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Council and Procedure

Order, a basic element in all organizations, is sadly lacking in the meetings of the Council of Students. Included in its New Year's resolutions should be a new set of rules of procedure.

First, the atmosphere of the room suggests disorder. Members lounge around the edge of a huge room in large, comfortable easy chairs, hardly conducive to business-like procedure. Hearing is impeded in the sprawling space, note taking is impossible without flat knees, and spreading papers out in an accessible manner becomes a feat of the imaginative. Unfortunately we have no students' union building with offices and conference tables for Council; however, we feel rooms are obtainable which would adequately meet Council's needs.

Council took a first step in establishing procedure in presenting reports when it requested all campus organizations to submit written reports of its activities, but Council members should be subjected to the same formality. Compiled, these reports could form an agenda, to be considered by members before the meetings, thus saving valuable time.

Parliamentary procedure in meetings is unrecognizable. At present the member who can shout "DAVE" loudest is recognized by the chair. Council's money would be well spent on Beauchene's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure.

We are not criticizing Council for lack of accomplishments this year; on the contrary, we congratulate them for a job well-done. We feel, however, that a more orderly procedure would save time, leaving members freer for consideration of other matters.

CUP and NFCUS

1959 has brought with its birth a significant change in the setup of university newspapers across Canada. Canadian University Press, CUP to those who know it well, will become affiliated with the National Federation of Canadian University Students and will have its first full-time president on a trial basis, in September of this year.

These major changes took place at the annual CUP conference held in Winnipeg during the holidays. It should be pointed out that Dalhousie, represented by the Editor and News Editor, opposed the move for a full-time President.

After many years of wandering about in a fog, doing nothing and existing upon the charity of its members, the conference evidently heard its death knell tolling and reacted by taking immediate action.

For years Dalhousie has received very little of value from its membership in CUP. About the only advantage was the conference, which generally turned out to be "quite a party" which accomplished absolutely nothing.

The establishment of these new features, will make or break CUP. The larger member papers have committed themselves to contribute to the new setup. The matter at time of writing had not yet been considered by any campus student council. Financially Dalhousie would pay \$85.00 more into the pot, making a grand total of \$160.00 per year. It is doubtful if we will receive that much more national copy. However, the connection with NFCUS will definitely make a difference in the number of National news stories moved on press wires. Also it is important that Dalhousie be represented in such a national body as we are generally looked upon as the leading Maritime university, despite some of the strange attitudes that prevail about us.

Thus it is probably best that we, along with the great majority of Canadian universities, support the new scheme. It will be, nevertheless, support given with a critical and dubious eye.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Madam:
 After reading in the December 3 issue of the Gazette the umpteenth editorial on the Ottawa University La Rotonde, I am prompted to ask one question before I sharpen my sabre and prepare for the charge on the nation's capital to defend "the jurisdiction of the Students' Council".

That question is, and it is an embarrassing one to ask a newspaper which has published in such profusion on the matter. What happened? We know that an editor of La Rotonde wrote a snotty letter and was promptly sacked by the "dictators of the administrative body". But what did the letter say? Could it possibly be that these dictators were justified? Before I'm asked to join my fellow "university students throughout the nation" (A.F. of L., C.I.O.) in protest, I'd sincerely like to know what I'm protesting.

Any stranger to Dalhousie, reading the one-sided accounts of serious educational problems in this country which the Gazette publishes, such as the Ottawa University event or the Quebec situation, would be led to believe:

(1) That these villains, Ottawa U. administrators and that great Bugaboo of all English speaking Canadians, Premier Duplessis, have no defense for their action and are acting with complete irresponsibility;

(2) That Dalhousie is such an ably administrated and enlightened campus that our only burning issue is—the Ice Arena: open or closed on Sunday?

A student newspaper must employ controversy in order to create interest. But your newspaper, Madam editor, has chosen controversies conveniently distant from our campus, yea our province. You cannot be chastised for what the paper says on these matters for they don't affect Dalhousie. But are we that enlightened that we can pass judgement? What about the multitude of noxious sacred cows that inhabit Maritime universities generally? What about the glorified bread line the Canteen, is it too unworthy of the Gazette's notice? Or is it that you too fear the intervention of the administration and are playing it conveniently safe?

BOB GOSELTINE,
 Law II.



