Editorials

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

Commentary

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1967

Continue Free University

Responses to the Nebraska Free University, an experiment in education unique to this campus, indicate that there is a diversity of opinion as to its general success. Thus implied is the question of whether or not NFU should be continued.

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Reports from students and instructors who lead the classes show that attendance in most cases dribbled down to just a few students in the last sessions. Some group leaders implied that they felt the attitude was discouraging and that for the most part the results did not justify the amount of work and time which went into structuring the courses.

Catch-All Category

Other criticisms of the Free University fall into the catch-all category of politics. Many people felt that the entire "institution" was insulted and degraded when some students used it as a selling point in the campus political whirl. Further, they have criticized some of the people who were most interested in establishing the Free University of not following through enough to even attend a class or two.

The Daily Nebraskan feels that in part these objections are valid. For the persons who dedicated scarce time to the development of an idea which seemed exciting and plausible, the reaction of the majority of students is of course disappointing.

However, it can not be so discouraging as to warrant discontinuation of a project which has hardly had time to be tested. First it must be remembered that the regular University has a load of courses designed to get all the students educated. The Free University is a supplement and hopefully a catalyst which will stimulate change in the Institution. Therefore it is somewhat irrelevant if only a few students continued in their Free University courses, if those few students were benefited by it.

Numbers Increase

Second, if numbers of students sincerely interested is a criterion for judging the validity of continuing NFU, then it should also be remembered that the University is getting larger each year and logically, the number of students interested in some extra-curricular education will also increase.

Also, the fact that NFU has now been around for a while will help. Next semester the Free University will not pop up like it's the bandwagon to jump on . Instead its goals will be more thoroughly understood and some of its courses will have gained sparkling reputations. Perhaps, then, student interest will be more wide-spread and more sincere.

Regarding the accusations that the Free University became a political tool, the Daily Nebraskan feels that these are hardly fair. Students who helped organize NFU should not have to negate that fact. Even if the mention of it was offensive to some people, this should have nothing to do with an evaluation of the Free University itself.

The Daily Nebraskan urges the students and the instructors who were involved in the Free University this semester to get together to discuss its perpetuation. The organization of it from semester to semester will undoubedly have to take on some structure or it may slip by and be forgotten. This would be a set back in the attempt to upgrade education at Nebras-

Going there might give you a chance

to learn how to really live. By the way, if the thought does not abhor you, you might decide to use some of Europe's

thousands of camping places, in which

case you would find that for many Euro-

peans both poor and rich, camping during

vacations has also become a way of life. On your right you might find a newspaper

editor from Amsterdam in his expensive

trailer, on your left a professor from Australia and his family might have "put

up" their camping bus, and behind you a

group of students from Tunisia might

have put up their tents. You might say

that international travel is also a way of

Going To Europe 'Un-American'?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Benno Wyman a University student from Germany, wrote the following article on student experiences and travel in Europe. Wyman is studying for his doctorate in economics. He has guided students several times throughout Europe and has traveled ex-tensively in Europe, Asia and the Middle East.)

As you probably all know, we foreigners are all the same, just terrible. We have all kinds of bad habits and many of us don't even know how to use the American language properly. Surely, anyone who has any culture, should know how to use that language.

So Backward

Many Speak English

life in Europe.

Many Americans are afraid that they

! I'M YOOR BEAUTIFUL STRING NYMPH. IN LERE TO MAKE THE LAMPUS RIGHT FOR LOYERS. (YOU MIGHT CALL ME A 14.5. ADTITUESS)

FIRST_ ILL TAKE MY HAGIC POSY & TURN THE WHOLE CAMPOS GREEN.



Our Man Hoppe-

The Great Ruin Shortage

giant ruin.

