

# Stage-Struck '97 Graduate Tells of Past

By Bob Thomson  
NU School of Journalism

The year was 1897, tuition at the University of Nebraska was five dollars for life, and a stage-struck young man named White Cloud Smith was pursuing an education in dramatics at the university.

"My father wanted me to be a preacher, and later a lawyer," Smith recalls, "but all I ever wanted was to be in show business." He said that he studied dramatics under Mrs. Howell (The NU theater is now named for her) and that he played trumpet in the NU Band before the bandsmen had any uniforms.

Football was the big sport at Nebraska in 1897, and Paul Pillsbury was the team hero, he remembers. After NU won a big game, he said, people would parade through all the stores in Lincoln.

Looking back in his memories during an interview at his Lincoln home, Smith recalled that football was a lot rougher in those days, with the players wearing steel elbows on their uniforms. Kneeing was a common practice on the field.

"Paul Pillsbury talked me into trying out for the team," Smith said, "but, in the first game, I got kicked in the head, and I didn't come to for about two weeks after that." This put an end to any thoughts about playing football, he said.

### Show People

He waited on table at the Grand Hotel in Lincoln while going to school, he says, because that was where most of the show people stayed when they were in town, and he was always looking for the opportunity to join a traveling show.

At this point he old man lit a small cigar, and proceeded to recount some of the events of his exciting life.

Born in North Platte in 1879, White Cloud Smith was the son of a Kentucky harness maker and of a woman who was part Pawnee Indian. He was raised in Fullerton, which he recalls was a tough town in those days.

### Buffalo Bill

When he was 14 Smith joined the Buffalo Bill Circus playing trumpet in Buffalo Bill's Cowboy Mounted Band. He stayed with this circus for three years until his father made him go to the University. After that, he was with Ringling Brothers Circus for a time and later he had his own Cloud-Rose Wild West Show.

When he was on the Chataqua Circuit (traveling tent shows which took the place of vaudeville) he appeared on the same platform with William Jennings Bryan.

Sometimes, he says, a show would fold, and he would have to work on the railroad or telephone lines or whatever kind of work he could pick up until the next show came along.

"I was quite a boxer as a kid, and could also ride any horse you could throw a saddle on," he claims. Smith recalls proudly that in his travels he got to meet such boxing greats as Jim Jeffries, Jim Corbett and Joe Louis. He says that he got to see Joe Louis win the Golden Gloves heavyweight title in St. Louis, Mo.

### Testimonials

Among Smith's treasured possessions are several briefcases stuffed with letters and testimonials to the success of this venture. Most of these are from grateful high school administrators during the days when he put on what he calls his "high school lyeum tour."

He would visit a high school, put on his Davy Crockett act, and then give

a lecture and good advice to the students.

When Smith became too old to tour, during World War II he became superintendent of the school at the Nebraska State Penitentiary. At that time there was a mandatory retirement age for teachers, so he had to leave the penitentiary job after five years.

Later however, a friend at the State Capitol got him a job guiding tours through the building, and he enjoyed this work for seven years. Sometimes, he said, he would put on a performance for some of these groups, and he has many mementos from this period in his life.

A great thrill in Smith's life came when he and one other member of the Class of 1897 were honored at a recent NU Alumni Roundup Luncheon. As it happened, the other honoree was the sister of Paul Pillsbury, the football star, and she also came from Fullerton, Smith's home town. He recalled that the Class of '97 graduated 100, which was a record at that time.

The interview with this memorable and fascinating old man was drawing to a close, but he had one parting word for the young people of today.

"Try to cultivate strong friendships," he said. "Good friends have been a big help to me all my life." He went on to say, "I have never gotten rich in what I did, but I had a lot of fun, and I've made a lot of friends."

# Nebraskans Comment on Daylight Savings Time



Mrs. Henrietta White



Lawrence Becker



Ann Rierdon, Cris Cook



Walter Keller



T. E. Vopat



Al Kelly

By Bob Thomson  
NU School of Journalism

"What do you think of Daylight Savings Time?" This question was asked of ten downtowners in Lincoln Tuesday afternoon, as part of a journalism class assignment at the University of Nebraska.

Of the ten persons interviewed, seven were in favor of the "fast time" and three were opposed to the change. Their answers revealed an awareness of the extra hour of daylight in the evening, but they differed in the extent to which they were either pleased by this, or somewhat unhappy about it.

Police Cruiser Officer Al Kelly, of 4301 W St., said that his trapshooting league meets at 6 p.m. and continues until darkness falls, so this gives the league members an extra hour of light to shoot by.

