

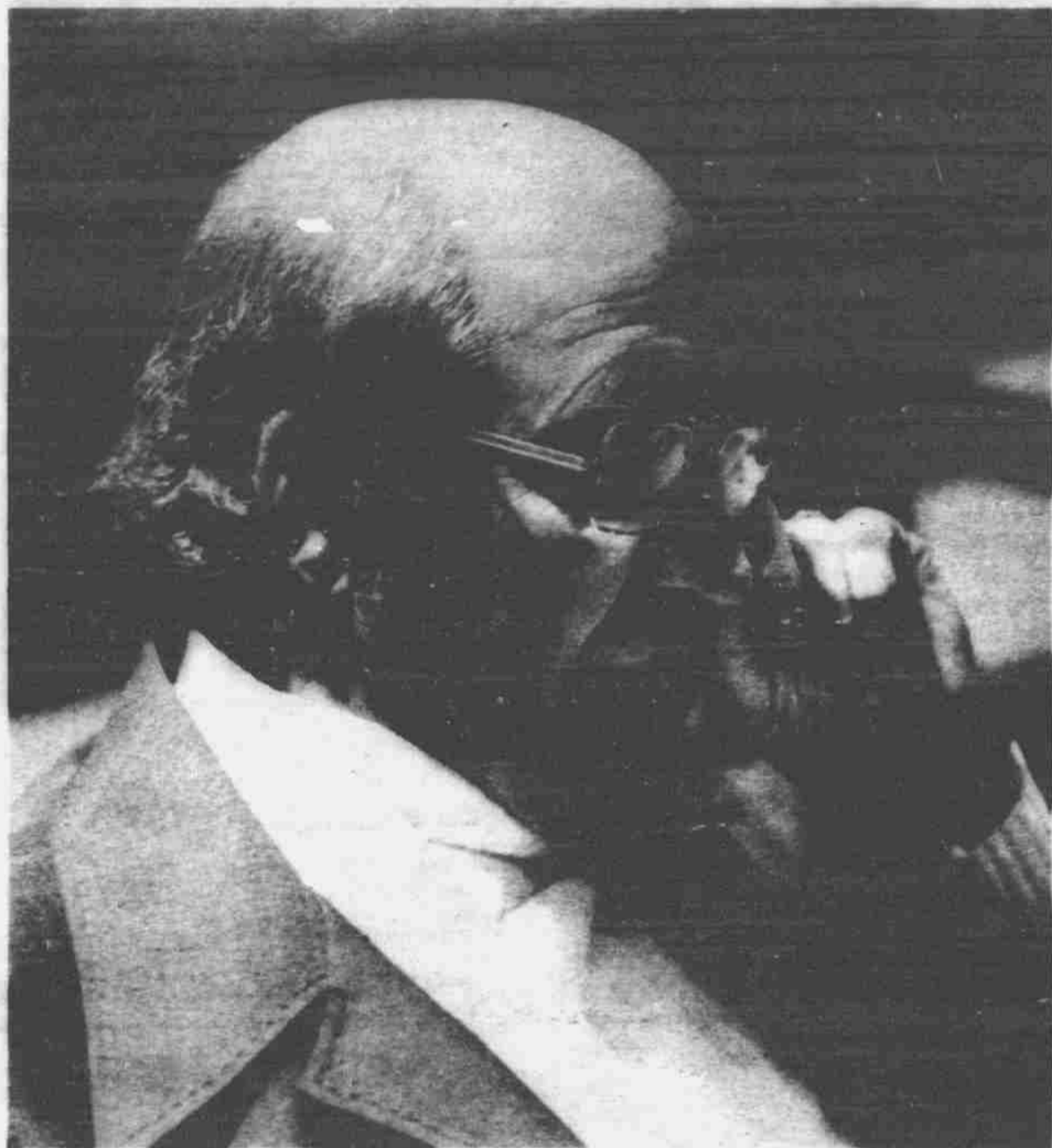
# Summer Nebraskan

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## Faculty bargaining unit still possibility



UNL Faculty Senate President Franklin Eldridge

Daily Nebraskan photo

Nels Forde, president of the UNL chapter of American Association of University Professors (AAUP), said that unless the NU Board of Regents and administration allows the UNL faculty to have more voice in decision-making, he will begin another campaign to have a collective bargaining unit represent UNL faculty members.

