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Col. W. W. Gist



Capt. Herschel Pahl

Fewer in ROTC

Enrollment in University of Nebraska ROTC classes has shrunk considerably second semester.

The number of Army ROTC freshmen dropped a third from 150 in September of 1968 to last fall. Some 25 students then quit at the recent semester break. Enrollment has also dropped slightly in the upper classes.

Nationally, the number of ROTC students is down about 30 per cent, according to Col. William W. Gist, Army ROTC.

He attributed the loss mostly to national opinion against the Vietnam war.

But the percentage of cadets leaving at the semester break is less than in past years, he pointed out.

Thirty-seven freshmen were enrolled in Navy ROTC last fall, according to Capt. Herschel A. Pahl, Navy ROTC. Seven left at the semester break.

In September of 1968, there were 40 contract freshmen, he added. More than 30 have quit during the last three semesters.

Last fall he had 132 midshipmen in the program. This semester he has 118.

"Those who leave the program generally do not have to say why they are leaving,"

Pahl said. "But among those who did, the primary reasons were financial, academic or physical difficulties."

The number of freshmen in Air Force ROTC is down about 50 per cent from first semester's 95 students to 50, according to Maj. James M. West, Air Force ROTC. At the beginning of the 1968 school year, freshmen cadets totaled 150.

He also noted that in 1966, the Air Force program at NU had 470 freshmen. About 50 of them are now seniors in the program.

"I guess the boys were expecting a change in the system," West said. Talk of a volunteer army and the general anti-war feeling have contributed to the enrollment decline, he said.

Redja:

Nebraska is hungry, too

by BILL SMITHERMAN
Nebraskan Staff Writer

"Sometimes we feed livestock in Nebraska better than people," declared University Economics Professor George E. Redja.

Redja is one of the organizers of a March 17 Governor's conference designed to find the hungry people in Nebraska and feed them.

"The conference will try to make people aware that there is a hunger problem in the state," he said. "We have found cases in Omaha of children scrounging through garbage cans to find food."

"There are places in the state where a school child may be fed Friday and not eat again until Monday."

The conference was called by several concerned citizens calling themselves Project 93. It will involve people from all 93 counties in the state in-

cluding county officials and representatives of the poor.

The conference is being held at no cost, using facilities of the National Guard Armory on North 10th street.

Redja said that Nebraska has the fifth ranked agricultural production in the nation, yet only 10 per cent of its eligible poor participate in food assistance programs.

Existing programs could take care of much of the hunger problem, he said. However, the programs are not used in many cases because they are not understood.

He added that six Nebraska counties do not participate in the Federal Food stamp program because county officials do not realize the magnitude of the hunger problem in their counties.

"We want to start looking at the hunger problem much the same way we looked at education several years ago," said

Bert M. Evans, assistant professor of agricultural economics. "Everyone should have the opportunity for good nutrition with no stigma of a dole attached."

Jerry Andersen, a student conference organizer, said it is difficult to raise opposition to the idea of feeding the hungry. However, many people might fear programs involved would raise their taxes, he said.

"Nebraska has been granted about \$100,000 by Congress to use in school food programs," Andersen added. "If this money isn't used soon it will have to be returned."

There are several other existing programs such as this one that can be used without costing the taxpayer more money, he said.

Brad Kollars, another student organizer, pointed out that the food stamp program is good for the economy of the county. People who don't have to spend what little money they have to buy food can use it to buy clothes, pay doctor bills and improve their standard of living, he said.

"We want to make a special appeal for hungry students to come forward," Redja said. "Many may be eligible for the food stamp program in Lincoln and not know it."

He added that the conference members would also like the names of any hungry families students know. If students have any information they think would be useful they should contact Redja or Evans.

Fourteenth Street



Photo by Howard Rosenberg

Anti-draft rally Friday

The Vietnam Moratorium Committee is planning a massive anti-draft rally for Friday, March 13, according to Mike Richardson, coordinator of the rally.

"We plan to have several professors speaking at the outdoor event which will be held on the north side of the Nebraska Union," Richardson said.

He also said the committee is planning a symbolic burning of guns during the rally.

The Pelican Peace Band will provide music for the affair, Richardson added. In case of rain, the rally will be held in the Nebraska Union.

Richardson also said that the Vietnam Moratorium Committee will hold its weekly meeting at 8 p.m. Monday, March 9, at UMHE.

"The meeting is for discussion of future plans and structure of the committee," Richardson said.