

Theobald sees

University sausage machine

by CAROL ANDERSON
Nebraska Staff Writer

The university is a sausage machine which takes in raw material — high school students — and turns out pieces of paper — college graduates — according to Robert Theobald.

"Anything colleges teach can be learned quicker in a dozen other ways," said Theobald, a sociologist and economist who spoke Monday night for the World in Revolution program.

Most of the training received at a university prepares students for obsolescence, Theobald charged, because "20,000 people in one place cut off from life is a monstrosity that could only be designed by a society that doesn't think."

Although "the campus is not designed to act," the university could become relevant by integrating with the community, he said. "The University doesn't have to be a closed system, if students can take advantage of the opportunities here."

If students want to participate in changing society, they must know what they want — not just what they don't want, he said.

Theobald doesn't condone violence because "I don't think it works." But he says violence is less dangerous than copping out or ignoring problems. "Violence keeps it alive that something is wrong."

"I agree with Nixon that we must

reduce violence to encourage change," he continued. The student riots at Columbia University let people know something was wrong by "clubbing them across the eyes to get their attention. But if society is clubbed too many times, it will become dangerous. The people are so up tight they won't listen anymore."

"Revolution must be the same thing as evolution because a profound change must be evolutionary," Theobald said. He cited the Russian revolution as an example of a successful revolution that didn't change the character of the people at all.

Besides criticizing violence, Theobald also had sharp words for college examinations.

"Kids go to college to get good jobs, and to get a good job they must get good grades on multiple choice tests," Theobald said. "But it is not necessary to think to pass such examinations."

Testing is based on the premise that people will not exert themselves unless they are forced to, he said.

And Theobald also had sharp words for the citizens of Nebraska.

"The problem with your state is its inferiority complex," Theobald said. "You wanted to industrialize and you failed. Yet the industrial northeast is collapsing so I can't understand why Nebraska wants to move in the same direction."



Herbert Hill:

Black powerlessness must change

The 1970 census will be one of the "most significant documents" in the history of the American black man, according to a National Labor Director of the NAACP.

"It will be significant because it will show that, for the first time in history, there are more blacks in the north than in the south," Herbert Hill said Monday.

Also, the census will show that segregation is continuing with increasing rigidity as more whites move to the suburbs, said Hill, who was on campus as part of the World in Revolution Conference.

Hill said that segregation is the result of the systematic policies of our government and its political parties.

"Since 1619 the American obsession with race and color has continued to corrupt our culture," Hill added.

He also said that racism exists in every part of our country. It exists in the South only in an exaggerated degree. "Racism permeates our whole society."

Hill emphasized that all segregation is the result of deliberate and systematic action taken by white America.

"I repeat, segregation is not the amorphous result of a vague thing called prejudice. It is planned and intentional," he added.

Hill said another characteristic of racism was the poverty of the black man which is due to job discrimination.

"Recently the Bureau of Labor Statistics said that in black sections of our larger cities a good example is Watts in Los Angeles, the rate of unemployment since the riots has fluctuated between 38 percent and 42 percent."

"The rate of unemployment during the Great Depression of the thirties was never higher than 28 percent," he pointed out.

"The actual dollar gap between whites and blacks since 1952 has not decreased as many think, it has grown greater," Hill said.

"George Meany and Patrick Moynihan have distorted the facts. This country cannot afford benign neglect."

Hill termed the last 16 years as the second American Reconstruction. "Most of our optimism that emerged with the Brown vs. Board of Education, Topeka, in 1954 has

disappeared. We are now faced with a second disaster," he said.

"All of our legislative victories have not brought justice to the Black man," he continued.

The blacks must be given power. The tradition of powerlessness for the blacks must change, according to Hill.

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