

Homeless masses . . .

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The mission provides lodging and three hot meals a day for about 700 to 800 people a month. The mission gives out around 100 to 165 emergency food baskets every month, 30,000 pieces of used clothing a year, and 40 pieces of furniture a month.

"Underemployment" is a big part of the problem, said Wendie Baker, general manager of the Food Bank of Lincoln.

People are taking jobs at minimum wage, part time, which move them out of the poverty level, but still do not make ends meet, Baker said.

The Food Bank is a private, non-profit organization created two years ago to address two problems: hunger and waste. In those two years, the demand has increased steadily, Baker said.

The bank receives donations of surplus food and food with damaged packaging from food producers and grocery stores. It distributes the food to member organizations for a share donation of 12 cents per pound.

The Lincoln Fellowship of Churches' pantry system, Malone Community Center and the People's City Mission belong to the food bank.

The bank accepts individual contributions of food as well. Dec. 15 has been designated National Care and Share Day by President Reagan, and the food bank is planning a large food drive that day.

The Malone Center hopes to prepare 1,600 Thanksgiving baskets. That's \$12,000 in meat

last Tuesday had only one box of stuffing. Pie filling, at 100 cans, was the most plentiful.

Janie Beitler, 28, single mother of 3-year-old twins and a five-year-old, said one of the difficult things about the holidays is that she wants her children to have what other children have.

"You don't want your children to feel deprived," she said.

Beitler's children are involved in Headstart, a federally funded program for preschool children. Headstart helps her provide her children with the things other children have, Beitler said.

The Lincoln Fellowship of Churches' pantry system tries to extend the holiday spirit by helping people throughout the year, said the Rev. Dale Bolton, head of the LFC pantry committee.

As of Oct. 15, the LFC pantry system had given out 2,297 emergency food baskets, affecting 6,958 individuals during 1984, Bolton said.

Baker said people should consider hypothetical situations. What if you were injured, disabled or lost your job? What if your children ran away? Wouldn't you want the assurance that someone somewhere was caring for them?

The stereotype of a drunken bum lying in the gutter is simply not an accurate representation of Lincoln's destitute...

alone. As of Saturday, only \$6,000 had been donated, according to Lillie Myles, Malone program director. The center needs donations of money, as well as potatoes, canned corn and green beans, cranberry sauce, stuffing and pie filling.

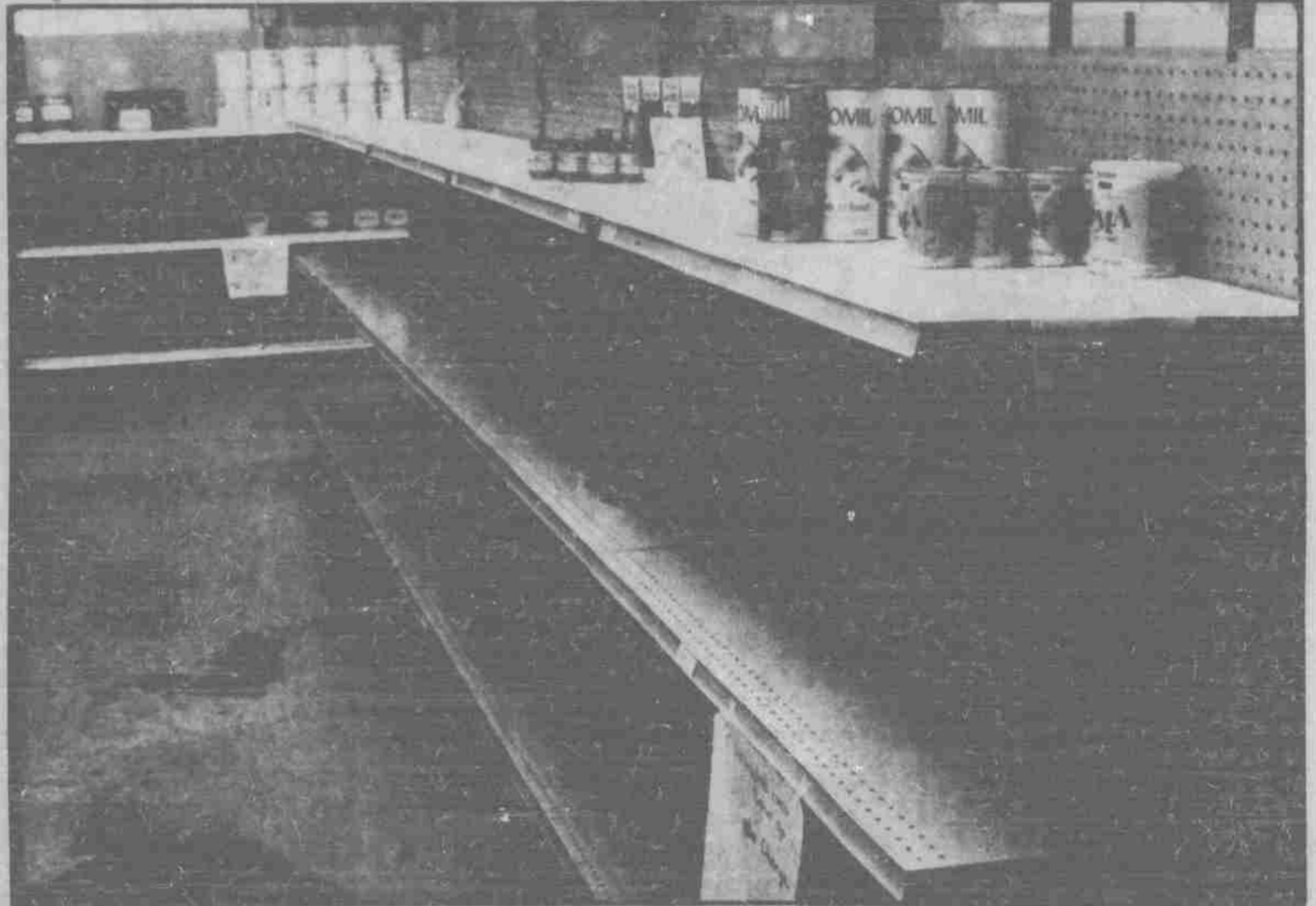
The food bank has been setting aside traditional holiday items for the center, but as of



