

ASUN-CSL

At its Wednesday evening meeting, the ASUN Senate passed a resolution calling for the establishment of a joint ASUN-Council on Student Life (CSL) committee to study the relationship between those two UNL governing bodies. The findings and recommendations of that committee could be the most important input student government has received in some time.

At their July, 1969, meeting, the NU Board of Regents approved a constitution which gave CSL "general policy-making power over student social and out-of-classroom activities, subject to approval by the Board of Regents." In the nearly four years since its establishment, CSL has been instrumental in policy changes affecting several "out-of-classroom activities."

CSL action was one of the primary causes behind the administrative decision to end "women's hours" in the Lincoln campuses living units. In the spring of 1970, CSL took a critical look at discriminatory practices in campus living units, with the focus primarily on Greek houses. The resulting "Robinson Report" is still a subject of campus consideration. That same morning, CSL resolved in favor of the student strike to protest the war in Indochina and the American invasion of Cambodia.

During the last four years, CSL clearly has been the most important student governing body on the UNL campus. The Council's emergence as the seat of power probably is the result of its direct link with the regents and of the fact that its membership also includes faculty and staff.

Also during the last four years, the ASUN senate, which is the only representative student governing body at UNL, has seemed about as important as a high school student council. In an editorial statement published Sept. 18, 1969, the *Daily Nebraskan* made an observation which now seems a bit prophetic: "The Council will mean a changed role for the ASUN and student senate. Some people have gone as far as to say both groups will die." ASUN has not quite died, but no one seems to care much if it did.

When ASUN consented to the establishment of CSL, it may have voted itself out of a job. When the regents approved a constitution which made CSL an official arm of the Board of Regents, ASUN found itself permanently relegated to only an advisory or recommending position in the scheme of student government.

Students quickly learned that it made no sense bothering with ASUN when CSL had all the policy-making power. ASUN still has money to dole out, but very few of the basic appropriations change from year to year. Only the ledger headings change to protect

the guilty.

Something needs to be changed so that ASUN can become more than a distributor of student organizations' allowances. The move into student services is not enough. ASUN must have some of the policy-making power that governments are supposed to be able to wield. Perhaps the proposed ASUN-CSL committee will be able to devise a system in which both groups can function with validity.

Last take

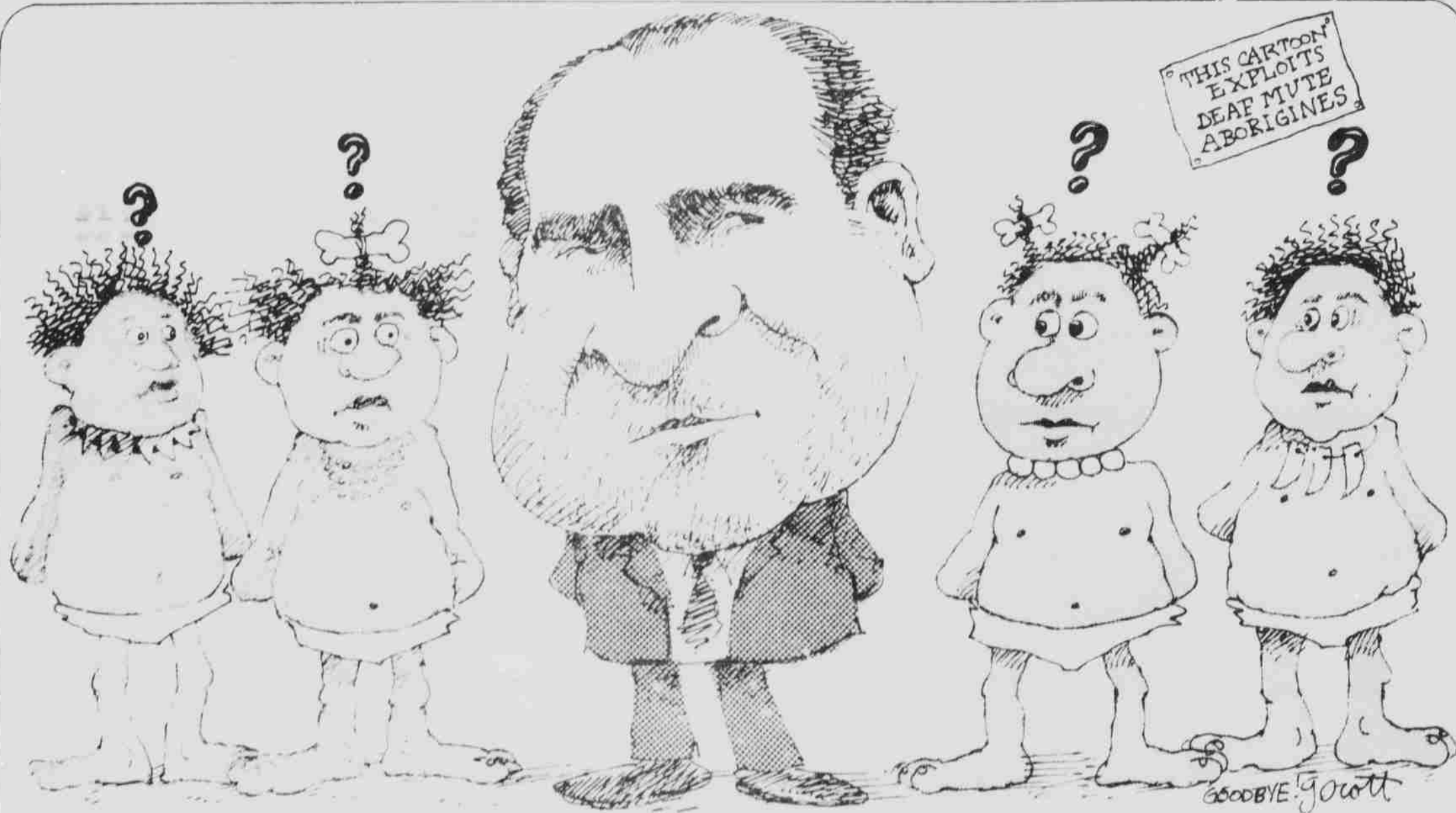
This is the last editorial of the semester. In the past it has been the practice of out-going *Daily Nebraskan* editors to offer their omniscient reviews of the just-concluded semester with predictions for the term to come.

