

# opinion

## to the editor



Dear editor,

A serious error has been made in the publication "The Lively Arts at UN-L."

I.F. Stone is not "gone". He no longer publishes his weekly newsletter, but he is a regular contributor to the "New York Review of Books."

I realize the Daily Nebraskan is not at all responsible for this error but it needs correcting.

The film about Stone should be required viewing for every student who studies journalism.

Max Holland

### Mrs. Ford defense

Dear editor,

This letter is in objection to Del Gustafson's article on puns, I just happen to have a great deal of affection for Mrs. Ford and her frank attitudes. I feel I ought to defend her against the sort of illogical attack on her integrity presented in the column.

It wasn't the actual denunciation of what Mrs. Ford said that offended me. (Everybody has a right to their own opinion; as, I'm sure, Del would be the first to agree. Freedom of speech and all that?)

Nor was it the conservative irrational tone of the article that prompted me to take pen to paper (so to speak). After all, some of our greatest American comedies are based on the irrational foibles of people.

No, what I thought it worthwhile to point out is that opinions, even editorial ones, (perhaps particularly editorial ones) ought to have some foundation in objectivity, fact and logic.

Del pointed out that Mrs. Ford condoned premarital sex as a deterrent to divorce; and, in fact, that promiscuity had taken an upward turn in the past few years.

But, he triumphantly contends, the divorce rate has not decreased! So what? Del is dealing with the divorce rate as a whole, while Mrs. Ford was dealing with a small part of it.

Del has not taken into account that the entire divorce rate deals with all couples, including those married under the Old Morality (vs. his equally nebulous term "New Morality").

Mrs. Ford's statement only deals with a fraction of those couples, and then only with the possibility of decline. In fact I was unable to find any accurate comparative figures, but my personal opinion would tend to concur with Mrs. Ford's based on the observation that in a marriage situation, any marriage situation, there are certain adjustments to be made in living together and establishing a household.

If the problems are insurmountable a marriage situation would end in divorce; a non-marriage relationship merely in separation. Problems which may seem insurmountable under the compounded pressures and obligations of marriage can be more easily worked out in the less strained atmosphere of a non-marriage relationship.

Then of course there is the changing status of women, families and men within society, all of which can have a very drastic effect on the success or failure of the proposed marriage. The problems in marriage and the pro's and con's in the premarital relationship approach are endless.

The problems are dismissed (by Gustafson) within a four line paragraph, and then Mrs. Ford's intelligence is questioned. And what, may I demand, as long as I'm in a state of outrage, does sex or the lack thereof have to do with detente?

Manners and morals are the glue that binds society together, are they? I certainly hope not, because manners and morals vary quite drastically from individual to individual. So much so, that it would make for a very inadequate society if that was all that prevented it from falling apart.

I can't imagine what fundamental moral quality there is present in Marlon Brando, Richard Nixon, Gloria Steinem, Harry Reasoner and the Town Drunkard that would make for a binding force in society.

Excuse the tangent. What I'm really trying to suggest to Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms. Gustafson is, the next time, before making a judgment and having the audacity to print it for people to believe; consider all the angles, be sure of the logic and do homework.

Debra Oaks

### Don't panic

Dear editor,

I share with my colleagues and others in the academic community the sense of loss at the departure of the fine administrators and excellent faculty members who have left for other positions recently. Certainly, we will miss them.

Let us not panic, however. Whatever their motivations, we should note that all the administrators left for higher positions and, I am confident, higher salaries. We should

also note that the experience of Nebraska is not an isolated phenomenon nationally.

Advancement in an administrative career usually involves a move out as well as up. The past few decades have seen very few administrators' effective lives in one position last longer than five or six years.

Let us be concerned, but let us also be thankful for those who have stayed. Without attempting to be comprehensive we should be happy that faculty members such as Robert Knoll, Henry Baumgarten, Wes Meierhenry, Norm Cromwell, Mike Daly and Erv Goldenstein have already spent twenty productive years at Nebraska.

People like Ned Hedges, Richard Gilbert, Royce Knapp, Bob Filbeck, Dave Levine, and Lois Schwab have been in Lincoln over fifteen years. Vern Williams, Dave Wysong, Royce Ronning, Ken Orton and Dewaine Alcorn have spent more than a decade at the university. (I am of course omitting scores of others who have been here for similar periods).

These are people who have made a significant contribution to their profession and to the state. They have not lacked opportunities to go elsewhere. Nevertheless, they have decided to stay in Nebraska, perhaps not always for altruistic reasons alone.

But I would wager that most, if not all, have made a commitment to working with Nebraska students and the people of the state. The late Bud Hough was a prime example.

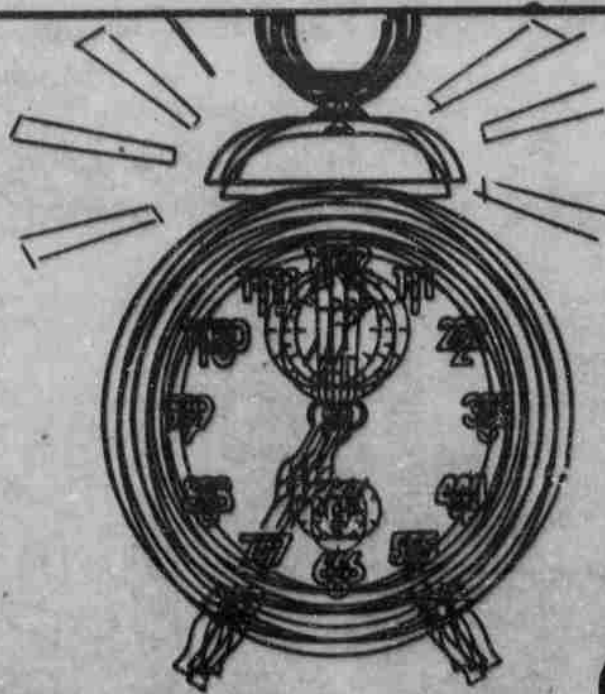
Though I cannot speak for them, I suspect they are not fully content with the level of support they have received. But they are still here.

Best wishes and success to those who have left. A small garland of flowers to those still here.

Bob Brown

The Daily Nebraskan welcomes letters to the editor and guest opinions. Choices of material published will be based on timeliness and originality. Letters must be accompanied by the writer's name, but may be published under a pen name if requested.

Guest opinions should be typed, triple-spaced, on nonerasable paper. They should be accompanied by the author's name, class standing and major, or occupation. All material submitted to these pages is subject to editing and condensation, and cannot be returned to the writer.



## 1 Ringy-Dingy to Remind You that the Student Telephone Directory Closes September 8

If you live in an apartment, sorority or fraternity house, order your own phone now so your name will appear in the directory this fall. (Dorm students already have their own telephone and will be listed in the Student Directory.) To order, come to our business office at 1440 M Street. Remember Monday, the 8th of September. Ringy-Dingy Day.



**The Lincoln Telephone Company**