Frank Comito/Special to the Daily Nebraskan

Above, a man staying at the mission watches television in the mission's day room. Most of the men, however, will work day labor when it's available.

At right, the shelves of the Lincoln Food Bank are especially barren this time of year. The supply received during May's Campaign Against Hunger has been depleted.



Does your life seem like a juggling act?



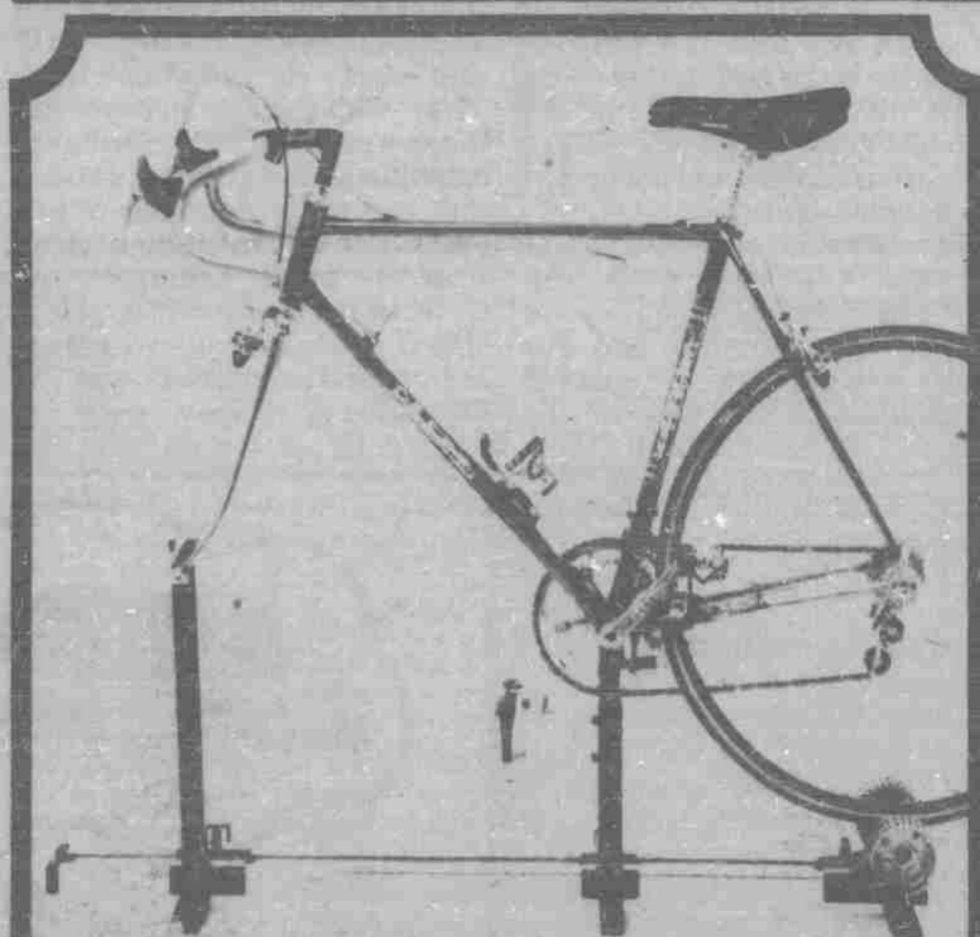
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Bishops...

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The pastoral draft calls for a wide range of initiatives at local, regional and national levels, particularly stressing new forms of partnership between management and workers, and between industries and local communities. Contrary to Rogers' assertion, the pastoral draft does not call for the formation of an "egalitarian" state. Rather, inequality of income or wealth is morally acceptable, but only when the basic human needs of all persons have been met.

In defense of Rogers' editorial, he has, I believe, honestly spoken his mind. Unfortunately, he has devoted too little attention to thoughtful analysis. Perhaps this results from a certain zealotry which Eric Severied has noted afflicts both the extreme right and the extreme left, to wit: from an extremists' point of view, anyone who disagrees with his position is automatically branded radical at the other end of the spectrum. While Rogers' generalizations may commonly pass as insightful analysis in Mr. Rogers' neighborhood, in the real world they are considered at best shallow.

Tony Fajfar
senior
college of law