

Realistic Attitude Wanted

It is unbelievable that the IFC Executive Committee could have written the up-in-the-clouds, holier-than-thou statement regarding drinking presented at the IFC meeting Wednesday night.

The statement says in part, "Responsible fraternity leaders find little difficulty in accepting the reasonableness of the University's concern, yet they are hampered as elected officers by the attitude of their members stemming from illegal and irresponsible high school drinking."

What do the words "reasonable" and "concern" mean? The executive committee's statement is vague, but points to the University's responsibilities in promoting the concept that good citizenship requires respect for law.

This is a part of the University's responsibility. We believe the laws should be respected. We also believe that laws are subject to change and should be changed if they cause more appreciable harm than they do good.

The drinking regulations at this university are an example of laws which do more harm than good. The Campus Handbook outlines the regulations: "Student groups and their members are expected to abide by the University code concerning drinking. In addition to recognition of state laws forbidding sale, possession or consumption of liquor by minors, the University for-

bids possession and consumption of liquor at any social event sponsored by any University group."

There is a good argument that the University regulation is merely a part of the wording of the Campus Handbook. The preceding statement notes that students are expected to abide by the University code. But "code" is not capitalized, nor should it be, for there is no printed code of the University of Nebraska rules and regulations.

The "code" is simply a vague term which describes the principles to be upheld while one is a member of the University of Nebraska community. Fine.

But, the code statement regarding drinking is totally impractical. The penalties for disobeying the regulations are not enforced—not at undergraduate, or graduate parties.

That the IFC executive committee would be so naive as to propose that no alcoholic beverages be present in the chapter house or on the property; that no funds controlled by the chapter be used, directly or indirectly, to purchase booze; and that the fraternities refrain from organizing house functions involving drinking is phenomenal.

No one knows better than the IFC leaders how ineffective the proposed article would be. It would not be enforced. It could not be enforced.

In fact, if the amendment is ratified, the results may be worse than the present situation. Those who would have their Friday and Saturday night drinking parties will find a way to escape the regulations, the amendment restrictions—probably by driving 50 or 60 miles out of Lincoln—and hopefully they will arrive back in Lincoln safely.

It is time that IFC, University and state officials took a realistic look at the drinking regulation problem.

The present state laws are not obeyed. One reason is because most parents do not object to their high school students having a social drink or two. It is the unusual college age man who does not know his drinking limit.

Because most students have learned a bit about social drinking before their college days—the University restrictions seem unrealistic and thus are broken.

To prevent minors (those under 21 in this state) from having a drink or two or even getting drunk is impossible. It can not be done—not when the laws and regulations defy them to drink. This only adds incentive. We have heard too many college men and coeds bragging about the amount they consumed—without getting caught. The situation is a paradox—a rather sad one.

We urge the IFC to overrule the proposed amendment. We urge them to stand up and say what they really believe about the drinking situation on campus. We plead with them to muster the backbone to influence a change in the drinking regulations on campus and in this state.

You, the members of IFC, have the opportunity to use your authority in making the drinking laws reasonable, "obeyable." Use it. MARILYN HOEGEMEYER

Poison Ivy

When I first ran into Ralph Birdsley (he refers to our meeting as being run over, but this is only his opinion), anyway when I first met Ralph, he was a snake. He still is. It has something to do with genes, I guess.

Talking with Ralph gave me great insight—I mean, really have you ever for one minute considered the snake's point of view? It's small believe me, Ralph's life or any typical snake's life, for that matter (and Ralph is a typical snake, even if he isn't a typical college man) is filled with Butterfinger wrappers, cigarette butts and beer bottle caps.

Even progress has only brought more misery into the snake's life—everytime they slither across a beer flip-top they dissect themselves and if they don't dissect themselves they do suffer a nasty gash.

This, of course, brought me to the realization of why most children dislike their elders (I hope my readers were able to make the great mental leap to this subject, Alley-Oop!) . . . Think

about it clan. How would you like to be two feet tall and led to your toothless granny and be introduced. To a two feet tall person the kneecap is the only thing you have encountered, besides the carving on the legs of your mother's bridge table. Now, really, have you ever tried to look a kneecap in the eye? Or try to talk to a kneecap? No, I thought not.

So there friends is the real reason why people grow up to be shifty-eyed—they dislike looking at kneecaps.

p.b.

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