

Development of One House Leadership

(Continued from page 1) tive body meant the growth of individuals to serve as party leaders in the background or as elected officeholders in the foreground. This kind of leadership involves the combined use of the two-party system and public office as stepping stones to political prominence.

A large number of the senators were talking about another kind of leadership. They discussed the actual legislative leadership which puts programs and laws and appropriations through a legislature. They admitted that under the partisan system this kind of leadership sometimes means the establishment of responsibility through a party legislative program. They cited, for example, the idea that certain Nebraska issues, such as taxation, education, roads, and recreation, could be part of a party platform upon which partisan members were elected to a partisan legislature. In such a case, these senators explained, the party members in the legislature would be responsible for pushing through the party platform. In such an instance, the leaders basically responsible for rallying party votes

would be party-picked leaders.

However, many of Nebraska's senators felt that the non-partisan, one-house system had developed another type of leadership in this area of legislative leadership. Time after time, senators referred to a "better kind of leadership." They explained that they meant a kind of leadership that developed on the "experience, integrity, and natural leadership qualities" of an individual rather than the choice of what many called "party bosses." By "better" leadership these senators seemed to mean a kind of independent leadership that was better for legislation in Nebraska. From their viewpoint it had little to do with the development of leaders to hold higher office.

In fact, a number of them pointed out that, while they favored this kind of leadership, they believed the system did not develop leaders in the other sense of the word.

No Political Followers
ONE SUMMARIZED the viewpoint of those talking about "better" leadership when he said, "Leaders in the Nebraska Legislature are usually men of exper-

ience in the legislature with the knowledge and broadmindedness to think fairly on all issues. There is seldom a case of following a political leader for whatever advantages this may warrant."

Another felt that leadership thrives without party pressure. He explained, "There is not as much pressure put on individuals by party leaders. Look for examples of pressure in the national legislature."

Several senators emphasized similar beliefs. "Under partisanship," one said, "leadership was generally placed in partisan leaders who were the mouthpieces of their respective parties. The party in power claimed in effect, a mandate from the electorate to pass legislation favorable to the party's position. Independent leadership is sometimes highly desirable."

"In my opinion," one senator commented, "leadership develops to a greater extent in the one-house system than in that in the two-house system. There exists a majority leader and a minority leader of each party. This makes it more difficult for individuals to develop leadership because of the tendency of the party cau-

cus system to follow the leadership of the majority or minority leader."

Another senator made this point even more pointedly when he said, "The men with ability become the leaders of the unicameral body without party interference and without political bickering and interference."

A MINORITY OF 17 SENATORS took a directly opposite view. Typical of their comments was that of one who said, "There has been no development of leadership since the two-house system went out of existence. There is too much individual thinking and jealousy among the members, with each wanting the governor's job or some assignment." He emphasized his point when he added, "No leadership has developed under the unicameral system."

Less Responsive
A colleague, who agreed, carried the criticism one step further. He said, "Each year the leadership becomes less responsive."

One senator who was in general agreement with the unicameral system found that he disagreed violently on the point of non-partisan-

ship and its allied development of leadership.

"In this one respect," he said, "I agree with the opponents of the system. In my opinion, this has resulted in a loss of leadership that the partisanship feature would probably provide. Effective leadership has not, in fact, developed in the Unicameral. I think the answer is that leadership develops better in a partisan legislature. This is, of course, based upon the assumption that men capable of leadership will be elected to the Legislature in the first place."

At least a half-dozen of the senators who opposed non-partisanship because they felt it discouraged leadership used a similar descriptive phrase. One put it this way, "It often said that out of 43 members there are 43 governors."

Another said, "I believe partisanship would be preferable. Organization would hew to one line of thinking and approach. As it is now, we have almost 43."

"EVERY ISSUE HAS 43 solutions — all ignored," a colleague added.

Some senators agreed that there might be 43 leaders, but found this an advantage.

"I feel that we are developing leaders to a certain degree," one of this group said. "Beyond this point, I do not feel any legislator should be considered to be more influential than any other. We are here to consider issues and not be blindly led by some popular leadership."

Another legislative veteran said that "because of non-partisanship, leadership is fragmented in the Unicameral. It is every man for himself in the Unicameral. (I enjoy it for that reason.)"

This senator added that while leadership does not develop as well under this system, "each legislator thinks more independently."

