

Editorials

Commentary

Between spring and last fall

Between the spring riots of Columbia and the fall eruptions at San Francisco State, the University of Nebraska has continued with an orderly succession of students.

Public attention has focused on the disquiet in the faraway campuses. National interest has been forced to reckon with the growing power of the university community. And although the underlying complexities of young people disturbed about the war, racial militancy and a host of other problems deserve this close scrutiny, students at schools such as the University can lose sight of other, important considerations.

A RIOT does not sanctify a cause, nor does every valuable cause need a riot. But students in the world today have discovered the political power that they have never had.

Perhaps the value of the campus disturbances is that they have opened the doors of student power (political and academic) at all colleges. Administrators and faculty throughout the nation can view the recent uprising, and conduct their future business, if not accordingly, at least with them in mind.

Last spring's riot at Columbia to effect specific changes at that school should make it possible for students, faculty and administrators at the University of Nebraska to reason together and solve the problems here.

EVEN IN this year of "law and order," the valuable contributions of the schools which underwent turmoil can be seen.

And from this the question follows:

What form of agitation for new ideas will be effective in changing NU?

If it is granted (and most will) that a riot situation is impossible at the University of Nebraska, the question remains how to bring about change.

The role of students at a school such as this must be one of responsible pressure for the changes badly needed.

The Fulbright-Rogers axis

by Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

Sen. J. W. Fulbright, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is not the same man who one year ago flatly refused to take testimony behind closed doors from Secretary of State Dean Rusk, insisting on public testimony or none at all.

When Rusk's Republican successor, William P. Rogers, came to Capitol Hill for routine questioning on his confirmation, Fulbright actually OFFERED a closed-door session to spare him any possible embarrassment.

This is just one piece of evidence to show how sharply the view of the State Department has changed as seen from Fulbright's musty, elegant old Foreign Relations Committee room in the Capitol. There are many other pieces.

SHORTLY AFTER the election, for example, Richard M. Nixon telephoned Fulbright, just elected to his fifth Senate term from Arkansas, for mutual congratulations. But the exchange was pregnant with innuendo about the relationship between Fulbright, whose sharp criticism contributed to President Johnson's fall, and the new Administration.

That wasn't their last private talk. After making his early December surprise decision to name Rogers Secretary of State, Mr. Nixon discussed that—and other appointments—in detail with Fulbright.

Since then, the relationship has sweetened, creating a mood of civility and cooperation between Fulbright and the State Department dramatically different from the last three years of acrimony.

ONE REASON for this unusual atmosphere is Fulbright's high estimate of both Roger's ability and his power in the Administration. Rogers has more influence with Mr. Nixon over the control of top-level appointments than any other Cabinet member. Confides a White House aide: "Bill Rogers put a hands-off sign at the State Department, and the politicians know he can enforce it."

Thus, Mr. Nixon's campaign pledge to clean out the department from top to bottom is a dead letter, and Fulbright gives Rogers much of the credit.

Far more important, Fulbright is convinced that Rogers' view of the war in Vietnam (which destroyed his relationship with Rusk) is close to his own. Having spent the last three years in limbo far outside the perimeter of the Johnson administration, Fulbright is now doing some highly unusual things to make life easier for Republican Rogers and his Administration.

FOR INSTANCE, Fulbright is scrupulously rejecting all the Sunday TV quiz shows, on the ground that he might inadvertently say something embarrassing to the Nixon administration on Vietnam.

When pressure for more U.S. help to victims of the civil war in Nigeria reached a new peak, Rogers offered to come before Fulbright's committee and review what could be done. Fulbright said thanks, but the testimony wasn't needed. The real reason: he knew Rogers didn't have the time.

Fulbright has also quietly offered to help Rogers and the President sell their solution to the Vietnam war so long as he remains convinced that the Administration really means to push the Paris negotiations without reescalating the war, no matter how painful and long those negotiations may be.

Thus, Fulbright has drawn back from the resolution he pushed through the Foreign Relations Committee last year, aimed squarely at President Johnson, to put the Senate on record that no President should commit American troops abroad without first clearing it with the Senate. Although he will reintroduce this resolution, he will not make it a big issue—as of today.

STATE DEPARTMENT skeptics wonder how long "today" will last. They give the Rogers-Fulbright honeymoon about three months and see a path ahead that is strewn with booby traps. The President is under strong pressure from some military experts—including Gen. Andrew J. Goodpaster, deputy commander in Vietnam who has been here counselling Mr. Nixon—to win a military victory in Vietnam.

If the President resists that pressure, Fulbright will stay in line, opening up an era of bipartisanship not seen here since John Foster Dulles used to take Sen. Walter George to lunch every other week in his State Department office.

For the Nixon administration, the stakes are large. If Fulbright breaks with the President over Vietnam, he could unleash against Mr. Nixon the full fury of the liberal-intellectual-youth lobby that forced Lyndon Johnson out of politics.

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Campus Opinion . . .

