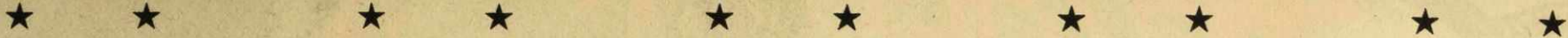


FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO CANADA VISITS UNIVERSITY



DALHOUSIE

Gazette

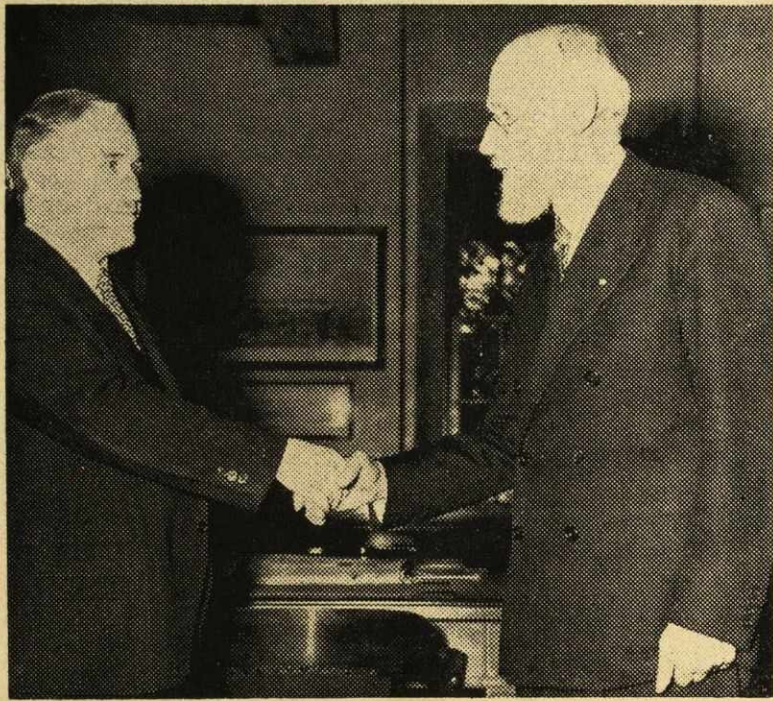
Canada's Oldest Student Publication

FRESHIE-SOPH
DANCE FRIDAY

DAL-McGILL GAME
SATURDAY

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'48 INITIATION WELL UNDER WAY



AMBASSADOR MEETS PRESIDENT—Francisque Gay, French Ambassador to Canada, yesterday paid a short official visit to Dalhousie University. He is shown above as he is greeted by Dr. Kerr. (Gazette Photo by Richter)

His Excellency M. Gay Pays Visit to Dalhousie

His Excellency, Monsieur Francisque Gay, French ambassador to Canada, accompanied by Henri Picard, French consul in Halifax, paid an official visit to Dalhousie University yesterday.

Arriving at 3.30 p.m., on short notice, they were greeted by Dr. Kerr, president of the University, and Deans of faculties, in the Morse Room in the MacDonald Library building.

After exchange of formalities and official greetings in the Morse room, the party proceeded to the Forrest building for an inspection of the set-up in the Medical faculty.

Three times vice premier of France, under the Bidault and De Gaulle governments, Mr. Gay has the added distinction, in France, of being known to cartoonists as the diplomat with the most well-kept goatee.

In a recent interview he said he did not mind being drawn, "All the caricatures are very kind".

According to Mr. Gay, Canadians do not understand the workings of French political systems. A change in government in France does not mean a change in policy. It simply means a re-arrangement in the government personnel.

He predicted increased emigration of French citizens to Canada, but said currency restrictions would not permit the movement to become large.

FROSH MEET COUNCIL

The 1948 frosh class got its first taste of college life Friday morning at a meeting in the gym, where they were addressed by representatives of the University and members of the various student organizations.

Dr. George C. Wilson, the Dean of the Arts and Science faculty, welcomed the frosh on behalf of the University, and urged them to get the most from their years at Dalhousie.

Russ McKinney, the President of the Frosh Council, said he was glad to see the new members. Continued on page four

Sodales Plans Year

One of the first organizations at Dal to hold its executive meeting this year was Sodales—Dal's debating society. Held last week, the meeting saw the outlining of a comprehensive programme.

Through the kind interest of Doctor Kerr, a series of lectures on public figures will be engaged to aid Sodales members in the development of their talent.

A total of sixteen teams will compete in inter-faculty debates for the Viscount Bennett Shield, which is awarded annually. The first debate of the year will be held in the Basement classroom of the Arts Building, Thursday, October 21, at 7.30 p.m. The subject will be "Resolved that Russia today constitutes the greatest threat to world peace". Competing will be teams from Arts and Science and Law. The contest will follow the Oxford pattern of debate wherein members of the audience are allowed to speak briefly on the resolution.

Debates will be held twice weekly in a four week period before Christmas. Elimination will start in January. This arrangement will give every team an opportunity to debate at least twice.

Notice

Any pictures taken by the GAZETTE photographers may be purchased through the GAZETTE Office.

ACADIA'S PRESIDENT KIRKCONNELL TERMS INITIATION HITLERISH

Initiation at Acadia University came to an end last Thursday at the request of University President Kirkconnell. The end came four days earlier than had been originally planned by the students, who had set today as the closing date.