As all of these senators presented their viewpoints, a picture—or more accurately several pictures—of leadership in the Unicameral Legislature began to emerge.

EXPERIENCED LEGISLATIVE observers have said for perhaps two decades that leadership in the Unicameral Legislature is a shifting, part-time phenomenon. They meant that a man might develop a following in a certain legislative area. For example, a

senator might be considered a budgetary expert or an agricultural expert or an educational expert. In these areas his fellow senators might look to him for leadership. Seldom, these observers said, did one man develop as a leader in all areas. This survey bears out the observers' conclusions to a degree. No other issue brought more comment or a wider variety of opinion.

One explained it this way: "It develops as you go along, as the Legislature progresses, irrespective of party affiliation."

Either System
Another senator said that leadership could be developed either under partisanship or non-partisanship. However, he added, "In the non political legislature a 'leader' may have a few followers—in a party he may have a following."

When senators make decisions in a committee, they occasionally submit two reports. One is called a majority report and the other a minority report. Any effort to summarize the opinions of the senators who participated in this survey would have to be called, on the subject of leadership, a summary of minority reports.



UNIVERSITY SOLOISTS—From left, William Kellogg, Beverly George, Mary Lou Hanson and Roderick Gibb. (U of N Photo)

Union's Program Features Soloists

Three Lincoln and one Omaha summer sessions students will be the featured soloists with the University's Orchestra and Chorus at 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Nebraska Union, as part of the Summer Artist Series.

The soloists are William Kellogg, Omaha, baritone; and Lincoln students, Beverly George, soprano; Mary Lou Hanson, Contralto; and Roderick Gibb, tenor.

The 65-piece orchestra will be under the direction of Arnold Schatz, assistant professor of music at the University. The chorus is directed by Earl Jenkins, associate professor of music.

The orchestra selections in-

clude the march from "Tannhauser" by Wagner, the Dance of the Young Maidens from "Gayne," by Khachaturian, selections from "Afternoon of a Faun," by Debussy, "Facade," by Walton, "Soliology of a Bhiksumi," by Wen-Chung, and "Symphony in D Minor" by Franck.

The chorus will join the orchestra, under the direction of Jenkins, in a presentation of the major work "Te Deum," by Bruckner.

Read NEBRASKAN WANT ADS

No Danger of Losing Funds For Ag Research—Frolik

By RICHARD L. HALBERT

"We are not in any danger of losing Federal funds because of lack of matching funds at the moment," said Elvin F. Frolik, Dean of the College of Agriculture.

A request for \$956,684 for growth and development by the College of Agriculture for the 1963-64 biennium has been cut from the University's budget by the Nebraska Legislative Budget Committee.

Dean Frolik expressed disappointment that the Growth and Development portion of his budget had not been accepted.

"We did reasonably well on salaries," said Frolik, "even though they were less than we had asked for."

The Board of Regents released the following statement:

"The budget will not allow for dynamic leadership to help the University meet the future needs of the state in basic and applied research and in the development of agricultural oriented industries. Nor will it provide funds of an investment nature to meet the need of agriculture in keeping the state's basic industry comparative with the rest of the nation. Growth and development programs in this area alone totaling nearly 1 million dollars will not be possible. For the past 8 years the University of Nebraska has had no significant state tax funds for entering new programs."

The College of Agriculture Advisory Council had approved the requested budget, said Dean Frolik. The Council is composed of 70 outstanding agricultural and homemaking leaders from around the state.

Growth and Development as submitted to the Legislative Budget Committee was to be used for:

"The College of Agriculture staff is handicapped by a lack of adequate support of help at the non-professional level. Too often the faculty are forced to do such tasks as typing, field work, laboratory duties, and farm operations because there is not enough classified help to do the work in connection with research, extension and teaching. Faculty people have no inherent objection to doing this kind of work, however, such kind of work can be hired done at a considerable lower rate than we pay faculty people. The faculty, in turn, can better use their time in actually teaching, planning research, advising with graduate students and bringing information to farmers and homemakers."

—Plant Diseases and Insects. The addition of research and educational facilities.

—Home Economics. Increase staff.

—Outstate Work. Expand and add experiment stations.

—Wildlife Management. "Based on conferences with authorities in the field, it is felt that a satisfactory curriculum can be provided only if there are specialists in the field of game birds, including water fowl and fish management."

