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lapsed, full scale rioting resulted in Sydney and Glace Bay and anarchy currently threatens to spill out over the Canso Causeway into the rest of the province.

In a related incident on Wednes-

day, P. Botha of South Africa announced that the OAU's decision would have no bearing on his country's relations with Canada as he was sure "this quota will not apply to our students, who I assume will be covered by 'special

circumstances'." "Besides," the raving fascist added, "those Massey Fergusons are great for bulldozing shanty towns."

The United Nations met in a special session on Wednesday afternoon to impose sanctions of

food and music exported to Canada. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar said in an aside after the meeting, "Let's see how those xenophobic turkeys feel after a diet of Ben's bread, weiners and Anne Murray."

And finally, when contacted this morning for his reaction to MacKay's policy, the Mayor of Calgary stated:

"Eastern Canadians wanting to keep out foreigners? Hell! Eastern Canadians are foreigners."

Letters

Foreign student issue

To the Editor,

We, the members of the African Students Association, Dalhousie University, wish to express our deepest concern on the recent remarks attributed to the President of Dalhousie University, Dr. Andrew MacKay, as reported in the Dal Gazette of September 23rd, 1982.

The article, headed "Dalhousie stops enrollment of foreign students", was highly objectionable and causes great concern among the African students' community here. We wish to bring to the attention of all those concerned that the A.S.A. deplores and rejects -

(a) A quota system based on nationality rather than merit, for it surely becomes the foundation of favouritism.

(b) President MacKay's assertion that foreign students come with inadequate knowledge of English. This statement diverts the issue from the quota system to the question of language proficiency. The problem of language proficiency relates to the admissions process and NOT to the number of foreign students admitted.

We believe that our contribution to the University community, this province and Canada as a nation is considerable; in fact immeasurable and should not be belittled.

signed,
The ASA

President can't drink

(Ed. note - This letter refers to two letters previously published in the Gazette, where a drinking challenge was announced by Dal Student Union President Peter Rans, and was then taken up by Saint Mary's Vice President Student Affairs, Charlie MacArthur. However, the event, due to take place last Saturday, was cancelled for fear it could give students a bad public image, according to Rans.)

To the Editor,

I will state first that if (Dal Student Union President) Mr. Rans would like to get together with his friends and drink Tequila in his own house, then that is fine with me. If, however, he chooses to do so representing me, then it is not fine.

It is unlikely that Mr. Rans has spent a lot of time worrying about the problems of excessive drinking at Dalhousie and then out of the goodness of his heart decided to set us this shining example. Rather, he is concerned only with his image as a drinker and the thrill of settling petty rivalries in public, and he has tried to justify himself with an incredibly stupid argument. Does he really believe that the sight of either

him or his opponent at the end of the contest will deter any alcoholics on campus? Does his magnanimity extend to becoming a heroin addict or committing suicide to show me that they are not good for me either?

But, Peter Rans' stupidity is not what bothers me most. How will the Provincial Government treat applications for student loans when the person petitioning against cutbacks in education is so proud of his ability as a drinker - indicating he must spend a lot of money practising? Will Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Donahoe take away what they consider to be my Tequila budget?

There is no comfort either in the fact that Saint Mary's University is equally badly represented.

sincerely,
John Perkyns

AIIESEC doing great

To the Editor,

In light of the considerable press given the AIIESEC society of late in connection with the actions of Greg Fitzgerald, past treasurer, we feel it may be beneficial to clarify a few points. It had been reported (Gazette, September 16) that Fitzgerald embezzled \$860 of AIIESEC funds during his term as treasurer. In fact, only approximately one half of this sum represented AIIESEC funds at that time. Any other monies involved represent a matter to be settled between Fitzgerald and the bank in question.

It should be further noted that all of this has dampened neither the spirit nor the drive of this society. We remain a "going concern", with a full schedule of events for this year. As one of the few societies with an international aspect, we offer our members the possibility of work placement abroad, in addition to opportunities for exposure to Canadian business concerns (such as our upcoming Careers Day).

In short, AIIESEC is alive and well and living at 6094 University Avenue.

Executive of AIIESEC - Dalhousie
Mike Hayes - President
Mark Childerhose, V.P. External
Monica Jonies, V.P. Communications

Student upset

To the Editor,

I would like to express how distraught I was on reading President MacKay's recently introduced policy of limiting Dalhousie's admittance of foreign students to "Special cases". I, as a Bermudian, was especially shocked about the news, following President MacKay's visit this past summer to Bermuda.

It appeared that his visit to Bermuda, and Bermuda College in particular, was to foster good relations between Dalhousie University and the Bermudian Academic community. However, President MacKay's recent actions certainly throw his motives into serious doubt.

