

The Dalhousie Gazette

CANADA'S OLDEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

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Editor-in-chief J. TERENCE MORLEY

DAVID DAY ----- Associate Editor TIMOTHY D. FOLEY..... News Editor MARK DeWOLF ---- Features Editor MICHAEL SMITH ---- Sports Editor BOB BROWN ----- Photo Editor CHRISTOPHER CORNISH ------ Assistant Editor JACK YABLON Business Manager

Free Education

The following is the text of the McGill resolution passed by the Lennoxville Congress of the Canadian Union of Students.

Whereas equality of opportunity is a fundamental principle of our society;

Whereas the sole determinant of the undertaking of higher education should be academic qualification;

Whereas there exist today social and financial barriers to higher education; Whereas the elimination of financial bar-

riers would represent a major step forward in the democratization of higher education; Whereas the decision to pursue higher education is often obscured by financial

Whereas earnings foregone represent a real and most serious cost;

Whereas the fullest development of its human potential is an economic necessity for Canada.

Be it resolved that this Congress adopt the principle of universal accessibility to post-secondary education.

Universal accessability means the abolition of all social and financial barriers to postsecondary education.

Further be it resolved that this Congress adopt as the first priority of the Canadian Union of Students the abolition of all these social and financial barriers as soon as possible. And further that, as a first step, this Congress seek the elimination of tuition

Pretty dry stuff. But it might be the signal for a revolution provided the students of Canada are willing to do a bit of thinking and a lot of acting.

Read the resolution again, carefully this time. It calls for free education and the Gazette suspects that some of you good citizens of Dalhousie may disagree with this

Some of you might feel that your representatives at Lennoxville had no business voting for such a "radical" proposal without consulting the students, without holding a referendum to ascertain your opinions. If this is the case let your feelings be known, write a letter to the editor or buttonhole Robbie Shaw in the Council office some afternoon this week. Tell the world why you're opposed to free education.

The Gazette incidentally, is strongly in favour of the above resolution and the whole concept. But neither we, nor we trust the delegates to the Lennoxville Congress are under any delusion that there is a widespread feeling of militancy for free education amongst Canadian students. On the contrary we expect that most of you, indeed a majority of you, despite your Council President's vote, are undoubtedly suspicious of the scheme.

This could be healthy. The movement for free education will not succeed, and there should be no doubt about this, unless the vast majority of students become committed to the idea and prepared to go out and work for

The majority of students will not become committed unless some pretty solid arguments are presented in favour of the concept. This is the challenge that faces our student politicians, and we like to think, our newspaper editors. This editorial is the Gazette's first blast.

It is not however an article about the "crisis in higher education." Most students are probably wearied by the repetition of this phrase, and though the Bladen Report may soon revive them, this approach to the free education proposition has been repeated often enough. In fact many students believe that the only reason advanced for "universal accessability" is that of eliminating obvious social and financial barriers to university education. This is perhaps the most important reason, but it is not the only one and there is at least one other that probably more directly affects the average Canadian undergrad-

Most students are dependent on their parents. If a student lives in a university town he almost always lives at home and is supported in this way by his mother or father. His

position as a high school student, the major difference usually being in terms of a curfew and of summer earnings. The curfew is almost always extended, though very often not eliminated, and the summer earnings are now greater and used for paying tuition fees and buying books, clothes and entertainment. A well-paying summer job, of which there are some in Canada, can provide enough money for these pursuits. It usually cannot provide enough money to live away from one's ancestral home. If a student is forced to go away to univer-

sity his costs while at college rise very significantly. A tiny fraction of all students are able to earn enough money in the summer to pay all their expenses. Once again the usual source of income is parental, and once again certain controls are often established in terms of courses pursued or behavior while at university.

You may ask where is all this heading, after all, isn't the above a perfectly normal thing, and why shouldn't parents support their children through college if they are financially able to do so.

Now the classical argument for free education is that some parents are not able to support their children while they attend university, therefore our present system is unfair. We agree. However we would go somewhat farther than this.

Parents should not be required to support their children while at university no matter how wealthy they might be. To put it another way, children should not be forced to remain dependents of their parents while pursuing an undergraduate degree.

Our universities are busy spewing out intellectual cretins who are technically competent in one field or another, but are devoid of any idea of how to think independently of adult supervision.

Under the present scheme of things students usually are bound over to their parents until they graduate and begin to earn a living. Mind you, it is usually a benevolent bondage and most students are loathe to give up this kind of security. Yet give it up they must, if they are to become adult members of their own community -- the university community.

