

## Key issue

Dormitory security has become somewhat of an issue with the Board of Regents and University administrators during the last few years.

Guards nightly check the floors in each residence hall, students are urged to lock their doors even when they step out of their rooms to make a phone call, and the regents have defeated several coed visitation proposals. All this has been done in the name of security.

The University now is faced with one of the most potentially dangerous breeches of residence hall security in recent years. But Housing Office officials are dilly-dallying around, unsure what to do about recent discoveries of illicit master keys in Burr Residence Hall.

The Housing Office now has admitted that the keys open every lock in the complex. But nothing has been done to protect persons who live there. The Housing Office has said it is making a cost study of which method to use

in changing the locks. Knowing how the University operates, residents of Burr Hall might have to wait quite a while.

The Housing Office already knows how much it is going to take to make the change. Sources in the Housing office have said it could cost as much as \$8,000, but when one considers what sort of financial shape the Housing office is in because of lower dormitory occupancy rates, it is no wonder they are holding up on doing something to solve the security problem: the office isn't in a monetary green pasture.

Just the same, the University cannot afford to stall any longer. Every theft or assault committed in the Burr Hall complex potentially could be blamed on the Housing Offices' inaction. For an office which has been long worried about security, the administrator's seem amazing lax in this situation.

## Creative idea

A breath of fresh air finally has been blown into the UNL student academic scene.

