

COME TO THE  
SWEATER DANCE  
IN GYM TONIGHT

HAPPY GROUND  
HOG DAY TO  
EVERYBODY

# DALHOUSIE Gazette

AMERICA'S OLDEST COLLEGE PAPER

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## PROF. EXPOUNDS NEW EC. CONCEPT



TAKING A REST.—Two Dal co-eds, Kay Murry, and Kay Bagnell are shown above taking a few moments off from badminton. We do not guarantee that all the girls at the Commerce Sweater Girl Dance will look like these, but it will be well worth going to.

### Cabinet All Agrog Over Revolutionary Economic Theory

OTTAWA—Special to The Gazette—Informed circles in the Dominion's capital forecast a Cabinet shuffle as a result of the recently-advanced "stimulant and depressant" economic theory. Government economists, raised in the best Keynesian traditions, have put Professor Maharg's theory to exhaustive practical tests, with far-reaching results.

Government offices are moving their desks out into the corridors to make room for the advancing tide of bottles. Various other government offices have generously offered to help in the experimentation, but the Bureau of Statistics and the government's economic advisors have to date strenuously maintained their right to conduct the tests by themselves.

As one statistician put it? "Thish ish the besht economic theory in yearsh. Musht we g-g-... share it?"

The Cabinet is split on the issue, and government work has slowed to a stagger while Cabinet members debate. It is rumoured that certain members have taken to conducting private tests. Some are advocating that a "Spechial Experimentashun Bureau" be shet up.

Meantime, the Prime Minishter has proclaimed to the nation that "things are not as bad as some thinkal peep," and that the situation will shoon be remed...rem... rrrr...cleared urp. cssYGss?-----,

### Happy Ground Hog Day To All From The Gazette Staff

Today, February 2, is Ground Hog Day.

While this memorable date may not strike a familiar chord in the hearts of some of our readers, others will join with us in wishing one and all a very happy Ground Hog Day.

Those who were at Dalhousie last year will remember Ground Hog Day, 1950, when hundreds of cheering students gathered on the football field to wait for the Ground Hog to put in an appearance and end the suspense.

"What will the weather be like for the next six weeks?" was the question on everybody's lips.

We must not forget, however, in our carefree celebration of this holiday, that there are those who are not so well situated as ourselves. Many people actually have to work and are thus unable to celebrate Ground Hog Day in suitable fashion. There is little left to do when they get home from work well after dark.

It is a happy coincidence that the Commerce Society has decided to present a dance this evening in celebration of Ground Hog Day. It will provide a pleasant variation from the suspenseful if exciting experience of awaiting the appearance of the Ground Hog.

A happy Ground Hog Day to one and all from The Gazette staff.

### Stimulant-Depressant Idea Unlooses Economic Revolt

Basic economic concepts were shaken last Monday by a startling announcement of a new theory of the business cycle, called the "Stimulant and Depressant" theory. It was uncorked by Professor Nhoj Maharg of the Delhi Institute in a special lecture to members of a Dalhousie economics seminar.

The theory is based on the fact that the prices of stimulants (tea and coffee) fluctuate very widely, whereas those of depressants (alcoholic beverages) fluctuate within a very narrow range. During a depression, because of greatly reduced incomes, the populace is observed to reduce its consumption of the relatively expensive beverages, and turn to much cheaper tea and coffee. This has the result of stimulating peoples' mental and physical faculties and so of affecting economic activity. A crucial feature of the theory is that workers are now willing to work harder for the same wages, thus increasing productivity and so reducing the unit costs of output and widening the spread between costs and selling prices. Alert business men, likewise stimulated by increased tea and coffee drinking, are quick to take advantage of this profitable situation. They expand production, by adding to their plants and equipment. This leads to larger income payments, increased consumer demand, higher prices, further increases in production, and so, in a cumulative spiral to prosperity.

But the real touch of genius in Mr. Maharg's theory comes in explaining the crisis which precipitates the downswing into depression. For he throws away the "crutches" on which the older theories depended, namely, the exhaustion of the credit supply and the deficiency of incomes to buy output, and shows that even if these brakes on activity were not operative a crisis would eventually occur, followed by a cumulative downswing. Why? Because tea and coffee prices have risen greatly, discouraging the consumption of these stimulants, and what is more important, incomes have increased, so

that now the populace can afford to buy alcoholic beverages. This increased consumption of depressants has a debilitating effect on the peoples' mental and physical activities, with the result that productivity falls and wages rise (because labour now requires a greater inducement to work) at first narrowing and then wiping out the profit margins of many businesses. There follow a general contraction of output, layoffs, reduced incomes, reduced consumer demand, falling prices and a cumulative downswing into a depression. With the downswing comes a lowering of wage rates until alcohol is no longer within the reach of buyers, who switch back to tea and coffee, further induced to do so by the now very low prices of these stimulants. People are again stimulated and activated in the manner described above and a new business cycle is born.

