

Tower Times

Published Weekly by the College for Women
The University of Rochester

1940 Member 1941
ASSOCIATED COLLEGIATE PRESS

REPRESENTED FOR NATIONAL ADVERTISING BY
National Advertising Service, Inc.
College Publishers Representative
420 MADISON AVE. NEW YORK, N. Y.
Chicago Boston Los Angeles San Francisco



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Cutler Union

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Why?

A perverted sense of humor, or more likely the desire to gain public attention, on the part of some student, or students at the College for Men, resulted last weekend in ruining an entire act of the Stagers' play and, for some of the audience, the entire production. It seems a crime that weeks of work by members of the cast, the director, and the production staff had to be destroyed because some one was maliciously inclined.

To the audience, the playing of a record during the love scene and the contrary behavior of the electric lamps was unexplainable. Everyone naturally thought it was an accident or actually a part of the whacky play. How could anyone suspect that it was the deliberate prank of some fellow students? To portray a genuine love scene in front of merrymaking collegians is hard enough. Add to the scene the endless squawking of a phonograph and the result is likely to be sheer tragedy. Fortunately, the audience behaved admirably.

Students who will deliberately set at naught weeks of work by their fellows have no place in a college or even, for that matter, in a democracy, where everyone should respect the work of others even though he himself has not gained the recognition he thinks he deserves. If everyone were as selfish as these students, what a fine state of affairs would result. The destruction of an artistic production is no less a crime than the spoilation of some tangible goods over which the maker has spent hours of his time.

Our heartiest sympathies and staunchest admiration go out to the actors who

followed the old adage of "The show must go on" under very trying conditions. Never once did they betray the anxiety, the disappointment, the despair they must have felt upon the realization that all their work was being ridiculed. It was not ruined, rather, now that the facts are known, it is heightened.

Rambling Thoughts

Another school year will close tomorrow; seniors will become alumnae; and each class will advance a year in accordance with traditional ceremonies. Many months will pass before most of us meet again.

These will be important months in the history of the world. They may change the lives of many of us more than we dare to think. By next fall we may be at war; we may be at peace; Hitler may be conqueror; England may still be fighting. The uncertainty of the future is much more striking this year than it has been for some decades past. The attitude of the newspapers and radio commentators grows daily more bellicose. How will it end? How will it affect us—those of us who expect to return to college and those of us who are setting out to make a place for ourselves in the world? We cannot tell. It is in hands far more powerful than ours, and we do not mean divine hands.

Never the less we cannot help looking forward to the future, to those summer months of relaxation or reimbursement, as the case may be. Standing on the Art Gallery steps tomorrow, we will forget about war temporarily; Hitler and his threats will seem too far away to be real. The uppermost question will not be: How long can we stay out of war? But rather: Who is the May Queen? And that is as it should be. For one day let us forget the world situation; let us look to the future with hope not fear, and let us wish our friends, as we are now wishing all of ours, a happy summer, a pleasant vacation, and—may we meet soon again under cloudless skies.

Books for the Asking

There's an established privilege here at the University of Rochester, but it hasn't been used nearly as much as it should be. The fact that enrolled students at either the College for Women or the College for Men may borrow books from the University libraries for the duration of the summer seems to be something that people either know little or care little about.

Not being acquainted with the facts, however, is no longer an excuse, that is, if people read the editorial page. By adding the fact that the only limitation is on books which are used in summer school courses, we have already stated all the basic facts.

On the point of not caring to take advantage of this opportunity, many things may be said, but let us assume, let us hope that the major reason for neglect has been ignorance.

To a true student the opportunity offered by the library is a great thing. To all coeds, we say, "Stop and think." There are, oh, so many good reasons for taking books out in the summertime.

—Cardinale.

POLITICS:

Save Nebraska for the
Farm Boys

By Adeline Sears, '42

"This is the glory of earth-born men and women, not to cringe, never to yield, but standing, take defeat implacable and defiant, die unsubmitting." This is the glory of the Dutch soldiers, the Yugoslav soldiers, the Greek soldiers, the Free French soldiers. It should be the glory of every earth-born man and woman—of every earth-born American.

