

Rationing of ex-President's insight unfortunate

There's a tinge of remorse as the campus welcomes former President Gerald Ford. His presence is not unwelcome. It's just that apparently there isn't enough of him to go around.

His visit is an educational coup of sorts. He is scheduled to visit only campuses on a tour sponsored by the American Enterprise Institute.

The visit should be a bonanza for students. How often do political science students studying governmental power get to talk to the man who sat in the most powerful seat in the world?

And even for those who disagree with him, he remains one of only two living ex-Presidents—and the other one isn't talking much.

But Ford's appearances are limited. He will speak to several classes, but not to the general public.

Graduate students taking the right classes will get to see him and some faculty members will meet him.

But for many undergraduates, their only hope for learning from Ford is to have had a lucky lottery number when political science classes drew for tickets for his lecture. Other undergraduates had no chance to see him.

It's even more frustrating for those who want to see him because the precious commodity of a past president is further enhanced by the chance that Ford may run for the job again.

And apparently Ford's talks are educational and interesting. Reports out of Omaha, where he has lectured for two days, indicate that students were given insight into the operation of foreign policy.

We realize that part of the problem of letting many students listen to Ford is logistics. Getting so many students in a room to hear him and yet making it possible for students to ask questions would be tough.

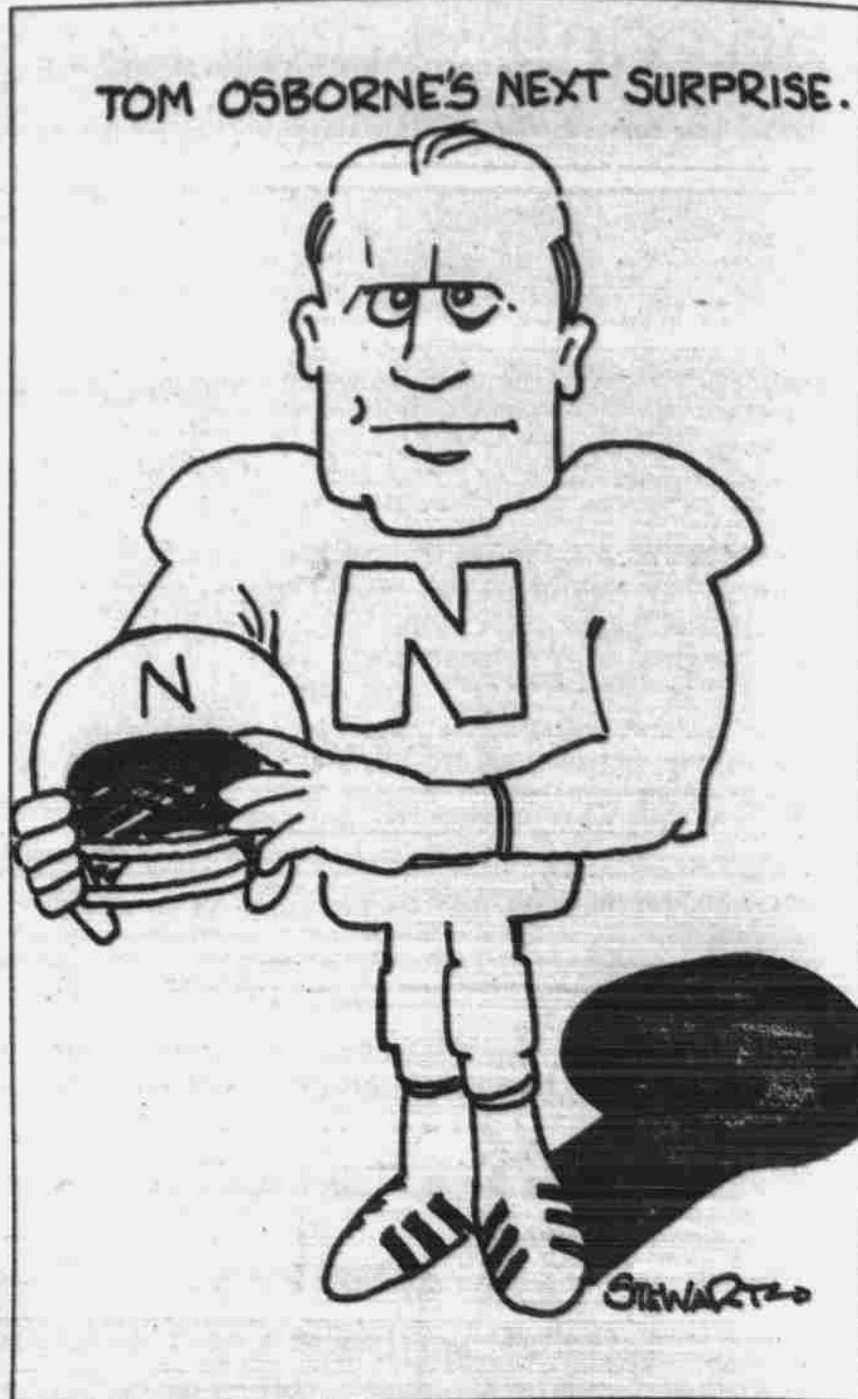
We also have been told that Ford will not hold a press conference in Lincoln because he wants the trip to be apolitical. It is supposed to be for education.

Possibly the American Enterprise Institute does not realize that most students could learn more if the press was allowed to question.

It should be especially interesting to hear Ford's comments in the wake of the Lance resignation. It should be interesting to get his appraisal, admittedly partisan, of Jimmy Carter's first nine months in office.

