

NU's Friend

When one is in the process of carrying out a duty, especially one where policy decisions must be made, there is very little praise of his work. So it has been with Regents Richard E. Adkins, retiring president of the Board of Regents. Having served a one-year term, he is now retiring, but will continue on the Board.

Typical of Adkin's forward-looking viewpoints, the Board of Regents, under his leadership, has looked to the future of the University more this year than in the past.

It has arranged for a University planner to project into the future and build a Master Plan for the institution.

It was under his administration that the compulsory ROTC plan was abolished and the new program was set up. It was during his year that the room and board fees were raised in order to provide for better facilities for the resident students. It was during his

year that the Regents courageously submitted the large budget to the Legislature, and then compiled the facts to prove that the amount was needed.

In Adkins the University had a man to whom politics and political finagling were minor in importance; to whom keeping a friend may be more important than winning an election. This is not to imply that Adkins is politically naive. It is only to say that he prefers to use other methods to win his point. This was good for the University.

In Val Peterson, the new president, the University has a man who has built his career around politics. This, too, is good for the University. What Adkins could not accomplish by friendship, possibly Peterson can accomplish by a politician's abilities.

To Adkins, the University owes a big thank you, both for his job as president and for his continued service on the Board of Regents.

SUSAN SMITHBERGER

CAMPUS OPINION

Honorary Nomination

Dear Editor:

This letter serves as an honorary nomination for an Outstanding Nebraskan who merits this award but is ineligible to receive it. That person is Susan Smithberger, the editor of the Daily Nebraskan.

Miss Smithberger not only serves as a representative of one of the outstanding journalism departments in the nation. Hers will be remembered as the paper which made the most constructive stride toward influencing the Administrative opinion.

The issue of December 7 was an eloquent summary of both principles and pragmatism. The Nebraskan's need for funds was made the subject of a series of

articles by Miss Smithberger's entire staff that fairly presented one of the most crucial problems in their University careers.

If students continue to enjoy a fine collegiate paper — if other journalism classes bring fame to the University — and if statements of student problems remain on this high plane, a great deal of credit must go to one of the Nebraskan's finest editors, Susan Smithberger.

Sincerely,
Dave Kittams



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The Political Spectrum

Democratic Republican

By LARRY ROGERS
From 1900 until 1909 the Democratic party can hardly be said to have existed. By the end of this period, however, the incipient split within the Republican party — between its emerging progressive wing and its entrenched conservative wing — was becoming an open one.

Republican leaders such as Spooner, Platt and Aldrich in the Senate and "Uncle Joe" Cannon, Speaker of the House, were being challenged by such progressives as La Follette, Beveridge and Norris. Theodore Roosevelt, although sympathetic to progressive demands for reform, cleared his first term decisions with the conservative faction — knowing that opposition to it would mean political suicide. This conservative resistance was to strengthen during his second term and Roosevelt, in an effort to keep the party united, was unable to pass significant legislation.

When Woodrow Wilson emerged in 1912 to lead the Democratic party, this Republican split had badly fragmented the party — to the point where T.R. ran as a third party candidate against his own successor, William Howard Taft. Under the impact of progressivism, Wilson had moved from a conservative Grover Cleveland "democratism" to a growing progressive position. His early reputa-

tion, in fact, had been made while progressive governor of New Jersey.

The "New Freedom" had as its basic objectives: tariff reform, trust reform, banking reform and a bettering of the position of American labor (primarily the exemption of the labor union from prosecution as an illegal trust under the Sherman Act). While T.R.'s new nationalism represented the desires of a rebellious element within society, the program of Wilson did not represent a repudiation of the past and did not threaten party unity.

Wilson's emphasis as president was upon strong executive leadership — as has been the case with all of our great presidents. He was also characterized by his loyalty to the Democratic party. While many contemporary writers lament the prevalence of political partisanship, it is quite clear that all of our presidents of the first rank have been intensely partisan as politicians.

Wilson's partisan spirit took the form of devotion to party because he quite rightly placed his emphasis upon the political party as an instrument of social progress.

This Wilsonian spirit allowed him to accomplish something almost without precedent in the American experience — the fulfillment of all of his campaign promises.

By GEORGE DURANSKE
No one can question the validity of the statement that the presidential election of 1964 will have to be considered one of the most significant happenings of the past year. Now that the air has been cleared of the emotionalism of the election, perhaps a second glance should be taken of the ideas and suggestions emerging from the smoke that surrounded the first week in November.

One of the first conclusions that can and should be drawn is that the United States is in sorry need of a system of nominations which reflects the views of the people, and not merely that segment of the electorate with enough ambition to attend party meetings or, perhaps, those persons who have not waited for the press to release a barrage of information to aid them in their selection of a man best suited for the job.