Free education means that society will bear the burdens of higher education, and that our universities and technical institutes will be open to all qualified young people. It means moreover that no matter whether you are handicapped by poverty. . . or by wealth. . . you will be able to attend university and study what your professors advise and you desire.

There will be problems, very serious problems of adjustment. Some people are too immature to leave the parental fold quite that early and they will undoubtedly make some bad mistakes. But if free education comes about gradually, and is introduced intelligently, there can be no doubt that our universities will be much the better for its existence. For students by standing on their own feet, will learn how to think for themselves, and thus learn the real secret that university has to

If you read the CUS resolution you will notice that it doesn't call for "Free education" tomorrow. It calls for a gradual program of education to convince the public that this is a worthwhile objective.

A healthy debate in the next two or three years should enable the students of Canada, all the students, to come to an understanding of what should be taken from the McGill Resolution. We hope that every student will participate in this debate.

We also hope, and expect, that every student will support the National Day on October 27. Dalhousie will be marching for reduced tuition fees. We will be joining our fellows across the country in asking the various levels of government for a better deal -- not only for ourselves, but for those who follow us.

In order to help make the decision on free education you must first involve yourself with the student movement. There are many legitimate points of view on free education but they are legitimate for the student community only when they come from within the ranks of the student activists. On October

position has changed very little from his 27 you can join those ranks.

By FRASER SUTHERLAND GAZETTE REPORTER

rity studded 'teach-in' will come short-circuit radio.

The teach-in concerns international conflicts as accented in speakers may possibly be ug- for anyone "the least bit aware its theme, "Revolution and Re- mented locally by important Hali- of a changing world."

educating the Canadian student in discussion. Then too, the teachinternational affairs," said Dal- in would be open to the public. housie Student Union vice-president, Liz Campbell.

'We'' in this case refers to the Canadian Students' Congress, who at their last meeting this Fall passed a resolution recommending a percentage of students' dentry.

State Dept., Viet Cong "square off" at Toronto

councils' budgets be allotted to this type of activity.

At Dal-King's costs of the af- the Dal Physics Theatre. University of Toronto's celeb- fair will be shared by both faculties and students' councils. The she hoped the weekend date would to Dalhousie, October 8-10 via exact nature of the split has not not deter a large number of stu-

yet been worked out. The U of T's line-up of guest fax people. This would give a

Topics will range from Viet Nam to Latin America to the Canadian citizen's role in international affairs. Discussion sessions are projected which would directly involve the stu-

The teach-in would take place

from Friday through Sunday in either the King's Gymnasium or Miss Campbell remarked that

dents from attending. She said the teach-in is a must

Friday afternoon, Sept. 24, 'We want to give priority to Maritime flavour to a national an important first organizational meeting was held, in attendance- proves demonstrations against it- demonstrations but seldom openfive members of the Dal Students' self. Council, two from King's Stu-

> resentatives. There is a chance of the event becoming city-wide if St. Mary's tion. and Mt. St. Vincent decide to join

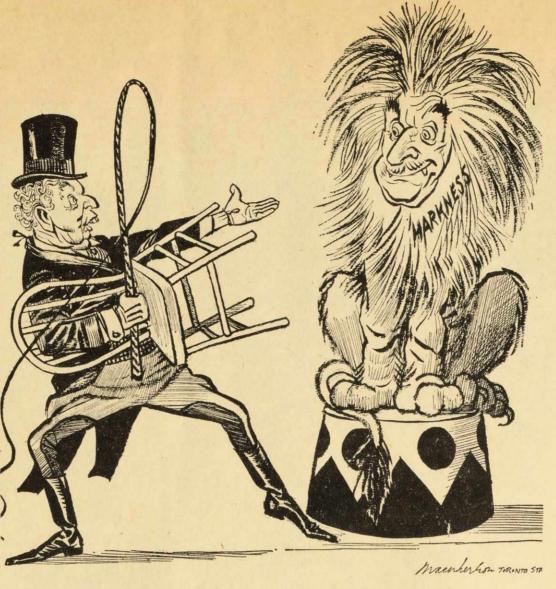
tatives in their "sindicatos."

ive way of drawing attention to the students' cause.

approval can be obtained.

stated a recent pamphlet distri- meeting to decide whether the buted during another demonstra-

are illegal, demonstrations are school.