Arthur Hoppe

tourist? Ruins. We had more ruins per capita than any nation in the world. Big ruins, little ruins -the whole country was one

expecting more than a mil-lion tourists!" Mr. Xenophilos shook

his head sadly. "There simply won't be enough ruins to go around." To meet this critical **Campus Opinion**

Nebraskan Criticism Valid

Dear Editor:

A reporter (Mark Gordon) from the Daily Nebraskan interviewed me last Wednesday about the fairness of the campaign previous to ASUN elections. I said that elections were important in a democratic republic, and then I asked him if he was referring to the "Tombstone Epitaph."

He said, "Yes." I said the contributors showed a great deal of courage, and their criticism was done in a humorous manner. I said that the Daily Nebraskan has been very radical in its views, and the reporting done in it has been very biased.

And when the contents are criticized, their reply is that the critic is using "dirty tactics." (How closed can a mind get?) At that, the reporter left and I felt my comments would not be published (another example of biased reporting), and so I am writing this.

I would like to comment that publishing a paper such as the "Tombstone Epitaph" had become a necessity, and its contributors are to be praised for their courage. In its humor, I did not feel it was slanderous, but in fact implied the truth of the situation at the Daily Nebraskan office. And I do not feel that it affected the voting of the informed student. But there is need to inform

Many, particularly radicals (left-winger), seem to lack faith in the intelligence of the general public, and feel that they must "think for them." Such is the Communist ideology, and also that of "dictatorships" (some of which are classified as right wing.)

Such is the "Battle for the Mind" in opposition to the "Battle for the Heart" as espoused by honest Christianity. My policy is to always to have an open mind and to accept nothing as fact, per se.

Oscar Blomstedt

Union Is Hot

Dear Editor:

Recently when I was in the Nebraskan Union. I asked one of the managers why he didn't turn up the air conditioning. "Turn it up," says he, "they don't even turn it on till July first."

Are the students who spend five or six or more hours in the sweat house (only because it's the only place on campus for day hops and apartment dwellers) aware of this grave mismanagement? Arise fellow sweaters. Let's gross out the perpetrators of this atrocity.

The air conditioning is here and they are appar-ently running some kind of blower so why not air con-ditioning. Surely not because of electricity. I'd appreciate any reply anyone would care to make. Hot

Quality Of Speech Doubted Dear Editor:

But even if you keep all those disad-vantages in mind you still might consider visiting our countries, because it will show you how much better off you are at home. If you just keep in mind that many Dutchmen still use wooden shoes, most Frenchmen drink wine because their water is not as good, which is also the same reason why the Germans have no choice but to drink that terrible barley juice (beer), and above all many Austrains and Swiss still live in the mountains, you can understand why Europe is so backward.

It will make you real proud being an American. But seriously, it makes a very big difference whether you have been abroad or not. If nothing else it will make you look differently at your own country. You will see that other people live with different values and that they are quite happy living that way.

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Union Beer

For example if you visit a European university you probably will be surprised to notice that there are no dormitories like in the US and that coeds live any place they want to. It might also surprise you that at a student union (mensa) you will be able to buy your beer and wine cheaper than in town. You might also wonder why most north-west European cities have nice interiors and no slums. It might make you wonder what happened to the twenty percent of Europeans that might live in conditions of poverty and why girls can walk at night on city streets without great danger.

Although there are many similarities between Europe and the USA, there are also many differences. It might not be an overstatement to suggest that most probably your whole outlook on life will be changed and most probably to your advantage.

Different Light

You will see things in a different light and will judge them differently. Also, having once traveled on your own and having been able to get along in foreign countries will most likely give you a new felling of confidence in yourself. And last but not least, the company or the school that is looking for "new material" might favor you for some additional ex-perience and initiative.

But please don't go to Europe flying from one place to the next, or use a big American car and stay at the big hotel. You are neither doing yourself, your coun-try nor Europe a favor. Go and try to live with the Europeans.

Really Live

Don't just look at them from your big hotel window like you are in a zoo. If one might try to compare Europeans with Americans in that way, one might say many Europeans are not as rich as Ameribut many more Europeans really

will have language difficulties. They will be surprised how many Europeans speak English. For example in Holland don't feel bad about asking a street cleaner for directions in English.

