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For primary election

Law: students to register at home

Students desiring to vote in the May 12 primary election "probably" won't be considered residents of Lancaster County according to the electoral commissioner.

Under Nebraska law, only those citizens termed legal residents by the electoral commission will be allowed to vote in that county.

This, however, does not mean that college students from outstate will be refused the right to vote in Lincoln just because they are students.

"What it means," according to electoral commissioner Dean H. Petersen, "is that most students are not legal residents of Lancaster County. They actually have a legal residence elsewhere."

Petersen urged students instead, to register in their respective home counties before the May 1 deadline for registering.

"Under a new Nebraska law people can register by mail. I would urge students to write their county clerk as soon as possible and request a registration form," he added. Students would also be wise to request an absentee ballot at the same time to avoid confusion, he said.

In order to legally register in a county in the state of Nebraska a citizen must be a resident of the state at least six months, a resident of the county 40 days and a resident of the precinct 10 days, he said.

Petersen also said students who will be having their 21st birthday after the May 1 registration deadline but on or before the May 12 election should register before the deadline. The registration will be approved on the date of the individual's 21st birthday.

Anyone who has changed his or her name or place of

residence, even within the county, must re-register. People who want to change party affiliation must also register again according to state law.

HEP:

Charged with racism

by CAROL ANDERSON
Nebraskan Staff Writer

Charges of racism were leveled at the HEP (High School Equivalency Program) at Wednesday's ASUN Senate meeting by Sen. Phil Medcalf.

The charges were aimed at HEP Director Gale Muller and two of his staff members, Ted Reithmeier and Mercedes M. Crawford, a HEP reading teacher, who attended the ASUN meeting by invitation.

The standardized test HEP students must take at the end of the six to eight month program doesn't consider the cultural differences of HEP students, most of whom are Chicanos, Medcalf said.

HEP students are "culturally different, not culturally deprived," Mrs. Crawford said in answer to Medcalf's statements. She implied that this is why the program doesn't concentrate more on the

psychological side of the student.

Several student counselors have been fired from the program for disagreeing with its philosophy of Americanizing students Medcalf said. He pointed out three former counselors in attendance at the meeting. One of the former counselors, Mike Shonsey said he had resigned from the program as a counselor but probably would have been fired if he hadn't.

Shonsey said HEP frowned on counselor-student social activities such as drinking together and that some students felt counselors were just babysitting. He said he is concerned because all the counselors are white, differing culturally from HEP students.

Muller said special efforts are made to recruit Chicano counselors but so far none had been hired. He refused to discuss the firing of former counselors in public but offered to talk with Medcalf privately.

Muller argued that HEP had a right to expect its counselors to maintain certain standards and that these standards are not necessarily value-loaded but based on experience.

The ASUN inquiry was instigated by a resolution introduced by Medcalf resolving that "ASUN request the CSL to review the relationship of University students to the NHRRF. The NHRRF (Nebraska Human Resource Research Foundation) is connected with the University and operates HEP as one of its 11 projects, according to Muller.

He said HEP is federally funded by the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) and operated according to OEO guidelines.

Medcalf withdrew his resolution but says he "still feels strongly that HEP is a racist program." He said he brought up the issue because "it needs airing." The matter will probably come up again in the Human Rights Committee, Medcalf added.



'Cabaret' comes on with bumps, grinds, and all the joys of springtime. Performers will exhibit their talents April 17 and 18 at Pershing Auditorium.

Photo by Dan Ladely