Cris Cook, 13 of 3501 Woods Ave., a freshman-to-be at Pius X, said, "It gets dark too late to have any fun." Her companion, Ann Rierdon, 14, who lives at 3011 Summit Blvd., took a different view, saying, "I can stay out later now, and goof-off."

A Lincoln cab driver who likes to fish at night, Walter Keller, 45, of Martell, said that he likes being

able to get off work and still have an extra hour of daylight after he gets home.

Mrs. Lester Rutherford, who lives at 2300 Orchard says, "I like to go to bed early, but now it stays light until nine thirty or ten," and she also said that during hot weather it is hard to get to sleep, "because 9 p.m. is the hottest part of the day."

A carpenter, Henry Finney, 45, of 1301 N. 21st St., enjoys having extra time in the evening to do things at home, but an electrician, Lawrence Becker, of 4209 St. Paul, says it makes the evenings too long, and it is "hard to get the kids to go to bed on time."

T. E. Vopat, who lives at 4124 Dunn Ave., feels that the new time can be confusing if one is traveling, but he likes it anyway because he has more time at home. He said that he doesn't care about the morning, but likes the evening hours.

A retired woman, Mrs. Henrietta White, 1321 S. 18th St., stated emphatically, "I like it!" She said that she used to live in the East, "so I'm used to it."

Lincoln mail carrier, Rudy Sterzer, of 5231 S. 50th St., was somewhat indifferent to daylight savings

time but said that he has more time to do things, and that he "can't see any harm in it."

By Margie Engelkemier  
Daylight Savings Time is still causing controversy in Nebraska.

Many people still refer to the "old time" and others think their garden now has longer growing time.

In an attempt to discover campus opinion a reporter asked University of Nebraska students, "What do you think of Daylight Savings Time?" The answers were interesting and amusing.

"It's alright. That's all I've got to say," stated 23-year-old George Libal of Lexington. Libal is a graduated student in animal science.

Others had plenty to say. "I like it because you get more sun-rays," commented untanned Jenny Smith, 20, an elementary education major. Miss Smith resides at 641 Eldora Lane.

Serious Effects

For the serious effects of Daylight Savings Time Mike Nerud, vice-president of Innocent's Society, had this to say:

"I think it's alright for the city man for pleasure time. But it's hard to get work done as you don't settle down until later. However, it's good for the businessman because customers should have a tendency to go shopping in the daylight." Nerud, of Sandor Hall, is 21 and is an animal science major.

A married student pair approved of the time change in general. "I think it's great. It gives me time to do things in the evening. The biggest gripe I've heard is from the farmer, but he can quit work in the evening if he wants," Gary Hallean said. Hallean, 25, is an electrical engineering major.

His wife, Arleen, 25, added, "I like Daylight Savings Time as I'm gone all day and it gives me time to do things in the evening, particularly outside. The disadvantage is it's hard to get my little boy to bed." She is an elementary education major. They reside at 3730 N. 48th St.

Getting children to bed seems to be a problem for many student mothers. "I like it for every reason, except that it stays too light too long at night. My baby can't sleep," noted Jean

Yost, 21, of 3420 Dudley St. She is a home economics major.

Sleep Problem

However, some find they can't get enough sleep. "I don't like it. I guess it's okay but it seems like I don't get enough sleep," said Judi Hutchinson of 5103 Walker. Judi, 20, is a human development-elementary education major.

"I like it. I get off work at 5:30 p.m. so I have time to play tennis or golf. But on the weekend I go home to work for my Dad and we have to work until dark and then it's too late to go to town," mentioned Neil Balfour of 1430 Iylywild Dr.

"I supported Tiemann and I feel it was a necessity to change because other states have Daylight Savings Time. A lot of people don't pay attention to the new time and that makes me mad," Balfour added. Balfour, 20, is a business administration major.

Tom Watson, a law major, stated, "I like it, because everything you want to do takes daylight to do, well not really everything. I'm civilized. Now if you want to appeal to my farmer image, I wouldn't like it." Watson, 22, resides at 4020 M St.

One reaction to the justification of Daylight Savings Time: "What's the use of cutting off a string on one end and attaching it to the opposite end," Jeannie Fox pointed out. She is a 21-year-old home economics major living at 4821 Colfax.

A note to professors: If you want to know why students are sleeping during lectures and doing poorly in classes it's because Daylight Savings Time gives them time to be outside at night.

By March Tinkham  
NU School of Journalism

Rural people have always set not only their clocks, but their lives with the sun. Now the clocks have skipped a tick some where in the Nebraska legislature and farmers have complained the most.

Surprisingly, when ten people from rural Gage County were given a chance to comment, Daylight Savings Time came out two votes ahead.

The traditional farmer's point of view was voiced by Gary Meints, 18, from near Holmesville. "It's all right in town, but not on the farm. It just doesn't work out. You have to work later," he said.