He probably will answer your question without bothering to look up. In many citles policemen indicate how many languages they speak by displaying little flags of the country of that language on their uniform.

Union Jack

But don't look for the American flag. You will have to do with the Union Jack Also keep in mind that any city of significance has a municipal tourist office, where people speak all major European languages and where you can obtain free tourist city maps, information material and arrange for low price student accommodation, at a student hostel, an inn or a youth hostel.

While speaking of hostels be sure to stay at the "Af Champman" while in Stockholm. It is an old salling vessel made into a youth hostel. Of the about 700 German youth hostels, about 50 are actually old castles.

Little Money

You meet at them students from around the world and pay often no more than 25 cents. And don't think that spending little money is being "cheap." Europeans think it is smart. But that again might be a different way of looking at life and perhaps it might be a little "un-American"

When you hit a university town in Europe, be sure to stop by at the local student office to find out where you can find reasonable accommodations, student restaurants and if you like, student beer and-or jazz cellars. You might also be able to obtain reduced tickets for sights seeing and free passes to museums.

But make sure you have your international student ID card along. Also find out the day when you can visit museums For example for the Louvre it would be on Sundays and national holidays.

Health Service

If you are afraid you might get sick, sign up for low cost but high quality stu-dent health service throughout Europe. Europe. Before leaving for Europe you might want to write to the national tourist offices in New York. Also the Foreign Student Office at the Administration Building runs a pretty good information serv-ice on studying and traveling abroad.

But whatever you do please don't go to Europe as the "big man." I honestly think that Europeans would care abso-lutely less and would tend more to see you as the "overbearing American stu-dent." Go to Europe and "live." You night enjoy it so much you might never want to come back.

ly a grave shortage of ruins.

Athens

The problem was perhaps best explained by Mr. Zorba K. Xenophilos, Assistant Sub-director of the Bureau of Ruins, during a brief tour of this booming

While the Greek econo-

my has skyrocketed in the

past fifteen years, the hap-py people of this sunny

land now face a hitherto

unforseen problem-name-

city. "Fifteen years ago," be-gan Mr. Xenophilos, "what did we have to offer the

All The Lonely People

... by bob samuelson

"Now if there is one

thing tourists love, it is

ruins. They came in droves.

Our economy soared. New

hotels, new apartment

buildings, new flats. Look

at Athens today. We are

down to one ruined Acropo-

lis, a couple of ruined

temples, half a ruined

aqueduct and some ruined

miscellaneous. And we are

As a "Call to Action" this column will have about as much effect as a Superball that has been dunked in liquid oxygen, but here goes.

In the five years I have been at the University, there has been much criticism leveled at the Innocents society, none of it has done any apparent good although much of it has been valid.

Gunning for personal glory, politicking, and omnipotently running student affairs have been frequently associated with this honorary body, but its tenacious hold on undergraduates has seldom been more than momentarily loosened.

The greatest harm that this body does to the campus, however, is to force campus leadership into patterns of conformity and conservatism.

In fact, lack of any leadership qualities at all have "made" many Innocents in the past and there is no reason to think this year's selections will alter this sad trend. For an honorary to be justified, it must simply grant membership to those deserving of it-personal grudges and politics aside.

One of the enigmas on this campus, and probably a reflection of its innate reactionary tendencies is the esteem associated with "being an Innocent" not only by undergraduates, but by some members themselves!

This body, by mere fact that it is self-selecting is conservative and potentially dangerous to Student Government.

Group pressure in itself is not a bad thing, but Innocents have been known to wave the red robes like a bribe in front of a jockey.

An essential fact of good leadership is that it eventually alienates almost all people at some times, yet this is what most prospective Innocents steer clear of like athletes on Ivy Day.