Thanks and two raps to the system

I wish to congratulate and thank Mr. Jack Todd and the entire staff for publishing a high quality, thought-provoking and controversial student newspaper this semester. The special Dec. 20, 1968, issue on War and Peace was outstanding, a fitting culmination of a semester's efforts.

While agreeing with you only about 99 per cent of the time, I can honestly state that this was the first semester of my seven years at the University that I have made certain that I did not miss a single edition of the Nebraskan. I have respected the editor's efforts, however, not because I agreed with what was said (although that is always pleasing), but because this was one of the too few times when the paper presented anything which called for either agreement or disagreement.

IN SHORT, Mr. Todd has been willing to confront the issues, present his case, defend his point of view. This, I know, has not been accomplished without having to confront strong opposing pressures. Therefore, that Mr. Todd has never compromised his beliefs is worthy of the greatest of admiration.

Respectfully yours, H. Bruce Hamilton Editor-in-Chief The Nebraska Law Review

Editor: It is part of man's nature to delay the returning of borrowed items to the rightful owner. Man is forgetful and nothing in the whole world is going to change his nature.

The University library at this moment is capitalizing on man's forgetfulness by exploiting students who fail to return books on time. This exploitation is in the form of ridiculously high library fines.

A single book overdue for a month can cost you between \$20 and \$30. It could be a lot worse if you had 10 books checked out for a

research project and procrastinated returning them for a month and a half. \$300. You might say, "The university has the stiff fines so that the books can be returned for the benefit of other students." Hell no. Students have had to still pay fines of \$100 when they have lost the books. Why won't the officials just accept enough money to pay for the cost of the books?

THE UNIVERSITY library has exercised ingenious methods to exploit the students. First of all, they have made no attempt to adequately inform the student about the stiff fines. There are no signs in the library advertising the stiff fines for overdue books.

Secondly, the library does not send out notices of overdue books for some time after they are overdue. Very sneaky. On the overdue notices there is no mention of the library fine rates. Also very sneaky.

The University library is not working for the interests of the students. They are working towards ruthless exploitation of the students. This is clear from the high fines charged. They must need this money bad. Yes, but they have no right to exploit you and I to obtain it. A boycott on borrowing of books would put the pressure on them to revise the system, wouldn't it?

Students you have power. Your voice is strong. This institution should be responsible to your interests. If you speak out they will have to listen because your masses are undefeatable.

Chris Malcolm

Editor: It would seem clear that the cardinal rule for all critical judgement and dissent is an alternative to displace what is. Without this, alternate criticism is practically invalid. So what is here, in essence, is a remainder of a

solution that would still fall within the realm of patriotism: a marginal virtue, but still one of necessity.

Realizing the necessity for service, and the obligations therein entailed, this is not the fact I contest. What I do contest is the means to that end of preparing young men to become Our Boys over there.

I CANNOT appreciate the institution which sanctifies the regimentation of men and underwrites their expenses while pursuing an education through a curriculum whose sole purpose is to prepare men for war. If the goal of higher education is to produce creative young thinkers, a contradiction seems apparent. I would not pretend to deny the inevitability of war, for man is a warring animal; but the pursuit of excellence as one is a disgrace to my idea of "higher" education.

I could not either pretend to be the original anti-ROTC proponent—likewise my solution is far from original. The solution which would rid campuses nationwide of the junior militia has included among its main proponents D. D. Eisenhower, and the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. It would replace this campus OCS by instituting a universal draft aimed at the relatively eager high school grad. The obligation would be all inclusive without exception or deferment. The length of conscription would probably be 18 to 24 months.

If after two years of service as an enlisted man, the recruit chose the Armed Forces for a career, his preparation as an enlisted man would endow him with an awareness unattainable by 18 hrs. of ROTC "labs." He could then submit himself to further training on a college level with the end result, and one more vividly of his choosing, as a commissioned officer.

F. V. Shoemaker

Mr. President

Consider Craig Dreeszen. By resigning today as president of ASUN, he is making a crucial comment on student government.

His resignation, though prompted by varied and personal reasons, can be traced to two critical flaws in the University's student government.

FIRST, THE president's position is unrewarding to him monetarily and costly to him academically. The salary allotted by Student Senate (\$500 for the year) earns the ASUN chief executive about 25 cents per hour, at best; the duties and responsibilities outside the office cut into academic pursuit.

Second, the presidency of ASUN—a government competing for authority in the University system, but lacking unity—can be not only disappointing, but extremely frustrating and discouraging.

THESE TWO flaws within the structure of the ASUN presidency deter many qualified students from seeking the high post.

What is needed is not such high pay or unlimited power that the presidency becomes an end in itself, but sufficient salary and authority that the president can function efficiently.

This man's army

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is taken from the publication "Selective Service."

