

Exon, Regents, students—side by side?

by JOHN DVORAK
Nebraskan Staff Writer

An old song popular in the 1930s began: "Oh we ain't got a barrel of money..."

While hardly anyone remembers the title to that tune nowadays ("Side by Side"), deans, directors and department chairmen at the University of Nebraska are fearing that the first phrase of that old rhyme is right in step with the 70's, especially now that J. J. Exon will be moving into the governor's mansion next month.

The governor-elect seems to have adopted the "Oh we ain't got a barrel of money" theme as one of his philosophies of state government.

"Unrealistic" and "way out of line" are the ways Exon has described NU's request for \$123.8 million in state funds for the 1971-1973 biennium. That figure is 53 per cent higher than what the institution is taking from state coffers this biennium.

Exon cannot be accused of picking on the University. He has applied his "money" theme

to all other facets of state government as well.

"It's a matter of priorities," Exon said in an interview with The Nebraskan.

"The voters of Nebraska spoke loudly and clearly in the last election," he said. "One thing they asked for is a slow down in the rapidly expanding cost of education."

He pointed out that two incumbent members of the Board of Regents suffered defeat at the hands of supposedly more conservative men. The voters rejected an incumbent governor who had the reputation of being a big spender. And incumbent state senators fell like leaves in autumn.

So it may be expected that the city campus will be red with blood from cuts the University budget will sustain between now and its expected mid-1971 passage.

"How do you justify a 53 per cent budget increase in one year's time?" Exon asked.

The veteran Democrat vowed to cut the "frills" in the NU budgetary request.

But what are the frills?

Exactly what should be cut from the budget?

Exon would not say. "I don't know exactly where to draw the line on what are frills . . . The administration and faculty have to help decide where the budget should be cut. It would be unfair to get into specific areas of the budget."

One fairly specific area that Exon spoke against was "expanding into new areas

academically that we ought not be in."

He mentioned the controversial course on homophile studies as one course that could be abolished for budget reasons.

"That in itself won't make a big dent in the budget," he admitted. "But it would be one little step towards bringing the budget back in line."

"It's easy to propose and implement new programs," he lamented. "When money is plentiful, they are desirable."

"For example, I would like to see our University have a course in veterinary medicine," Exon said. "It's an area that is especially applicable to rural Nebraska, but we just can't afford it at this time."

He suggested that perhaps

Centennial to fill open positions

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The deadline for applications in Centennial is Dec. 15.

Additional information and application forms are available at the Centennial College office, Women's Residence Halls.

courses with only tiny enrollments might also be abolished to save money.

But, again he stressed that he is not prepared to say exactly what courses should be done away with.

Obviously the NU budget (which totals \$199.6 million with the addition of non-tax income) would have to be trimmed in other non-academic areas to bring it down to Exon's idea of a "little more realistic" figure. He would not say exactly what that figure should be.

The governor-elect and several of his aids recently conferred with Chancellor D. E. Varner, Board of Regents

President Robert Raun and other NU officials.

Exon said little about the results of the meeting, but he indicated that other meetings will be held in the future.

"I'm not anti-education, I'm for education," Exon emphasized, who was a political science and business student for two years at the former University of Omaha.

"I will be reasonable as governor, and I'm sure the Chancellor and Regents want to be helpful too," Exon said. "But we must remember that higher education is paid for primarily by the taxpayers and it's a privilege, not a right, to attend college."

Allies 'prolonged' World War II

London (CPS) — Millions of lives were sacrificed because of unnecessary prolongation of the Second World War, says one of Britain's top military critics.

Sir Basil Liddell, who died last January, says in his last book, a history of the war, that the "allies" demand of unconditional surrender of both Germany and Japan "was the greatest help to Hitler, in preserving his grip on the German people, and likewise to the war party in Japan."

Sir Basil said the US and its allies should have modified this "unwise and short-sighted" demand once the tide had turned in their favor.

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