

# THE NEBRASKAN.

A Weekly Paper Issued at the University of Nebraska.

ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MAIL MATTER.

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## EDITORIAL.

THE NEBRASKAN would not presume to advise the horny-handed sons of toil of Lincoln, but when they, in convention assembled, attempt to pass resolutions denouncing Lincoln business men for employing students who work for their board, we would rise to remark that those students who work eight hours a day over their lessons and eight hours more for their board and lodging, are as truly laboring men as are the aforementioned h. h. sons of toil who discuss affairs of state from 9 a. m. to 8 p. m. on the shady corner of Eleventh and O streets.

A good deal of history has been made in this nation during the past few weeks, and if we but knew it we are living in stirring time. From a hundred cities and towns "armies of the commonweal," numbering anywhere from 100 to 2,000 men each, are marching to Washington, Coxe's army, at first a jest, has grown to assume an aspect no longer mirthful, but rather grave and serious. What this movement means and in what it will end time alone can tell. And while these armies of the unemployed are marching, 150,000 coal miners, whose earnings aggregate over \$50,000,000 annually, have quit work, and from present aspects this strike, involving the greatest number of men of any in the history of the United States, will be of long duration and perhaps entail unparalleled suffering before it is finally settled. And so we say, these are stirring times. If you, oh, pale young man with thoughtful brow have some ideas of worth and originality upon these topics, write them up and boil them down and send them to THE NEBRASKAN.

The Sunday edition of the morning paper of this city is one that is unexcelled for general literary merit by any similar publication this side of the Mississippi, and THE NEBRASKAN is tempted to ask, how many of our students have thought of the reason why? It takes only a little notice to discover the cause of that merit to be the students of the University of Nebraska themselves. There is scarcely a page of the literary supplement of every Sunday's Journal that does not contain articles of worth and originality, articles displaying thought and culture, to which are appended the names of our students, or which, being unsigned, yet betray the earmarks of University work. Watch and see. THE NEBRASKAN takes a pride in this evidence of the tendency of our University men and women to push to the front in literary work, and is glad to mention it as testifying both to the efficiency of the work done in those departments to which this advancement is mainly due, and to the fact that we have talent and brains which are bound to manifest themselves, among our students.

The University of Nebraska is the center of the thought and culture of the state, and the people of Nebraska are beginning to recognize this fact. The best young men and young women in Nebraska, young people with brains and ambition are seeking every year in greater numbers those advantages of learning and culture and association which our University is so abundantly fitted to give. This is as it should be and we hope that our students will mention such facts as these to every one they see or write to, and ask them to tell every one else. That is the only way to build up the University.

We understand that at a recent meeting of the faculty the question of recommending the reduction of the years of required drill from three to two was voted down by about twenty to five. It is said that it was urged at that meeting that the members of the battalion themselves were not objecting to three years of drill, and that so long as they were satisfied the proposed change was useless.

THE NEBRASKAN is satisfied that the faculty is very much mistaken if they believe that the members and prospective members of the battalion do not heartily favor the reduction of the years

of drill. Aside from those few whose eyes are dazzled by the brightness of shoulder straps either present or coming, the great majority of the students of whom three years drill is required, are and have been for many years, very much dissatisfied with so long a period of required drill. It is a suggestive fact that just as soon as it was learned that the opinion had been expressed in the faculty meeting that the students themselves did not ask for the change, that a petition was at once started praying for this reduction of the years of drill, and we are told that four out of five of the members of the battalion who are asked to sign this petition can hardly write their names big enough and often enough to satisfy their enthusiasm.

The fact is that three years of compulsory drill is very distasteful to the great majority of the young men of the University, and the only reason for which they have submitted quietly to this requirement is one with which the faculty should be familiar, the constant endeavor of our students to conform without grumbling or signs of dissatisfaction to the requirements of the curriculum. And so, while there has been for a long time widespread satisfaction among students because of what seemed to them an unreasonable amount of required drill, they have deemed it fitting, in view of the benefits which the University is conferring on them, to keep this dissatisfaction to themselves.

But now, when the statement has been made that there is no general objection to three years of drill, the members of the battalion, in our opinion, will be perfectly justified in letting the faculty and regency know exactly where they stand. And if the students should express themselves with any degree of unanimity in favor of this proposed change, the faculty and board of regents will certainly take their wishes into consideration. We believe that if the students themselves once take their stand in requesting but two years of required drill, that but little reason could longer be urged in favor of the retention of the present term.

Two years of drill should certainly be enough to fit students for that visionary conflict. And if two years are not enough to satisfy individual students, they could elect as many years more as would satisfy their thirst for military glory, without compelling their fellow students, who have neither the time nor the inclination to keep on "hepping" with them

"Oh, pallid young man, with wild staring eyes,  
 How happened this most sad rebuff,  
 oh?"  
 And grinding his teeth the poor victim replies,  
 "I wore celluloid collars and cuffs, oh."

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