Meints is working on his

father's farm. He will enter Fairbury Junior College this fall.

"The biggest drawback for the farmer is getting chores done in time to attend meetings and things," says Mrs. Marion Root, 46, a farmer's wife and operator of Betty's Beauty Salon near Holmesville.

Reset Clocks

"If we could just set our clocks back we'd be okay," says Mrs. Marvin Phillips, 24, of Rockford. Her husband trucks farm supplies and always gets home late. She works at Beatrice's Menonite Hospital and has to get up early. Consequently she says she doesn't think much of the system.

Mrs. Ray Dell, 39, a farmer's wife who lives near Beatrice was flatly opposed to the system. "I don't get to bed as early and I have to get up at the same time," she said.

On the other hand, it doesn't bother Mrs. LeRoy Wegner a bit. Mrs. Wegner, 22, of Barneston, is also a farmer's wife, but she's from Taunton, Mass., and says she's used to the system.

It's the national basis for the system that Mrs. Fred Petersen of Beatrice favors. Mrs. Petersen, a long time junior high teacher, says, "when part of the states do it and part don't, it's confusing. I wouldn't be in favor of it then."

"I kinda like it because of the much longer evenings. Don't know how I'll like it when days get shorter," says Edgar S. Burroughs of Rockford, a retired grain elevator manager.

Mixed Feelings

Also worried about the coming of fall is Gaye Mason, 20, of Holmesville, a junior majoring in English at the University of Ne-

braska. This summer Miss Mason is clerking until 6 p.m. at a Beatrice drug store and says the longer sunshine hours after work are "great."

However, looking forward to fall and the start of school, she remembers last spring when the daylight kept her and other students from getting studies done until late in the evening. "It's just too easy to goof off while it's light," she said.

Mrs. Chester Kassing, of rural Beatrice, a farmer's wife and star of KWBE Beatrice's "Margaret's Notebook," commented only that she likes it.

Lyle E. Bernhardt, who lives near Beatrice, store owner and manager, favors the system.

"I had it in National Guard Camp in Minnesota and I always kinda liked it. Only thing is, I don't think you get all the sleep you need," he said.

## Tractor Meeting Attracts Experts

Representatives from a dozen foreign countries were among the participants in an International Tractor Test Code meeting at the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture and Home Economics Saturday.

Nebraska has the oldest and largest tractor testing station in the world. It also has the only official tractor testing station in the United States.

Nebraska participants in the meeting included G. W. Steinbruegge, Delbert E. Lane and John Sulek, tractor test board members; Lester Larsen, tractor test engineer and Milo Munggaard, assistant tractor test engineer.

# NU Research Will Affect High School Curriculum

By Margie Engelkemier  
NU School of Journalism

Computers are giving high school students individuality rather than numbers.

The University of Nebraska Agricultural Education department is involved with research that will not only affect the subject matter of vocationally oriented high school courses but the curriculum structure of all classes, according to Dr. James Horner.

Horner, a professor of agricultural education and chairman of the department, is also director of the Nebraska Research Coordinating Unit for Occupational Needs Research (RCU).

The U.S. Office of Education has given a grant to the Nebraska RCU as a state-wide coordinating agency for research for occupational needs and stimulation of research for vocational development, according to Horner.

Program

RCU has a four-fold program to stimulate research, collect information, process it by a computer and publish the findings, Horner stated.

RCU is now studying off-farm-related agricultural occupations through the Occupational Needs Research program.

The information for

courses to be developed to meet standards of these occupations are computerized and finally added to the high school vocational curriculum, Horner added.

RCU is also exploring an experimental program of flexible scheduling, which is under the guidance of Stanford University. Nebraska is one of five states cooperating in this study. Alliance and Omaha South high schools are being used as experiment stations, Horner continued.

Flexible scheduling is based on the modular schedule theory. A modular is a unit of time, which is usually 20 minutes, he explained.

Instead of classes meeting every day of the week for one hour, a class would meet, for example, three times a week for one unit of time with a mass lecture and then be subdivided into labs for extra work.

Lab Units

A lab may meet once a week for six units. One instructor may have several labs but only five to six students in each lab, he said.

The computers figure each student's schedule.

The researchers say they are excited about the program as the performance of the students has increased and they may advance at their own rate, according to Leon Engelbart, research associate in agricultural education.

RCU is also working with research that would influence attitudes to vocational programs and choices, Horner stated.

This project is sponsored in the north central region of the U.S., according to Horner, who said the focus is on rural youth. Nebraska researchers reviewed the literature for this program.

In order to influence attitudes, the researchers are concerned with the anatomy of decision making. Education is important as the factor which guides the occupational decision, Horner said.

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