

## Fourth Party Hopes To Balance Ballot

The newly-formed Nebraska Peace and Freedom Party (NPF) hopes to balance the state's political spectrum.

Provided that the party's convention is successful (according to Nebraska statute it must be held by Aug. 26) NPF will give an alternative to George Wallace's American Party on the right, Tom McCarthy said, field organizer for the national movement.

In fact, he continued, NPF should be the answer to those "disenchanted Democrats" who now support Minnesota Senator Eugene McCarthy if his bid for the presidential nomination fails this August.

"The movement behind Sen. McCarthy was actually a disenchantment with the established political system," he said. "As the Democratic Party fails the movement, these people will want some alternative."

And Tom McCarthy sees this alternative in the NPF.

The Peace and Freedom Party is an outgrowth of the California-born Peace and Freedom Movement, organized to "unify the movements struggling for social justice, and to create for them a focus and a political expression," according to a policy statement by national party literature.

Liberation of the black man from the bonds of white society and an end to the war in Vietnam are the two over-riding issues on the party's platform, but the group also has strong statements on the current national tax structure, labor movements, education and urban affairs.

**Background**  
The party was born Jan. 2, 1968, a culmination of a registration drive to bet on the California primary and presidential ballots. It needed 67,000 signatures to qualify; it registered 105,100.

Following the announcement that the party would go national, news media speculated that the

presidential ticket would be headed by Martin Luther King Jr., with Dr. Benjamin Spock his vice presidential running mate. With King dead, the spotlight turned to more militant blacks: Dick Gregory, who made a University of Nebraska off a verbal battle between state officials and the university, and Eldridge Cleaver.

Cleaver is a leader in the Black Panther movement, a militant black liberation group.

The Black Panthers and the Peace and Freedom Party formed a coalition shortly after the national movement began, to enable "joint action on specific projects between the two autonomous organizations, whose goals and interests are similar but not identical."

The Nebraska organization is working with the Black Panther group in Omaha, focusing on gaining support in that city's black ghetto.

"Coalitions are developed on a local basis," McCarthy said "since there is no directive from the national party to form the white-black structure."

McCarthy was sent to Nebraska from San Francisco after individuals in Omaha requested that the machinery to organize the PFP here be set in motion. He will be in the state for at least six weeks but he may stay longer to help run the national campaign effort.

The Peace and Freedom Party does have some contacts at the University in Lincoln. Jerome Drakeford, an NU physics major from Omaha, has been working with McCarthy in getting interest started on campus.

Three meetings have been held but interest has been slight, according to Drakeford; he expects this to change when the regular sessions begin in September.

"But, it must be pointed out that

this is not just a university organization," Drakeford said. "This is a community effort. It is a grassroots effort to make change in the political system."

He said that the PFP will work with existing organizations, such as the newly-formed Allies of Black Liberation (ABL), to bring local issues into focus, especially in the Malone area.

**Issues Needed**  
Drakeford also reflected on previous radical movements at NU:

"As an outsider coming to the University I encountered the remains of a Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) group that did nothing but sit in the Union and drink coffee. They were not unified. They took the viewpoint that NU was a lost cause. I think all that is needed here are some issues."

The national Peace and Freedom Party convention will be held in Ann Arbor, Mich., Aug. 17-18. That is when the national candidates will be selected with a slate of cabinet positions to underlie the party platform.

The Nebraska convention must be attended by at least 750 persons to become eligible for the November ballot. It will definitely be held in Omaha, McCarthy said, but the exact date and place will be announced later.

"We have been gathering support from throughout Omaha," he said. "But our primary aim is to get the Near North Side organized."

McCarthy has termed the Omaha ghetto "the most tense I have ever seen." He blamed the lack of leadership for the current situation.

He said that the party hopes to place black candidates on the ballots for a number of positions, including the 1969 mayoralty-race.

Party headquarters are at 818 No. 20th St. in Omaha.

