

# It's that time again...

by John Cairns

Alas! The most dreadful thing has happened. The month of December arrived in Halifax this week, and for many students that means pressing the panic button.

What! You are not nervous? Of course you are! Students always are at this time of year. I can prove it. Just read. We are going back to the *Dalhousie Gazette* of December 3, 1958, exactly twenty-two years and several days ago. Here is what was written.

"It's that time again!! The frenzy before the fall is upon

us, and the tense, haggard faces of book-laden students forecast the Horror that is to come. Latest *Gazette* surveys reveal that, per usual, nobody has overworked himself this fall, and the air of hopelessness hanging over the heads of many doesn't deny the fact.

Fiendish laughs are heard from behind the doors of faculty rooms, and professors, smiling cynically, emerge gripping their bundles of red pencils, knowing that their day is coming. Down at Shirreff Hall the Horror is all-pervading. The slightest sound of merriment,

perhaps from some poor soul enjoying her last moments, brings a tirade of threats and imprecations down on the disturber.

In the canteen IT is combated with an air of artificial hilarity — the band played or the Titanic too — and those with textbooks grip them tightly to thwart the designs of a less fortunate. Many a cry of 'Surely there's one copy left' is heard from the bookstore and many a hapless sufferer is button-holed in a corner and, as frantic eyes stare in to his, is beseeched to lend a textbook for 'Just a couple of days.'

But don't be disheartened, for pass or fail, the New York ometh, and we may rise from our ashes, pockets empty and minds eager, to begin again!!

There you have it. The prospect of beginning again is to sustain you. Besides, how can a bit of exam time desperation be so bad when you also have holidays and home cooked meals to anticipate? It is just too bad that the time from the end of exams to the resurrection of classes is the fastest two weeks of the year. I agree. It isn't fair, but just try telling that to the big clockmaker in the sky.

# B.C. students 'declare war'

VANCOUVER (CUP)—The B.C. Students' Federation has declared war on the provincial government for its assault on accessible education.

The federation will be asking its members to contribute to an expanded war chest to hire two more employees to combat government policies.

As delegates met at a weekend conference, tuition fee increases were announced at two more educational institutions. Students at Douglas College face a 32 per cent hike, while Simon Fraser University will be raising fees by an unknown amount.

The Douglas student society is circulating a petition opposing the hike. Society president Kevin Hallgate says he expects 75 per cent of the college's 6,500 students on nine campuses will sign the petition.

At SFU, a senate committee urges that fees be "reasonably consistent with those charged by the University of B.C.," which recently decided to raise fees 13 per cent.

But it appears the same hesitation which dogged the student campaign against the UBC hikes will eliminate any chance for successful opposition at SFU. Student society president-elect Jim Crawley says there is no student position on fees because council has not reached quorum in six months.

"I have a lot of criticism over the fact that this (student) administration has done bugger all," says Crawley, who becomes president January 1. However, he added he does not feel responsible for organizing opposition to the increase. "I don't have a plan. They don't have a (council). My hands are tied."

The 40 delegates to the B.C. students federation conference decided to proceed with an expansion plan which will bring a series of referenda to member campuses next year.


The plan would raise the current \$1 per student annual membership levy to \$3.50, a figure comparable to that charged by other provincial student organizations. About 27,000 students belong to the federation, including those at SFU and Douglas College.

"This expansion will give students the resources to fight for an accessible education system in B.C.," federation spokesperson Steve Shallhorn said. "Education is under attack and we have to mount a fight back."

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 CHEVY CHASE GOLDIE HAWN CHARLES GRODIN  
 IN "NEIL SIMON'S SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES"  
 A JAY SANDRICH FILM ROBERT GUILLAUME Music by MARVIN HAMLISCH  
 Executive Producer ROGER M. ROTHSTEIN Production Designed by GENE CALLAHAN  
 Director of Photography DAVID M. WALSH Written by NEIL SIMON  
 Produced by RAY STARK Directed by JAY SANDRICH FROM RASTAR 

## Coming in December