

Friday the 13th is bad omen

by MARY PAT FOWLER
Nebraskan Staff Writer

"Unlucky the child born on Friday the 13th, for it is a day of ill omen."

Superstition and legend have built Friday the 13th into a day when many people are afraid to go out of the house, sign

papers, or make business deals.

Criminals have long been known to regard themselves distinctly unfortunate if brought before a judge on Friday. Ships are known to have postponed sailing until after midnight on Fridays at the re-

quest of frightened passengers.

Thirteen has a long history of 'bad omens.'

Thirteen at a table is, perhaps, the most common form. At best it is regarded as bringing bad luck to the hostess or her family. At worst thirteen at a table means that one of the thirteen will die before the year is out.

The thirteen superstition has had its influence in Europe. It is virtually impossible to find a house numbered 13 or a hotel room numbered 13 in France.

In England there is a story told of a woman who took her landlord to the High Court because he would not change her flat number. She won, but the bad omens apparently were not warded off in time — she

died of a heart attack the next day.

Students on this campus, when asked about Friday the 13th, tend to give rather flip-pant answers. The superstition seems to be a joke to some young people.

The classic comment came from a senior who will graduate in June. "What's wrong with Friday the 13th? September 14 (the first number in the draft lottery) is a hell of a lot worse!"

ROTC forms due Friday

March 13 is the deadline for applications for the two-year Army ROTC program for the fall of 1970.

Students interested in entering the program must have four semesters remaining at the University to qualify, according to Col. William W. Gist of the Army ROTC.

Any interested student can apply for the program or get more information at the Military and Naval Science Building.

Unloaded firearms allowed

The Nebraska Union Board Thursday afternoon changed its house rules to permit unloaded firearms inside the building.

The rule change allows a Friday afternoon anti-draft rally to proceed as planned. Organizers of the rally plan a symbolic destruction of guns as the highlight of the protest against the selective service.

While the symbolic destruction will be held north of Love Library, the protestors, carrying the firearms, plan to start the rally inside the Union.

The Union Board's proposal, approved without opposition, allows firearms inside the building for "ceremonial and display purposes only." Prior authorization by the director of the Union is also necessary and "due supervision" is required.

5c Draught
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