

Grocery credit cards possible

By Randy Wright

Sometime in the future, it might be possible for the grocery shopper to pay for groceries by the credit card system, according to Duane Acker, vice chancellor of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at UNL.

Russ Raybould, president of the Lincoln Food Retailers Assoc. says, however, that the system would be "impractical."

Acker suggests that the system would cut down on food wastes in stores and reduce the resentment consumers often have for high prices by separating the act of purchase from the act of payment.

Shop during week

By encouraging consumers to do their shopping during the week instead of on weekends when many receive their paycheck, the system would cut down the excess labor needed by stores on weekends, he said.

Raybould says, however, that the five per cent service charge from the credit card companies to the stores would reduce the grocers' profit by too much.

The closest thing to the credit card system in Lincoln appears to be the method of "Transmatic Savings" (TMS) initiated by First Federal Savings and Loan and Hinky Dinky stores. This system allows a shopper to use a

computer terminal at two of the stores' service counters much like he would a bank for withdrawing cash. The store is connected to the savings and loan's computer terminal which can communicate withdrawals and deposits to the bank.

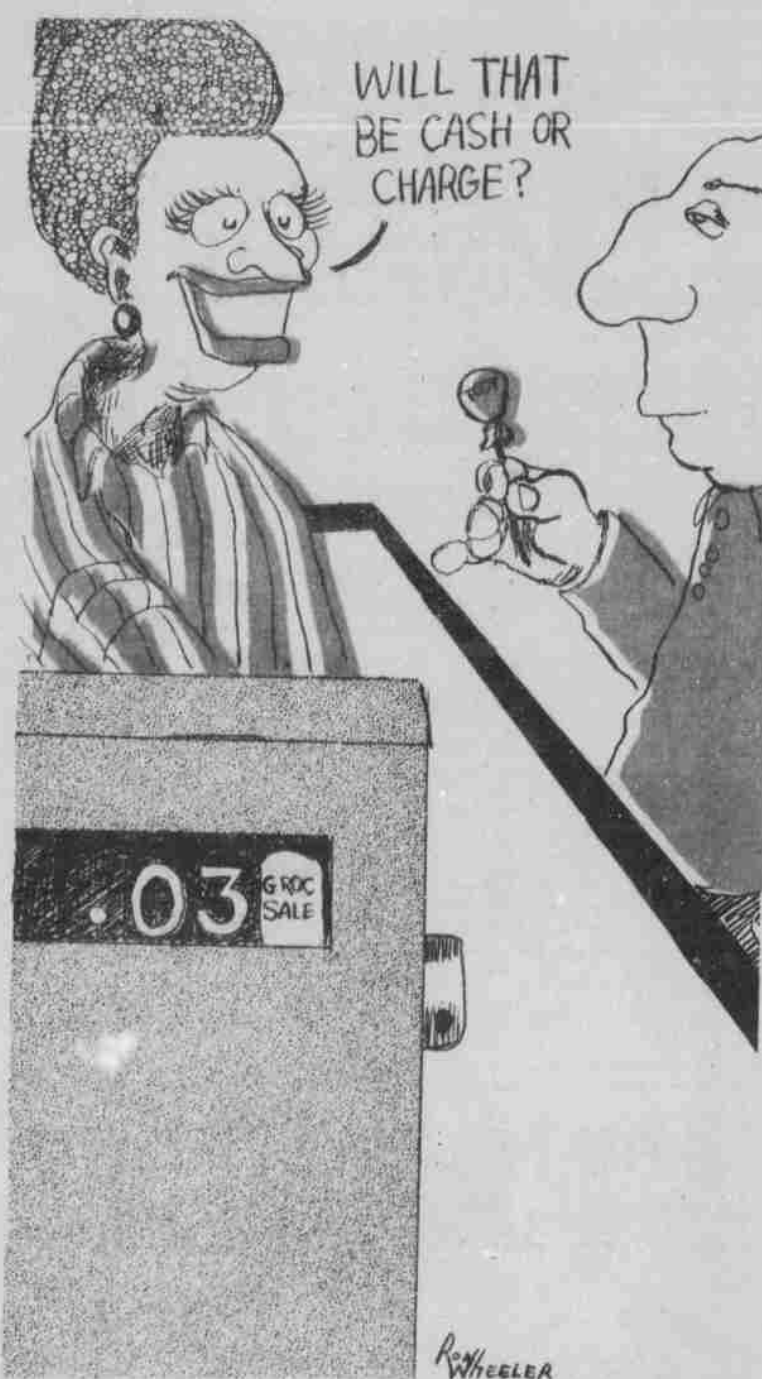
Suit against Hinky Dinky

This system is also under fire, however. Ralph Gillan, the Nebraska assistant attorney general says that a law suit against Hinky Dinky stores is pending. The suit charges that Hinky Dinky cannot legally engage in this service.

