

a jaundiced eye

—by susan stanley

Now that the Purple Piano has closed and thus removed us from the sphere of "genuine live entertainment," here's a piece of good news for you.

Sunday night in the YMCA at 8:30, the local SANE committee is sponsoring a nearly-free concert program of folk music.

Called "Folksong Americana," it offers a couple of hours of release from the tensions, strains, etc. of this weary life. Seriously, it is an informal history of the folk songs of this country, pleasantly rendered by the local semi-professionals.

Several University people are involved in it, including professors Robert Sandstedt (he sings with a marvelously deadpan expression) and Richard Gilbert.

Also appearing will be Roger Welsch from Dana College —remember the good job he did in getting everyone to sing Swedish folk songs at last October's hootenanny in the Union? Added attractions: Charlie Scudder and Robert Keppel.

The price is 50c per student, \$1 for others. It should be fun, and the proceeds will be going to national SANE.

Friday nights, a tiny woman who lives about a block from the campus throws her home open to the Nebraska International Association for informal discussions.

Her name is Florence Brugger, and her house is filled with the souvenirs she has garnered from her travels around the world.

A couple of weeks ago, I attended one of these "meetings," and it was fascinating. There were maybe 7 people there, and a serious consideration of American racial policies took place. This kind of discussion gets pretty tiresome when all of the discussants are Nebraska-bred, but with an Indian, Chinese and Iranian thrown in, all kinds of new light was shed. Very thought-provoking, and just one of the things that the NIA has been sponsoring.

Anyone can go to the discussion, and you might learn something. I did.

El Colegio de Mexico

TO THE EDITOR:

I am writing this letter to you as the first representative of the University of Nebraska's program for a year of studies in Mexico at El Colegio de Mexico.

There are two reasons for my writing this letter. The University of Nebraska will be expanding this program for the coming year of studies, and therefore I feel obligated to give the students involved in the program a short preview of what they will encounter in Mexico. I also believe that the other students at the University will find interesting a short letter about what a North American student meets when studying in a Latin American nation.

El Colegio has a student body representative of almost all the countries of Latin America. A North American student that comes to the school receives a cross section of student opinion that perhaps he would have difficulty finding anywhere else. Since, as you know, the students in this region take a very active interest in politics I have quite naturally heard the opinions of my companions concerning the whole range of problems that mutually affect Latin America and the United States.

The exchange of opinion,

unflattering as it might be at times about our nation and its actions in that area, has been quite enlightening for all concerned. The opinions of some of my fellow students on such controversial subjects as Cuba, the spread of Communism in America, the political instability of that area, the solution to the many problems of the region, etc. is often quite different from what we expect or even want to hear. One sees how misinformed we are about Latin American sentiment in general.

A concrete example is Cuba. Latin Americans don't condemn Castro or the Cuban Revolution as we are so used to hearing from our newspapers or the statements of the O.A.S. In fact many people here consider the revolution as a very beneficial change for the masses in Cuba. One does not find a universal fear in Latin America of the menace of Communism, as one does in the United States; in fact, Latin Americans fear our influence in their affairs more than they do that of Russia. This is based upon concrete historical experience.

Therefore, a student who comes to Mexico to spend some time here, will leave better informed over the

actual state of things in Latin America than if he had remained in the States dependent on books and newspapers.

A North American student in Mexico gains a lot more from his stay than the information derived from his studies. Mexico is a country with a culture and a way of life quite distinct from the one that is found in the United States. The country is composed of various regions, each one of which has its own distinctive flavor. There are ancient centers of Indian culture such as Oaxaca, old Spanish cities such as Guanajuato, and of course the vibrant life of the capital, Mexico City. In addition a year in Mexico should give one a fluency in Spanish that is impossible to obtain without living in a Spanish-speaking country.

In conclusion, I would like to say that a North American student in Mexico finds an enriching educational and cultural experience.

In addition let me not forget to say that a North American here carries the responsibility of representing his country and informing Latin American opinion, which is often as misinformed about the United States as we are about Latin America.

IRA W. LIEBERMAN

'Wake Up, Students!'

