

English Department . . .

Publish or perish problem is "solved"

by June Wagoner
Nebraskan Staff Writer

The academic question of publish or perish has been successfully solved by the University English department. According to one English professor, the English staff has succeeded in integrating teaching and publishing.

Dr. Robert Knoll cited recent awards to Professors Louis Crompton and Bernice Slote as examples of this success.

"Awards of this stature obviously mark the department as productive in the publishing arena, yet the type of publication these individuals produce is closely integrated with their

teaching profession.

Crompton was recently announced as recipient of the 1969 Phi Beta Kappa Christian Glauss Prize for literary criticism. The \$2,500 award was presented to Crompton for his critical book "Shaw the Dramatist," published last spring by the University of Nebraska Press.

Miss Slote was recently cited by the National Foundation of the Humanities for her editorship of "The Prairie Schooner," a literary review sponsored by the University English Department and the University of Nebraska Press.

In speaking of the Glauss award, Dr. Dudley Baily, chairman of the English department, called it "the most distinguished award anyone in the English field can receive."

"Except perhaps for the Nobel prize, this is the top award," Baily said. "It is certainly equal to a Pulitzer. And the award reflects well on the department. Only one department a year can be so honored, and since it is awarded to critics in all literary fields, not just teachers, the University should be especially honored."

Miss Virginia Faulkner,

editor of the University of Nebraska Press termed Miss Slote's award as "very deserved."

"Miss Slote puts out a conshe said.

Citing the numerous awards for poetry and fiction that the "schooner" has received in the past years, Miss Faulkner credited Miss Slote's editorship as "responsible for the magazine's success.

"I see this as a well-timed recognition of Miss Slote's editing talents."

Miss Faulkner described "The Prairie Schooner" as one of the oldest continuing literary magazines in the nation. It is

one of a type of publication which is necessary for the growth of literary excellence, she added.

Miss Faulkner also had sistent high level magazine," praise for the English department as a whole.

"I think awards of this type show the vitality of the English department," Miss Faulkner said. "And with the staff which it maintains, I expect only continuing excellence."

Knoll agreed, calling the department "one of the premier English departments in the country."

"I think the reason that many people turn down lucrative job offers from other institutions is because there is a real dynamic spirit within the English department," he said. "This spirit comes from the temper of a department which allows each individual to do their own thing."

Knoll also cited other individuals of the English department who he felt had "international" prominence in their respective fields. These included Chairman Baily, Lee Lemon, Miss Slote, Crompton and others who he described as prolific and popular text book authors.

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