President Kirkconnell felt that the demoralizing effect of initiation procedure on classes should not be continued beyond the first week of the term. He stated that, in his opinion, treatment of the frosh during their initiation period is strongly reminiscent of the tactics of Hitler Youth organizations. He pointed out that the student body of the University had seen fit to abolish initiations back in 1919, and since then most of the major universities have followed suit.

According to the regulations laid down 29 years ago, only the wearing of a green skull cap and a green arm band for a two weeks period is sanctioned. The car oil, shoe polish, vapour rub and flour with which the frosh were doused last Tuesday night, thus fall into the category of hazing, supposedly abandoned.

Student reaction to President Kirkconnell's sentiments has, as yet, found no concrete expression, excepting the stoppage of initiation in deference to his feelings.

Registration Thought Low

Although there are no official figures yet on this year's registration, unofficial estimates placed the number of registered students at around thirteen hundred on Saturday night. This is about four hundred less than attended the University last year.

This figure is little more than a guess, but indications are that the final figure will probably not exceed fourteen hundred. As expected, registration is beginning to level off as the number of veterans attending University diminishes. Reports from other Canadian Universities reveal that the drop is being experienced everywhere.

LATE FLASH

The Gazette learned late last night that the total number of students who have registered to date total seventeen hundred and thirty.

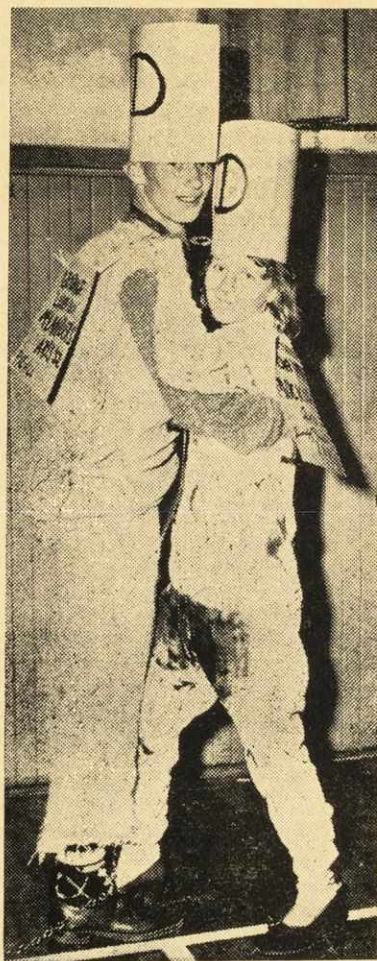
On the basis of similar figures at this time last year, registration should be higher this year than it was last, which is phenomenal when reports from other Universities show that registration is going down.

FROSH GO THROUGH DANCE AND PARADE

Initiation activities were formally opened last Friday evening, as scores of naive and unsuspecting newcomers swarmed through the gymnasium. Throughout the evening worried souls were seen pushing along the floors, holding up the basketball boards, blowing ping-pong balls around the floor, and in general, making fools of themselves.

A highlight of the evening was the arrival of the two "typical frosh couples" amid a fanfare of trumpets. The four — George McLanders from Montreal, Ida MacKiggan from Glace Bay, and George Clark and Pearl Goodwin from Halifax, were suitably dressed and proved good sports. They were made to dance while chained to their opposite number in the other couple.

"Typical Couple"



Above is one of the unfortunate "typical couples" among the frosh at last Friday's dance . . . Complete with ball and chain are George McLanders and Ida MacKiggan.

During the evening the crowd discovered a new singing star—Gibby Reid. Gibby sang one number and unanimously voted this year's Sheik of Dalhousie. Various novelty dances were held with suitable prizes being presented to the winners. Patty MacKinnon, our very efficient cheer leader, held a cheering session in preparation for the Dal-Wanderer's game, from which it was evident that the frosh needed a little more practice.

Refreshments were served later in the evening, and, revived by this, the frosh renewed their dancing with greater vigour and less interference by the sophomores.

Parade

On Saturday these same weary frosh turned out at the gym for their annual parade through the streets of Halifax. Many of them not counting on the fine sense of humour possessed by the sophs, and thinking that the parade would be cancelled because of the rain, turned up without raincoats.

However, the parade was not cancelled, and soon it was on the move. Surrounded by soph-filled cars, and headed by a banner reading BEAT WANDERERS it moved merrily on its way, with the frosh cheering and singing "Glory for Dalhousie".

To the delight of hundreds of local inhabitants the frosh were marched through the business section of town to the Grand Parade, where they were formed into a triple circle. Standing in the drizzle, they cheered themselves hoarse. The meeting broke up hurriedly after Andy MacKay, Chairman of the Big Ten, had told the frosh to get home as best they could.

Frosh Freshen Gazette Office in Arts Building

"A frosh is as good as a shmoo anytime"—Neitzche

A point was proven in the Gazette office last Friday and Saturday. Namely, that shmooos can do anything, and that frosh make first class shmooos. This has been a moot question among the upperclassmen of Dalhousie for some time, ever since Al Capp became shmooody.

The problem was solved when twenty freshmen were detailed by Andy McKay to clean up the Gazette Office. They did a fine job of painting the walls green, the ceiling a rather sickly white, and the baseboards and floor brown

(over a ground coat of green spots).

Formerly, many Dalhousians went to doubt the existence of a floor and walls in the office, since the floor was eternally littered with back issues of the Gazette and copy for future ones, and the walls with shady pictures.

But last Friday three members of the Gazette woke from their usual fog enough to decide to remedy conditions. So bravely they trooped down to see Professor Theakston, hoping to obtain materials which freshie-shmooos would (Continued on Page Three)