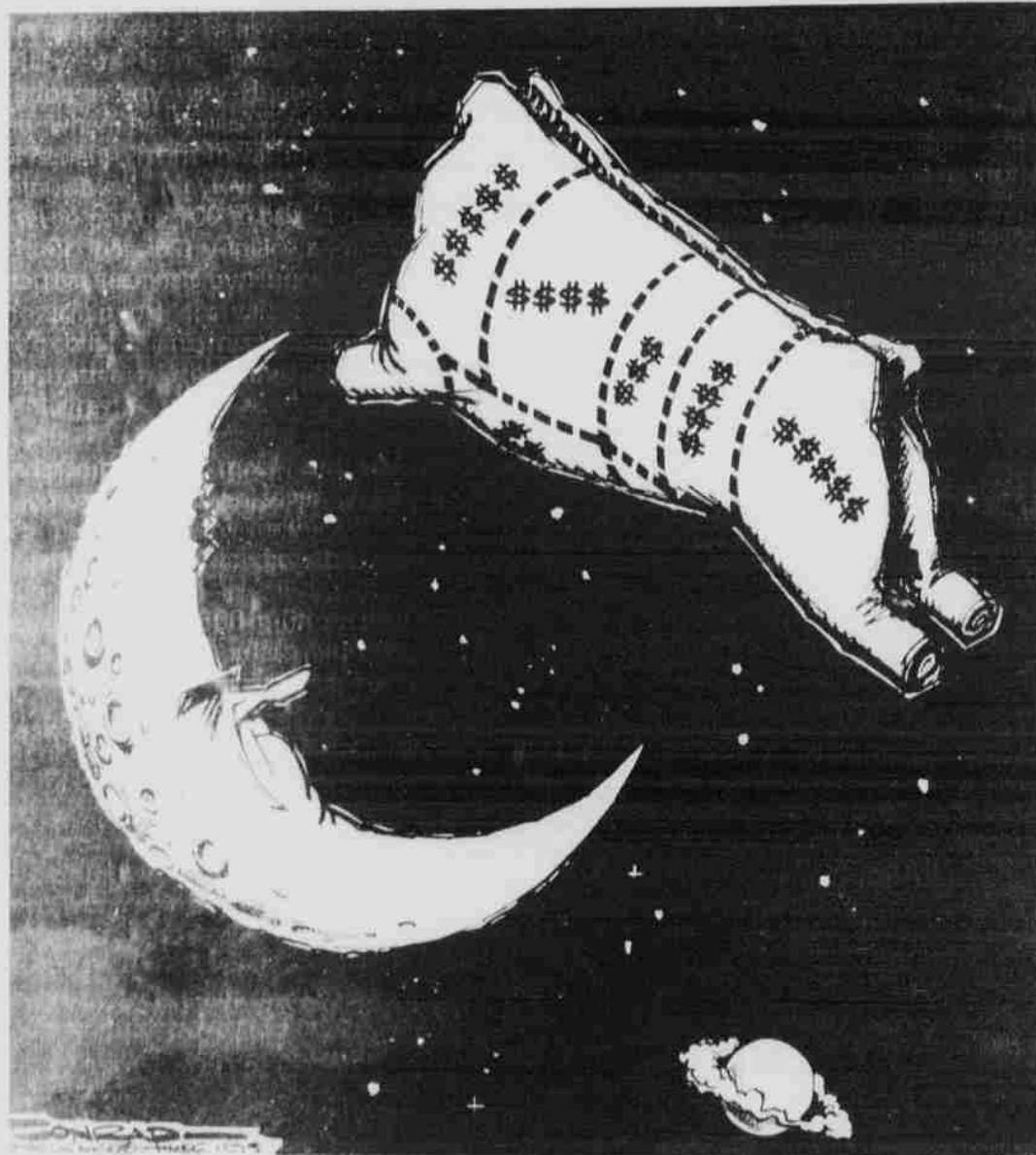
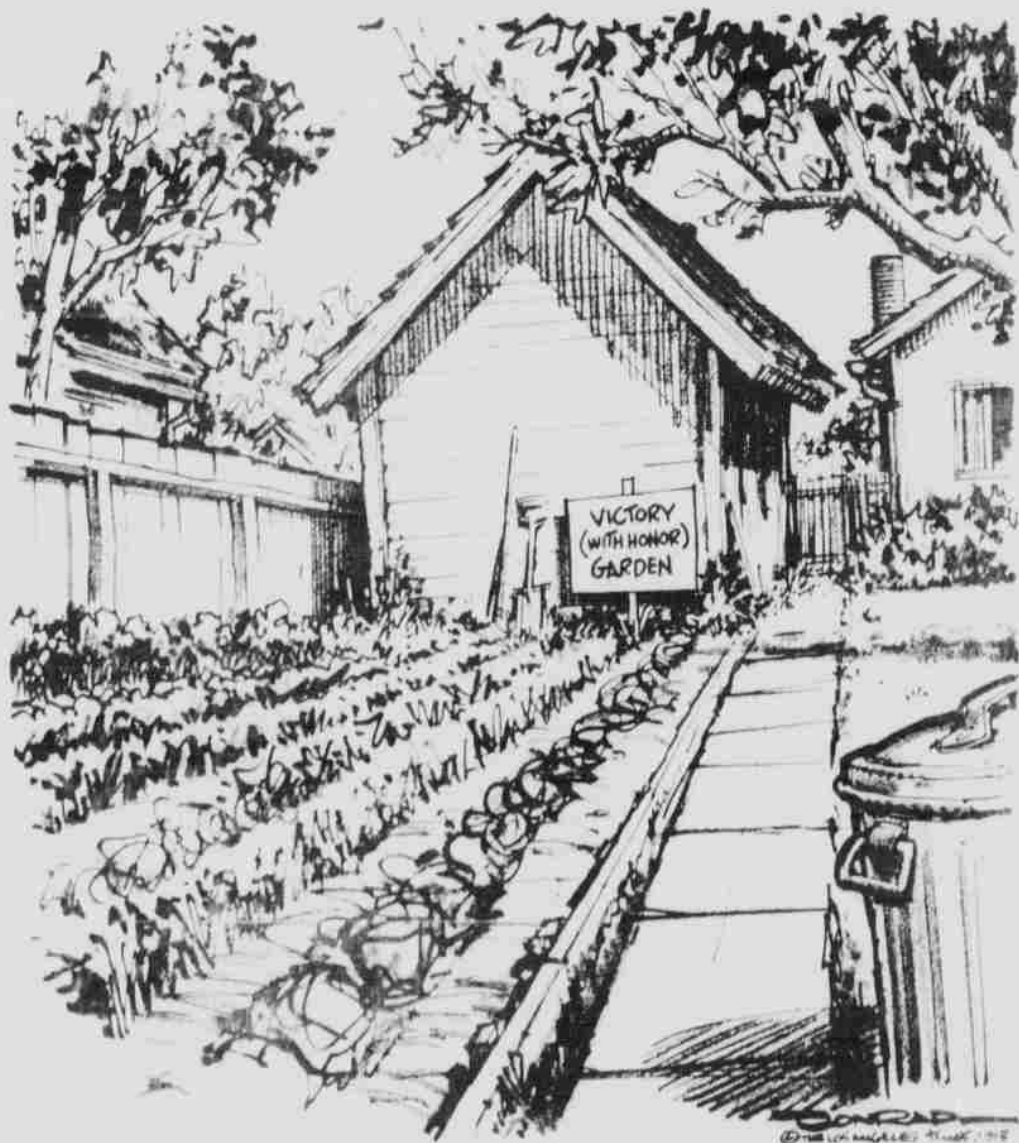
The announcement of the planned publication of the *Whole NU Catalog* reflects a spark of creativity which recently has been missing from the campus.

