

Frank Partsch, Editor

Mike Jeffrey, business manager

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Thursday, March 4, 1965

9-Point Freak

Having written earlier in the semester about the artificiality of the nine-point grading system, we were quite happy to hear Dean Walter Miltzer speak at yesterday's Student Council meeting on the same subject.

His arguments against the nine-point system, understandably, went much deeper than those we presented earlier, and, after hearing him, we are even more convinced that the competition for the "fourth decimal place" would be stricken immediately.

Miltzer pointed out that the University is the only school in this area (or most of the country) with the nine-point system, with the exception of several Nebraska colleges which use it for the convenience of their students who plan to transfer here. It must be quite ugly when it appears in a pile of applications for jobs or national scholarships, in a pile of ABCD transcripts.

We especially liked what Miltzer had to say about the nature of grading. Yes, truly, if a grade is one man's judgment of another, how can it be calculated to the fourth decimal place?

We are frankly getting sick of instructors who "drew the fine line" or trampled over it with seeming disregard of the fourth decimal place; we were nauseated by students whose only goal in college was (as Miltzer termed it) "the highest grade average ever given" or "the world's record in the 220."

Perhaps our grandchildren will see the day when a "pass or fail" system is practical. We would be satisfied at this time to see the freakish nine-point system removed and a four-point scale in its place; the search for nines removed and the search for knowledge in its place.

WE WERE ALSO HAPPY to hear John Kenagy's report on the opening of the Senator's Program. We have been aware of the possibilities of this program—unfulfilled possibilities, we might add—for some time now, and were eagerly waiting and waiting and waiting and waiting.

We feared that the announcement of the program's appearance would again be accompanied by idealistic statements about swinging votes to the University budget, by "intelligently discussing this problem with the Senators." This cannot be done, and we are better to create an enjoyable atmosphere in an effort to impress the legislators with the product we are selling. Kenagy and his cohorts seemed to be in agreement with this. We would be violently opposed to anything else.

The senators program offers students a chance to meet the men they've heard so much about. Take it. • FRANK PARTSCH

University of South Carolina Gamecocks

Dear Ma and Pa:

I know this is getting to be old hat but it looks as if I'm going to need some extra money again this week. Everyone talks about "run-away" inflation but this semester seems to bear it out. Last semester I got along on \$20 a week, but this semester, so far, I can't seem to catch up with myself.

Let me detail just how I spent the weekly allowance this week:

MONDAY—laundry \$3.25, coffee \$1.10, set of colored pencils (for geography 18) \$3.39, cashing of \$20 check \$1.10, newspaper \$3.30 (first two dimes lost in machine), replacement of stolen German text—Die Deutsche Novelle—\$3.40, parking ticket (second offense) \$2.00, lunch \$1.43, typewriter ribbon \$1.19, gas for the VW \$2.00 and \$4.47 for a supper consisting of a hamburger and a coke. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR MONDAY—\$14.63.

TUESDAY—coffee (in Russell House in order to save money) \$0.07, lunch \$0.69, newspaper \$0.20 (only lost one dime—the machine in front of the post office at Russell House must have been "repaired" again!), supper was free since I ate at Percy and Mildred's. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR MONDAY AND TUESDAY \$15.59.

WEDNESDAY—starting with a balance of \$4.41, I knew I would not be able to stretch it through until the check on Monday so I borrowed \$10.00 from Paul and \$5.00 from Beverly. This gave me a new net balance of \$19.41. My expenses on this day were \$1.00 even. Two \$4.55 meal tickets on the black market (\$.80) and \$.20 for the "State" again.

THURSDAY—The law school exam fee of \$12.00 took quite a big slice out of the \$18.41 balance carried over from Wednesday. Spent \$1.39 on food today which leaves \$5.02 for meals through Sunday and my Saturday night movie date with MJ.

As I write this letter (Friday morning), I have only a dollar a day left for meals (until the check comes) and \$2.00 for the movie Saturday night. So, please, PLEASE send \$5.00 next week instead of the usual \$20.00 so that I can pay Paul and Beverly and start again with a clean, if inadequate, slate.

The "Great Society's" deficit spending policy may be causing inflation and I may be feeling it, but it seems as if there are other factors which combine to keep me in constant debt.

Looking over the expenses one would think that certain items are unusual or that at best would not appear each week. This may be true but on other weeks certain expenses crop up to take the place of those which came before. For example, whereas this week I had a German book stolen and had to pay a \$12.00 exam fee, next week I might have a world atlas stolen and have to make my "Book-of-the-Month" selection and replace over-used, stainless steel razor blades and have the car greased and pay my life insurance premium, ad nauseum.

