

Tradition remains intact on 16th street



Looks like U.S. will Laos it up

by RUDY MAXA
College Press Service

Washington — (CPS) — That Laos is an early Vietnam in the context of American involvement has become a cliché in the short time of two weeks — since several senators of both parties brought the issue to the floor of Congress and asked the executive branch for an explanation.

But the bringing of the issue to the floor of the Senate lent an aura of credibility and immediacy to press reports date-lined "Laos" which for months had caught the attention of only the most determined Southeast Asia watchers.

For many, the Laos question is a good testing ground for the flexing of some hitherto inactive Senate muscles. And apparently the tactic has worked, for President Richard M. Nixon found reason to issue a 3,000-word report dealing mainly with the past, but throwing at least an official glimpse on the present.

Perhaps one of the more telling points in the President's statement was his failure to state that the United States was obliged to protect the neutrality of Laos "at any cost." While justifying the bombing of the Ho Chi Minh trail by claiming as its intent the protection of American troops in South Vietnam, he did not threaten American retaliation against North Vietnamese aggression.

Nixon did claim that America had no ground combat forces in Laos. No one is certain if that includes Green Berets working for the Central Intelligence Agency, which, since it is a secret organization, would not be considered in any count.

In essence, the Geneva Accords — which both the U.S. and North Vietnam are in violation of — are all the solid support Nixon can lean on in his future decisions regarding Laos. Any and all other action, should the re-instatement of Laos as a neutral country fail, will be tempered by political and military considerations.

So far only three file for Senate

Only three students have filed for ASUN positions or advisory board seats so far. The deadline is 4 p.m. Friday for individual filings and March 27 for parties.

The three are Michele Coyle, freshman from Omaha for Arts and Sciences ASUN senate

seat; Duane Sneddeker, sophomore from Brule for Arts and Science senate; and Steve Williams, Omaha sophomore for Arts and Sciences senate and advisory board.

Some 35 ASUN positions will be filled by the April 22 election.

by MARSHA BANGERT
Nebraska Staff Writer

Like a tiny (citadel) against time, the cottage stands at 700 N 16th Street.

The house, nestled among evergreen trees between a chapel and a sorority house, has watched University life for 92 years, according to John Q. Magie, Nebraska Historical Society curator.

Constance M. Syford, a former NU English teacher, willed the house and surrounding property to the Historical Society Foundation. When she died in 1965, the Foundation acquired the property by promising to preserve the house.

"Miss Syford feared that every vestige of the early campus was going to be destroyed," said Marvin Kivett, director of the Historical Society. "The house is the oldest remaining landmark on campus."

Kivett added that the goal is to restore the house and open it to the public. To date, restoration work has been limited to the exterior.

"The house is one of the few examples in Nebraska of the French Second Empire style of architecture," Kivett said.

"The most surprising thing about the house," said James Potter, a state archivist, "is

the large number of rooms and doorways. One would never guess from looking at the outside of the house that there are four rooms upstairs and nine downstairs."

"The house was built in 1878 by Rev. Elisha Mather Lewis, a Presbyterian home missionary," Magie said.

The house is believed to have been acquired by the Syford family in 1903. Since that time inhabitants have included university professors and students.

Miss Syford also willed \$30,000 to the Historical Society for maintenance and restoration. Furnishings of the Syford family were left in the house or have been acquired.

"The house is even more rare because it is not a mansion. They are often preserved," said Kivett. "But it is one of the few average houses from the 1870's that remains."

Ripon Society reverses policy

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — (CPS) — The Ripon Society, which terms itself progressive Republican, has announced it will consider bids for chapter status from college groups. The decision to admit college-based groups into the Society was a reversal of a long-standing policy.

Although the group was born on the Harvard campus in 1962, it has relied on young business and government employes to provide the nucleus of its formal leadership.

The National Governing Board decided on its general invitation to college campuses because, according to National Director Clair W. Rogers, "We recognize that many socially-conscious collegians have found

other political organizations lacking in actual political impact."

Ripon, although having close ties to the Nixon administration, recently criticized Attorney General John Mitchell for his administration of the Justice Department.

In the January issue of the "Forum", its monthly magazine, Ripon urged Mr. Mitchell to resign his post if he could not put the law before politics as Attorney General. Mitchell replied by calling Riponers "a bunch of little juvenile delinquents."

The Ripon Society will not employ a college recruiter nor will it accept College Young Republican groups that merely want to change their name.

Regent hopeful plans meeting

A 23 year-old University of Nebraska law student running for the Board of Regents will hold a meeting for students interested in helping in her campaign Thursday evening in the Nebraska Union.

Kim Lauridsen, the candidate, said the room number will be posted on the Union daily schedule. She urged all students interested in the election of a student Regent to attend.

YAC recommends deferment phase-out

by GARY SEACREST
Nebraska Staff Writer

Members of Youth Advisory Committees (YAC) to 26 western state Selective Service directors recommended recently that all student and occupational deferments be gradually phased-out.

The YACs made their recommendations last weekend at a meeting held at President Richard M. Nixon's western White House in San Clemente, Calif. A similar meeting was held in Washington, D.C. for the eastern YACs.

Many of the recommendations of the Nebraska YAC were contrary to the final recommendations of the San Clemente conference — that all student and occupational deferments be phased out.

The Nebraska YAC recommended the retention of student deferments and the elimination of all occupational deferments except for teacher deferments, according to Dennis Hetherington, the Nebraska representative at the San Clemente conference.

However, the Nebraska YAC recommendations, like the recommendations of the San Clemente and Washington conferences will be submitted to

the national Selective Service.

The national Selective Service "will try to tie the recommendations of the San Clemente and Washington conferences together and then submit the final recommendations to the President and Congress," Hetherington said.

Hetherington, the Nebraska YAC chairman and a Navy veteran, noted that the national Selective Service does not have to accept the recommendations of the San Clemente conference. But he added, "I have the feeling that many of the recommendations will be accepted."

Hetherington said the San Clemente conference did not closely study the possible creation of a volunteer army.

"Until a volunteer army is feasible, we want to reform the present system to make it more equitable," he said.

The Nebraska YAC chairman said that even if a volunteer army is created, conscription will be needed as a backup system in times of emergencies.

Hetherington also stated that communications between students and the Nebraska YAC have been extremely

poor. He said his committee received no concrete suggestions from students before the Nebraska YAC recommendations were sent to state Selective Service Director Col. Lee G. Liggett.

The Nebraska YAC consists of 14 Nebraskans, four of them NU students. Besides Hetherington, University students on the committee are John Bronson, Brent Skinner and Teresa Sledge.

Other recommendations of the Nebraska YAC:

— To make student deferments more equitable, each draft registrant shall be placed in the random selection sequence in the calendar year following his 19th birthday. If his random selection number is reached that year, service in the armed forces can be postponed if the person is an undergraduate student, vocational-technical student or enrolled in an approved apprenticeship program.

— Grounds for conscientious objectors should be changed from "by reason of religious training and belief" to "by reason of personal conviction."

Deferments for ministers and divinity students should be eliminated.