

## Discrimination issue

Tuesday the Council on Student Life took action to deal with discrimination at the University of Nebraska. The Council decided to give campus organizations until the end of the academic year to show clearly they do not discriminate on the basis of race and make "positive efforts" to eliminate attitudes of racist discrimination by educational programs and organizational assessment.

Compliance to these criteria will be measured by an ad hoc committee established by CSL. The committee can recommend to CSL probation or suspension of organizations failing to comply with the criteria. All CSL action is subject to review by the Regents.

In tone and direction, in authority and strength, the CSL resolution is valuable. Hopefully, it will be equally effective. Certainly, such positive action in dealing with University discrimination is long over-due; it is high-time something is done. But in a more limited sense, did action come from the wrong governing body?

Although the word "organizations" is used in reference to campus discrimination, the most obvious target for anti-discrimination action is the Greek system. Fair enough. Greeks have a long history of racial discrimination, and furthermore, they are dealing with the problem in a laboriously slow manner. Yet they are dealing with the problem.

Solutions similar to the CSL resolution were under consideration by a special IFC committee due to report to that body next week. Whether these measures would have been adopted by IFC is now a moot question. Their adoption by IFC, acting on its own, would have been invaluable in solving the discrimination problem.

Nevertheless, IFC must not pout over nor attempt to resist the CSL directive. It remains for IFC to go beyond compliance with these criteria and eliminate the single black-ball system, guarantee a bid to all students going through rush, and provide for IFC-supervised, intensive rushing of minority students this summer.

It is the responsibility of all organizations to assure fairness in the selection of members. It is the responsibility of IFC to solve this problem within the system, in addition to the CSL action. Finally, it is the responsibility of CSL to insure fairness and effectiveness in enforcing compliance with the resolution.

Jim Pedersen

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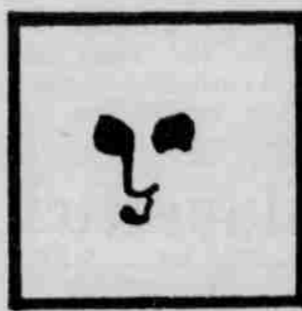
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"O.K., Johnny, I won't ask you to do 'welfare Cadillac'... but I'd certainly like to hear these..."

# EDITORIAL



## Tricky Dick or Dick the trick?

by Dick Gregory

After a little more than a year in office, Richard M. Nixon's frequently used nickname, "Tricky Dick," has taken on a new meaning. It becomes more and more obvious each day that Nixon was not so much perpetrator as heir apparent of the trick. Nothing else could explain the elevation to the highest office in the land of a man whose major qualification was persistence: either the guts or the gall to lose a national election, then a local election, and come back again to try — and win — on the national level.

Of course a lot happened in America between the time of Nixon's national defeat and his subsequent victory. The Black Attitude changed for one thing, an Attitude shared by blacks and radical young whites. By the time the 1968 national election rolled around, it was no longer safe for the white majority to be open bigots or racists.

SO THE WHITE majority conceived the trick. They decided to hide their bigotry under a new name — the less offensive and more ambiguous sounding name "conservative." The natural candidate to embody the conservative image was Richard Nixon. And each time I see Nixon on TV, I get the impression that he still doesn't believe he's the President.

It seemed like a good trick and, of course, it produced a victory. But one element of the trick escaped the attention of the white majority. Conservatism is expensive. It doesn't cost anything to be a bigot. It takes some money

to be a conservative. The average white person in America doesn't have enough money to survive a conservative, right wing Administration. And the expensive results of the conservative trick are placing a burden upon the same white folks who created and supported it. Richard Nixon will be a one-term President, and black folks will have nothing to do with it. The same white folks who voted Nixon into office will end up voting him out of office.

When the nation becomes worried about a "tight money" situation, who do you think is doing the worrying? Black folks have always lived with a tight money situation! Black folks have always been poor and are used to tightening their belts. So when the economy is disrupted, when the general alarm is sounded that "things are bad in America," it is a white folks' worry. Traditionally there is nobody who is not doing bad in America but white folks.

