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QUIRING REPORTER
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The last car had just completed the second lap in the stock-car distance race as the first collision occurred. Most of the spectators were unaware of the difficulty which the driver of the lead car was experiencing but the officials were able to see by the aid of field-glasses that something unusual was occurring in the car. Although he had a four length lead, the driver seemed to be spasmodically gunning his car and causing it to shoot ahead by spurts. Then suddenly, the car started to coast and lose speed rapidly.

Black smoke poured from the hood and long, bright flames shot out from the exhaust. The car veered crazily from side to side as if the driver were uncertain of the track. The second auto kept its steady pace and moved well to the outside of the track in order to have plenty of room to pass the lead vehicle. Just as it pulled even, the blazing car shot across the track and crashed heavily against the passing car. Both rolled over. Sharp explosions sounded. They crashed through a rail and rolled against a ramp completely clear of the first of the onrushing cars which were bunched closely. By the time the next little group of cars were approaching the scene of the collision, the momentum of the wrecked vehicles had left them and they were rolling down the ramp back onto the track. They careened madly into the midst of the four passing cars. The speed of the latter caused several of the vehicles to shoot straight up and to look as if they were floating lazily along in mid-air. As soon as they struck the ground, they burst into flames. Billowing smoke filled the air. The unpleasant odor of blistering paint and hot steel mingled with the scent of burning flesh.

The track was completely blocked. Wreckage was strewn for several hundred yards along the course. Only a bicycle rider driving at slow speed would have been able to pick his way among the flaming wrecks unscathed. The circling racers still in competition neared the spot. Too late, they became aware of the accident. The first three cars smashed headlong into the blazing debris. The next car crashed through the guardrail in an attempt to reach safety. Just as he went through the rail, he speeded up his engine but he drove straight into a high concrete block which supported the stands. The car and its contents splintered.

At first, the spectators were stunned. A horrified silence was the only indication of their realization of the initial crash. Then quickly as the cars became successively entangled, panic broke out. After the dense and foul-smelling smoke had enclosed the area and it was no longer possible to view the wreckage, the spectators fled from the stands. As cars crashed or relled through the guard rails, spectators were crumpled and pinned beneath the wrecks.

The first crash ambulance reached the scene just after the second major collision occurred, but one of the cars which later plunged into the wrecks demolished the ambulance. Twelve cars

and the ambulance were scattered somewhere over a distance of three hundred yards of the track. Smoke covered the entire area blotting out the sunshine. Every few seconds explosions would shake the ground. The air was filled with piercing screams of pain and horror, heard even over the roar of the fires, as more and more spectators were knocked down by flying debris or crushed by stampeding hordes. Police and grandstand attendants were swept aside and rendered useless. The loudspeakers blared instructions and requests for order which went unheeded.

Fire equipment reached the scene within ten minutes after the first collision but was too late to be of much use. A few of the drivers had been able to stumble out of their burning cars. Most of them were pinned beneath and unable to do anything except wait for either a rescuer or the fire and explosion to deliver them. Additional ambulances and medical aid soon arrived. The last of the smoldering fires was extinguished and the attendants from the garages began to wander through the wreckage. They gazed sorrowfully as they identified parts of vehicles or recognized a helmet which had escaped the ravaging fires.

The crowd in the stands dispersed and only the curious and the adventure-seekers milled around the area. The only sounds were the occasional murmurs of the doctors and their aides or of the rescuers as they attempted to remove wreckage to release fragments of a charred body. Frequently, the hissing of a fire or the snapping of cooling metal parts were heard. The air was clear of smoke but the unpleasant stretches from the fires still lingered. The injured near the stands were removed to hospital quickly and the attendants started to clear up the debris.

The sun went down and shortly after this, a slow, gentle rain started. At last the air was cleared of the stale odors and it became possible to breathe deeply of fresh air. The floodlights by which the crews were cleaning up, pierced the darkness and cast a white hue on the scene and highlighted the piles of jagged wreckage. The white-uniformed attendants stood and gazed with almost black expressions, perhaps reliving in their imaginations, the rapid and horrid events of the afternoon.

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The Canadian University Press

By John Cunningham,
McGill Daily.

The average Canadian university student knows what A.P., B.U.P., C.P. and Reuters stand for, the giant syndicate associations of modern journalism. But does he know what the initials CUP mean?

The CUP, the Canadian University Press is an organization composed of twenty college and university undergraduate newspapers in Canada, stretching across this nation from the University of British Columbia to Dalhousie University in Halifax. Every time you pick up your college paper the chances are that you will read a news story bearing the CUP credit line. It may be a story about No Activities Week at McGill, about Western's new Weekly, about student drinking at Queen's, about Acadia's editorials, about U.B.C.'s kidnapping, about Toronto's women editors, about Dalhousie's new Arts Building or Harold Buchwald's column from the University of Manitoba.