The United States Army, at Fort Riley, Kansas, on October 25, 1942, issued the following General Order Number 2:

- 1. Members of the command will when shooting buffalo on the parade ground be careful not to fire in the direction of the Commanding Officer's quarters.
2. The troop officer having the best trained remount for this year, will be awarded one barrel of rye whiskey.
3. Student officers will discontinue the practice of roping and riding buffaloes.
4. Attention is called to paragraph 107, Uniform Army Regulations in which it provides that all officers shall wear beards.

Behind the front lines

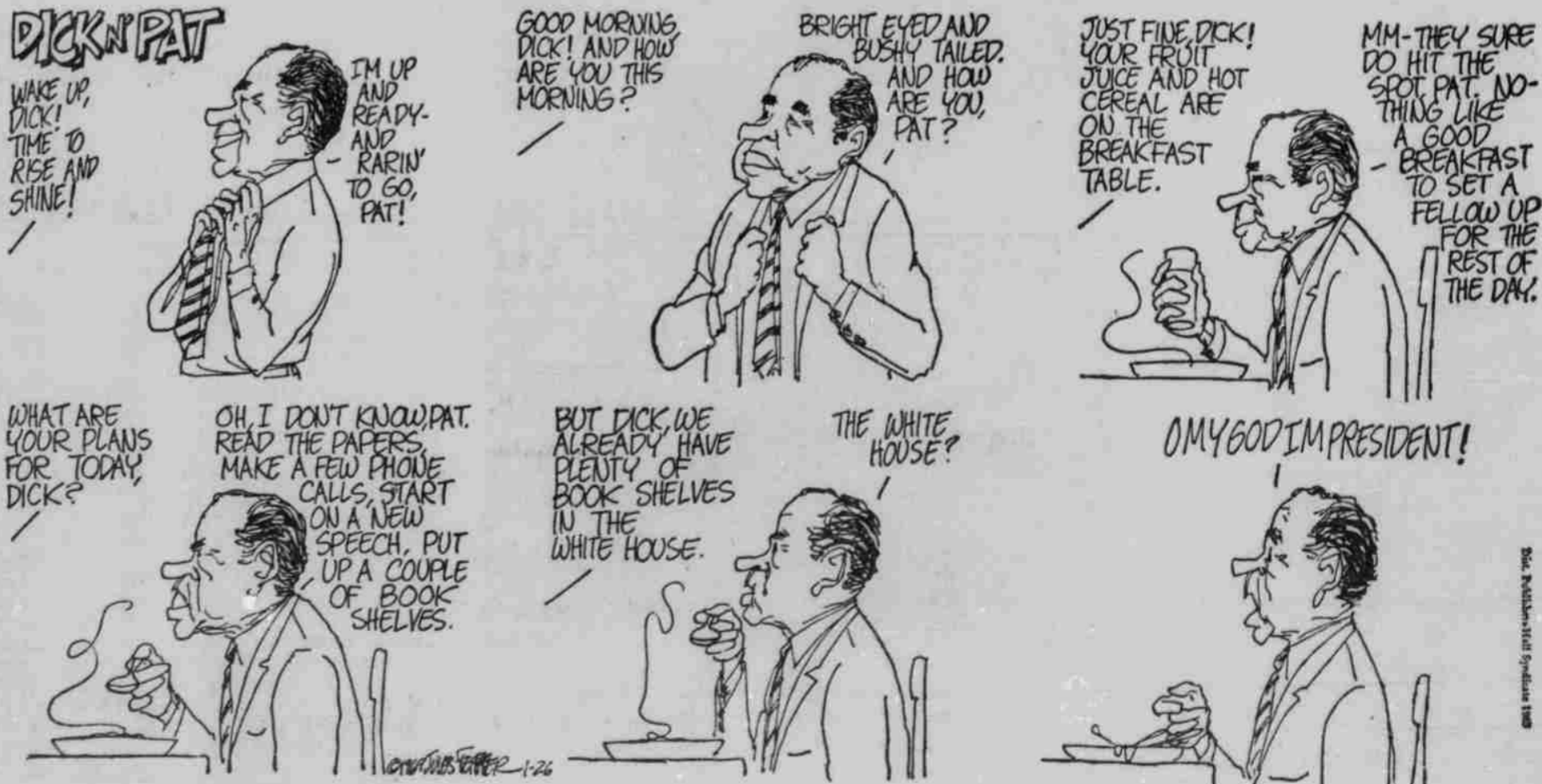
Nebraska is located halfway across America. Safe between Eastern seaboard intellectualism and Pacific western liberalism, we are in the habit of doing things half way.

Or maybe only twenty percent; and if Nebraskans can get by, we will try to get something for nothing.

Today's paper is full of budgets. The governor's, the Regents', state agencies', you name it—there's a budget. Or half a budget.

There's something suspicious about these slashed budgets. Since the state can only do things half way, then state agencies must request double their budgets, and the Unicameral must automatically halve the governor's budget, which is half of the doubled request. Kind of like reflecting a reflection of a reflection in a mirror.

Regrettably, while budget halvers play their one downmanship game its the state that loses. A state left halfway into the twentieth century.



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