

Monday, January 13, 1964

STANDARDS WEEK:

What Is It?

By Sally Larsen
President, AWS Board

Associated Women Students has initiated a new program this year called AWS Standards Week. This is not a week in which the AWS Board is exclaiming self-righteous concern over the standards of the women on this campus. Instead, throughout this week, the women students themselves will be re-examining their understanding of the word "standards." They will be concerned with the question of responsibility in the area of setting and upholding high standards. And they will be reviewing the rules which result from the concept and principles of high standards.

Through the aid of the standards chairmen in the separate living units, the women students will be asked to broaden their concept of the word "standards." They will be reminded that high standards apply not only to grooming and social conduct; but also they apply in the areas of honesty, responsibility, intellectual pursuit, and practically every other phase of life.

The women students will also remind themselves that it is their responsibility as women, and especially as women who have had the privilege of college training, to set the goals of high standards for the future American society.

Thirdly, the women students will review some of the manners and mannerisms which best illustrate a broad concept of the field of standards.

Through a program of discussions, lectures, and etiquette hints, Associated Women Students hopes to provoke serious thought and consideration of the feminine role in the field of standards. We hope that the standards emphasis and evaluation of this week will be at least one step toward maintaining high standards throughout our college careers and the rest of our lives.



THE WAYWARD BUSES

CAMPUS OPINION

LITTLE MAN ON CAMPUS



Our Sacred Cows

By JIM MOORE

I wonder what the State Senators will think when they see the results of the drinking poll . . . that 80% of the student body drinks and that 60% of these are minors.

Yep, 5,000 minors break the law on the average of once a week.

Where does Student Council go from here? An investigation into the problems of student drinking? That would be like investigating why the barn door was open after the horses had left.

The Council has a clear, definite mandate. It has the jurisdiction (Article III, Section 1, G. of its constitution) "To exercise . . . powers that may benefit the student body," and precedent (i.e., the student discount card, etc.) to legislate for the student welfare.

If, however, the entire Council takes the attitude of one of its members, that "We have more fun sneaking the beer in the back seat of a car" then we can only pity the senior honoraries into which such leaders will inevitably be taken.

But then our aspirants have only the leadership of such an illustrious innocent as Dick Weill to follow. After his barrage at a Council meeting that the Council can only act on issues with which the majority of students have expressed a positive concern, then we must join Mick Rood in saying that "He is misguided."

The Council has an issue. But then, it would be nice if nothing were done . . . no one would need fear his May Day Career.

If the Council is concerned with the welfare of its students, then it must act on this issue. If however, we hear that the poll did not show the students wanted Council to do anything, and therefore, "We, as representatives, can not go against our constituents," then we can only marvel at the lack of consistency in Council leadership.

It was not so long ago that Dick Weill said, "I was not elected to represent student opinion. The good of the University must be considered first." No Council member disagreed.

So with the "good of the University" in mind, I trust that Weill will be among the first to demand that Council do some-

thing about us drunken masses.

What to do? First of all, the Council and the Student Body must join with Dean Ross to correct the situation. He needs help from the student body . . . to work out a solution.

This column has, in the past, attacked the Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs—not the man, the position. G. Robert Ross is, I hope, aware of the problem, but the woeful lack of communication prevents him from acting, and results in edicts from the title.

What can Ross and his students, working as a group, expect to accomplish? What can they do?

Dean Ross and President Christie should, together, present the recent drinking poll and its results to the Board of Regents. Perhaps this group could suggest some way to rectify the situation of minor drinking.

Or perhaps the Regents would allow beer in fraternity and sorority houses. As the Greek houses are built on private land, it is only the present Regents rulings that prevent beer there now. (Some law authorities feel that this action is unlawful, but it still stands.) The University of California (Berkeley) has taken this way out.

As for the dorm's situation, the campus police could be as blind as they were the night of the "open campus." (This also works at Cal.)

If all this fails — action by the Board of Regents — then it will be necessary to follow the route of changing state law to lower the drinking age to 19.

Contrary to what many Council members think, asking for such a change would not put the University in a bad light. Many, that's right Weill, many State Senators are talking of just such a move.

