Legislature. In such redistricting, primary emphasis shall be placed on population and not less than 20 per cent nor more than 30 per cent weight shall be given to area."

The nub of this plan, of course, is the proposal to give 20 to 30 per cent representation to acres, and only the remaining 70 to 80 per cent to people.

This newspaper is not among those who believe that the adoption of this plan, and its implementation by the Legislature, would be a disaster.

As a matter of fact, because of shifts in population, recent Nebraska Legislatures have been strongly weighted in favor of rural areas and against city populations, and we know of no state that has had better Legislatures during that time, or better state government. Thus there exists no governmental crisis which must be resolved.

However: This proposed amendment raises an extremely important matter of principle.

Under the accepted theory of representative government, each qualified voter should have one vote.

We think it would be a grave violation of basic rights if a section were written into the State Constitution stating, in effect, that certain Nebraska people should have 1.2 votes in choosing legislators, while others should be entitled to perhaps only nine-tenths or eight-tenths of a vote.

That is not the way the government by the people ought to operate.

Some advocates of the amendment have been saying rather vehemently that the Federal Constitution, which gives two Senators to each state, regardless of population, provides some sort of precedent for their plan in Nebraska.

That simply is not true. The Government in Washington is a Federal union of sovereign states. The states, being equal, are equally represented in the Senate; the people of the states, also being equal, are supposed to be equally represented in the House.

There is no such thing as a sovereign county, or a sovereign acre, in the State of Nebraska. Nebraska's counties did not meet together to form the state; on the contrary, they were created by the state, and to day remain creatures of the state. Thus the attempt to draw an analogy between the Nebraska Unicameral and the Federal Congress is without merit.

We think the Federal judges decided wisely when they returned this issue to the people of Nebraska at this time.

But we think the people would be exceedingly unwise if they should write into their Constitution a provision which, in legislative matters, would give some people bigger votes than other people—and which in effect would legalize and perpetuate minority rule.

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Yell Contest Sponsored by Corn Cobs \$100-1st Prize \$50-2nd Prize Donated by Lincoln Promotion Council Winner Announced in Daily Nebraskan October 26 YELL CONTEST Yell Your Name (Last) (First) (Middle) Address Phone Deadline Thursday, October 25 Yell will be chosen on the basis of originality and appropriateness SEND ENTRIES TO: WES GRADY AT FARMHOUSE, 7601 APPLE ST.

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