It is difficult when writing a column like this to keep from falling into satire and innuendo, and this is not my purpose.

My purpose, an idealistic one, is to plead with the prospective innocents on campus this year to NOT limit membership in Spring '68 to only thirteen. If this necessitates a change in ritual the change must take place.

Instead, like the Mortar Boards, take those men, be ten or twenty-five, who have done the most work for the University in their first three years of college. The idea that there are always thirteen qualified persons and no more at any other time is, of course, inconsistent with the principles of an honorary organization.

Broadening the number eligible for selection will have several beneficial effects. One, it will liberate leadership among males from a middle-of-the-road path. Two, it will increase the esteem of the organization in the minds of many who consider it now only a child's game of petty politics. Three, it will give the society itself a broader base of thought, and prohibit a one-minded paranolac fear that diversity is somehow bad.

shortage, Mr. Xenophilos said the Bureau of Ruins has embarked on an ambitious construction plan.

"For example," he said proudly, stopping in front of a busy construction pro-ject, "what you see going up here is our new allpurpose ruin - The Temple of the Winged Aphrodite & Church of the Assumption Monastery. Let me read you its description in our Standard Revised Guide Book:

'This classic example of the Early Late Period dates from circa 672 B.C. and was believed used for sacrificing vestigal virgins to the Satyrs. (Note the leer on the face of Dinoysus above the Propylea.)

"The west and south walls were added in the Third Century presumably, according to archaeologists, to hold the roof up. The floodlights are of a later

date. "Some interesting 11th Century murals on the north facade depicting a bizarre Byzantine sex orgy were uncovered in 1931 by Herr Professor Schleimermann. Unfortunately, they were covered the following day by Frau Schleimer-

mann. "The famed West Portico offers a panoramic vista of the Athens Hilton, coffee, tea, dry martinis and, for the discriminating connisseur, souvenir postcards of the 11th Century Murals. Entrance fee: 100 drachmas."

Mr. Xenophilos said no effort was being spared to make each new ruin authentic. Each, he said, was being fully constructed be-fore being hit with a wrecking ball, weathered by a sandblaster and given three finishing coats of outdoor patina

"These ruins," he said proudly, "are built to last

a thousand years." Mr. Zenophilos closed by saying he felt these bigger, better, more interesting ruins going up everywhere would stand as monuments to today's Greek culture-a symbol, as he put it, of Greece's warm regard for tourists.

"Our motto is if a visitor to our shores wants something," said Mrs. Xenophilos, happily rubbing his "give it to him, hands, Good."

I would like to seriously question the quality of Mr. Bunche's speech Thursday. Did he really say anything?

I am thankful that someone finally came here to speak and Bunche is a respectable and dignified man. but really this is supposed to be an educational institution.

In The Audience

Professionalism Praised

Dear Editor:

I personally feel that the Daily Nebraskan has never tried to be as much of a real newspaper as it has this year.

The paper has a professional attitude and look. I commend you.

As for the paper being radical, only Nebraskans could say that.

Teot

Apathetics Arise!

Dear Editor:

It is well known that we have had with us for some time, representatives of the socio-political right wing in the Young Republicans, and representatives of the left wing in the SDS.

With great delight we now welcome a voice from the middle wing in the form of the Tomstone Epitaph. At last we have, represented here on campus, the bird in its entirety.

Seriously, we have had an anti-Establishment group (in the SDS) in campus so long that it has become too well established. Perhaps it is good that we also now have established an anti-anti Establishment establishment, but the time may come when this establishment, too, becomes too well established. Let us now, then, unite into a great and powerful anti-group group, an anti-society society, a revolution of the crass class- Let there be an establishment established which will prevent the establishment of any more establishments! Enough is enough! Apathetics arise!

A meeting for the Foundation of such a society will be held following the conclusion of the next Happy Rock Wino Festival, say about 2 a.m. Everyone will be welcome.

T.H.E. Kidd

April 15, 1961

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