PAN AMERICAN Airlines announced recently the layoff of some 200 pilots. How many of those pilots do you think were black? When Chrysler laid off 40,000 white collar workers not long ago, white folks began to sense the terrible insecurity black assembly line workers have always known and lived with. Boeing Aircraft, with a work force of 101,000, has laid off 30,000 and are planning a further layoff of 10,000. And the voices of protest and disenchantment that are heard the loudest are the executive white (collar and otherwise) workers.

Since I travel hundreds of miles each

day, I hear people on airplanes complaining about tight money, about high interest rates, and how hard it is to get bank loans. If two men are sitting on an airplane complaining about not being able to get a \$300,000 loan, do you suppose either one of them is black? If inability to get a bank loan is an indication of a new tight money situation, black folks couldn't possibly appreciate the fact that things have changed. We've never been able to get loans, even to pay twice as much for those houses in all-white neighborhoods.

THE NIXON administration vetoed the educational bill. When money is shut off from aiding schools, who does that primarily affect? Black folks have always had a hard time getting a decent education, and a harder time being admitted to institutions of higher education. A veto of educational assistance is a kick in the teeth of white folks, and represents new problems only for them. It may mean that black students planning to enter college will have a hard time, but that is not a new situation for black folks.

So being a conservative is expensive, and more and more white folks are beginning to realize it. Conservatism may be a sweeter sounding word than bigotry, just as white backlash sounds better than racism. Conservatism and white backlash seem to go hand in hand. But the way things are shaping up economically in this country under the Nixon administration, the white backlash may soon be cracking elsewhere than on the backs of black folks.

## Kennedy quandary

by FRANK MANKIEWICZ and TOM BRADEN

It is, of course, too early to suggest what alternative to Richard Nixon will be available in 1972 — even perhaps too early to suggest whether the country will want one. Moods are transient, and if the country's mood continues to be a curious combination of the phlegmatic and the cantankerous it will not really matter very much whom the Democrats anoint.

Still, there is always the chance that the country's mood will change, that it will seek a leader. Moreover, whether or not the mood changes, there will always be those who think it has changed, or would change if the right man spoke out. Thus it is possible to envision the scenario at the Democratic National Convention of 1972, meeting in the certainty of the renomination of Richard Nixon.

THE IMAGINARY scenario is not peaceful. The candidacies of Hubert Humphrey and Edmund Muskie — the front-runners — have stalled, in part, let us say, because each seeks to draw from the same pool of delegates, in part because neither is acceptable to the sizable minority to whom they represent a past with which to break.

A Southern bloc led, let us say, by John Connelly of Texas

threatens a walkout against the possible choice of Sen. George McGovern of South Dakota. A list of dark horses, including, let us say, newly elected Sen. Adlai Stevenson of Illinois and Sen. Joseph Tydings of Maryland, has failed to arouse enthusiasm.

Newspaper columnists are comparing the convention to that of 1860, when the Democrats went three ways to defeat.

IT IS AT this point that delegates and party leaders begin placing telephone calls. The message is easily imaginable. "You can unite this party," the calls say, "and if you don't unite it the party is dead."

That he would say yes to the telephone call is unimaginable today for two reasons.

FIRST, BECAUSE whatever happened at Chappaquiddick will still be cloaked — if not in mystery, then in gossip. Could Kennedy win if he did run in 1972? By 1976, on the other hand, Chappaquiddick will no longer be a matter for speculation. For better or worse, so far as Kennedy is concerned, it will be history.

Second, 1972 provokes the vengeful psychotic. Twice weekly, at least, Kennedy associates talk to police about those threats on his life — they come by dozens in the morning mail—which they consider most

worthy of being looked into. Will this shadow which follows him disappear by 1976? Perhaps not but, just maybe, perhaps so.

That is why the answer from the other end of the telephone in the scenario envisioned above must be negative. And that is why the Democratic Party is in such a desperate search for a leader, while at the very same time it has one standing by.

EDWARD KENNEDY performs his Senate business with new-found passion for both detail and anonymity. Who led the fight against Clement Haynsworth and Harold Carswell? Birch Bayh — out in front — but Edward Kennedy behind the scenes. Who — with rare parliamentary skill and informed argument — shepherded through Senate and House the 18-year-old vote, coupled with an extension of the Voting Rights Act, over the hostility of the South and the White House? Sen. Mike Mansfield — out in front — but Edward Kennedy behind the scenes.

