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W. H. TRELOAR, Publisher

KENNETH S. LOWE, Editor

JAMES H. LUKE, General Manager

Not A Partisan Affair

Many a Democrat must have taken umbrage at the announcement last week that the Democratic State Central Committee had contributed money to a fund being raised here to finance possible court action on behalf of a professor who has been dismissed by Northern Michigan University.

The size of the contribution was not divulged by the committee or by those in charge of raising the money. All that was stated was that the committee's contribution had raised the total in the fund to more than \$2,000. But the size of the contribution is

of secondary importance. The matter of primary importance is the principle involved.

And the principle is the injection of partisan politics into a controversy that is—or should be—completely non-partisan. It happens that there are both Democrats and Republicans who support the professor who was given a terminal contract by NMU. And it happens that there are both Democrats and Republicans who oppose the professor in this case.

But the Democratic State Central Committee implies by its monetary contribution that this is a partisan affair. A lot of Democrats on both sides of the NMU episode will dispute that assumption.

These party members may wonder what the Democratic State Central Committee is going to contribute to next. The Anti-Vivisection Society? The Anti-Saloon League? The League of Spiritual Discovery (LSD)?

The committee's contribution came after Zolton Ferency, state Democratic chairman, issued a public statement criticizing the NMU administration for its handling of the case in question. Ferency certainly is entitled to his opinion in the NMU case and could not be faulted for expressing it as a private citizen. Many Democrats, however, are convinced that he should not have issued a statement supporting either side in this matter in his capacity as state chairman because, again, it simply isn't a partisan controversy.

The Democrats have plenty of legitimate partisan issues to discourse upon without muddying a non-partisan affair with party politics.

Changing Times

The following list of rules for teachers was posted by Winifred Northrup, a New York school principal, in 1872:

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys and trim wicks.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and scuttle of coal for the day's sessions.
3. Make your pens carefully; you may whittle nibs to the individual tastes of the pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
5. After 10 hours in school, the teachers should spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls or gets shaved in a barber shop will give reason to suspect his worth, intentions, integrity and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labors faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of 25 cents per week in his pay, providing the board of education approves.

Peninsula Perambulator

Immediate action by the Economic Development Administration office in Duluth on the proposed Copper Peak ski flying hill project has been urged by the Gogebic-Ontonagon Community Action Agency. In a letter to the Duluth office, James Hosking, chairman of the agency, said "there are thousands of people in this area who are deeply concerned with the development of this project and feel that a decision by EDA should be forthcoming immediately in order to abate the criticism of some organizations relating to the delay encountered in this matter."

A special committee will recommend to the Delta County Board of Supervisors next month that it appropriate a special subsidy for City Ambulance Service of Escanaba to guarantee emergency vehicle service in the area while a permanent solution to the problem is being worked out. James Schwalbach, owner of City Ambulance Service — the only emergency service in the Escanaba-Gladstone area — told the board last month that unless additional financial help is forthcoming he would be forced out of business within "a matter of weeks."

New limitations on bus transportation were set at a meeting of the Breitung Township-Kingsford Board of Education. Athletes no longer will be transported after practice sessions and student buses to athletic contests are to be eliminated. Cheerleaders will now ride on the athletic bus rather than be transported by station wagon.

Development of a new campus for Gogebic Community College moved another step closer to realization when the Michigan Education Facilities Commission approved the college's application for a \$750,000 federal grant for the project. Dr. James D. Perry, college president, said the commission's action virtually assures the college of receiving the federal funds and means that the college can go ahead and complete working drawings and bid specifications for the first building to be constructed on the new campus near Mt. Zion in Ironwood. The initial project will cost an estimated \$2,005,000.

A free-for-all melee and street fight among youths and later with the police departments of three law enforcement agencies in the streets of Hancock from midnight to 1 a.m. resulted in six young men being jailed and charged with a variety of offenses. Scattered fights were started by groups of youths loitering at street corners in Hancock. When Han-