

## Library needs letters

For some students, letter-writing to state senators has become a boring past time. There are many students, on both the City and the East campuses, who have written numerous letters on behalf of the university budget.

These students have performed a valuable service to the community, even if they weren't able to secure everything that the university requested in its budget recommendations.

And now with the talk that some state senators may soon introduce a full funding plan for the addition to Love Library, letters again may be needed. You may remember that two years ago the legislature appropriated \$6.5 million for the library only to have the legislation declared illegal by the Nebraska Supreme Court. Today it appears that there may be a chance for the Library Bill-LB1027.

So if you have a minute, and if you're not too bored with letter-writing, it may be helpful to the University if you again wrote your state senator asking him for a positive vote on the Library Bill.

Many students seem to be interested in the efforts of the Human Relations Insight League (HRIL) in their battle against the Elks Club.

Currently the league is trying to raise money to support a legal battle in which the HRIL is trying to have the liquor license of the Elks revoked on the grounds that a club with racist policies should not have such a license.

Anyway, if you are interested or think you may be interested in becoming involved with the H.R.I.L., there will be an open, unconventional meeting tomorrow night in the Sheldon Sculpture Garden. The meeting will include speakers and music.

The speakers should be especially interesting. Haze Pope of the Special Service Programs will be speaking on how University expansion has effected the Malone area. And former football standout Randy Reeves will be speaking about the University's responsibilities recruiting minority students. The event will be in the Union in case of rain.

*Mick Moriarty*

## Elks rally

## American universities experience budget cuts

(CPS)—Severe budget cuts are facing many colleges and universities throughout the country. The results of these budget cuts include increased tuition or instatement of tuition, salary and faculty cuts, loss of student aid money, and the curtailing or suspension of many services to students.

Budget strictures are not limited to large colleges or colleges that have troubled campuses. Both state universities in Montana face enrollment limitations. According to President Robert Pantzer, the university operations budget will be cut by 10 per cent for the coming year. Pantzer explained that some University courses might be taught every other year and that there are no plans for hiring additional instructors.

California, Ohio, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania universities are facing tuition increases in light of inadequate state funding.

In Massachusetts, two bills are before the state legislature. One would increase tuition to \$600 per student and the other calls for students to pay at least 40 per cent of the actual cost of their education.

In Oklahoma the state colleges and universities did not suffer budget cuts, but are suffering from insufficient funding from their state legislature. According to Paul Reed,

president of the Higher Education Alumni Council of Oklahoma, "budgets of our colleges and universities are already several years behind needs."

Results of the budget cuts will include tuition for day sessions students, reduce credit loads, eliminate summer and evening sessions, and freezing additional faculty appointments.

In all, over 1500 colleges and universities are in financial difficulty. Trends seem to indicate that state legislatures will remain close-fisted.

The only bright lights of hope on the horizon are two new methods of budgeting universities in order to get more for the elusive state dollar.

Planning, Programming and Budgeting Systems (PPBS) and the student-credit hour formula budget seem to be the only way for colleges to keep track of their remaining money.

The PPBS system studies combinations of means to give the best education for the least amount of money. It is a ratio of product and effect to cost.

The student-credit hour formula budget is based upon an equation using the total number of credit hours produced by each college. Money is then allocated on a ratio of students to teacher hours.



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## What is the national security?

WASHINGTON—During the Ramsey Clark era at the Justice Department, the FBI regularly asked Clark—and his deputy, Warren M. Christopher—for permission to eavesdrop on a great many citizens and organizations. The bureau wanted to place Jerry Rubin under electronic surveillance—and SNCC—and SDS—and Eldridge Cleaver, Stokely Carmichael, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and many others.

This piece of history is important because it helps to explain the current phobia in this city about wiretapping and bugging. Majority Leader Hale Boggs may be wrong when he said the FBI is tapping his telephone. He failed to prove the charge. But it says something important about the state of the nation in 1971 when the majority leader of the House of Representatives thinks that the national police are listening in on his telephone conversations.

**BOGGS IS NOT ALONE.** A lot of congressmen and senators think they are being bugged or tapped by the FBI, and that says even more about the state of the nation.

The reason they think they are being bugged or tapped goes back to those requests made by the FBI to Ramsey Clark.

Clark turned them down. He did so, not because eavesdropping was personally repugnant to him, which it was, but because he did not believe he had the authority. Clark's successor, Atty. Gen. John Mitchell has made it clear that he thinks he does have the authority. That is why congressmen, senators, reporters and a great many private citizens who take an active interest in public affairs are cautious these days about their telephones—and even about what is said in their own living rooms.

The authority Clark thought he didn't have—and which John Mitchell says he does have—rests on the interpretation of a letter written by Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In this letter, addressed to then Atty. Gen. Nicholas Biddle, F. D. R. expressed his abhorrence of eavesdropping and added the admonition that Biddle should authorize it only in cases involving "the national security."

**THE DIFFERENCE** then, between Clark and Mitchell rests on the definition of the phrase "the national security." Clark thought—and Roosevelt's wartime order tends to support him—that "the national security" meant threats against the United States by foreign powers.

He therefore continued to conduct wiretaps on foreign embassies or agents of foreign powers. But to Clark, the notion that a political group within this country, whether Yippie oriented or civil rights oriented represented a threat to the national security was laughable.

Not so, Mitchell. Nobody in Washington is making any bets that demonstrators, whether antiwar or black militants, are not under electronic surveillance by Mitchell's order. Congressmen and senators believe that when they talk to representatives of these groups, their remarks, too, are being stowed away in FBI files.

**WHICH RAISES THE QUESTION** "How does John Mitchell define 'the national security'?" Under Roosevelt's administrative order, an attorney general might bug anybody he liked and argue that he was protecting "the national security."

In a recent California court decision, Judge Warren Ferguson discussed the meaning of the and ruled that the FBI could not on the sole basis of "the national security" use evidence gained electronically in a domestic matter. "In order to protect our political freedoms," he said, "our forefathers agreed to take certain risks." It will be surprising if the Supreme Court does not uphold him.

## editorial COMMENT

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