Leading economic theorists without exception, have so far been forced to accept Mr. Maharg's theory, because of its inexorable logic. Maharg is the son of a wealthy tea-plantation owner in India. He first began to develop his theory when he noticed wide fluctuations in the prices of tea as opposed to the relatively stable prices of alcoholic beverages. Since then, he has made world-wide surveys, applying numerous statistical tests, all of which have verified his theory.

Mr. Maharg made an announcement at the conclusion of his lecture which will be received with deep regret by his fellow economists. He has decided to withdraw from the field of economic analysis now that his ideas have been advanced and concentrate on his duties as Honorary President of Alcoholics Anonymous.

### Sinkers Up, Pretzels Down As Idea Starts Its Effects

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—(Bulletin)

—It was announced here this evening that the doughnut market has boomed, while a corresponding slump has been experienced in pretzel stocks.

Market observers state that these sudden changes are a direct result of announcement of the Stimulant and Depressant Theory, which was promulgated yesterday afternoon at an extraordinary lecture at Dalhousie University somewhere in the New England States.

Leading Pretzel Czars have sent a delegation to the President asking for a market holiday in order to allow them to gather their resources. A general tightening of credit is expected and Government economic experts will be at work all night studying the extent of this new market crisis. Banks are expected to open as usual. Gold reserves have been unaffected.

### Military Training Is Advocated by Law Team

A very successful interfac debate was held Tuesday in the Arts Building. Law, its reputation at stake after two defeats at the hands of the girls, tangled with Delta Gamma and won a split decision.

The motion was that all Canadian males should undergo 12 months compulsory military training. Law upheld the affirmative. After the debate the floor was thrown open and a lively discussion followed.

The teams—Delta Gamma: Adele Findlay and Barbara Davison; Law: Dick Miller and Howard Pye. Judges were Professors Berman, Graham and Heisler. Ron Robertson was in the chair.

### Student Christian Movement To Name General Secretary For Dalhousie

At a joint meeting of the Student Executive and the Advisory Board of the Dalhousie Student Christian Movement it was decided to appoint a general secretary for Dalhousie. The appointment will take effect from September 1, 1951.

Most students are interested in and often in considerable doubt about religious questions. The purpose of appointing a secretary for the campus is to provide the students with an interested and educated person who will be able and willing to talk to the students about religious questions. The secretary will also help the students, though

they must remain the prime movers, to organize more discussion and study groups. He will have time to find out who is interested in which group. The secretary will also help the students in organizing social events, speakers on the campus, and work camps.

This is a new venture at Dalhousie in that the Secretary will devote all his time to the students. The local S.C.M. is responsible for most of the expenses connected with the appointment and will be dependent upon the generosity of those interested.

### Girls Routed By Fire Find Shelter at Sherriff Hall

Three girls from fire-razed Mt. St. Vincent were at Shirreff Hall for a short time on Wednesday. Ann Streeter from Rothsay, New Brunswick, and Mary Lou Oland and Jane Brennan, both from Saint John, had lost everything they owned in the fire which completely destroyed the college.

According to the girls the fire started in the kitchen about midnight. After smouldering for some time it spread at about 1.45, and everyone was awakened. There was no panic, and no one was injured, as within five minutes three hundred students and one hundred sisters escaped the flames.

Although nobody was hurt, all possessions were destroyed, and everything belonging to the college was a total loss.

At the moment the girls are awaiting word from the Dean of the college. When asked what their plans for the future were, they said that they did not know whether they would be able to complete their college year. All the girls from the Academy were being sent home, they reported.

### Attendance at Play Totalled about 1,500

Attendance at the Glee and Dramatic Club's presentation of Romeo and Juliet was disappointingly low. The expected number of people just did not turn out.

Saturday night brought forth the largest crowd. Approximately 700 persons were in attendance with \$78.50 being taken in at the gate. With an intake of \$59.00, Friday night's presentation was attended by a crowd of about 500 people.

The smallest crowd of all, consisting of some 300 people, turned out on Thursday to watch the Shakespearean presentation. The gate receipts for that night totaled \$37.50.

Although it is not official, it is believed that there was not sufficient intake for the coverage of the expenses of the Glee Club Presentation.