

"Because of the depression, we are unable to hire anybody and will not be able to until there has been a substantial improvement in the economy."

Dennis

Dennis Hetherington, who received the above response, has written 106 letters and gone through about seven interviews in the hopes of finding a job. He has received 52 replies and only nine applications out of these.

A journalism and political science major who will be graduating in June with a bachelor's degree, Hetherington isn't lacking in experience. He has worked for the *Democrat and Chronicle* newspaper in New York on a summer internship, has written for Associated press for two summers in Lincoln and has been a student assistant for sports information at the University.

Hetherington has sent letters and resumes to big and small newspapers and to large companies for public relations jobs. He also has applied for several government jobs and for jobs in the sports information field.

"It's gotten to the point where I don't think that I can choose the area that I would like to work in or dictate the salary that I will receive," said Hetherington. "It used to be that you usually had a choice."

The scarcity of jobs is explained by Hetherington by the lack of turnover in positions. "Nobody is quitting because it's so hard to find another job."

Rochelle Roth is a Ph. D. candidate in English who has been looking for a job since last spring and now has a temporary teaching job in New York City.

Rochelle

Her job will end in early June and, according to Rochelle, "They would be happy to take me again but they have no money to pay me."

That is the main reply for not being hired said Roth. "It's not that the people don't want to hire, it's just that they don't have the money."

She has applied to about 75 different places almost all in the New York area, where she is originally from. She teaches at Brooklyn College, part of the City University of New York.

The fact that she has a higher degree doesn't seem to be any help and, in fact, may be a hindrance. When applying for one job she was told outright that she was "overeducated."

"I have a cousin who has three different master's degrees and two different PH. D.'s in engineering in addition to a wife and three children," said Rochelle. "and he has been laid off."

She thinks that there would probably be better opportunities in Europe where "they are crying for educated people. There must be a mix-up in priorities when they can find the money for say, a snow storm, and then when a real crisis comes along like education they can't find it."

Lucy Constock has to find a job around the Princeton, N.J. because her fiance is doing graduate work there.

Lucy

"The east is popular with a lot of people and whereas I might have been able to get a job there ten years ago it isn't quite as easy now," she said.

Lucy, who is looking for an English teaching position, has written about 50 letters and has gone through interviews during semester break. Schools are not hiring because they don't have any openings, are not expanding and have literally hundreds of applicants.

"It's very disheartening to spend the time and energy going through school and not be able to use your professional skills," Lucy said. "Teaching is what I love and I want to stay in the classroom."

She was told by a member of the faculty from Rutgers University that they receive from 200 to 300 letters in a three week period. Obviously, then prospective employers can be very selective in who they hire, if this prevails in other areas.

"I'm going back sometime in April for more interviews," Lucy added, "I haven't given up hope yet."

If a senior can survive his last semester of classes, and avoid being drafted, there is a fair chance he will find a job.

That is, if he is not too picky about where he wants to work, and if he's not in one of the fields that is hopelessly saturated with student job-seekers.

The University of Nebraska Placement Director said the number of companies holding job interviews on campus during the first semester was down almost one-third. But, Frank Hallgren added that the drop in interviews doesn't necessarily mean a similar drop in the number of jobs available.

In past years companies had interviewed more widely and offered more jobs because there were fewer graduates to go around, he explained. Now, companies seldom extend a job offer unless they have good reason to believe it will be accepted.

**IT WILL BE** more difficult to find a job in most areas this year, Hallgren said, but it will not be impossible. He advised students to interview more widely than they would have in the past and to follow up their interviews more diligently.

"People looking for jobs need to examine what they want and consider alternatives open to them" Hallgren said. "They will have a better chance of getting a job if they are flexible and realize they may not get exactly the position they want."

The director said that persons with doctorate degrees are having the most difficulty finding jobs. This is because highly trained people are more expensive to hire, he said.

Also, companies do not like to underemploy higher degree people because they tend to become dissatisfied and leave the jobs as soon as they can, Hallgren said.

**DIRECTOR OF THE** East Campus placement service, Franklin Eldridge, said he saw no indication of a saturated job market in agriculture fields. But, he added that there does seem to be a better balance between the number of graduates and jobs than in past years. He said that things are little different in his office this year than in the past. There have been no more interview cancellations than usual, Eldridge added.

"There are one or two people with higher degrees in agriculture still looking for jobs, but this is usual," he said.

Quoting from a survey Eldridge said that there were 148 "agribusiness" jobs open in Nebraska in January. About 200 students are expected to graduate with degrees in agriculture this year, he said.

"About 20 per cent or 40 of these graduates will

immediately go into military service," he said. "This takes them out of the job market."

Eldridge speculated that another 40 will go into farming or ranching, about 36 will go on to graduate studies and about 20 more will become vocational agriculture teachers in Nebraska high schools.

**THIS WILL LEAVE** only about 63 graduates to compete for the "agribusiness" jobs.

Teacher placement director Lee DeJong predicted that "most" teachers college graduates would get jobs. He speculated that students with the greatest teaching ability will find jobs more easily than those who have yet to prove their ability.

There is about a 20 per cent turnover rate each year among the state's 1,800 teachers, DeJong said. This means that about 360 new teaching jobs open in the state each year.

He said he had always been a pessimist about the job market, but added that the picture should not discourage a prospective teacher.

A teacher who cannot find a job in a large school system might do well in a smaller one where there is less competition, he said. Graduates who are flexible in their possible locations have a good chance of finding a job, according to DeJong.

Quoting a survey of 10 Nebraska college placement directors taken March 10 he said there seems to be an adequate supply of teachers in the fields of social studies, men's physical education, business teacher education, biology and speech.

**FIELDS WHERE THE** survey indicates a shortage of teachers are chemistry, physics, library, science, vacancies of two or more teaching areas in combination and music, with critical shortages of special education and speech therapy teachers.

In other parts of the University, the chairmen of several departments indicated that though there were less jobs available now than in the past, the situation was not critical.

Lyle Young, associate dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture, said: "It is not at all hard to find a job - it only takes a little more hustling."

"Job opportunities are expected to be on the upswing by June," Young continued. "This is indicated by a slow increase in recruiters showing interest on the campus."

Pharmacy College Dean Robert D. Gibson said, "Pharmacy students have all the job opportunities they want." He added that one drug company had mentioned the possibility of hiring the entire graduating class of the college.

# Nebraska grad-- if he's not picky, he can probably find job

**OFFICIALS IN** the colleges of law and home economics both indicated that there was no trouble in placing their graduates.

J. A. Fagerstrom, chairman of the geology department, said he does not know of any geology major who has had trouble finding a job. But, he added that most geology majors must have advanced degrees to be hired.

Though the situation in chemistry is not bad, for undergraduates, the story for chemistry Ph. D. graduates is much more grim, according to John J. Scholz, professor of chemistry and placement consultant for the chemistry department.

Scholz said there are two reasons that Ph. D. graduates are finding it difficult to get jobs. First, industry has stopped expanding and in some cases, is cutting back research programs. Second, defense-related industry has been cut back a great deal as has government research.

He added that there is a steadily increasing supply of Ph. D. and that the market is becoming saturated. So, industries are forced to become more selective, he said.

All in all, though, the job market is tighter than the easy market of the 60's, a student in most fields should be able to find a job - if he works at it.

Hallgren