One proposal which emerges from these problems and is supported by a small group of people is the national nominating primary in which all potential candidates for the presidency would be entered in party races which would determine the nominee of each of the major political parties.

The advantages are obvious. The primary arrangement would allow all persons who care to affiliate themselves with the party to participate in the selection of a presidential

nominee. Unfortunately this method has many wrinkles which have not yet been ironed out. Not the least of which is the lack of uniformity from state to state on nominating systems and selection of delegates to the national convention. All of these laws and methods would have to be made uniform.

Also the problem would develop of perhaps too many candidates on the ballot and no one person obtaining a majority. In that case, the party would then either have to take the person with the most votes, which might be only ten per cent, or a run-off primary would have to be conducted.

These disadvantages coupled with the expense of the program which would have to be assumed by the

federal government make the program unfeasible at this time.

The second point of interest to emerge from the election was the rather jumbled state of the Republican party which now seems to be reforming continuity of thought. No longer are there great shouts for the hides of those who failed to produce a victory in 1964. There seems to be the rather quiet claiming of those hides in somewhat unpublishized meetings and reorganization conventions. The moderates seem to be gaining a stronger foothold on the GOP.

The future of the Republican party is once again emerging from the clouds of despair and the loyal opposition will be prepared to issue a strong challenge in 1968.

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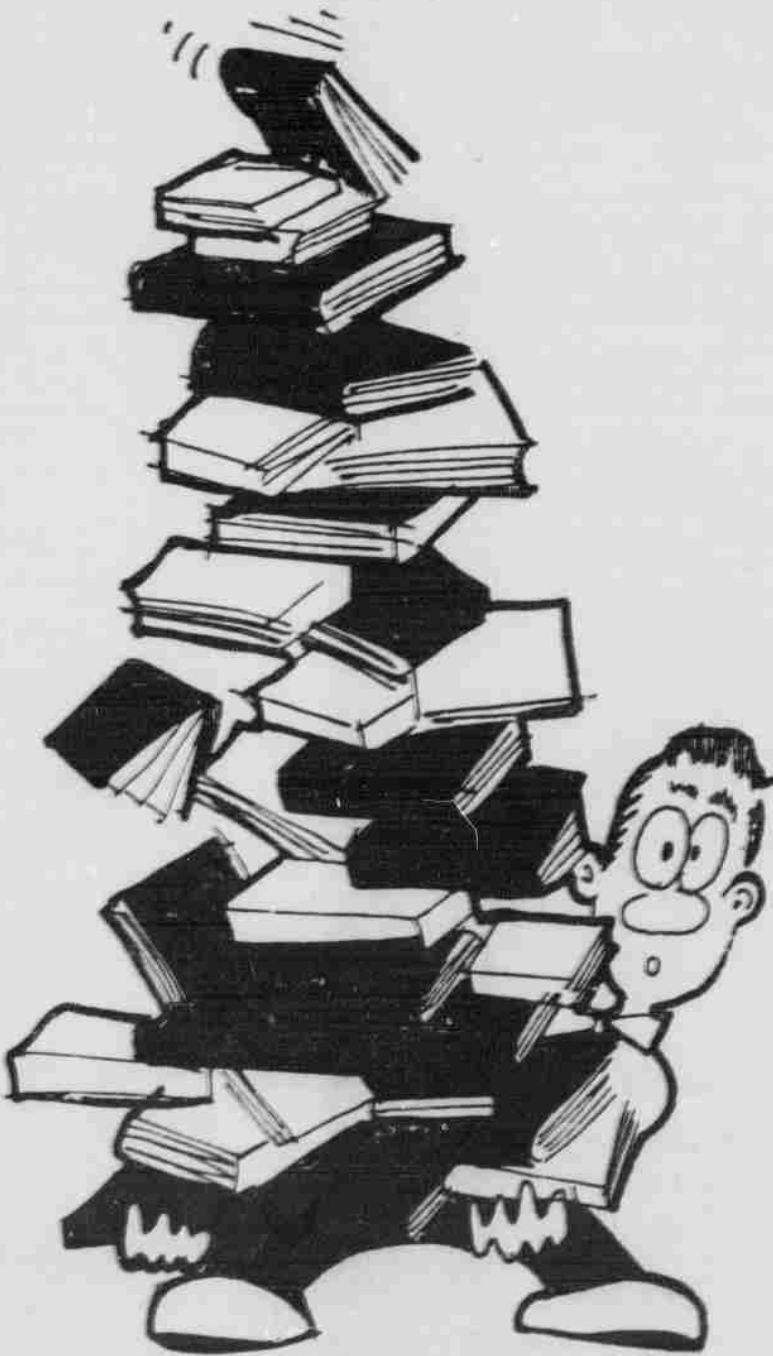
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