Greetings. It's been a grand holiday, and it's wonderful being back. From CUP to Dal to all varsity students across Canada the best of luck in '59.

Last December saw a flurry of activity in Canada of starting impact to Canadian university students. Following is a brief regime of how's, if you'll pardon the pun, '58 closed the gate with a bang.

From Winnipeg it was announced that Professor Harry S. Crowe was reinstated at United College. Although reasons for the reinstatement were not revealed, it is thought that the Board of Regents was anxious to bring to a close all public criticism regarding the case, and to restore once again the academic order of the college. Professor Crowe was dismissed last September after a letter he had written to another professor friend, Dr. W. A. Parker, had fallen into the hands of principal Dr. Wilfred Lockhart. Although the contents of the letter were never revealed, it is said to have contained views inconsistent with the religious principles underlying the college. The "Crowe Affair" has been, in my opinion, another unfortunate incident blackening the name of "University" which should never have arisen in a country professing ab-

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The dressing room was in an uproar, and well it might be. For the first time in the memory of any of those present Dal had beaten "X" at our Memorial rink. Captain Murray Dewis said: "Many of the fans have waited a long time for this one." So right he was, but probably Murray had waited longer and less patiently than anyone else. In his final year of Dentistry, Murray has been an outstanding member of the Tigers for four years. Fitting it was that he, along with comparative newcomers Claude Brown, Frank Sim, and Johnny Graham, should share the spotlight following the most exciting game here in a long while.

The only sombre note to the entire evening was added when it was discovered that a sneak thief had broken into the dressing room and made off with over \$75.00 belonging to team members. We hope that by now the Council has seen fit to reimburse those who incurred losses and that steps have been taken to prevent what is one of the most disgusting crimes. Sort of makes one stop and think, doesn't it?

The question of attendance at classes at university is always an interesting one to think about. Just before Christmas a number of students in one of the professional schools received letters, informing them that they had missed a certain number of classes within a specified time, and requesting them to see the Dean.

The number of classes missed varied, but the average seemed to be four out of seventeen. Perusing the University calendar we find that attendance regulations laid out there provide that a student is to attend regularly, and if the attendance becomes irregular the student may be required to appear before the Dean. In the present cases serious action was not taken, I believe.

However, the immediate reaction from the students was one of disbelief and dismay. When one reaches university, and particularly the professional school level, it is reasonable to assume that one has attained a sufficient maturity to discipline oneself without too much outside interference. Is a man, who within a year will be a practising dentist or lawyer going to be aided by being dragged before the officials because he misses twenty-five percent of his classes?

Admittedly the position of the undergraduate is often different. Many undergrads, fresh from high school and its white shirt and tie regulations, would find too much temptation if there were not a guiding hand waving an attendance sheet before them. But in the graduate faculties we see little reason for such measures.

Editor's Note: The writer of this column did not receive an attendance letter—much to his amazement!

Christmas and the period preceding it brought all sorts of interesting news. Friend Darg is now a father, (over a month now but he's still passing out stogies) and classmate Roger Holteen came to class with a briefcase filled with cigars not too long ago. . . Al and Flo Thomas send along their best wishes from Westfield, Mass. . . Sonny Dowell surprised many and tied the proverbial knot in Ottawa during the festive season. . . Loanne Young and Nancy Lane spent their holidays by deserting England and whooping it up in gay Paris. . . Pete Bennett, Comm grad of '58, spent a few days in Halifax, and then returned to the External Affairs Department in Ottawa. . . the first hockey game with "X", played before Christmas, saw the return of Med Doug Cudmore, the Pride of Prince Edward Island.

Well, election time is not too far away and soon tongues will start wagging and names will be dropped as possibilities for major campus positions. With our ear to the ground we've picked up the news that the Meds are planning to run a candidate for Council President. Last Med in this position was Doug Brown, who filled the bill very adequately in 1955-56.

The saddest story of the year so far is that our Campus Queen of last year has crossed the path and is now playing basketball for, of all people, the Acadia Grads! Surely the Dal gal grads will form a team and recover Carolyn from her terrible fate.

Campus leaders are showing concern over the refusal of University authorities to confirm that the present Men's Residence, pardon the expression, will be turned over to the students for a temporary SUB. This was definitely the understanding at least as far as Students' Council authorities were concerned for the past two years. Now, however, we learn

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