Member papers in the west include *The Ubysey* of the U of B.C., *The Manitoban* of the U. of Manitoba, *The Sheaf* of the U. of Saskatchewan, and *The Gateway* of the U. of Alberta. In Ontario member papers are *The Varsity* of the U. of Toronto, *The Gazette* of the Western Ontario, *The Carleton* of Carleton College, *The Journal* of Queen's University, *The Silhouette* of McMaster University and *The Fulcrum* and *Le Rotonde* of the University of Ottawa. In Quebec the member papers are *Le Carabin* of Laval University, *Le Quartier Latin*, of the University of Montreal, *The Georgian* of Sir George Williams College and *The McGill Daily* of McGill University. CUP members in the maritime region are *The Dalhousie Gazette* of Dalhousie University, *The Atheneum* of Acadia University, *The Brunswickan* of the U. of N.B., *The Argosy* of Mount Allison University and *The Xaverian* of St. Francis Xavier University.

These twenty CUP member papers across the nation have a total circulation of some 70,000. Probably a good example of the part played by the Canadian University newspaper would be the Russian exchange question now being hotly debated at the various

Canadian campi. In this controversy the student has been kept up to date on the progress made and the opinions expressed at universities across the nation.

At its annual conference at McMaster University in Hamilton during the Christmas holidays the CUP celebrated the fourteen anniversary of its founding. The CUP came into being on New Year's Day, 1938, when the editors of 12 Canadian college papers met in Winnipeg to discuss ambitions which had interested them for some time—the possibilities of a nation-wide news service which would have the effect of consolidating student opinion and abolishing sectionalism. For the first two years the CUP was under the wing of the National Federation of Canadian University Students. Breaking away from the N.F.C.U.S. sponsorship the early editors recognized in the CUP a vast source of possibilities.

The establishment of special press rates and filing arrangements with Canadian Pacific Telegraph brought about the establishment of a trans-Canada CUP wire service. This made it possible to gather student opinion on any subject within 24 hours. With the advent of the Second World War CUP activities began to decline as participation declined resulting naturally in a lack of knowledge as to just what the Canadian University Press was all about.

The CUP however did manage to survive the war years with some semblance of organization and with the coming of the peace and new and greater interest in the CUP was evident.

The basic organization of the CUP provides for election of one paper to serve as its executive. Hundreds and often thousands of miles separate its members, who thus have scant and infrequent opportunity to collaborate with one another verbally. The present National President is the Acadia Athenaeum.

Each member paper has a CUP Editor whose duty it is to supply his paper with news and views from the other campi and to transmit to the other member newspapers of his university. The

foundation of the Canadian University Press is the mail service by which each member paper receives copies of all the other member papers. The wire service of the CUP provides opportunity for the quick and inexpensive transmission of news. When a paper receives a telegram from another paper it queries the next paper in the chain as to whether or not it is interested in the story. If it is the recipient replies or forwards the story. It was in this way that the U. of B.C.'s move to sponsor a Russian student exchange was sent across the continent.

The CUP has at present four trophies for which its members compete annually. These trophies are the Southam Trophy, the Jacques Bureau Trophy, the Bracken Trophy and Le Droit Trophy. The Southam Trophy is for the best English language newspaper with circulation of 3000 or over. The present holder is The Varsity, University of Toronto. The Jacques Bureau Trophy is for the best English language newspaper with a circulation under 3000. The present holder is the Silhouette of McMaster University. Le Droit trophy is competed for annually by the three French language newspapers, the present holder being Le Quartier Latin, University of Montreal. The Bracken Trophy is contested by all the member papers and is awarded to the paper whose editorial writing is judged to be the best. The present holder of the Bracken Trophy is the Manitoban, University of Manitoba. Incidentally the Bracken Trophy has led a rather interesting life in the last year. It travelled the return distance from Toronto to Winnipeg when it was stolen from its case at the University of Toronto and sent to the University of Manitoba. This theft was ironically provoked by a Varsity editorial.

Whether it be a story of the Royal visit to the U of Saskatchewan or the financial troubles of the University of Ottawa or the fact that the dating, the CUP continues to present the student with news and opinions of his colleagues across the country.

A small town is where, when you find a girl eating dinner with a man old enough to be her father, he is.

By party order, American Communists hereafter will not meet in gatherings larger than three persons, thus shortening the odds on which is the F.B.I. undercover man.

A boy is at the in-between age in life when he knows why a strapless evening gown is held up but doesn't know how.

In a small town a tourist approached an old-timer on the steps of the general store. "Say", he asked, "what's the death rate around here?" "Same as it is back east, bub," answered the old fellow, "one to each person".

A badly wrapped parcel of Bibles arrived at a post office, and when the mail bag was opened the contents were scattered to the floor.

Seeing the beautiful calf binding and gilt edges, a postman exclaimed: "Fancy sending a parcel of Bibles in that state. Anybody a bit religious might be tempted to pinch one."

A restaurant in Digby has this notice printed on its menus:

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