

GORDAN HALL AS A CONVOCATION SPEAKER . . . Ask Bostonian to Speak Here

WE WERE WRONG. There was a group that was interested in hearing Gordan Hall speak, but they decided they were interested too late to publicize the fact that he was going to speak Sunday to students. The Hillel Foundation, a group of Jewish University students, contacted Hall Thursday and arranged an appearance for yesterday at 4 p.m.

We would like to think that because of the lateness of the arrangements and not the typical lack of interest among students caused the poor attendance. But then we were fortunate to have a small attendance — about 20 students and adults — because it gave Hall a chance to be completely informal, which he is not able to do on most of his lecture appearances. He sat on a table and spoke with a soft, unassuming Bostonian accent.

He is not the type of man that articles about him might lead a person to believe. There is none of the rah-rah and fire and brimstone that so many lecturers on the inner-dangers of America have. He alarmed no one and gave no "if you don't do this then something terrible will happen" formulas. His talk was completely informative and made with the objectiveness of a man who knows his subject well. Gordan Hall has been lecturing on his own time and for his own reasons since 1946.

HIS TALK Sunday dealt with a general outline of the activities and types of extremist movements on both the right and the left of the political spectrum. In both cases, he said, these movements went beyond any common label of liberal or conservative. He spread out before his audience a collection of literature published by these extremist groups — whose memberships total some 6½ to 7 million today.

Hall made an offer to the audience which I would like to pass on to our readers. If you write to the following address, he will send, at no cost to the writer, a similar complete collection of extremist literature:

Gordan Hall
222 Marlborough Street
Boston 16, Massachusetts

The reason for sending for this literature is his answer to the rash of hate movements and extremists: To make sure that people, especially students, develop a frame of reference with which understanding about these groups can be built.

GORDAN HALL advocates not prosecution of these groups but education of the American people. One of the most effective means on a campus, he said, is open discussion and forums to focus attention on these groups.

Hall said something during his talk

that made the students in the audience stir with embarrassment. He said that the trouble with students is that they do not want to take these groups and their movements seriously. This shoe fits Nebraska students perfectly, and we should realize it and wear it until we are ready and willing to throw them away.

We say that extremist movements are not important and justify this by watching the Pro Bowl game on T.V. Hall said students, and adults alike, do not want to be disturbed from their personal pleasures.

HOW IMPORTANT is a group that totals some 300,000 persons? How important is a group that publishes literature with a paid subscription list of some 250 in post WW II and is now passing 91,000? How important is a group that advocates genocide and gets an annual voluntary contribution total of something over \$300,000.

Do these people believe in their causes or are they like television would like to have us believe all crooks and swindlers? According to Hall, the leaders of these groups, almost without exception, "hopelessly" believe in their cause all the way down the line. Some fall to the opportunism involved with the money they receive in contributions and lose the initial zeal, but even these had the belief when they organized.

THE GREATEST defense against extremists is education. There are legitimate fighters of communism and promoters of reform. It becomes important for Americans to be able to distinguish the legitimate from the extremist. The best place to gain this education and acquire the frame of reference Gordan Hall spoke of is here in college. Where else are such discussions and forums on political ideology so easily staged. A university is a place where all ideas are supposed to be discussed.

We urge that the University invite Gordan Hall as a convocation speaker. He told us Sunday that he would return to a convocation this year. If, because of monetary fears and concern for a proper image, we cannot hear varying political ideas on a campus forum, then at least let the students hear about them from a man that knows extremist groups and their leaders.

These groups are important and their potential is great and according to Hall is on the rise. In his words "the extremist and hate groups are the darkest blight in the Twentieth Century." We must know of them or about them so we do not become, as Senator McCarthy said, "unwitting dupes" of their brand of patriotism and Americanism.

old guard

by don ferguson

"Who gives a damn."

This was the reply made by one student in response to the question, "What did the legislature do today?"

"Who gives a damn."

This could be the reply of a State Senator to the statement "I'm a University of Nebraska student."

Every two years, the students begin to set out a program by which they will be able to influence the actions of the Nebraska Unicameral. Every year, they apparently are equally unsuccessful.

The Student Council has adopted a program which is typically labeled "the Senator's Program". Its aim? To influence the senators. To tell the State Legislator what Youth feels about the type of education he is getting. To inform the senator of the values of the University of Nebraska to him individually.

Isn't it nice to be organized?

Or, do YOU give a damn?

So typical of the student is his lack of concern, his lack of motivation, his lack of stimulation and his lack of participation in the things that have a tremendous effect on his daily life.

Most of us are quick to set back and criticize the rotten roads, or the lack of tourist promotion, or the poor educational condition of the music building.

Most of us are even pleased with our attitudes about the actions of major campus organizations which effect our fraternity and sorority membership; which effect our registration procedures; yes which effect even our place of graduation.

But how many of us have the guts to do something about it?

Three cheers for the Senator's Program, but why doesn't each student start his own senator's program?

"Oh, no, I couldn't do that. He wouldn't listen to me."

Have you tried recently?

