

# Budget...

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suggested by Exon and the Board of Regents.

"It is my belief that the continuation of this controversy serves no useful purpose," he said. "It is time voices are lowered and we turn to the crucial business of identifying a reasonable and appropriate budget for this University."

Varner went on to suggest a complete study of the efficiency of the University of Nebraska management, paid for on an equal-share basis by the University Foundation and the Legislature, with recommendations for any changes which would improve effectiveness.

"THIS WE OWE the taxpayers of the state," Varner added, "and we would enthusiastically cooperate in a study of this kind."

Varner's proposal to budget the University at the mid-point of the Big Eight would undoubtedly call for an increase in the governor's proposed appropriations. The figure would not, however, approach the Regent's submitted budget, and University officials offered no speculative figure as to what a mid-point budget would come to.

The University of Nebraska currently ranks sixth in the appropriations per student at \$1,601. The figure puts NU \$460 per student behind the University of Missouri with only the two Oklahoma schools below the University.

VARNER TOLD THE committee the University was not prepared for the magnitude of the Exon budget reductions. He also expressed concern over the quality of the University.

Varner pointed to figures which show NU has the highest student-teacher ratio in the Big Eight, fourth in teacher salaries, sixth in library facilities, fourth in federal grants and eighth in adequate graduate school programs.

The University presentation also included graphs which showed that NU is the only Big Eight school whose enrollment has grown faster than appropriations.

Varner's testimony was supplemented by Board of Regents President Robert Raun of

Minden who told the committee that "though the dollars we have had to work with have gone up by 313 per cent in the last decade, the enrollment has increased by 336 per cent and this in a decade when inflation has taken 31 per cent of each dollar."

"WE VERY MUCH believe that the University is a fundamental resource in our state. We believe that the state will ultimately prosper and be only as good as its University."

One student from each of the campuses, including Medical Center, testified on behalf of an increased budget. Lincoln campus student Wally Dean told the committee a survey of students two years ago revealed only 30 per cent intended to remain in Nebraska after graduation. However, a new survey shows 39 per cent will remain, he added.

"Because of the past appropriations support the Legislature has given the University, more students are planning to stay in Nebraska," Dean said.

Others urging the committee to increase the Exon budget for NU included both the Omaha and Lincoln Chambers of Commerce and a member of the Nebraska Livestock Feeders Association.

PLEAS FOR INCREASES in the budget for the College of Agriculture and Home Economics received heavy support from witnesses representing state agriculture interests.

Bill Krecji, a member of the advisory council to the agriculture department, emphasized the contribution of the University to the state's number one industry.

"The state needs the University to help in controlling plant and animal diseases," Krecji said. "If the University's contribution is reduced, all the state agencies will suffer from reduced tax dollars reflecting reduced agriculture-incomes."

Krecji reminded the committee that 80 per cent of the income of the state is from agriculture or agri-business. He urged the committee to "take a long hard look" at the budget for the ag school, realize its importance, and provide adequate funds for the college.

# ON CAMPUS



WITH MAX SHULMAN

(By the author of Rally Round the Flag, Boys... Dobie Gillis... etc.)

## Quo Vadis; or Your Chariot Is On My Foot

I know it sounds crazy, but there's still a chance you might not flunk out of school. (You're laughing, but it's possible.) It is, however, a very slim chance and it will require you to do something you've never done before: take notes.

