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dalhousie and us

As the population of Canada increases, so does the number of high school students desirous of furthering their education by entering university.

It follows that each passing year brings a greater demand on college facilities. Thus, in the midst of a rapidly expanding nation, there is grave responsibility on university authorities to maintain worthy academic standards and ensure that Canada's young men and women receive the best training possible in making an effective contribution to this country of ours.

The young student, looking around in an attempt to determine which college he should enter, hears the fond boast of almost every institution of higher learning that she offers the finest training available. What a dilemma he is faced with then! How is he to decide which university makes true its boast? What tests can he use to weigh the merits of various colleges?

It is with a deep sense of pride that we at Dalhousie can say that we are attending an institution which, since its founding, has maintained standards comparable with any in the country.

However, no one must assume the problem of maintaining these standards to be a simple one. It is obvious that a university may lack the funds to provide the high salary necessary to attract men of international or even national repute. It may be necessary to cut off one hand of the university to bolster the other.

Dalhousie's dedication to the maintenance of high standards has always commanded respect and praise from leading educational authorities of all countries. We who are now at Dal may point with a good deal of pride to our distinguished predecessors of the past and the profound mark that they have left on Canadiana. Throughout the length and breadth of the country, our graduates are found, leaders in every walk of life.

Recent developments indicate that Dalhousie is entering upon a new and greater era.

Ours is the task of standing equal to past achievements. Dal demands the best we can give in work and play if we are to draw the full value from our stay, and to be able to make a worthy contribution to the Canadian mosaic.

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themes and you

On the undergraduate side of the Dalhousie campus, the weekly themes required in the basic English courses involve a certain amount of work—or, at least, effort. Resultingly, many procrastinating "students" find themselves in the quite common position of having nothing down on paper, though the hour is early on the morning of the deadline.

By seeking anonymous answers from veterans on the campus, one might discover at least three other methods:

1. Copy, with appropriate changes, the work of a fellow classmate; or 2. Copy, with discrimination requiring less appropriate changes, the work of your father or other relative from your files; or 3. Write your theme earlier and therefore more leisurely.

Whichever you choose, you might recall Professor Bennett's understanding analysis in the Gazette: Of last year's class of students who were on time with Theme 9, 80% passed the course while of those present at the first class, 70% passed; but of those warned for irregular class-work, 0% passed.

But, no matter how it all ends, remember that the sympathies of all ex-English 2 theme writers are with you.

english 2: a year of themes



BOUTILIER DALHOUSIE

editorial comment

a time for patience

(The McGill Daily)

Little Rock in Arkansas is stealing the headlines from the U. N. Security Council's annual show, from the Hoffa trials and from the Commonwealth conference in the Laurentians that Diefenbaker is so proud of. This is understandable; it has all the makings of a good show, the sort of entertainment that this TV and radio controlled age delights in. Here is drama, excitement, challenge and unpredictability tossed together in an unlikely locale.

Unfortunately this show which is rousing so much interest around the world, which is feeding grist to the Russian propaganda mill, is developing into a crisis of historic proportions. The principal actor, Governor Faubus seems to be carried away by his role. But even more disconcerting is that others, like Senator Russell, from whom we had hoped for a statesmanlike approach, are jumping on the bandwagon trumpeting wild blasts. . . .

Hot words however will certainly not hasten a solution. Now more than ever is the need for calmness, for clear thinking, and, above all, for a respect for law. The proposed Governors' conference is one of the brighter things the administration has done in its handling of this problem. Let us hope that both sides will meet in the spirit of Jefferson rather than as if they were entrenched along the Mason-Dixon line.

condemn conformity

(The Silhouette)

Individualism is at a low ebb on these shores. Into the ivy-covered halls flows a new tide of naive awe-struck freshmen. For four years this dull conservative mass will pursue its dull conservative course of study, and upon release, will graduate as moss-covered as the walls that were a shelter.

The high schools have spewed a mass-produced product, trained to rehash rehashed hash. Where are the creative thinkers? Where are the dynamic radicals? Such people are rarely allowed to graduate to the "Institution of Higher Learning."

Every campus must have its steadfast bulwark of conservatism, but

there is a limit, and this campus has exceeded that limit to the extent of quashing all individualism. We are destined to become a disintegrated empire of followers.

What mean Idealism and Realism, but terminology? Whenever a student deviates from the norm of conservative stagnancy, he is automatically labelled a Bohemian, and is looked upon with disgust and mistrust.

There is no harm in being a little different from the next man. Too many are content to sit back and let the others lead, let the others create. Stagnate, then, and crumble into the dust you are content to become.

what means?

(The Ontarion)

The best way for a college to introduce a freshman to the complexities of college life has long been a controversial issue. The question is: Should freshman be "initiated" or "orientated" to their new world?

Many students favour initiation. They remember the days when they were made miserable by their sophomores: the exercises, the running, the insults, the menial chores, the humiliating dress, the fun derived by the sops at their expense. Some such students possibly wish to see all newcomers suffer as they did. Others feel that such treatment is the most effective, if not the only way to take the cockyness out of the frosh, to teach them their songs, and to introduce them into the campus and o each other. In short, they feel that initiation is the one practical way to weld the struggling, heterogeneous group of frosh into a united, spirited year that will be a real asset to the college.

Although initiation may be granted to have its lighter moments, and much of it is rather fun, experience proves that it often degenerates into a hodge-podge of yelling, ridiculing, half-drunk, half-bitter, exhausted, sops and completely exhausted, thoroughly browned-off and more than half-vengeful frosh. Long before it is over, both sides wish the whole affair had never begun. What else can be expected from a system based on intimidations and ignorance.

Now the idea of orientation rather than initiation is taking over as the primary aim of the freshman welcoming program. A well-conducted tour of the campus, a barbecue, a theatre party and a dance all help to show the frosh that college means more than humiliation and exercise.

through the keyhole

by Pat McDonald

"The McGill Symphonic band is once more preparing for another musical season. In the two years since its inception the band has become an integral part of campus life."

Ed. Note: It hurts me to say this but last year's presentation of "Springsong" sounded like a sneak attack on the music by MacNamarra's Band.

"The gladsome light of Jurisprudence is spluttering into flame during its third week of lectures in a small basement room at Richardson Hall, Queens University. The university had definitely taken a tremendous stride in the inauguration of a law school.

Ed. Note: Question: And how is Lawyer Brown?

Answer: Lying at death's door. Remark: What! At death's door and still lying?

Seventy years of Baptist control at McMaster University ended last June when two Ontario Legislature Acts ushered in a new era at the college.

Ed. Note: Baptist minister speaking to parishioners—"I have always said that the poor are welcome in this church and I see by the collection that they have come."

The Acadia Athenaeum states that "600 bags of flour, 115,200 eggs (Grade A large), 11,200 lbs. bacon, 36,000 lbs. of beef and 11,000 loaves of bread are consumed every month in the Acadia Dining Hall."

Ed. Note: "And Jesus said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they said, we have no more but five loaves and two fishes, except we should go and buy meat for all this people.": Luke

The Sheaf . . . A wolf is a man with a lot of pet therioies.

The Manitoban . . . "I don't mind if a girl looks poured into a dress as long as it doesn't settle to the bottom."

The Ubysey . . . Pregnant Secretary . . . "Dear Boss, I'm getting too big for the job."

GOOD NIGHT, PRINCESS.