

Committee hears testimony in tenure dispute

by John Russnagle

The Academic Privilege and Tenure Committee heads into the final day of hearings Wednesday on charges by UNL Extension Agriculture Economist Bert Evans that he has been subject to salary and promotion discrimination within his department.

Evans said he submitted the charges and grievances reluctantly.

"Taken together, they are most serious and constitute the destruction of my academic freedom and have foreclosed my opportunity for professional development and performance and my personal gain and satisfaction."

The major charges leveled by Evans are discrimination in regard to promotion, salary, regional committee assignments and consultanship work.

Other grievances listed include exclusion from "all ordinary requests to present seminars, denial of the opportunity to broaden experience through teaching and/or research, being discouraged from accepting a request to serve on the Nebraska Power Review Board, withdrawal of a series of educational television programs by the "highest University administrative level," and exclusion from official participation in all subject matter and administrative activities related to his work.

Along with the grievances and charges, Evans submitted the following recommendations to the Committee.

"I request that the committee investigate these charges and if they find the evidence supports these charges that they recommend to the president: 1) that I be promoted to full professor, 2) that my pay be increased to \$19,000, 3) that I be permitted to attend conferences and serve on regional committees appropriate to my subject matter work, 4) that I be considered for adjustment in staff assignment from extension to full-time teaching and research and 5) that Howard Ottoson, John Adams, Elvin Frolik, Glen Vollmar, Everett Peterson and Edward Janike be reprimanded for violating my academic and professional freedom."

The respondents named by Evans presented Vernon F. Snow, committee chairman, a written statement denying all of Evans' charges. They

recommended Evans' charges be dismissed and his requests not be granted.

Evans said being denied the chance to attend regional meetings, is being closed out of one's work. "You're done," he said. Evans added committee meetings are "the lifeblood of research and extension. Denial of participation in committees is the denial of progress in that field," he said.

Evans noted he has "four or five times" the number of credit hours in agricultural economics than other department faculty did but he is no longer allowed to teach.

A letter written by John Kenneth Galbraith, Harvard economist, in response to a letter by Evans on the current proceedings, Galbraith said, "No one familiar with the past performance of colleges of

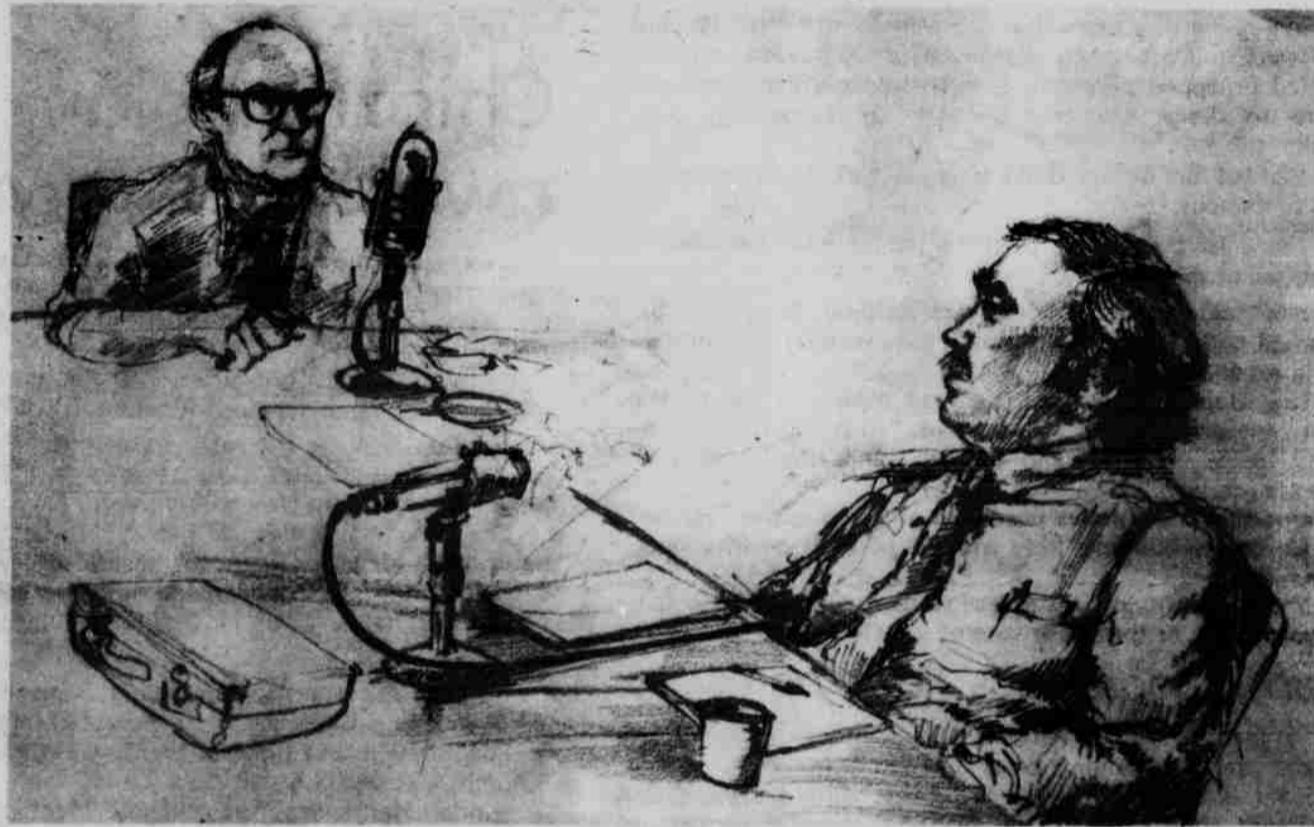
agriculture and departments of agricultural economics could overlook the tendency for members to slip into a cozy conformity with dominant, conservative and relatively wealthy agricultural groups to the neglect of hostile ideas or the smaller and less affluent farmers and their employees."