Now give me your paw

DUNCAN MACPHERSON, Toronto S

Smash Student Marches

FROM THE RYERSONIAN

ended more than 25 years ago, mon sight to see policemen beat groups are many and diverse. the frequent student demonstra- students with clubs. tions in Madrid and other unistant reminder of the yearning for democracy.

This yearning, visibly mani-fested in Spanish universities in Foot-policemen, the 1930's, is being kept alive by students demanding democratic institutions.

In present demonstrations, the is to be represented in the stu- used. dents' union, the Sindicato Espancratically elected representa-

The most important long range monstration. It states:

this country's totalitarian gov- presentative from each faculty is groups belong. ernment which oppresses stu- now elected by the students, al- Students claim that since CUDE dents and workers alike. Our though the district delegate and was organized in December 1963, dents' union and democratic gov- appointed.

present form of government. The determined by free elections. history of both is closely inter-

After Generalissimo Franco's '56 was expressed by one stu-Falangist forces defeated the Re- dent: publicans in 1939, the universities organized. The ranks of the pro- school as before, nor are the stufessors of history, politics and dents arrested at demonstrations philosophy were filled with sup- and sentenced to years in priporters of the Falange, Spain's son.' version of Fascism.

outlawed and a new country-wide students' union, the SEU, was organized. It remains today as the celona voted to separate from only students' organization re- SEU. cognized by the state.

The students' union or "sinthe Spanish government institutions. The "sindicatos" are unions representing the professions

and students. Unlike the unions in democratic countries, the "sindicatos" industry and staffs of universi- the separation creates an emties as well as workers and stu- barrassing situation for SEU.

Only the lower echelon of representatives are democratically elected in the "sindicatos". The other representatives are appointed by the government.

Spanish university students have been struggling for many years for the fundamental democratic right to elect all of their representatives.

Petitions and other forms of peaceful demands for a change have brought no results.

Government opposition is mand a change in the very struc- as "Sindicato Libre" (Free Unture of the Falangist form of gov- ion) and "Libertad" (Freedom),

If student demands were granted, the labor unions would also and increase their struggle for democratically elected represen-

The beginning of the end of the Falangist regime would be in inately on all who happen to be

been found to be the most effect- passers-by scurry for cover.

lawed in Spain unless government calling for the demonstration, The government never ap-

'Our demonstration may not dents' Council, plus faculty rep- be legal, but it is legitimate"

ate the area where the students orientation.

often patrol the area dispersing monarchists and communists. immediate demand of the students crowds and water hoses have been

as the most violent.

Shootings, brutal beatings, and for their respective regions. demand was outlined in a pamphlet sentencing of up to several years The Confederation of Democradistributed during a recent de- in prison all occurred in 1956. tic University Students (CUDE)

However, there have been tricts.

It hasn't happened vet. Another result of the events of

"At least now there aren't as and other institutions were re- many secret policemen in the

This year there are further firing squad last night executed All student organizations were complications to the whole mat- three Vietnamese accused of beter. Some of the faculties at the ing Viet Cong sympathizers. University of Madrid and Bar-

The government did not recognize them as forming separate poned at the last minute. dicato" is an integral part of groups. As SEU controls all the finances for student activities, the separation has only theoretical or

moral value. faculties in Madrid which formed until after the last shot was fired. separate groups account for 25,include owners and managers of 000 of 30,000 university students,

Demonstrations take place in tion. front of the offices of the Ministry of Education, the headquarters of the SEU, the rectorate, and not permitted to enter. No newssome of the main intersections

in town. Students number from several cent demonstration in down-town Madrid.)

The students congregate around these buildings, spilling out into death by a military tribunal on the sidewalk and the street, stopping traffic for blocks.

To the rhythm of clapping strong because the students de- hands, they chant slogans such

Then follows something which re-occurs with un-Spanish regularity at every demonstration. follow the example of the students Shouts of "Assasinos" announce the arrival of grev uniformed policemen who charge with swing- troyed.

