

Regents investigate birth control handbooks

by Carol Strasser

The University Board of Regents decided Friday to investigate the distribution of the Birth Control Handbook in the dormitories. ASUN bought 10,000 copies of the book last year for \$500 in student fee money, said ASUN Pres. Steve Fowler.

However, ASUN decided not to distribute the books and gave them to the Association for Birth Control (ABC), a student organization, to sell, Fowler said. Although that was the original agreement, Fowler said he "wasn't planning to demand the money back" from ABC.

THE REGENTS decided to investigate the incident after Paul O'Hara, executive director of the Nebraska Catholic Council, appeared before the Board to complain about the books. The Regents suspended the rules to allow O'Hara to speak. The rules call for two weeks' notice before an outsider is permitted to speak to the Board.

O'Hara said he has received complaints from parents and students about the book and claimed that the material is being forced on students.

He alleged that two of the books were put in each mailbox in Cather and Pound dormitories and that the books were paid for in part with funds administered by the Executive Council of Pound and Cather Halls.

THE BOOKS WERE distributed free to all living units by the YWCA and University Women's Action Group, said Patti Kaminski, UWAG member. The means of distribution was up to the individual dormitory, according to Twig Daniels, ABC faculty adviser. Cather Hall was the only dormitory which reported that the books were put in mailboxes.

Andy Miller, residence director of Cather Hall, said the

YWCA gave the books to Cather Hall government, and the government gave a donation to ABC.

Miller said the books were regarded as "a factual, informative thing we wanted to pass on to the students. I don't know of any rule that the hall government can't give out information."

GAIL WATSON, Pound Program Chairman, said the books were passed out in Pound Hall through the student assistants so that each student had the option of turning it down.

"A need for the information was felt to exist in the hall," said Paul Ochsner, Cather Hall president. The book was distributed strictly for an informative purpose, he added.

The book was published by the Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Society of McGill University in Montreal. Although it contains discussions of anatomy, intercourse, venereal disease and abortion, the major portion is concerned with contraceptive methods and their relative effectiveness.

KAMINSKI said it is "one of the most respected" books on birth control. The book was distributed because of a concern about the number of problem pregnancies on campus, she said.

In not stopping the distribution of the book, O'Hara accused Eli Meyerson, interim Dean of Student Affairs, of ignoring the University's responsibility to protect students from getting materials which they can't accept in conscience. Meyerson refused to stop distribution on grounds of censorship.

Interim Chancellor C. Peter Magrath said arrangements are being made for "Birthright," an anti-abortion group, to distribute literature on campus.

The Regents requested a report on the incident at the December meeting.

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RHA asks dorm cooperation in Regents' plan

At a special meeting Saturday, the Residence Hall Association voted to set aside plans for court action and urged residence hall students to cooperate with the Board of Regents' committee on coed visitation.

The committee, with representatives from the Regents, administration and Council on Student Life, will attempt to liberalize current coed visitation policy.

THE REGENTS' decision to re-open the visitation question came after a lengthy meeting Friday with the Council on Student Life. CSL sought the meeting to discuss the visitation issue in the light of growing dissatisfaction among students over the current RHA visitation policy.

Roger Story, president of RHA, had informed the

Council that the Association was considering court action against the Regents to settle the issue. There also has been talk among dormitory students of mass disobedience of the regulations to force the Regents' hand.

ALTHOUGH he said he was delighted with the Regents' decision Friday, Story said "the proposed fall of '72 implementation date is over-cautious." University President D. B. Varner told the Regents that the "earliest feasible date" for implementing a new visitation policy would be September, 1972.

At the RHA meeting Saturday, members suggested that if enough volunteers help the University Housing Office and special committee, perhaps a new policy could be put into

effect by second semester.

The committee is charged with forming a visitation proposal, informing parents of the modifications in the policy and taking a poll of parental approval.

IF 50 PER CENT or more of the responding parents approve of the modifications, Varner said "It is my hope the board would adopt the modifications."

The new policy should have adequate provision for accommodating those students who don't want to participate and measures for insuring the security of the dormitories, Varner said. In order to participate, each student should have a letter stating parental approval, he added.

AT THE SAME TIME parents are being polled,

students should be polled to see if they approve of the modifications, Varner said.

He suggested that the committee would consider the modifications of the RHA hours presented to the Board by CSL. These modifications were proposed by Wayne T. Kuncel, Coordinator of Residence Hall Programs, as the position of his staff.

Kuncel's proposal broadens supervision of the RHA hours to include student government officers, doesn't specify that the individual room door

should be open and allows visitation for individual activities rather than just group activities. It doesn't change the number of hours allowed for visitation.

CSL WILL ISSUE a statement soon asking students not to participate in mass disobedience of RHA regulations until the Regents act, said CSL member John Humlicek.

"I'm sure we can get 50 per cent of the parents to

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Police have burglary suspects

by Steve Arvanette

Lincoln police say they have two suspects in their investigation of a case where a quantity of hashish was stolen during a police lecture to eighth floor Schramm Hall residents.

The theft took place Wednesday evening, Oct. 27 when Leighton Wessel from the Lincoln Police Department's community relations department spoke to a group of 35-40 people.

"**SOMEONE RIPPED** us off," Wessel said of the incident.

Wessel said as part of these lectures, he often takes some of the illegal drugs which police have confiscated to show interested people.

"Someone asked 'Could I look at it,'" Wessel said of a container which held several pieces of a substance identified as hashish.

The container was passed around to several people in the front of the room, when it was returned Wessel discovered a

quantity missing.

The amount stolen was estimated by Wessel to be about a one-half inch cube size chunk weighing roughly 3-4 grams.

"**WE COULDN'T** very well search everybody," Wessel said so everyone present had their name and address taken.

Wessel said his office is re-evaluating taking drug samples when they appear at future campus groups.

"I've given quite a few of these lectures to college students and have never had this happen before," Wessel said.

Possession of hashish is termed "possession of a controlled substance" and conviction would carry a felony penalty.

Inspector Robert J. Sawdon, head of the Lincoln Police's criminal division, said the incident is being investigated by his office.

"**THESE SAME** types of lectures have been given to thousands of people," Sawdon said.

This incident, Sawdon says, will "cause a condition where we will be very reluctant to try to comply to these invitations."

Sawdon feels there may have been a conspiracy to divert Wessel's attention. "Maybe he placed too much trust in all the people there," Sawdon said.

According to Wessel the two student suspects in the case do not live on campus. Wessel expressed the concern the substance taken could have been contaminated.

GAIL GADE, campus security chief, said his office has also entered the investigation.

Gade also noted that the University administration is aware of the case and will be kept informed as to the progress of the investigation.

Scott Beman, student assistant for eighth floor Schramm Hall refused to make any comment on the case. "I don't feel it is appropriate to make any statement," he said.



Comedian Bob Hope...watches as the Huskers rout Iowa State Saturday prior to his evening performance at the Coliseum. See review in Larry Kubert's column, page 6.