These are the lessons of American history that can be taught by only a few men. It's simple, the view from the top is different.

Although we wish more students had the chance to learn from his lectures, we welcome what opportunity we have to learn and we welcome the former President to campus.



editorials

Carter takes tips: being Former President pays

A number of high-level resignations can be expected in the wake of the Bert Lance affair. Probably the most important will be that of President Carter.

Washington insiders have known for months that Carter has been eagerly looking forward to resigning. The question was one of timing. And the Lance investigation has given him the excuse he has long sought.

arthur hoppe

innocent bystander

"You have to remember that Jimmy's a very ambitious man," one friend explained. "And there's no higher position in the country than that of Former President. It isn't just that he'll automatically be relieved of the burdens of office such as having to carry his garment bag on and off airplanes, it's basically that the job pays ten times as much."

The resignation bug first hit Carter, sources said, when he read the Former President Ford and Mrs. Ford would receive \$1 million for their memoirs.

"Better provider"

"Dang it," he told Rosalynn at the time, "that's more than a President makes in five years! I owe it to you and the children to become a better provider."

Initially, he planned to serve out his term like Ford. But then he read that Former President Nixon would gross an estimated \$5 million for his televised and published reminiscences.

Carter immediately realized that the worth of Former Presidents was determined not by how long they had served in office but by what they had tried to get away with.

"I am not a crook!" Carter forcefully told Rosalynn. "Dang it."

"Well, you can give it a go, dear," she said encouragingly.

"Fine servants"

And he did. His top aides, Jody Powell and Hamilton Jordan (whom he described as, "two of the finest public servants I have ever known"), were only too glad to help—

both wished to enjoy the profits from their books while still young.

Unfortunately, these finest public servants bungled the job. By mistake, Powell sent the President's laundry to a Mexican bank and while Jordan managed to break into the offices of Ronald Reagan's hairdresser, he failed to steal the Grecian Formula.

Carter was in desperate straits when his old friend, Bert Lance, confided the Senate was investigating his peccadilloes.

"Stonewall it, Bert!" cried Carter with admirable political astuteness. Stonewall it Bert did. And the results have exceeded the President's fondest expectations.

Reconsider

It is still possible, however, that Carter may reconsider his decision to resign. The Lance affair is, at best, only a second rate scandal. Offers for the President's memoirs, *I Didn't Do It!*, have barely topped the \$1 million mark.

As long as our system rewards Former Presidents in direct ratio to their heinousness of their crimes, Carter may be tempted to remain in office in hopes of some day achieving the untold wealth that would accompany impeachment.

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The writing is on the wall—it's graffiti in triplicate

One of today's topics is graffiti. Judging by the clean walls around campus, few of us must write.

You don't need a creative writing class in your background to practice the art. You don't need permission. You won't get famous. All you need is a pen and a wall.

What are you waiting for? Go to it! Here is some graffiti I've spotted.

The artist intended this piece for the bureaucracy at the Administration Building. We all know about the lines and the forms there. It said:

ron ahrens
enjoying
the scenery



Submit all graffiti in triplicate.
Submit all graffiti in triplicate.
Submit all graffiti in triplicate.

A fan

A fan of *Star Wars* struck in Andrews Hall. A black-board bore this lost and found message:

Lost: one droid. Three feet tall; short-cropped hair. Answers to name of R2-D2. If found, please keep him—he needs a good name.

There was another lost and found appeal in the Psychology Dept. A maladjusted case scrawled: "Lost: all contact with reality!"

In the Philosophy Dept., where the subject of reality is explored, was this definition: "Reality: a crutch for people who can't handle drugs."

At the physics lab, an atom-splitter had taken his stand. He proclaimed: "Down with neutron bombs!"

Witty Marx

In political science class I saw a slogan attributed to

Marx: "A man is as old as the woman he feels,"—not Karl Marx, but Groucho.

A remark, supposedly Woody Allen's, aroused future pedants at Teachers College:

Those that can—do.

Those that can't—teach.

In a Health Tip, an author told of the dangers of tornadoes. After the warning a reader inserted an explanation:

Health Aide: "Never expose yourself to a tornado." The reader: "Tornadoes get embarrassed easily." I can't fault the Health Aide for making such a windy statement. After all, anyone can blurt out a double entendre.

Ready for job

Did you see the want ad asking for "Odd Dresser?" I was in line to apply the next morning, but was disappointed when a man said the ad was for furniture.

People use other unusual expressions, and not always because of inaccurate diction. Some folks are weird. For example, a girl said she "had a snorking-good time." Snorkling! That doesn't sound too good to me.

It seems that words beginning with "sn" are popular. This wasn't always so. I can remember when people didn't snort or snarf. Not many sniggle, though, and that fact is no surprise. According to the dictionary, to sniggle is: to fish for eels by thrusting a baited hook or needle into their hiding places.

Expressions change

Our expressions change. Some day people will use words that get bleeped today. Zounds was once the worst expletive that a person could utter. When zounds was "legalized" no one cared to use it anymore.

How is it that our taste in names changes? Today's names are short and sweet: Jill, Bob, or Lynne. If you think back two generations you will notice the difference in your great-aunts and great-uncles, who were christened 70 and 80 years ago.

Common names from that era are Phineas, Orestes, and Ozi. And everyone has an aunt named Opal or Florence tucked away in the musty closet. But my great-grandmother has the best of all.

Her name? Thekla Gunchik.