TO THE EDITOR:

If they gave awards for printing the most disappointing news story of the year, the Rag would win going away for Wednesday's article on Student Council elections.

Disappointing though, is hardly the word for the apathy displayed by this campus at Monday's elec-

tions. Students rant and rave about the "miserable" job Student Council does, but when it comes to the simple action of taking a few minutes to cast a vote to help the situation, only 21% of the students consider the matter worth their time.

If the students on this campus are so disinterested in whether or not

they get the representation they say they want, why bother to represent them at all?

WAKE UP, STUDENTS !!! Voting is a privilege and a duty!

If you won't vote, don't gripe!

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From the MANEATER—

NU's Masters Program

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article, which discusses Nebraska's Masters Program, appeared in the MANEATER, the University of Missouri's student newspaper. The columnist, Larry Fuller, recently visited the University of Nebraska campus.

By LARRY FULLER

A point repeatedly stressed by Bill Seelen, director of student activities, at a recent Crossroads discussion was that many activities of our student government have fall into the "fun" realm and have very little to offer educationally.

But last weekend at Nebraska, we were able to see first hand a new program instituted there that not only was educational, but brought about a closer bond between the alumni and the students.

Called THE "Master's Program," the Student Council invited five alumni who have succeeded in various walks of life in the "outside world" to return to the campus and speak to students.

The participants included J. Lee Rankin, former U.S. Solicitor General; E. H. Dohmann, director of personnel for IBM data processing; Percy Spencer, chairman of the board of Sinclair Oil; Chris L. Christensen, retired vice president and chairman of the executive of Celotex Corp. and Leslie Welch, probate judge of Jackson County.

After a brief orientation program on the campus the first day, the five men spent the rest of their time talking to students in their classes, in assemblies and in their living units.

THE MASTER'S Program gave students an insight to how men who were leaders in their respective fields thought. They answered questions on what people were looking for in graduating students, the Masters' definition of success and how

Rose Queen Chosen

Patricia Schmadeke as chosen Queen of Delta Sigma Pi. Miss Schmadeke is a member of Delta Gamma sorority.

The four attendants are Jane Janson, a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority; Jeri Davis, a member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority; Dixie Huffnagle, of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority; and Willa Meyer, of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Miss Schmadeke will be entered in a contest with the Rose Queens from the other 115 chapters of Delta Sigma Pi in a National contest.

graduates from midwestern universities, such as Nebraska, stacked up against graduates from so-called Eastern prestige schools.

Informal "bull sessions" with the Masters and students popped up everywhere.

Chairman of the Master's Program, Dave Smith, admitted he was afraid that the program might fall flat in the dinner discussion groups, but found these to be about the most successful part of the program.

"We had members of Mortar board and the Innocents (counterpart to QEBH and Mystical 7) escort the Masters and start the discussions," Dave said. "Soon the discussions were moving at a fast pace and often lasted two hours."

THE PUBLIC relations for the University of Nebraska also was a credit to the Student Council. Besides daily coverage of

the Master's speeches in the Daily Nebraskan, the campus newspaper, the Lincoln and Omaha newspapers and radio stations carried stories on the program.

Students generally expressed enthusiasm for the program, but the biggest endorsement came from one of the Masters who said he returned "to help repay the university for all it did for me," but added "after this week I feel I have even a bigger debt."

The Master's Program didn't involve students building 15-foot buffalos in their front yard, evoke the laughter of the New Christy Minstrels singing "Tiptoe Through the Tulips" or the thrill of riding on a ferris wheel on Tiger Weekend of other such "fun."

IT MADE students think.

And listen. It's too late to have a Master's Program here

this year ... but now would be a good time for MSA and a few of the Tap Day "service organizations" who are allegedly devoted to serving the University to start discussing plans with administrators for one next year.

We have the prominent alumni. There's no doubt that we would have the same student interest as Nebraska.

All we need is the organization to back it.

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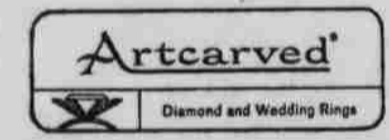
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