



The

Daily Nebraskan

Friday, March 1, 1968

University of Nebraska

MAR 1 1968

Vol. 91, No. 71

Students work to lower voting age

Happy 101st...



World's tallest birthday candle wishes the Cornhusker state a happy birthday.

19-voting age campaign organization announcement expected this morning

by Jim Evinger
Senior Staff Writer

The formation of a 19-voting-age campaign organization of young adults working to secure the lowering of the minimum voting age was to be announced this morning in Lincoln.

The proposed Nebraska Constitutional Amendment No. 1, which would lower the state's voting age from 21 to 19 years, will appear on the state election ballot in November.

About thirty University students have been actively working since December to coordinate the statewide non-partisan effort in behalf of the voting age amendment, according to Dave Piester, a member of the group.

"The group being organized will coordinate activities of local campaign groups throughout the state," Piester said.

A number of adults from such

fields as advertising and public relations are advising the group.

Piester emphasized the drive is spearheaded "by the people who will be directly affected by the proposed amendment—students under 21 years of age."

"We are looking forward to the campaign because it will be an opportunity for young adults to exhibit to the people of Nebraska their political awareness and responsibility," he said.

"We are optimistic that if the Nebraska electorate is presented with the facts concerning this issue, they will weigh them intelligently and recognize the benefits of lowering the voting age to 19," Piester said.

The drive to lower the voting age began in 1966, he explained, when the Nebraska Committee for Children and Youth appointed a search committee headed by Uni-

versity senior John Schreking to study the voting question.

At that time State Sen. Eugene Mahoney of Omaha planned to introduce a bill in the 1967 legislature which would lower the voting age to 18.

In addition, a group of Lincoln teenagers were also organizing to promote the same issue.

All proponents united in a cooperative effort to push for the bill before the Legislative Committee for Government and Military Affairs. The bill was introduced by Sen. Mahoney with the backing of Sen. Marvin Stromer, Lincoln; Roland Luedtke, Lincoln; Terry Carpenter, Scottsbluff; Richard Proud, Omaha; George Flemming, Sidney; Richard Marvel, Hastings; and W. H. Hasebroock, West Point.

The bill passed the committee 7-0, the first time a bill of this type had ever gotten out of committee

in Nebraska.

When the bill appeared on the floor of the Legislature, it was amended on the first reading to lower the limit to 19 years. On its final reading it passed 37-11 with one abstention.

Late last October the presidents of the state colleges and Omaha University came out with a resolution supporting the proposed amendment.

Four states currently have set their voting limits below 21 years. Georgia and Kentucky with 18 years, Alaska with 19 and Hawaii with 20 are the four. North Dakotans also will vote in November on lowering it to 19.

The campaign is being financed primarily through contributions.

Piester urged University students who are interested in working to lower the voting age to contact him or Schreking.

Presidential candidates scheduled to speak

by Jim Pedersen
Junior Staff Writer

Leading Presidential candidates are being scheduled for appearances at the University of Nebraska, according to Richard Scott, Nebraska Union Program Director.

The Union talks and topics committee has contacted the leading Presidential candidates and with the exception of former Alabama Governor George Wallace, all have agreed to come to the University on mutually agreeable dates, Scott said.

Richard Nixon and Harold Stassen, Republican Primary candidates, and Eugene McCarthy, Democratic Party candidate, are among those being scheduled for appearance.

George Romney also had agreed to come to the University but later withdrew from the Republican Party candidacy race. Union officials are uncertain if this will affect his appearance on campus.

The Governor from Michigan was the first of the four leading Republicans (Romney, Rockefeller, Percy, and Nixon) to announce his candidacy for the Republican nomination.

Romney embarked on a coast-to-coast campaign and was in New Hampshire preparing for the March 11 primary when he announced his withdrawal, ending a 101 day campaign.

Romney was slowly sinking out of sight in the Gallup polls, and had plummeted from the position of top ranking Republican candidate a year ago to a near two to one underdog in popularity below Nixon.

Nixon is the strongest of the GOP candidates thus far in the race. Recent Gallup polls have shown him to be the strongest Republican candidate in a race against President Johnson. Nixon also holds a substantial popularity lead over the remainder of the GOP candidates.

Senator Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota will speak at the University sometime in late March, according to Mike Oldfather, Chairman of the Nebraska Concerned Democrats.

Oldfather added that McCarthy will not commit himself as to a specific date until after the Democratic Primary in New Hampshire.

McCarthy is the only Democratic candidate running against incumbent President Johnson. He will oppose the President in the Nebraska Democratic Primary in May.

Although George Wallace has not replied to the Union concerning a speaking date, a group of Nebraska students have invited him to appear at the University when he visits Omaha on March 4, an informed source said Thursday.

Wallace has thus far refused to run on the Democratic ticket in any of the Democratic state primaries. Wallace has expressed interest in forming a third party to run in the Nebraska Primary.



