

opinion/editorial

Maine litter studies are powerful bottle bill weapons

Two reports released last month in Maine are the weapons anti-litter advocates are using to prevent repeal of Maine's bottle statute—a law similar to the one Nebraskans voted down last year.

Last November, Nebraskans defeated a measure which would have imposed a 5-cent deposit on beverage containers. The defeat followed a long advertising and media campaign financed predominantly by the bottling and beverage industries.

As promised, those opponents this year supported the passage of the litter control act taxing all citizens to pay for the cleanup of Nebraska's roads and highways.

The measure went into effect last week. And although it is too soon to judge accurately, we suspect that it will have little impact on litter control in Nebraska. It is easier to stop litter from leaving the hands of litterbugs than it is to pick it up after it is on the road. It is cheaper, too.

The studies in Maine are perhaps the best evidence yet that prevention is better than cure.

One study indicates that since the measure went into effect in February of 1978, roadside beverage bottle and can litter in Maine has decreased 78 percent and litter in general has dropped 32 percent.

The other survey, conducted by Maine's Transportation Department, reports that the cost of cleaning roadside litter has been reduced by

more than 50 percent—from \$250,000 in 1977 to \$104,000 in 1978.

Besides the fight in Maine to keep the bottle law, battles now are being fought in Ohio and Washington state to get such laws for the first time. And reports indicate that the opposition is again mounting well-financed media campaigns, a situation similar to that prior to the bottle bill defeat in Nebraska. Let's hope those states learn from ours—and Maine.

Writer stumped by odds and ends

When I'm stumped about finding something to write about, I fold my arms across my typewriter, rest my head on my hands, and stare off into a blank wall.

It's not much for inspiration, but at least if I lose it before I graduate from college, I know I'll be adequately prepared for some kind of asylum.

shelley smith

Not knowing what to write about is like wanting to ski when there's no snow, or trying to find a book in Love Library, or being blocked in the parking lot by another car with the keys nowhere in sight.

Last week I wrote about the brisk autumn air.

The same day, it hit 74 degrees, the sun was hot and the sky was blue.

Maybe if I write about Lincoln's downpours it won't rain until March. Or, I could write about how bad Dallas looked against Pittsburgh last Sunday, but then the Cowboy's would probably win their division, the playoffs and the Superbowl. I could make a Filley-Elk Creek prediction, or a McCook-Lex prediction, but inevitably those would be wrong too.

I could write about my sister's weightlifting class, or my friends boyfriend's new beard, or about how my car has only one headlight, or how Coach Tom Osborne doesn't think Nebraska's team is awesome (he said he cringed at the word) or how I wish I was a travel agent for Husker gymnasts, or how I wish I was a travel agent for anybody.

Let's see, the new Buzz Books are in, my parents are going to start playing parents again after deserting us for two months (I don't blame them, I'd desert us, too). Wake Forest is now 7-1 on the season and they really don't play teams like Sleepy Hollow and Running Brook, NU President Ronald Roskens is an avid jogger, the indoor track underneath the stadium is still appropriately named "Mushroom Gardens," my friends from Colorado finally left, I finally got some sleep, the classes have resumed after Labor Day vacation contrary to popular belief.

But, if I wrote about just one of these things, I'd never find enough material to fill a whole column. Some would argue that I'm really a longwinded writer, but can someone actually visualize 60 lines about the new Buzz Books?

So, for this week, anyway, I'll conglomerate all of my thoughts into one.

Let's see, where was I?

The girls next door cleaned their popcorn popper, my friend with the Brown Celica is still missing in action, Halloween came and went and I forgot to celebrate, the New York Giants actually beat the Los Angeles Rams, I did my wash



Arab rights neglected, refused

Peace between peoples is sought

After the British conquered Palestine in 1918, the Palestinian Arabs were joyous because the British had liberated them from the Turkish rule. However, soon after, the British colonialists opened the gates of Palestine to massive Zionist immigration, despite Arab protests. Britain transferred state lands to the Zionists for

armed struggle against the British colonialists. The British massacred and executed 10,000 Palestinians in the course of the next two years and brought further army units into Palestine to suppress the Arabs.

In retrospect, the British were also colonizing Jordan and Egypt. They made a pact with King Abdullah of Jordan and King Farouk of Egypt that each would get a "portion of the spoils"; namely, Jordan would get what is to be called the West Bank while Egypt would receive what was to be known as Gaza Strip, while the Palestinians would get "adequate tents" in Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon.

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colonization. It protected the institutions of the fledging "National Home." It permitted the Zionists community, which was a small majority, to maintain its military establishment (the Haganah). It trained mobile Zionist striking forces (the Palmach) and condoned the existence of "underground" terrorist organizations (the Stern group and the Irgun).

The Palestinian Arabs who became aware of the British and Zionist goals of establishing a "National Home" restricted to the Jews organized a number of uprisings with the little arms they had acquired. In 1936, the Palestinian Arabs declared the "General Strike" and intensified the

THE BRITISH pulled out from Palestine on May 15, 1948, and on the same day the Zionist settlers declared the establishment of their "state" or "National Home" and changed the name of Palestine to Israel, a name pertaining only to Jews. The reactionary Arab regimes sent their armies to Palestine, claiming to defend the "Arab rights" in Palestine while their actual goal was to retain the certain areas that were part of the agreement with the British. The Arab armies fought a "foul" and limited war with the Haganah that was renamed the "Israeli Defense Army." The Arab armies, which were mostly British-trained and supervised by British officers, subsequently made a truce with the Israelis. The truce, which fulfilled the earlier agreement between these countries, allowed the Israelis to occupy the areas allocated to them, and to make way for the "evacuation" of the Palestinian Arabs from the now "Jewish homeland."

The Stern gang, headed at the time by Menachem Begin, now prime minister of Israel, organized a massacre against a peaceful village, Dair Yassin, just before the British pulled-out from Palestine. Two hundred and twenty children, old men, and women were stabbed and shot to death and thrown into the village's well. By threatening the lives of Palestinian Arabs if they didn't leave their hometowns and run to the neighboring Arab countries, the Zionist terrorist groups escalated the flight of the local population, making way for Zionist settlements. By the end of 1948, the various Israeli terrorist groups had forced 1.5 million Palestinians to flee from Palestine into Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, and Egypt, where most of them were placed in refugee camps.

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