Well, I never have been too long on omniscience. And I couldn't even say for sure what time I will get out of bed in the morning, so the predictions are out too.

I hope that one or two of the editorials appearing in these columns have cleared up something that might have needed clarification, or have made people think about something that may have needed thought.

In case you're confused by two editorials with only one editorial signature, I wrote the one above, too.

Tom Lansworth



Hear, see
and speak
no evil

arthur
hoppe
innocent
bystander

WASHINGTON—Now that everybody else has explained why they knew nothing about the Watergate affair, it's high time somebody explained why President Nixon knew nothing about the Watergate affair. I'd be glad to.

The first time Nixon heard the word was when his friend, John Mitchell, called him at 3 a.m. one night last June.

"I just thought you'd like to know, sir," said Mitchell, "that some Cuban patriots were caught breaking into the wrong apartment at Watergate which happened to be the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee and I know absolutely nothing about it because I never talked to anybody beforehand except to tell them don't blame me if you get caught."

"John," said Nixon, "I'm glad you called because I've always been deeply interested in Latin American affairs. And let me say that I'm delighted you don't know anything about nothing because that's the kind of men I want around me. Could I say hello to Martha?"

"I'm afraid she's tied up right now, sir."

"Well, give her my regards and... Excuse me, John. There goes Maurice. Pardon me, Maurice, what have you got in that huge laundry bag over your shoulder?"

"Oh, it's nothing, sir. Just \$10 or \$15 million in \$100 bills sent in by grateful Americans who wish to remain anonymous. I'm delivering it to a little Mexican laundry because I realize how you want us to use only clean money in your campaign, which I don't know anything about."

"Maurice, I can't tell you how glad I am that you're handling the finances, which you don't know anything about, for my campaign, which you don't know anything about.

That's the kind of men I want around me."

"Thank you, sir. You can always count on my ignorance."

Well, months passed. And while the newspapers were filled with little else but Watergate, Nixon, as is well known, never read the newspapers. Actually, it was Pat Nixon who brought the matter to her husband's attention.

"Dear," she said one morning at breakfast, "Bob Haldeman told me yesterday what time it was."

"Good heavens!" cried Nixon. "If my staff knows what time it is, there's no telling where this might end."

So he called in John Dean III. "John," he said, "I want you to conduct a thorough, impartial investigation of yourself to see if you know anything about anything." And Nixon was elated, of course, to receive a 32-page report from Dean proving conclusively he knew nothing about nothing.

All might have gone well, had not Haldeman and Ehrlichman hired one lawyer between them (there being a critical shortage of lawyers in Washington these days.)

"If they know enough to hire a lawyer," said Nixon angrily, "they must know something about something, whatever it may be."

And that's when Nixon decided to fire his entire White House staff and replace them with 168 Australian aborigines, all of them deaf mutes.

"This should restore the confidence of the American people in my leadership," said Nixon triumphantly. "For if I have made one thing perfectly clear, it's that I and the men around me know absolutely nothing about anything."

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