And yet with all the detail and all the work there is something less than satisfying about anonymous leadership, even when it leads to a anonymous victory. Particularly when you know there is no finish line in sight and that, two years from now, the answer must be no.

## ★ ★ RAPPING ★ ★

Editor:

For some time now, I have been receiving copies of your paper (sender unacknowledged) and enjoy reading it from cover to back page. I also became concerned while reading some editorials and stories which in speaking of our State Senators, always seem to lump them into one bunch, whether criticizing or praising their efforts. We, as surely as others, are individuals and have many varied opinions on any given subject.

For many reasons (selfish and otherwise); my son graduated from Teachers College last year, my daughter and son-in-law are now students, the main campus is in my legislative district, a genuine concern for young people and their education; the University holds a place deep in my heart.

With the help of other interested Senators, I pushed for the Love Library addition (6½ million dollars) and over vigorous objections, got 2½ million secure plus the hope that the first 4 million will pass the Supreme Court test. This occurred because of Legislative interest in educational betterment and not because of student or university official prodding.

In the future, we hope to budget funds for many needed capitol construction projects by priorities. Please remember that though some things come slow even when badly needed, that some of us are concerned and are trying hard to provide what is necessary.

One other concern, when reporting the so-called "self defense bill," how about the group of us that fought this bad law all the way? Our small group tried at every turn to kill or amend but were beaten down. Just once, publish the names of the dissenters on the passing and veto overriding votes.

Thank you for allowing me to speak of my concerns with youth and education in our University.

Harold D. Simpson  
State Senator  
District 46

## Legalization the answer?

by CHUCK HASKINS

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of Religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Hopefully you have immediately recognized the beginning phrase of the first amendment to our Constitution. These few words could very easily contain the greatest single message of the whole document. The fundamental word is Religion and for a complete understanding of the passage it is necessary to define this term.

Webster's Religion: any specific system of belief, worship, conduct, etc., often involving a code of ethics and a philosophy. For added clarity look up Ethics: the study of standards of conduct and moral judgment; moral philosophy. Now by substituting terminology a modern interpretation is derived. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of moral philosophy, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

FURTHER ideas and proof might be needed. It's easy to cite attempts at legislating morality and then show the bad results of such legislation. On Aug. 26, 1920, the 18th amendment to the Constitution went into effect. "After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited." On Dec. 5, 1933, the following sentence became the 21st amendment: "The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed." If there is one important fact that should be remembered from history it is: Organized crime (Mafia, Cosa Nostra, etc.) got its big chance because of prohibition.

With this in mind, let's move up to the present and analyze our situation. Laws against gambling, prostitution and abortion are all of the "protect man from himself" type. The services that these three are prohibited by law from providing are offered at an extremely high price by organized crime. Man has performed all three for as long as he possessed the skills required of each, and there is no reason to believe that man will ever stop performing them. Hopefully it is now clear that the best policy in each case would be legalization, and at the same time the practitioners of each trade should set their own standards to insure safety and fairness.

THE DRUG question was omitted until now because the problem is not as clear as the first three. The reasons for legalizing gambling, prostitution, and abortion can be applied to the case for legalization of drugs, but it is easy to find places where the previous logic seems to fall short. More is needed.

Now put organized crime into the picture. Pushers serve as the bad influence. The exertion of this influence is their livelihood, so the pusher naturally becomes an expert at finding the uneducated child. Our present drug policy is to eliminate the source of supply. This only drives the cost of the drug up as it becomes scarce. This high price has two bad results. People who want the drug but don't have enough money might turn to crime for the answer. Secondly, if organized crime is not already pushing the drug, the higher profit (due to the government created scarcity) now possible through supplying the drug makes their future presence inevitable.

IF THERE is no way to make a profit by selling the drug then there won't be any pusher. To accomplish this we legalize the sale of any and all types of drugs. This will put an end to the pusher.

This letter is not meant to condone gambling, prostitution, abortion, drinking, or drugging. Its only purpose is to point out that government should not judge these same moral issues. Many present laws (those concerning suicide, homosexuality, etc. included) should be repealed for the good of society.