Clubs come down indiscrimin the area and a general melee Public demonstrations have is produced as the students and

Clandestine university groups Strikes, picket lines and other Signs are painted on the walls public manifestations are out- and pamphlets are distributed The elected faculty and class representatives often support the

Recently, the Economic faculty representative called an open faculty should reintegrate with SEU. It was voted down, and the With the justification that they next day he was expelled from

Though the Spanish Civil War very harshly put down. It is a com- The clandestine university Because of this, it is difficult to On the day of the demonstration, obtain much information about versity centres of Spain are a con- the police force is mobilized and them but there is one thing they hundreds of them literally satur- all have in common - political

> In Madrid, the largest groups Foot-policemen, in groups of are the left-wing students' fedabout 40, are transported to de- eration and the Christian-Demosignated trouble spots in station cratic student union. Little is wagon jeeps. Mounted policemen known of other groups such as the

Outside Madrid, the two largest Recent demonstrations and Located in the Cataluna and Basol Universitario (SEU) by demo- those of 1956 are considered as que provinces, these two groups, being the most important as well along with the usual student demands, want political autonomy

These violent events produced seems to be the central body to "Our demonstration is against some results. The student re- which many of the clandestine

dent demonstrations in many dis- Peace Action (SUPA).

Liberation for the Vietnamese

tary officers said a Government

The three were shot by a firing squad at a soccer stadium.

The execution, originally scheduled for daylight, had been post-

A South Vietnamese military spokesman said the execution was originally postponed because news photographers refused to But as the four out of seven obey orders not to take pictures A Vietnamese officer, Lt.-Col.

Tran Huu Tu, said the headlights of three cars illuminated the stadium for the night - time execu-

A handful of people gathered outside the stadium, but they were men or photographers were believed to have seen the shooting.

The three were among five arhundred to 5,000 (at the most re- rested Monday during an anti-Government demonstration by about 200 persons indowntown Danang. They were sentenced to charges of inciting the demon-

stration. Authorities claimed the gath- Education a Privilege ering was inspired by the Viet

Informed sources said the

Informants also said that some levying of rice taxes by the tion is as much a privilege as a complex. Government, an early evening fishing curfew and the presence of U. S. troops in the Danang area. Some women were said to have organize the demonstrations. asked that their sons and husbands be released from service to help with the rice harvest.

Red King's

Perhaps someone should incept perhaps to suggest the mentality of that institution. Yours truly,

G. Wilde, Dal Men's Residence

A Real Election for ... those who think young.

Even while many students are being disfranchised, the federal election on November 8 is the most important one for many decades

from a student point of view. In extent of student involvement, as well as in its consequences for Canada's future, student political leaders feel that this is a

Joe Clark, president of the Progressive Conservative Student Federation feels this is a "watershed election" for young Canadians, since it is the first election since what he termed the development of a "broader inclination towards youth involvement in public af-

During the past few years, student involvement in social and political affairs has skyrocketted on most campuses in Canada, yet

until this election much of this activity has not been focused. Gary Smith, executive director of the Canadian university Liberals, feels that political action by students will have free reign this fall, partly because this is the first fall election since the time

This is the first chance for university Liberals to show their

The escalation of activity among students has emphasized change in the areas of poverty, civil rights, and world peace, according to Hans Brown, federal secretary of young New Democrats. Mr. Brown claims that model parliament results from last spring, when campus New Democrats won unexpected victories at such universities as Windsor, Carleton, and McGill, show that

'politically aware students have not missed the fact that the New

Democratic program is geared toward these same areas of con-Even apart from its timing, some spokesmen feel that this election will prove to be a crucial one for the future of the nation.

Mr. Clark says that we are entering a period of national crisis. "This decade will decide whether Canada continues and in what spirit it continues," he maintains, claiming that the present government merely reacts to emergencies and has initiated no new poli-Suggesting that the Conservatives have shown their ability to

"break away from the old patterns set by the Liberals for three decades," Mr. Clark says that Canada faces a choice "between a policy of national leadership and a policy of national drift." But Mr. Brown predicts another minority government, claiming that voters will reject both of the old-line parties and their "nineteenth century spokesmen," apparently feeling that NDP chief

T.C. Douglas' birth in 1904 qualifies him as a twentieth century Liberal Gary Smith denies that the high proportion of undecided voters will result in loss of votes by his party, claiming experience has shown that "undecided voters tend to split in the same

proportion as the decided voters." Mr. Smith thinks the most important issue in this election for students is free higher education. He says the specifics of Mr. Pearson's "long-range commitment" to free education are not

available now but will be disclosed later in the campaign. The student Conservative president believes the most important issues are those affecting young people generally - the need for policies on urban renewal and transport, for example, as well as

in the field of education. All three major party leaders have claimed that they will el-

iminate tuition fees for university students. For the New Democrats, Mr. Brown considers national unity to be the over-riding issue. He claims that his party's rising support in Quebec is a key factor in this field, noting that the issue of rural poverty has resulted in 20 per cent of that province's voters

supporting the NDP. This election might have been more of a historic event for students if a recommendation of an all-party committee of the House groups are separatist in nature. of Commons to lower the voting age to 18 had been accepted by the