## Spires on the Prairie



A drive through summertime Nebraska. Green hills, speckled with the blues and whites and pinks of wildflower blossoms. The yellow-tastled corn sways in the brisk July breeze. ("The Defense Department announced today that another Nebraska soldier has been killed in Vietnam . . .") A ground squirrel darts across the highway; a pheasant fearlessly struts along the road. ("Czech leaders prepare for the upcoming showdown talks while Russian troops are amassing near the Czech border . . .") On a distant hill a church spire seems like a skyscraper against the horizon. A tiny Nebraska hamlet comfortably rests in a grove of elm trees. ("Cleveland's mayor Carl Stokes withdrew the last of some twelve hundred national guardsmen from the troubled areas of that city . . .") Click.

## Union Expansion . . .

# Initial Moves Begin As Cafeteria Opens

A slight touch of embarrassment, a large amount of pride; and a bit of impatience.

That is the tone of Allen H. Bennett's conversation when he speaks about the addition to the Nebraska Student Union building, now nearing completion. Bennett is director of the Nebraska Union.

Bennett expressed some embarrassment when asked when the new building will be opened:

"That's been the joke of the year. We had hoped to have the new cafeteria during the summer session, with other facilities opening as the summer progressed. But we have run into some difficulties."

He explained that contracts for food service equipment were bogged down during the last few months, which resulted in the late opening.

"But, in every aspect, except time, things are running well," he continued. "We hope to have 80 to 85 per cent of the interior completed by Sept. 1, or the start of the fall semester for sure."

Bennett added, that "with extended good-fortune," the air-handling machines should be ready by Sept. 15.

Bennett feels that the university "will note with pride" the increased facilities which the \$1.3 million addition will offer.

These include a larger lobby and main desk area, an expanded main lounge, added dining areas, new offices for both Union personnel and campus organization, a multi-purpose room adjoining the present ballroom, added lounges on the upper floors, and larger restrooms. The total addition encompasses some 53,000 sq. ft.

Utilization of the new facilities will be gradual, not an overnight move, Bennett noted.

The new cafeteria will be opened on Aug. 5, which will enable the contractors to begin remodeling work on the Crib and the existing cafeteria. By Oct. 15 the new Crib will open, occupying the space of the two current dining areas in the Union.

**Decorating Scheme**  
Furniture, carpeting and draperies for the main lounge have been promised for nearly 100 per cent delivery by Sept. 1, Bennett said, so this area should be com-

pletely decorated by the opening of the regular term.

The decorating scheme features light walls, with dark (brownish-black) carpeting. The furniture will be upholstered primarily in blues and greens, with some off-white chairs. Walnut is the featured wood-grain.

A focal point in the lounge will be several antique grandfather clocks which were acquired from the university and were restored for use in the Union.

"These clocks are quite rare, and we are very pleased that we can use them in our decorating scheme," Bennett said.

The center of the lounge will be carpeted with a burnt-orange rug. Large planters will be placed in this section. The west wall will be used as a gallery; windows will be covered with sheer off-white

## LPD Is Topic for Discussion

The Lincoln Police Dept. and its handling of racially-orientated problems will be the topic for this week's Kerner Report Study-Action Group.

The group meets at the Methodist Student Chapel, 640 N. 16 St., at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The study group is sponsored by four campus churches: the University Lutheran Chapel, United Ministries in Higher Education, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic church and the Methodist Student Chapel.

Five meetings have been held, featuring a number of community leaders discussing the conclusions of the United States Commission on Civil Disorders and their applicability to Lincoln, according to Marian Pauls, a spokesman for the group.

Other topics have been the Lincoln Public School system, hiring practices of various community businesses and this summer's incidents in Lincoln at teen dances and Municipal Swimming Pool.

draperies.

The new cafeteria may shock some of the Union's regular patrons, Bennett said. It features a "split-line." The customer may have to decide whether to use the "express-line" which will feature a short-order menu, or go to the larger lines for complete meals. Because of the latest equipment, and the added space, the Union will be able to expand its present menu.