The catalog, if published, is to contain descriptions of courses students have found to be worthwhile and interesting. The descriptions will be written by student volunteers. The group planning to publish the booklet has said it hopes to make 10,000 copies available.

It is significant that such an idea came from a group of persons working independently of all established student groups. ASUN, once active in educational reform, has done little or nothing in recent semesters which could be called creative.

By cooperating with members of these organizations, but working outside the groups themselves, the group that plans to publish the catalog has proven something: it doesn't take an established organization to get things done. That is a lesson which should be heeded by all campus politicians and student leaders.

Michael (O.J.) Nelson



## Senator's exodus follows revelation

john  
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While South Dakotans will have to trek to the polls next November to rid themselves and the nation of Sen. George McGovern, Iowa citizens won't have to do a thing to purge their state of an equally pernicious preacher of prairie populism.

It will raise a gargantuan sigh of relief from many sheepish Iowans who voted for him in the first place, for Sen. Harold Hughes announced recently that he would not seek re-election.

Ostensibly retiring to devote the rest of his life to religious lay work, the major impetus to his announcement was not a call from heaven but a clamor from the folks back home.

After serving six lackluster years as governor, Hughes came to the Senate in 1968 in what was for that year the closest senatorial contest in the nation. By a bare 6,415 votes out of more than 1,140,000 cast, the Democrat managed to beat a weak and clumsy Republican opponent, David Stanley, who has since gone on to obscurity.

Once in the Senate, Hughes offended the moderate sensibilities of most Iowans by compiling one of the most radical voting records in that august institution. His favorable rating by the ultraliberal Americans for Democratic Action constantly hovers at 90 per cent or above, and the conservative Americans for Constitutional Action never give him above a 10 per cent figure on their index.

His loose mouth got him in deep trouble a year or two ago, when he blithely related that he had tried an occasional marijuana joint and found it not too objectionable (or at least not more objectionable than was the liquor that made him a slave to alcoholism a long time before). As if this were not enough, the senator also said he believed in ghosts and contacts with the spiritual world through seances and the like.

The Harold Hughes tragedy continued further when he made an abortive try for the 1972 Democratic presidential nomination, only to drop out when he realized no one else seemed to care.

Last week's Senate vote on the confirmation of Henry Kissinger as Secretary of State gives as good an indication as any why Hughes will not be missed when he leaves Washington. The senior senator from Iowa (in tow with his identical twin, McGovern) was one of only seven out of 100 to say "no."

As for possible replacements to the Senate seat usurped by Hughes, Gov. Bob Ray, a progressive moderate of impeccable honesty and keen administrative know-how, towers far above the rest.

Dismissing the most serious crisis since coming to power seven years ago, India's Indira Gandhi may well be the next best leader to go the way of Salvador Allende.

The country of 600 million people is embroiled in popular unrest and

dissatisfaction. Troops are on constant alert in many areas as food riots, arson, and grain looting take place. In Tumkur, students protesting rising prices and food shortages burned two buses before the police could disperse them with tear gas.

India is suffering from a wheat shortage, a staple in the northern part of the country, despite exceptionally good rains. The problem was caused not by bad weather as it is in most countries, but by, in the words of the New York Times, "mainly...mismanagement by official agencies responsible for the distribution of the grain." Bread is hard to come by in Bombay, and biscuit factories are closing up.

In the 29 months since she was massively re-elected on a pledge to eliminate poverty, unemployment has jumped to more than 35 per cent from the usual 20 per cent. According to official figures, almost eight million educated Indians cannot find jobs inside their homeland. Food prices have skyrocketed 20 to 100 per cent since January. Almost 40 per cent of the population lives below the poverty level, earning less than \$5 a month, a figure little changed in Gandhi's years.

Now India has announced steps to settle the \$3 billion debt she owes the United States for money we have given for agriculture and developmental programs. Could it be that this conciliatory gesture on her part is merely a prelude to still another request for American dollars?