But an easier route to follow is to take a lesson from the State of Missouri. All that's needed to allow minors to drink is a law . . . "A 19 minor can be in a bar where just 3.2 beer is sold." The constitution and laws still stand — but the implications are obvious.

But perhaps Council will still do nothing.

After all they were not elected to represent student opinion — they were elected to get points.

Dear Editor:

The drinking problem has been defined as "the gap between the law and the reality of the situation." In any analysis of the drinking problem, there is an unwritten (and possibly unknown) law demanding that the actual existence of this problem be indisputably established.

Being a typical apathetic student, totally unfamiliar with the current campus situation, at this time I propose a poll to be conducted to determine if this problem exists. This would be a project of no mean undertaking; the talents of the best minds at the University would be required.

To begin, the poll could ask the student if he drinks.

On Drinking Poll

If he marks an "X" in the box marked "Yes," this should give us a clue. However, there exists a questionable element at this point. The poll must also ascertain as to the age of the student. Consider John William Drink's form. There are four possibilities:

1. Yes, I drink, and am under the age of 21.
2. Yes, I drink, and am 21 or over.
3. No, I do not drink, and am under 21.
4. No, I do not drink, and am over 21.

Given that Johnny marks one of these, how would we decide whether or not there is a problem? We can discount possibilities (3) and (4), because by the original definition of the drinking problem there is no "gap" and hence no problem. Possibilities (1) and (2) require a more stringent examination. If (2) is the case, there "apparently" is no problem since Johnny is of legal drinking age. However, if (1) is the case, a definite problem exists (unless there are extenuating circumstances such as he drinks only when forced to, etc.)

After the results of this poll have been collected and recorded, they would have to be interpreted. If only one person answered that he is under 21 and drinks, would this constitute a significant problem? How many students must drink before there is a true problem? Obviously this requires a subjective judgment. Perhaps another poll could be conducted to determine who should make this judgment.

What should be done with the information from our drinking poll? Since this is a problem of great significance, I now propose that a poll be conducted to determine what to do with this information. Yet we must be careful; first a poll would have to be conducted to determine who should conduct this last poll. Fi-

The Daily Nebraskan

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Law In America: The New Religion

Collegiate Press Service
By Mike Perlgt

The Supreme Court is presiding over the (rightful) demise of organized religion in the government and governing of the United States. A strict interpretation of the law will necessitate further separation of organization religion and the state.

The church is no longer a check on the government. It can no longer provide a moral or ethical setting for politics. It can no longer be the dominant force in our lives.

All this is inevitable — and right. The Church, no matter what its beliefs, cannot claim a pre-eminent place in a society where allegiance is to more than one church. A consensus of any community is required for a true belief system to operate.

Traditional Islam and Hinduism are examples. Religion is not a part of the lives of Muslims or Hindus: it is their lives, and everything they do is based on their religions.

But there is one thing in which practically all Americans believe, one thing on which a consensus of the community can be reached. There is one belief system with no rivals, one church that has the power to regulate the lives of all of us, one candidate for an American religion.

That is law.

Law has a bible: the Constitution, written just as vaguely as the Bible or Koran and just as subject to interpretations. It has a priesthood: lawyers, a high priesthood: judges, and a papacy: the Supreme Court.

And most of all it is a total belief system. One has to believe in the law prevailing for logically that is nonsense. Carry law out to its logical extreme and it is ridiculous. The search for consistency in law is self-defeating because much of the basis for law is self-

contradictory. Yet many people continue to believe in law as a consistent system, as a way of living life. They are the believers.

And they are ministered to by members of the priesthood, graduates of divinity schools (law schools) and schooled in the intricacies of the fine points of interpretation of vague statutes. Our society is built on a basis of law and only a lawyer can understand its inner workings. No wonder law is the easiest road to the power elite in the United States today. And no wonder lawyers win exorbitant fees for counseling bewildered people lost in the red tape of bureaucracy.

Law is a full-time religion in this country. Organized churches can only command a part of the public's time and a small part of most people's lives. Law pervades all.

For a while it looked like science would become the American religion. But science, another total belief system (a system in terms of which everything can be explained, like Communism and Capitalism), has been discredited and study of science is no longer the road to political or economic success in this country. And law reigns supreme.

