

## Underwood reports drug, VD problems

by Bart Becker

The head of the City-County Health Dept. said the permissiveness with which many of today's youth have been raised is the factor most responsible for the increased use of drugs and an increase in venereal disease.

George Underwood called today's youth an "angry generation" in an interview this week. He said further that youth have lost faith in the establishment.

"YOUNG PEOPLE today are asking the older generation to 'show me' about everything," he said. "When their parents tell them drugs are bad, they have to try them. The same is true for sex. We've got an epidemic of sexual intercourse now."

Underwood recently reported to the Lincoln City Council there were 85 cases of venereal disease, mostly gonorrhea, reported to his office during October. He said that is about three times the rate of a year ago.

"Birth control pills have made the venereal disease problem worse," he said. "Before pill contraceptives were available the most common contraceptive was a condom. That offered some protection from disease."

HE SAID THE permissive attitudes of parents and society have allowed many young people to try drugs. He cited surveys which indicated 85 per cent of all young persons have used marijuana.

"But we have to make a distinction between experimenters and users," he said. "Some of them try it once just to see what it's like. Some quit and some keep using it."

Underwood mentioned that the pot grown and harvested in Nebraska "isn't worth much." He said that pot grown in Texas or Mexico is potent but Nebraska-grown grass will "probably produce a sore throat" before it gives the user a high.

HE SAID LITTLE evidence of hard drugs, opiates and heroin, is apparent in Lancaster county. He attributed the scarcity of hard drug users to the lack of user income available in Lincoln.

"A person on heroin needs a lot of money to support his habit," he said. "He needs places to rob and Lincoln just doesn't have enough places to support his habit."

"Some drug users come through, but they don't stay

here. They need a large urban area to support their habit through robbing and mugging."

UNDERWOOD SAID that legalized marijuana wouldn't solve any problems.

"A drug user can't contribute anything," he said. "Pot alters the perception of time, space and speed. There's no need of it. Why legalize something that's bad for you?"

"We've already got alcohol and cigarettes. There's no reason to add to your habits."



The volunteer bureau has had a request for more tutors to help at the Recreation Center, students to help with County Welfare Operations Santa Claus project, and from the Salvation Army, a request for more bell ringers. To volunteer, contact Mary Dean, 472-2486. Nebraska Union, Rm. 338.

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The President's Commission on White House Fellows provides gifted young Americans with firsthand experience in the process of governing the Nation and a sense of personal involvement in the leadership of the society.

The program was conceived by John Gardner in 1964 and inaugurated that year by President Johnson. Each year approximately 20 men and women between 23 and 35 years old are selected for the program. They serve a one-year internship at the highest level of the Federal Government as special assistants to members of the President's Cabinet and White House Staff.

For further information write or call to the President's Commission on White House Fellows, The White House, Washington D.C. 20500 (202-382-4661). Applications for the 1972-73 class must be submitted by Dec. 1, 1971.



## Pershing manager: rock concerts will continue, 'Hair' contacts made

by Steve Arvanette

"I personally wouldn't put another 'rock' show in the building," Ivan E. Hoig, Pershing Municipal Auditorium manager said.

Hoig said however, that he would continue to sign contracts for "rock" concerts because that is what many of the people want and his personal tastes must not enter into decisions.

Saying he was a "Glen Miller type fan," Hoig said before it came to Lincoln his first impression of the "rock" opera "Jesus Christ Superstar" was that it was "sacrilegious."

"I UNDERSTAND it was fantastic," Hoig said after it appeared at Pershing.

Last week the auditorium board voted 4-3 to permit the showing of the "rock" musical "Hair" should a promoter make contact with Hoig.

"I wanted to be in a position to say yes or no," Hoig said in asking for a decision from the board. Last fall the board rejected an attempt to have the controversial production appear.

Saying the auditorium was a municipal building, Hoig felt neither he or anyone on the board should be able to say who can or can not see "Hair".

"I FEEL my responsibility to you to see "Hair" is just as important as someone who wants to see ballet," Hoig said.

After the announcement that the board had agreed to permit the showing of "Hair", Hoig received a telephone call from New York City.

According to Hoig, a touring company performing "Hair" wanted to know what date Hoig had open at the end of January or early February.

The Pershing manager told them he had Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1, 2 open should they be interested. No further action has been taken however.

"LINCOLN IS NOT No. 1," Hoig said in reference to Lincoln's ability to draw crowds. That is why he has been surprised at the number of "rock" group appearances this fall in Lincoln and their successful box office appeal.

"We are just a filler date," Hoig added, saying that well-known groups will first contract with large cities like Denver, Kansas City, Minneapolis and Chicago. Then they will fill in their openings with appearances in Omaha, Des Moines, Wichita and Lincoln.

According to Hoig, one factor which is a disadvantage to Lincoln is the small size of its auditorium. "We have been

fortunate with big grosses this fall," he said however.

Even with a successful fall, Hoig feels the auditorium will again show a deficit at the end of the year. Daily overhead for the building has been figured at over \$575.

HOIG FEELS IF the auditorium is to show a profit, then one of two changes must be made.

"The only possible way you can make money is with a parking lot or by offering alcoholic beverages," Hoig said.

Several years ago both Hoig and the board asked Lincoln City Council to approve the selling of liquor but that request was rejected.

Many times the auditorium is rented for a fee which does not cover the daily operating expenses, Hoig said. Most conventions, basketball games and high school graduations rent the auditorium for \$400.

"WE FEEL A CONVENTION is good for the city of Lincoln," Hoig said in explaining the reason. "We do a lot better by having a rock concert than a convention," he

added. For "rock" groups and similar appearances, the fee is \$750 or 10 per cent of the ticket sales, the decision being on which figure is higher.

With a near sell-out appearance for "Jesus Christ Superstar" of over 7,200, the rent will be over \$4,000 according to Hoig.

The day to day decisions at Pershing Auditorium are made by Hoig, but policy and final say-so comes from a seven-member board.

Members of the board are chosen by the mayor upon approval of the city council and serve for a six-year term. They serve without pay.

HOIG SAID HE has contracts signed with three groups which he anticipates will have appeal to the youth audience.

Feb. 25, Three Dog Night, a "rock" group will be appearing. On April 14, poet and singer Rod McKuen will be in Lincoln. Then on May 5, another group, The Carpenters, is scheduled.

## Home Ec group aids blind students

Phi Upsilon Omicron, a UNL home economics honorary, is concerned with the problems encountered by the blind on the UNL campus.

The home economics honorary, composed of about 75 members who rank in the top two-fifths of their home economics class, feel they are a service honorary as well as professional.

According to Lois Linke, president of the honorary, a campaign entitles "Find The Blind Today-Clear their Way" will hopefully create an awareness of the problems encountered by the blind.

The honorary plans to send out letters to dormitory leaders and physical plant workers notifying them of existing dangers for the blind. Misplaced trash cans, obstacles in dorm hallways, decorative pots and bicycles on sidewalks, cluttered stairways, and campus construction are a few of the problems brought to the

organization's attention by the parents of blind students.

Phi Upsilon Omicron also hopes, in the future, to present a radio program on the problems of the blind student.

## Draft dodgers.

Continued from page 3.

Several Canadians said they don't pay that much attention to whether a person is a draft dodger or not, and the American draft is confusing to them.

The subject of draft dodgers is becoming passe to the Canadians, because it is such a common thing. It's also becoming old hat to the draft dodgers themselves.

As far as the parents are concerned, it's hard to tell how they feel. Most of them would rather not talk about it.

As one father said: "They're out kids... and they'll always be our kids. That's all I can say."

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