Phil Sorensen, the First Federal controller, says TMS is a "thing for the future." With TMS, he says, the savings and loan pays interest on the account and there is no chance of the merchant dealing with bad checks, as the computer will not clear a withdrawal unless the account contains sufficient funds.

The TMS idea "will get more popular as people are educated to its advantage," Sorensen said. "TMS is especially valuable in its convenience," he said. "It is open seven days a week for 12 hours a day."

Eventually, Sorensen says, First Federal hopes to use TMS at all Lincoln Hinky Dinky stores.



New course planned

By Margy Meister

At the request of the UNL Women's Action Group, the English Dept. will offer "at least one" course in women's studies next year, according to Stephen Hilliard, associate professor of English.

Hilliard said the department will offer a course to be taught by a member of the present staff. In addition, they are hoping to hire a full time employee in this area, so more women's studies courses may be added, he said.

Hilliard reported that there have been a large number of applicants for the position thus far, and that he and a few other members of the English staff will be attending the Modern Language Assoc. Convention in New York City immediately after Christmas to field more applicants.

The person filling the position should have a Ph.D., or "be close to completing their studies toward one", Hilliard said. They would prefer someone who has done some academic work in the area of women's studies as well as some teaching experience, though this experience need not necessarily be in the area of women's studies.

Hilliard added they would accept a person with equivalent qualifications, such as extensive research in the subject or authorship of some major work on the topic.

Hilliard also said the position would not necessarily be filled by a woman, but that thus far he had received only applications from females. He said, "Discrimination must work both ways. We would seriously consider any qualified male interested in applying."

Next semester, the English Dept. will offer a course entitled "Women in Southern Literature", to be taught by Ann Shannon, a graduate student in the department, but concrete introductory courses in women's studies will be added next year upon the filling of the permanent staff position.



The "Gingerbread" house, at 700 N. 16th, was willed to the Nebraska State Historical Society in 1964 by its owner, Constance Syford.

House oldest UNL landmark

By Paula Damke

Once it was a little house on the prairie, now it's a little house on the UNL campus.

The yellow "gingerbread" house sits quite conspicuously at 700 No. 16th St., next to the UMHE-Wesley House.

Gloria Gammel a junior from Murdock, said for three years she's wondered about the house.

"I go by the house everyday on my way back to Pound Hall where I live," she said.

Gail Roemmich, a sophomore from Grand Island, said she's seen people come in and out of the house and someone mow the lawn. She said she's always wondered about it.

Eileen Tholl a sophomore from Wausa who lives in Pound Hall, said she's tried to read the sign that is on the lawn, but it's so worn off she can't.

Willed in 1964

Now the property of the State Historical Society Foundation, the house was willed to the foundation in 1964 by Constance M. Syford, a former NU student and instructor of English at the University of Illinois.

Marvin Kivett, director of the Nebras-

ka State Historical Society, said the goal of the foundation is to preserve the house built in 1878 as an example of the homes that once surrounded the University.

He said the historical society is in the process of restoring the interior of the house, but presently they are painting the exterior and working on the landscaping.

Eventually, Kivett said, they also plan to renovate the garage as a carriage house and stable. Over the years a concrete floor slab and wider entrance doors were added to accommodate automobiles, he said.

Not open to public

The house's interior is not open to the public at the present time. It is occupied for safety purposes by members of the State Historical Society staff, he said.

The Syford family owned and occupied the house as a private residence from 1904 to May 1965. Very few alterations, interior or exterior, have been made over the years, other than those additions reflecting changing technology, such as electric lights and heating and water pipes.

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Pottery, plants on sale

Pottery students from the UNL Art Dept. are offering people an opportunity to purchase handcrafted and unique items for Christmas presents.

The pottery students will be selling their pottery, plants, planters and baked goods Friday in the Woods Pottery Shop from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

The profits from the sale will be donated to the kiln building fund. Students have organized a movement to raise money during the year to purchase a new and larger kiln to be used next year. Chris Smith, co-organizer of the movement with Kathy Salem, said Wednesday.

Many of the galleries where the students could sell their pottery take a certain percentage from the profits, Smith said, while this student-organized sale allows students to receive the benefits of the profits in the form of the new kiln. Many of the students are donating their products to the sale.

Most of the pots will range in price from \$1 to \$10.

If the sale is well received by people, Smith said, they may hold another one later this year.