It just seems to be a conspiracy. LBJ, the dean, the newspaper's circulation manager, the campus cops and cotton-pickin', book-stealin' students are all a part of the grand design to cost you all money. Sorry.

Love, Marty

P.S. Don't forget to send \$\$\$\$

CLOD Not Alone

Dear editor,

A letter by C.L.O. Dunkirk in Wednesday's Daily Nebraskan convinced me that I was not alone in my increasingly futile attempts to use the library as something other than a refuge from the cold.

One night last week the library was closed, without warning, at 9 p.m. The apparent reason was the fact that two inches of snow had fallen.

Over Christmas vacation that great stone hulk was open for a grand total of six days out of 21. (Even at that, it closed at 4:50.) Last summer the library was closed by 9:20 p.m. every night. Weekend policy is even more asinine: Closed both Friday and Saturday nights.

The library staff, culled from the scrapings of graduate school rejects, blandly answers that this is all a question of not enough money from the State

Legislature. This is all very well and good—especially since none of the students gives a damn one way or the other.

The University once boasted that it possessed a research library that was the equal of Princeton's. This is patently false—even if it were true, none of us could possibly know because we can't get in.

I realize that the proportion of people trying to do research is not large. I also realize that the University is hard pressed for money.

It does seem odd, however, that money can be found to build new dorms (the architecture of which is unbelievably bad) and that none can be found to extend library hours.

I don't think that this is an exorbitant demand. Who knows, it might even lower the University's illiteracy rate.

Larry Rogers

More On Library

Dear editor,

C.L.O.D., whose letter appeared in Wednesday's Daily Nebraskan, is obviously unaware of the traffic problems created by Nebraskaland weather. Library employees and patrons need these few extra hours so they can go home safely.

The satirical reference to Student Union hours shows C.L.O.D.'s failure to appreciate the value of social recreation in a university community. Lengthy library

hours encourage students to isolate themselves amidst old volumes. Such cultural ostracism increases the incidence of warped personalities.

For the sake of the mental health of all students of this institution, the hours of the Student Union, rather than the Library, should be extended. This would encourage everyone to develop socially as well as scholastically.

Nathaniel Ulysses Reginald Dork

Time Again?

Dear editor,

Not long ago Bob Cherny started a recall petition because he felt the people who were representing him and the College of Arts and Sciences were not doing their jobs.

With a few words about misunderstanding, the drive fizzled out.

Now the members of the Student Council and more specifically the judi-

ary committee have failed to discharge an obligation to the students.

When friends and political influence can sway then Student Council decisions, it is indeed time to start a petition to dissolve the whole of Student Council and hold an election and try to bring honesty back into student government.

Uncle Al

Apathy Almost Approved

By William Morris Colorado Daily

IT IS THAT time of year again.

Yesterday I was minding my own business at work when one of those bright-young-men-a-b-o-u-t-campus that I know came by and asked me who I would support for ASUC president.

"I DIDN'T know that it was election time," I said.

"It is. So far we have two candidates."

"Good. I hope you enjoy them."

"Aren't you going to vote?"

"Are you kidding? Me vote? I haven't voted in an election in five years. I'm the original apathetic student."

"You haven't voted?" I

don't think he realized that there were actually people around who didn't care.

"NOT SINCE I was an impressionable, beanie-wearing freshman and they told me that I was voting to break the Greek's hold on campus politics."

"Did it?"

"How should I know? I don't pay any attention."

All of which is true. And to make matters even better—or worse depending on how you look at it—most of the student body is with me. The only really large turnout of voters on any issue during the time that I have been here was the referendum on women's housing rules a year ago.

Which is as it should be. Let those who think that this

structure of student democracy and political learning is worthwhile participate in it. I only ask them: does it have any validity as far as the world is concerned? Do your resolutions to support the admission of Red China to the UN or to advocate the abolition of HUAC really have any bearing on what happens out there?

I suppose worrying about the lack of clocks in the UMC is practical, but the greatest, overwhelming mass of business conducted by our representatives is just so much hot air.

BUT, THIS is just me. Vote if you so desire.

Me. I won't vote until someone runs who advocates nickle cups of coffee in the UMC, abolition of ASUC (or at least extreme modification of it), and a severe punishment for armchair quarterback.