A few days ago, one state senator noted how refreshing it was to get the viewpoints of youth on the problems facing the state. He was also quick to note that it is a shame more of them don't know anything about the situation they are discussing.

And he didn't mean it sarcastically. What he meant was that most individuals and even a good share of the adults,

haven't even bothered to find out about the subject for discussion.

How can the individual, especially the participants in the organized Senator's Program, even hope to make the type of impression they are after if they don't know their subject?

Here again, it is not our place to go down and say, "Well, the U needs about 50 jillion scooties this year or we'll go to hell in a rain bucket." But it is our place to go down and say, "I know the type of education that I am getting and this is what it is."

If the senator can know the quality of instruction, the number of top notch professors, the outstanding leadership in the administrative areas of the University and the colleges; if he can see what the value of education in Nebraska has meant to one individual, you; if he can see a spark of the future and a flame of concern for Nebraska, who can predict the results of your confrontation.

Recently, Mr. Forrest stated in his editorial that the University has to present a double image. One being public relations, one being academic freedom and top curricula.

This is a difficult task, seldom attained without sacrifice of one of the two principles.

You, too, have to present a double image as a student. You have a responsibility in the area of the academic. Likewise, you have an obligation to the community.

However, you need not sacrifice either principle. Neither does the University if the rest of the state will accept the basic principles of an educational institution.

For if you are playing your role as a student, you can not allow yourself to neglect the community.

We live, virtually, in a state with the future on its side. Crucial decisions will have to be faced by our Unicameral. Tax base, public power, re-apportionment, safety, tourism, education.

Each decision, in itself, is destined to change the road for Nebraska into that future. And you could make an impression on the road chosen.

It isn't as was stated last year — "NEBRASKA TOO TIMID TO LIVE." Rather, it is a state with people too timid to lead.

a jaundiced eye Images . . .

by charles burda

by susan stanley

If you've never been to a "lab play," you're really missing something!

Produced by students in play direction classes, the plays may range from mediocre to superb.

But in lab plays, there is the distinct advantage of a truly experimental and creative direction, partially because the director-student is new at the game, and partially because he doesn't have to worry about the "market value" of this or that staging technique.

The result, as I say, may be mediocre, but more often, you find that something new is being tried — for instance, the forthcoming lab production of "The Glass Menagerie" is featuring a scrim placed completely around the Arena Theater acting area, giving even more of a separation between the audience and Tennessee Williams' dreamlike drama.

Tonight at 7:30 p.m., stop in to see "Zoo Story," a short and moving story by Edward Albee (he's the rage of the "theater

of the absurd," really an up-and-coming playwright, but might not appear here, except in the lab theater, for a few more years). Directed by Bonnie Benda, I hear it features an excellent performance by Curtiss Greene. It's followed by "Birthday Party," by Hjalmar Bergstrom, directed by Judy Birney.

Thursday and Friday nights, something new is being added. Patrick Drake, whose poetry has been printed in both "The Prairie Schooner" and "Scrip," is directing "A Manoeuvre," which he has written. A world premier — right here in River City!

Drake's play is followed by "The Man With a Flower in His Mouth," by Luigi Pirandello. Directed by Jenise Burnood, with that title, it can't miss.

As the final touch to this semester's lab plays, "The Glass Menagerie," which is directed by Judie Kriss, completed the evening's entertainment.



"All I said was what I thought"



Why Label 'Jocks' As 'Dumb'?

To the Editor:
What about the intelligence of our football team?

Is it not true that most instructors either already know who the football players are or soon find out when they have them in class?

Is it not also true that along with knowing that a boy is on the football team that another assumption is made by students and teachers alike?

What about the boys with the intelligence to pull high grades? Is their incentive not stifled when this other assumption is made?

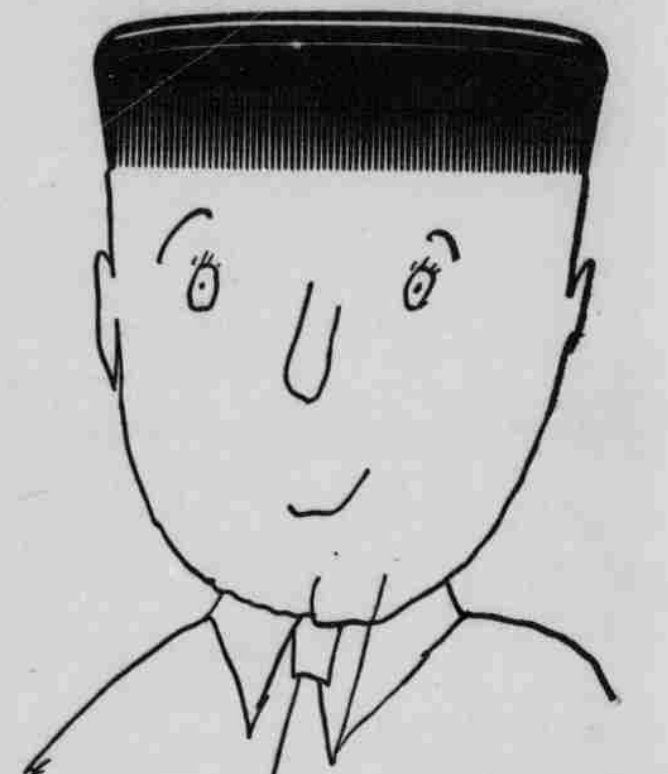
Since these boys are in the limelight so much, maybe we are a little too quick to judge the intelligent from the unintelligent. There are many students on campus who just get by, but let a football player do so either due to his own inability or his stifled incentive, and immediately he is labeled a "dumb jock."