R.D.M Butterfield

Dirty dental hygiene

To the Editor (and any sensitive thinking people trapped at Dalhousie):

I am very close to a Dal Dental Hygiene student who has been exposed to the unhealthiest aspects of education in a very tight package. I appeal to those administrators or professors with a conscience or those Dal students suffering under similar academic anguish to share my concern. The Hygiene program is in desperate need of cleaning up.

The Dental Hygiene program begins by greeting its chosen few with the cheery message, "There are many more qualified applicants" - so send your money in immediately or you are out of the school. This spirit of elitism is branded throughout the program. Of course, not even the most brilliant and studious can absorb the depths of material in sixteen science classes each semester, so the program suggests that hygienists not learn as fully as the second and third year dental students, physiotherapists, and nurses enrolled in some of the same courses.

How do you learn, say, microbiology in less depth? You learn what fibrinolysin or hyaluronidase are, but you dismiss learning how bacteria interact with the body. You can forget about written work, discussions, tests, or feedback of knowledge in any way, because that requires too much time of the professor. Tutorials are set up only to answer more technical questions and not to strengthen the basic concepts absent in lectures. You learn that a lab is not a place of directed inquiry where the shroud of scientific terms comes alive, but a place where a video machine frees the instructor to go home for the day. You frantically scrawl the professor's Latin lectures and regiment yourself in the art of academic spit-back. At last, you clear your mind of all creative and independent thought to accommodate the vast landfill of memorized text and lecture notes which the program requires.

If all of this constitutes higher learning at a prestigious institution, then perhaps a little lower learning and a dose of humility are in order. It's time for the Dentistry department to re-examine its festering Dental Hygiene program and deal with it squarely in the mouth.

D.S.
(Name withheld by request.)

Commentary

Power-tripping and degradation of Frosh Week

by Andrew Ager

On Initiation Day at high school in Ottawa, back in 1974, I foolishly allowed myself to be written upon by an upper-classman. He wrote "WORM" on my forehead with lipstick, as he did to everyone else who had refused to dress like a clown. As such, it is one of my sincere regrets to this day that I did not lay into him when he and his lipstick-loaded hand came within reach. I shortly afterward resolved that soft-pedalled malice of that sort wouldn't get past me again, whether it was being unloaded on me or on anyone else.

During Frosh Week '82 I met with a friend whose acquaintance I had made during the summer. He was moving into Howe Hall. That evening I offered to show him

Halifax, some of the interesting and out of the way places. His House V.P., however, coercively asked him to attend the Hawaiian Dance that night. Not wishing to offend the V.P., he went and did not enjoy it. Later that night I was awakened at 1:30 by my own floor president violently kicking the doors in the hallway to wake up the Frosh ("Frosh, get your ass out of bed!!").

So my friend went out with the crowd on the Midnight walk, and, along with others, was subjected to physical abuse, and was coerced into participating in asinine and degrading activities that were nothing more than the power trips of those in charge.

Apparently all this mock-slavery and punishment is in "good fun". Covering what?... Fun like a Paki

joke, or those "fun" one-liners about wife-beating....

The following nights I was working at the front desk of Howe Hall when swarms of drunk "Freshettes" came screaming in and out up and down the hallways, looking for "fun". In other words, acting the precise way that guys want and expect them to act. How many of them were getting off on being little playthings, not being what they really are like? (It is a real rush to find and know that there are individuals, male and female, on this campus who strongly reject this peer pressure and assert their real selves over and against it.)

The subtly abusive treatment of Frosh during Orientation Week is about as well-meaning and concerned for the well-being of newly

arrived students as the army is for draftees.

They aim at the same thing in different modes, though. Domination through degradation. A power trip for those in charge. Alienation for those who choose to defy the mainstream. Those who recognize this game are usually able to stay out of it - some choose to fight it as the quiet cruelty it truly is.

If University is really a place of higher education, then the self development required to use it as such starts from a call for better human relations within the environment. That starts from the self: I WILL BE ME, AND I WILL DO WHAT I DECIDE. I WILL NOT BE A PLASTIC BODY THAT CONFORMS TO WHAT IS DEMANDED.

Without this self knowledge, individuality is just a facade; with it, it is a means to improving the general state of things.

This year's Frosh week was hailed as very successful. If "successful" means that no one broke the ranks and that everyone did as they were told it would appear that once again individuality among students has been dragged through the mud and disparaged. The subtle crushing of personal worth that underlies moronic activities like Frosh week is a deep prob-

lem. This warped mentality that wants to mold and force others into a uniform nothingness, even when it purports to be in "good fun", is an element to be constructively battled with.