Stephanie Floyd (right) capitalizes on the opportunity for "total education" offered by the Senate sponsored Nebraska Free University. Monday marks the last day to register for the courses offered.

University coeds ratify constitution 1275 AWS voters approve change by 8 to 1 ratio

University coeds have ratified the newly revised AWS Constitution by a ratio of about 8 to 1, according to Nesha Neumeister, assistant chairman of the AWS Constitutional Convention.

Miss Neumeister reported that 1,275 of about 5,000 possible AWS voters participated in the ratification elections, which were conducted in voting groups.

Voting groups were utilized to facilitate an orientation period before each election, she said.

Vote breakdown

The assistant chairman cited the following breakdown of AWS votes on the constitution:
Pound Hall—46 for and 11 against
East Campus—109 for and 10 against
Selleck Quadrangle—207 for and 14 against
Women's Residence Hall—168 for and 34 against
Towne Club and Lincoln women—61 for and 2 against
Sandoz Hall—90 for and 5 against
Smith Hall—86 for and 2 against
Sororities—354 for and 72 against

Clarification to voters

Miss Neumeister felt that conducting the election in voting groups was effective because AWS members were able to ask questions and have the meaning of the constitution clarified by either the chairman or assistant chairman of the constitutional convention.

"Sometimes people vote unknowingly," Miss Neumeister contended, "but I feel that most AWS members had a basic understand-

ing of the revised constitution when they voted."

The personal contact that the voting groups provided seems to have interested more women in the organization, Miss Neumeister said. "I think that more members will want to get involved in AWS and will file for office."

Constitution in effect

Nancy Coufal Hungerford, chairman of the constitutional convention, explained that the revised constitution is now in effect because the document was ratified by well over the 15 per cent affirmative vote required by the constitution. The chairman felt that the full impact of the revised constitution will not be felt immediately. "It will take AWS a while to adjust to the new system," she said.

Miss Neumeister predicted that AWS will become a more representative and democratic organization because of provisions for reapportionment of delegates to the AWS rule making body—AWS Congress.

Congressmen from living units

Congressmen will be elected from living units rather than from classes, she explained, which should also improve communication between representatives and their constituents.

"The revised constitution should change the concept of AWS from regulating women's hours and putting on Coed Follies to a bigger concept of a women's governing body," Miss Neumeister added.

Continued on page 3

NFU grants more time; 300 enrollments to date

With approximately 300 students already enrolled, registration for Nebraska Free University will remain open through Monday, Susie Phelps, chairman of the NFU coordinating committee announced Thursday.

The additional time will permit students more opportunity to look through courses, get information and enroll in classes, she said.

"After the honeymoon," to be led by Mrs. C. Twig Daniels has drawn the most interest, she said. The course, limited to 50 students, has been filled.

If enough interest is shown, another complete course will possi-

bly be given to accommodate more students, according to Miss Phelps.

Students have also shown major interest in "Popular Philosophers," to be led by Al Spangler and "Black Power," led by Dr. Jack Siegman. Ayn Rand's "The Virtue of Selfishness" and Eric Hoffer's "The True Believer" will be critically discussed in "Popular Philosophers." According to Spangler neither of these writers is very good. He hopes to discuss these "philosophers," with their defenders to determine why the writers' opinions have such popular appeal.

The "Black Power" course will be a general analysis of the emer-

gence of unrest in suburbia and the ghettos.

The art of casting spells, telling fortunes and holding seances will be discussed by participants of the NFU "Applied Black Magic" course.

Led by Steve Burdick, who will coordinate student projects, students will receive first hand knowledge of black magic through discussion of past and present practices and through application of magic as we see it today.

According to Miss Phelps, "Applied Black Magic" is also receiving strong student support in NFU enrollment.

Few changes to be made In Senate elections

by Mark Gordon
Senior Staff Writer

The ASUN executive committee, after evaluating election systems, has concluded that the present system of electing student senators should be retained with certain modifications, committee chairman Bruce Bailey said Wednesday.

Bailey said the seven-man committee rejected the proposed district system in favor of increasing the efficiency of the current system based on college representation.

"We found it (district voting) wasn't a better system of representation because of the large num-

ber of off campus students and the complexities of setting up the district system," Bailey said.

He named methods such as distributing newsletters, holding senator seminars, considering senator office hours and obtaining additional publicity as possibilities that could improve the current system.

The Inter-Dormitory Association (IDA) President said he will forward a five page report of the committee's findings to the Student Senate March 13 in resolution form.

The report will contain an evaluation of Student Senate representation, the election system's pro-

posed changes, an explanation of what possible changes would entail and a minority opinion from each committee member.

Bailey said he would probably discuss the committee's work with the Senate at a March 20 meeting at which time the Senate could accept the entire resolution or specific sections of the measure.

In considering all feasible forms of senatorial elections, Bailey said his committee had two objectives in mind: (1) the extent of contact students have with senators and (2) the senator's conviction of responsibility to his constituents.

Continued on page 3