One of the greatest fallacies of our generation is to make hasty generalizations about everything

from how a person looks to how he talks. Yet, if we would just take the time to find out how this person feels about things, we may find him intelligent in areas we know nothing about.

So before we condemn anyone by accusing them of being dumb, maybe we had better take a second look at ourselves. Who are we to judge another person superior? Let us give these boys a chance before we throw false labels on them. They have done a fine job this year and let us help them to do so in the future by giving them the credit they deserve.

Sincerely,
j.m.b.



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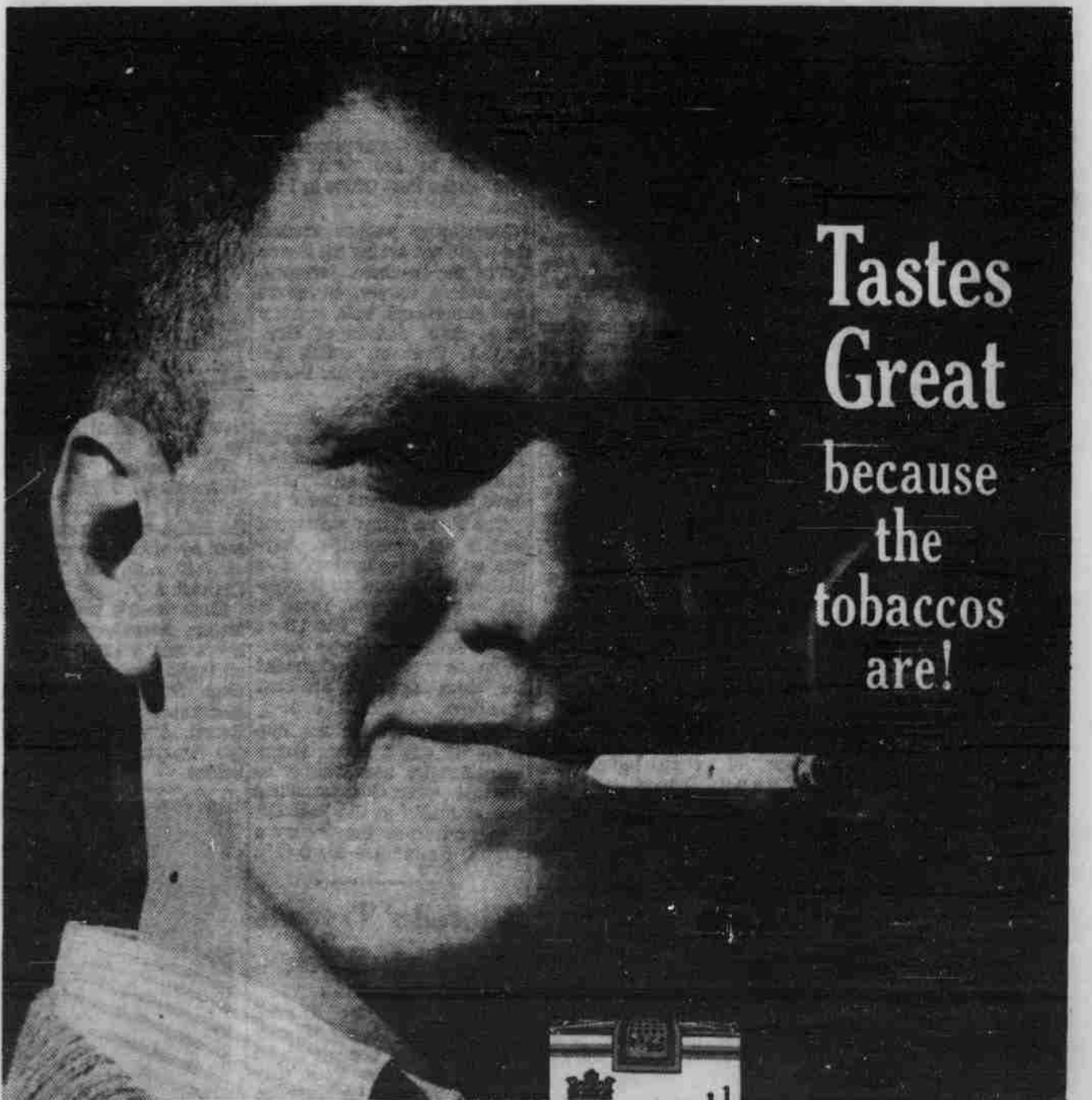
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Business Manager: John Zellinger
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