Galbraith said he was "shocked" that Evans was still an associate professor.

Paul Gessaman, UNL assistant professor of agricultural economics, said it is difficult to work effectively with Evans because of his continuous recitals of grievances concerning the University.

When he was interviewed for a position on the UNL faculty, Gessaman said, Evans asked him questions which were designed to embarrass the

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Evans (right)... appealing "destruction" of his academic freedom.

Day-care centers ride financial see-saw

Rumor has it that the University day-care centers are folding due to funding problems, but Jack Ritchie says otherwise.

"We're planning to continue the center next fall," said Ritchie, assistant financial aids director. The problem is in trying to nail down the \$20,000 needed to adequately operate the two centers for one school year.

United Ministries in Higher Education and First Plymouth Congregational Church, sites of the two centers, provide space rent free. But expenses such as insurance and telephone bills must be paid every month. And with about 50 children cared for, the centers are starting to feel a space squeeze, Ritchie said.

The problem is that too little money is coming from too many sources. ASUN, student affairs and donations from parents have helped keep the centers operating this year, he said.

Financial aids uses work-study grants to help staff the centers on a part time basis. Some parents this year have had to take time off from jobs or classes to work on special projects to raise additional money for the centers, Ritchie said. Otherwise there would not have been enough to pay expenses.

"This is a pretty sloppy way of running things," he said.

Since it has not taken any steps to directly apportion funds for the program, he said, the University administration has shown a "lack of commitment" to the 5,000 married students on campus, Ritchie said.

He wrote Chancellor James Zumberge and Dean of Student Affairs Ely Meyerson about the need to continue the center. The two officials "have expressed a desire to keep the center going," he said.

"But without any money this desire doesn't do much good. The University just doesn't think the center has enough priority" when it comes to funding.

Ritchie said the center has never been operated the way it should be because of lack of funds. For example, he said there has never been enough money to hire a full-time supervisor for either center or a coordinator for the program.

He said he is trying to interest the University Foundation in appropriating money for the program through its general fund.

"But this is not the foundation's responsibility," Ritchie said. "Any money we get would probably be a one-time thing. There should be money coming from the University budget."

He said he had contacted the University Women's Action Group to try to find other ways of obtaining funding for next year. He said he hopes some Lincoln business firms, including children's stores, will be interested in helping finance the program if no University funds are made available.

The center is designed to help lower-income students who find costs of professional day-care centers prohibitive. Enrolling a child in a Lincoln day-care center costs between \$75 and \$90 a month, Ritchie said. Lower-income parents with even one child can save about \$800 a year using the University care center.

A study is underway to determine how many married, divorced and unwed students are parents and how many can make use of the day-care center. The study is being conducted through the University Health Center, Ritchie said.

Pub board picks paper tigers

Jim Gray, a junior majoring in journalism, Tuesday was named editor of the Daily Nebraskan for the fall 1972 semester, according to James Horner, Publications Board chairman.

Although some of the executive positions were filled for the UNL yearbook, the Cornhusker, an editor was not named, Horner said.

Other selected for Daily Nebraskan executive positions include: Tom Lansworth, junior, managing editor; Randy Beam, sophomore, news editor; John Russnagle, junior, east campus editor; and Jeff Aden, junior, business manager.

Publications Board named sophomore Vickie Horton assistant editor of the Cornhusker. Others selected include: Sara Trask, sophomore, copy chief; and Greg Scott, junior, chief artist.