It should be our glory to do all in our power to aid those who are standing, non-yielding, against the enemy. In negation to the confessions of an isolationist printed here two weeks ago—"Save the Nebraska farm boys for Nebraska"—we feel it necessary to state that there are plenty of red-blooded college students who—given to calm reflection—have not laughed off the threat of invasion or any other aspect of the world conflict. They have instead, with grim brow, assigned themselves places in the world as citizens of a country of the world. They have not considered themselves as isolated units. They know that what happens in the world vitally concerns them.

Future Not Bright

For us young Americans today the future is not a bright one. Whether viewed from the isolationist or the interventionist point of view it does not make a rosy picture. When both viewpoints are analyzed, however, we conclude that by a policy of isolation we are not doing the most we can to insure the best future possible for us. In the first place, we are not made of the stuff that stands by and takes whatever an antagonist wants to hand out. We aren't true to ourselves unless we are willing to do everything to defend what we believe in, and to help those who are defending it for us. In the second place, we do not like the prospect of a future in which we'll keep our smug little forty-eight statewide footstool while the Nazis crunch their burly feet upon it. We don't want to give them a chance to push our footstool around or to walk all over it. Because we do not want this, we are not isolationists but interventionists.

We Like Peace

No one likes more to sit back in his chair, calmly smoking a cigarette and peacefully reading a book than we do, but when the wind begins to make the shutter on the window rattle we can't remain oblivious to the sound. We have to get up and either fasten it more securely or remove it. It is just this that we intend to do regarding the international situation. We don't like to fight, but if the other fellow keeps on hitting we can haul off and sock too. It is true that we "eat and sleep in complete security," and that we remain "devoted to liberty, constitutional government, the Monroe Doctrine, original sin, baseball, and hot-dogs." It is because we value this security and these American principles that we are willing to give all aid for their defense.

We denounce men like Lindbergh and Wheeler, whom the Nazis in Germany and the Fascists in Italy praise. We uphold the actions of our government in protecting Greenland from the Nazis. We

know that the people of Greenland prefer their own way of life to that of Nazi regimentation. We're not going to let our defense line lose an important barricade because we consider anything outside the three mile limit as foreign and none of our business.

We believe in extending the patrol duty of our navy in the Atlantic as the government has done. The American people as a whole have endorsed the aid to Britain plan. Why should they spend thousands of dollars to send equipment to the bottom of the sea? We don't want needless repetition of the Zamzam incident.

We Remember U. S.

In "zeal for the preservation of Britain" we do not forget the United States. We remember her and think only of her. Our forefathers freed themselves from British tyranny (George III, *House of Hanover*—at that!) in 1776. They did not accept the domination of an unfair monarch. The British themselves speak laudably of the colonists who revolted against this tyranny. This spirit is still inherent within us. We do not intend to let ourselves be bound once again either by direct tyrannical control of our country or by indirect "squeeze-play" tyrannical pressure from a Nazi-controlled world.

WE FAVOR AN OPEN DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST GERMANY NOW.

War Now

The effect of such a declaration upon the morale of the European continent would be still more undermining than the recent friendly American acts towards Britain have been. We ourselves would be able to shift into complete war-time production—a necessity in this blitz war when Britain needs all our immediate help. As far as saving the Nebraska farm boys for Nebraska is concerned, no one would rather see the farm lads keep on reaping their yearly harvests than we. We want to be sure, however, that they and their children will always have the chance to reap their harvests.

Forget Isolation

Why not deter such a situation by forgetting the word "isolation" and giving Britain everything we have? Why listen to a man like Lindbergh who derides our armament production when he is no longer in a position from which he can give accurate facts?

Why not save Nebraska—a free, constitutional Nebraska—for the farm boys? What American wants to bow his shoulders to a German controlled plow on Nebraska soil when he can keep his own free plow by never cringing, never yielding, to the enemy?