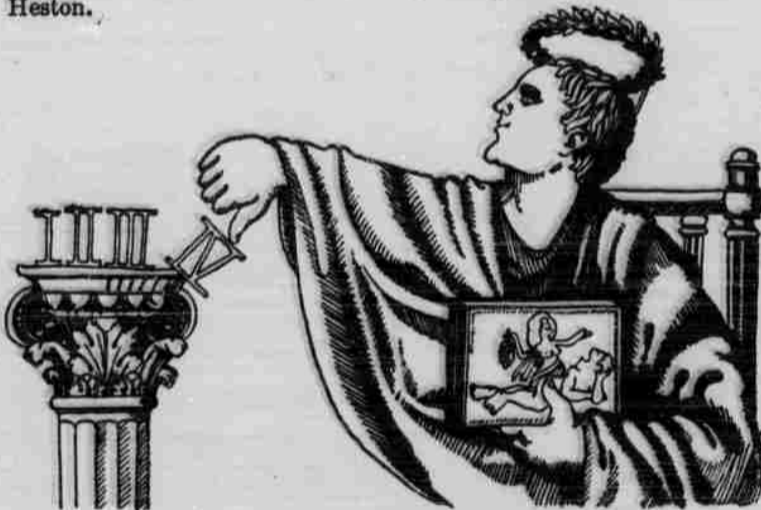
Why haven't you been taking notes? I'll tell you why. Let's suppose you're at a history lecture. Let's suppose the topic is the ruling houses of England. You start out fine. You put down the lecturer's points one after another with Roman numerals just like you're supposed to. Like this:

- I. House of Plantagenet
- II. House of Lancaster
- III. House of York

Then suddenly you stop. You put down your pen. You blink back a tear. You can't go on. Oh sure, you know the next ruling house is the House of Tudor. What you *don't* know is the Roman numeral that comes after III.

There's the hangup—those cruddy Roman numerals! How come we keep using them when even the Romans didn't know how? Oh, I guess they could tell you how much V or X were or like that, but when it came to skullcrackers like LXI or MMC, they just flung away their styluses and went downtown to have a bath or take in a circus or maybe stab Caesar a few times.

You may wonder why Rome stuck with these ridiculous numerals when the Arabs had such a nice simple system. Well sir, the fact is that Emperor Vespasian tried like crazy to buy the Arabic numerals from the Sultan, Suleiman the Hairy, but Suleiman wouldn't do business—not even when Vespasian raised his bid to 100,000 gold piasters, plus he offered to throw in the Colosseum, the Appian Way and Charlton Heston.



So Rome stuck with Roman numerals—to its sorrow, as they found. One day in the Forum, Cicero and Pliny the Elder got to arguing about how much is CDL times MVIX. Well sir, pretty soon everybody in town came around to join the hassle. In all the excitement nobody remembered to lock the north gate and—wham! before you could say *ars longa*—in rushed the Goths, the Visigoths and the Green Bay Packers!

Well sir, that's the way the empire crumbles, but I digress. Let's get back to lecture notes. Let's also say a word about Miller High Life Beer because the brewers of Miller High Life Beer sponsor this column and they're inclined to sulk if I don't mention their product. Naturally, they don't sulk long, the brewers of Miller High Life Beer, for they are ebullient, great-spirited men, as chock-full of sunniness as the beer they brew. Believe me, I know. Every Tuesday I have lunch with them at the brewery and I've never seen such a fun place!

The lunches always get off to a rousing start with everybody's singing the Miller Pep Song which you all know, of course:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| I'm a keg of Miller—<br>I will please your palate.  | I'm a keg of Miller—<br>So go and get a mallet.   |
| I'm a keg of Miller—<br>I will make you feel young. | I'm a keg of Miller—<br>And bang away at my bung. |

Well sir, this is only the beginning. Next, everyone gets up in turn and does a hilarious bit. For instance, Frank Glebe from Hops Control imitates a chicken; Rex Gransmire from Label Gumming touches his ear with his tongue; Charley Froos from Malt Flow cracks a walnut in his armpit; Norman Berswang from Fermentation touches his armpit with his tongue; as you see, just one belly-buster after another.

But lunch ends with a tranquil and rather solemn moment. Ed Gonder, the brewery chaplain, closes the proceedings with an invocation to St. Dintenfass, the patron saint of carbon dioxide, and then they all return to their work renewed and inspired, just as you too will be after you too have enjoyed the joys of Miller High Life. Whether you drink beer every day, every III days, or every VII, you cannot find a jollier companion than Miller High Life.

Miller High Life amo, Tom Miller High Life amat, Dick Miller High Life amat, Harry Miller High Life amat, quique Miller High Life amant—et quoque amabitis.

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