I cannot believe in law personally. I cannot place my hopes in any belief system. My protest is the avoidance of law school — and of organized religion, science, and economics.



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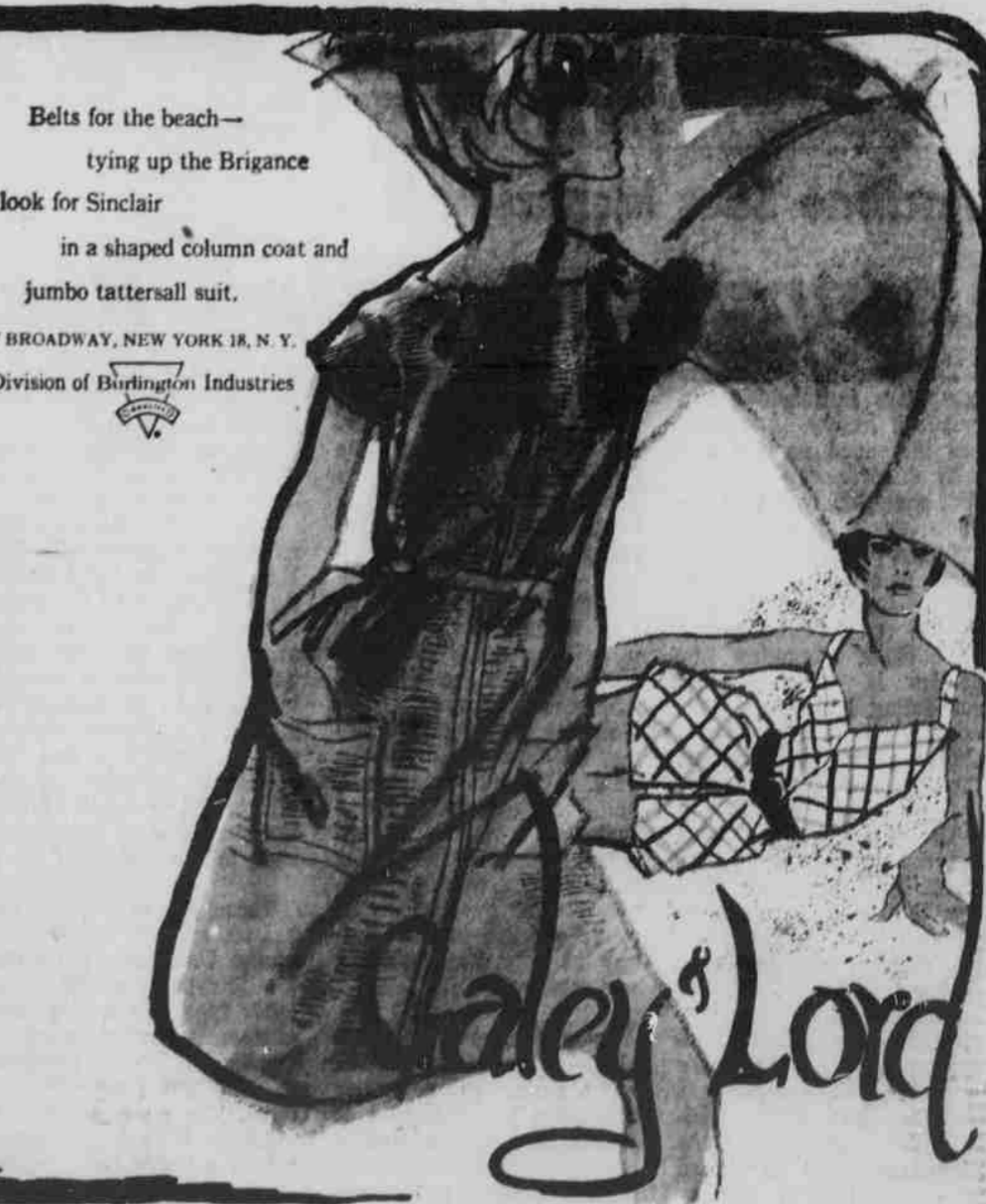
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