The cafeteria is designed to handle 1200 persons per hour, "so we may have someone with a whip ushering patrons through," Bennett quipped. However, the area formally called the "small gallery" has been designed to handle any overflow from the cafeteria line, if traffic is heavy, he said.

**Some Delay**  
Two areas, though, will not be ready for immediate occupancy this fall.

One is the multi-purpose room, which is designed to handle overflow from the ballroom, as a dance hall in itself (it has a portable stage which can be set up in three places) or divided into seven conference rooms.

The other is an area now housing many campus organizations on third floor. That area is also being remodeled, and it will be completed sometime in Oct., also.

"This does mean that some organizations are without an office," Bennett said which will necessitate some reassignment and realignment on our part."

He hopes that all student groups will be resettled with a minimum of bother for that temporary period.

The only room which will not change is the ballroom.

"That is a complete room in itself now," Bennett said. "The sound is right; it is the right size; you just couldn't do any thing to better it."

It is anticipated that this expansion project, conceived over two years ago, will be the last addition to the main Union building.

"Should other Union-type facilities be needed on the City Campus," he said, "they would likely be built near the dorm complex, or near the western edge of the campus, near classrooms."

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## Semantics Problem Irritates Several NU Repertory Actors

"Theatre of Protest" — that has been the stigma of this summer's experiment in repertory at the University of Nebraska, according to a number of the company's actors.

The three plays in production — "Eh?" "The Hostage," and "Sergeant Musgrave's Dance" — are going into their final week of performance at Howell Theatre.

Billed as a "Theatre of Protest," (because "every play is a protest, or it wouldn't have been written," Dallas Williams, director of the NU Repertory, said) the plays have not drawn large audiences; only "The Hostage," a play about an Irish terrorist group during the Irish Revolution, has had consistently large audiences.

"This is not explicit protest, at least the way most people define the word," said Stephen Gaines, one of the company's actors. The University community did not take to this line-up of plays, he thought, because it sounded too much like more lecturing.

"The point is," added Bill Szymanski, who plays a lead in "Eh?" and has parts in the other two plays, "that anyone can come to our plays and enjoy each one.

There are serious points in each, but I don't think it is entirely protest."

Bill Lacey, an actor who also has three different roles for the summer, said that in "The Hostage," for instance, the typical viewer probably would not know what Brendan Behan, the author, is protesting, "so why worry about it?"

Barbara Bowman added that "about the only protest of the summer came from the actors during rehearsals: 'No I won't do that!'"

But, aside from the fact that many of the NU actors feel the audiences could have been larger, all think the summer's experiment in repertory has been beneficial.

For Susan Nohr, a recent graduate of NU who returned after teaching in New York, it meant a chance to act with former acquaintances again:

"The repertory pulled together everyone from the last six years, so we knew each other and get along fine. This means a lot, because we all trust each other on the stage. We react well, as a group."

For a high school teacher, like

herself, Miss Nohr appreciates the new techniques she has learned from the company's directors, such as improvisation used during the opening days of rehearsal in "The Hostage." The director, Mrs. Nancy Cole, had the cast read the play the first day, but for the next few rehearsals, most of the time was spent making up stories and situations for the characters in the play.

Miss Bowman said that the most important thing she has learned is taking an "I don't care attitude on the stage."

"This was my biggest part in an NU theatre production," she explained. "At first I was very nervous but now I can react on the stage without having to worry what the audience is thinking."

Lacey, whose three roles each demanded a separate dialect, said he did not ever have any problem mixing the plays together during a performance, but he did experience problems during the opening weeks of rehearsals.

"Three rehearsals in one day for three separate plays got confusing," he said. Szymanski voiced the same opinion.

Szymanski also noted a difference in the style of his director in "Eh?," Dr. William Morgan. He directed "King Lear" this spring in which Szymanski also had a lead part.

"In 'Lear' Dr. Morgan's direction summer he was able to spend more large cast," he said. "But his was not as personal because of the first day, but for the next few time with each of us because there were only six. This was a great boost for me."

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