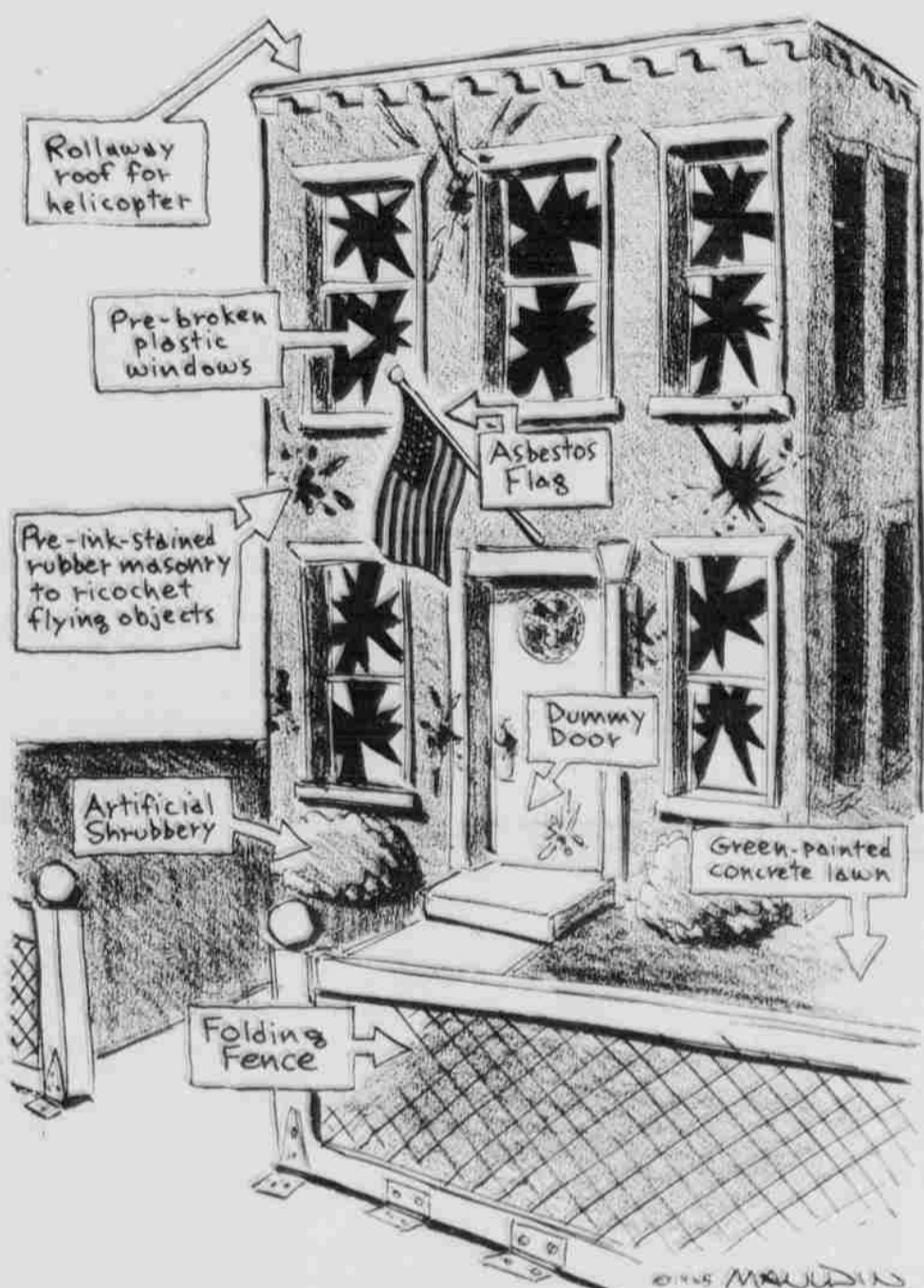


IT'S LIKE MAGIC

It's like magic the way professional planning and service by a qualified life underwriter can give you a sense of security as you view the future. For 118 years CML has been dedicated to personal life insurance, serviced through highly competent career agents. Our free booklet, "How Much and What Kind?" shows why it's best to have a life insurance program designed specially for you. Write for your copy today.



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Closet Case

Earlier in the semester I promised a list of an arbitrary list of the world's ten greatest men. Naturally I would expect a lot of disagreement, and would like to hear about it. Here is my list.

1. Winston Churchill.
2. Leonardo da Vinci.
3. Aristotle.
4. William Shakespeare.
5. Abraham Lincoln.
6. Albert Schweitzer.
7. Louis Pasteur.
8. Simon Bolivar.
9. Mahatma Gandhi.
10. Isaac Newton.

It goes without saying that a number of good people didn't make the list. Those

who made up this list tried to disqualify nationalists and religious figures to make their decision easier. Someday, I want to make

up the ten worst villains, but, as I heard in an interesting movie, "That is another story."

Frank Partsch

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Mike Jeffrey, business manager

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