> Youths in Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia have voted in provincial elections for some years, and Quebec 18 yearolds will vote for the first time in their provincial election expected

Gary Smith says he is personally "disappointed" that this re-

form was not carried out, but claims that other more pressing issues took priority. One controversial election issue for students may be the Company of Young Canadians. Gary Smith says he has heard some complaints that CYC has not benefitted enough from the previous experience of the Canadian University Students Overseas (CUSO), and

struggle is for a democratic stu- the national president are still it has been co-ordinating the stu- that it should not have granted \$4,000 to the Student Union for However, Mr. Smith says he prefers to wait and see what pro-The struggle of the students promises, especially at the SEU But to verify this statement or jects CYC organizes before assessing its value to students. is part of the greater struggle conference at Cuenca in 1962, that even obtain any more informaof all Spaniards who resent their these two positions would soon be tion about CUDE as impossible.

Jects CYC organizes before assessing its value to students.

Conservative Joe Clark calls the CYC "one of the prime examples of government by gesture." He considers it an exception-

ally good idea in principle, but suspects it was copied from the American Peace Corps with little advance thought about its pur-But the people now organizing the CYC have good ideas, according to Mr. Clark, "The CYC might as well not exist if it

doesn't work with organizations like SUPA," he maintains. DANANG, South Vietnam (AP)- STUDENTS, GO HOME High-ranking Vietnamese mili-

Reprinted from the Globe and Mail STUDENTS, GO HOME! STUDENTS. GO HOME! ready lodged a strong protest.
The suggestion that an advance with the Prime Minister, but poll during Thanksgiving holi- nothing can be done about the act

days might be opened for the con-before a new Parliament convenience of university students venes.
barred from voting at school NovOne course of action should

ions to materialize during the fi- whether he has to hitch-hike, binal four weeks of the campaign. cycle, bust his allowance on plane

ember 8 by a section of the Can- surely seem clear to those who ada Election Act sounds suspic- have been willing in the past to iously as though Prime Minister pilgrimage all the way to Mis-Lester Pearson expects few sur- sissippi in support of the voteprises, additions or clarificate less Negro minority in the South

In a way, the idea sounds al. fare or trundle by Conestoga wagmost defeatist. The Liberal Par- on, the most effective way for ty has had aless than spectacular any student voter to protest a success in gaining support among parliamentary system he disa-Canada's youth and perhaps Mr. grees with is to return to his Pearson feels a student vote cast home riding on election day.

a month before the issues are Whichever way he marks his fully thrashed out will be no ballot, his independent act as a better or worse than one cast free Canadian voter might well when all the shouting is done, prove to be the most important The Union of Students has al- moment of his entire school year.

MAILBAG

is deplorable.

form King's that the flag (the red quired funds. If education is im- as well as to others for our rights. ensign) has no meaning . . . ex- portant, then the sacrifice shouldn't be that great. Too many of our generation feel that if it isn't given to them then to Hell

aid the student in getting through. Instead making education free which is a drain on any economy From the articles in your first - why not adopt the Co-op prodemonstrators protested heavy issue, it seems that "A Higher grammes in the industrial areas artillery fire and air strikes by Education" has been regulated to and establish the Trimester plan U. S. forces. The demonstrators a right that should be given some to allow people to work their way were reported to have complained outside agency. Equality in ed- through. Is the thought of taking that their crops were being des- ucation has been thrown up as a six years for a degree so great criteria of a democratic society. a sacrifice? Many students in I guess I represent a minority Northeastern University doit of the demonstrators protested opinion in my belief that educa- every year without any martyr right, and must be earned. Your Equal opportunities for educa-

Assuredly, the Universities can

statistics stated that 78% of the tion do exist in Canada. It is one potential students whose parents of life's ugly facts that certain earn less than \$3,000 per an- people have more money or betnum are not in university. This ter looks. We are fortunate to be living in a country where a The question I would like to little work can offset these adraise is how many of them want vantages acquired by birth. I for to be in University? How many one do not have an outside source of these are willing to work for to equalize me for every goal in two or three years to get the re- my life. Let's look to ourselves Yours truly.

John J. Cove.

The Pakistani farmer, using a with it. This type of attitude cer- bullock-drawn plow, may work tainly isn't part of our democra- 100 hours and walk 100 miles to plow one acre of land.