Forde said he was particularly disturbed by the regents' action during their May meeting.

At that meeting, the regents' decision to adopt a common academic calendar for both the Lincoln and Omaha campuses and to elevate the school of fine arts at UNO to college status were in opposition to recommendations of the UNL Faculty Senate, Forde said.

"The regents deliberately disagreed with the wishes of the faculty senate," he said. "There is no indication the board is willing to listen to the senate," he added.

#### Another faculty vote

Forde said he does not want to go through the time-consuming and expensive process again of having a faculty vote to determine whether they will be represented by a collective bargaining unit, but he said he is willing to do that if the faculty voice is not given more weight in future decision-making on the campus.

In February, the UNL faculty voted not to be represented by a collective bargaining unit. Instead, the structure of the faculty senate was revised to provide equal representation in the senate of all UNL academic departments.

"It's a beautiful idea," Forde said, "if only the administration would pay more attention to the new representative senate."

Earlier this year, the board of regents denied a dues check-off for AAUP members on the UNL campus. The dues check-off would have allowed the AAUP annual membership fee to be deducted gradually from members' paychecks, Forde said.

Since other campus organizations have the check-off privilege, Forde said, the regents are discriminating against the AAUP. Forde said he may ask for a court-hearing on this decision in the fall.

#### Eldridge against union

Franklin Eldridge, president of UNL's Faculty Senate, said he is against having a union for faculty members.

"With the new representative senate, there is less need for a collective bargaining unit," he said. He said the senate adequately represents the faculty now by maintaining a liaison with the university administration and with the State Legislature.

Eldridge described the senate's relationship to the administration as collegial rather than adversary.

In this way, he added, the senate fulfills some of the functions of a bargaining unit. He said the senate represents the faculty on such issues as salaries, university financial support and allocation of resources.

### Austrian educator:

## Foreign customs prevent many from attending college in U. S.



Raoul Kneucker delivers opening lecture for Collegium III. Photo by Murella Synowec

Many European students are discouraged from studying abroad because of rigid study regulations, provincialism and bureaucracy in the educational system, said Dr. Raoul Kneucker in a lecture opening Collegium III on the UNL campus this week.

Collegium III is a conference for educators and administrators co-sponsored by the UNL Department of Educational Administration and the College of Law.

Kneucker is secretary general of the Austrian Conference of Rectors, administrators for Austria's 18 campuses.

"Europeans have mobility in trade and commerce, but not in education," Kneucker said. Mobility is free and equal access to all educational institutions, he said, but is hindered in Europe by bureaucracy and traditional nationalism.

Most European post-secondary schools are state regulated with civil service employees serving as faculty, he explained. Although this bureaucratic system has negative aspects, alternatives have yet to be found, he said.

Because of conflicts between Europe's political idealism and political realism the diplomatic attempts to increase educational mobility are incomplete because they aim at old obstacles, Kneucker said.

"The idea of mobility in education dates back to medieval times," he said, "but the term is recent." Kneucker said the United States has achieved mobility in one generation, but Europe, because of its close cultural societies has not made as much progress.

The British call the present educational situation in Europe a "bloody European reality," he said.

### Inside

## Lippizan stallion performance -

P. 6

## Educator wants priorities defined

More than 200 persons from all parts of the United States and several foreign countries attended the opening session Tuesday of the Third National Conference on Open Learning and Nontraditional Study.

The conference, at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 3300 Holdrege St., continues through Thursday, June 17.

The conference, titled "Forum 76: A Modern Chautauqua", is a forum for discussions and presentations of lifelong learning programs, the quality of teaching, research costs and applications of mass communications technology to higher education.

In his speech opening the three-day conference, Frederick Bolman, executive director of the Exxon Education Foundation, recommended the development of a broad national education policy which would define learning priorities. He suggested the creation of a National Council for a Learning Society to draft such priorities.

This type of council, he said, "would be a tangible expression of the fact that education is the people's business, not the exclusive preserve of some."