The following from a release by the Legislative Budget Committee explains what the College of Agriculture will receive if the present budget bill is passed:

"Agriculture Experiment Stations. The budget request was for \$1.25 million, more than is estimated to be expended during the current biennium. The College asked for additional part-time and full-time staff for a variety of experiment station programs and for substantial salary increases for all staff. The Committee did not allow any additional staff but provided for 7 percent annual salary increases for present professional staff and 3.5 percent annual increase for all other staff. The Committee also allowed \$134,800 for vegetable research programs formerly budgeted through the Department of Agriculture."

"Agriculture Extension Service. The budget request for this program involved extension of existing activities and requests for substantially increased staff to permit expansion. The Budget Committee did not find the evidence presented in support of the

increase our research and education in rural development. More effort needs to be directed to finding means and showing farmers how to adjust to the kaleidoscopic

changes taking place on the farm which, in turn, affect the community. Rapidly occurring changes may result in extensive hardships to individuals and communities unless the adjustments are worked out on a sound and orderly basis.

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Otto, Burney Discuss Non-Partisan System

By GEORGE HOAG

It has been said, and probably rightly so, that leaders develop themselves. However, it has also been said that a leader without somebody to lead is a very handicapped individual, if not an extremely frustrated one.

Assuming the latter statement to be true, is it possible that this situation exists in Nebraska's Unicameral Legislature under the non-partisan system?

The question: "Are there all chiefs and no Indians, or vice versa, in the Unicameral," is not a new one, however it is an important one and we interviewed Lieutenant Governor Dwight Burney and Mr. Norman Otto, administrative assistant to the Governor, for their opinions.

Gov. Burney gave his opinions as follows: We asked Burney if the Unicameral was literally without leadership because of non-partisanship.

"No," he said, "but the leadership is split with many different leaders for different things." We then asked Governor Burney if he defined leadership as or should be a necessary part of a legislative body.

"Yes," he replied, "As our legislature is now it is too divided. However, there are people we believe too much power in the hands of the executive is not good and these people have a point that should be considered."

Burney was then asked if he thought the Senators have suffered career-wise under the system?

"Yes, they need the backing of the party to progress up the political ladder. This party influence is lost while serving in the Unicameral," he replied.

We asked Governor Burney if personal party feelings remain with the Senators after they take office and if the political parties try to influence them while they are in office. Burney said they did,

however in certain individuals it was much stronger than others. He also felt that under a partisan system his influence would be much greater and that he would be more responsible to the legislature.

Commenting generally on partisan versus non-partisan systems, Burney said, "Under the non-partisan system each Senator votes what he believes," said Burney. "Also lobbying is more effective," he added.

Burney continued: Under the partisan system more compassed. I believe in the two-party system; when we get away from that, it tends to weaken the state.

Otto, in commenting on leadership said:

"The Nebraska legislature, when in session, reminds me of King on The Mountain," a game we used to play when we were kids. Everyone is trying to get on the mountain and everyone else is trying to get him off."

"I don't think that leaders are nurtured very much, let alone born in the Unicameral," said Otto. "A man will rise to leadership in the legislature due to his natural ability, and the unicameral is dependent each session on these natural leaders for its leadership," he added.

We asked Otto if he felt that defined leadership is or should be a necessary part of a legislative body. The answer was: "Yes, you should have leaders, things would run smoother. Much time is wasted voting down bills and reviving them. A great deal of confusion could be avoided."

Have the Senators suffered career-wise under this system was out next question. "I think the answer should be yes on that," Otto said. "I believe the record will show that the senators haven't been very successful, after serving in the unicameral, of moving up the political ladder. I believe a career politician could go further, faster, if he bypassed the unicameral!"

We then asked Otto if personal party feelings remain after Senators take office and if the political parties tried to influence them during their tenure of office.

"Yes," he replied, "There is partisanship to that extent and probably always will be, however, the parties haven't been very effective."

"Would your job be easier or more difficult under a partisan system?" Its difficult to tell," he answered. "It would certainly effect us because we are in the minority party."

We then asked Otto if he would care to comment generally on partisan versus non-partisan systems. "We favor the non-partisan system. It is my opinion that with the small number of Senators, we have a proper balance of representation, and this could not be obtained with a partisan legislature."

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