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### CUP CHARTER

WHEREAS the Canadian student believes in the following principles—

1. That freedom of expression and debate by means of a free and vigorous press is essential to the effectiveness of an educational community in a democratic society.

2. a. That where the student press is a function of the student government, or of the university administration, this should in no way be allowed to impair the freedom of the student press;

b. That the student press should be free of all forms of external interference.

3. a. That it is essential to a free student press that it be responsible for the views and the opinions it expresses; and,

b. That the basic duties of such a free student press are to present the varied opinions of the students it represents, to present news fairly and without bias, to interpret local, national and international events, and issues of interest and import to students to the best of its ability.

AND WHEREAS freedom of the student press has been abridged in the following ways:

1. Confiscation of issues of student newspapers due to the publication of material which faculty or administration authorities considered detrimental to the reputation and the welfare of the institution, or some department of the institution;

2. Suspension, expulsion, or threats of similar action against student editors;

3. Suspension, or threatened suspension of publications because of the publishing or proposed publishing of matters which faculty, or administrative authorities, considered detrimental to the reputation and the welfare of the institution, or some department of the institution;

4. Control of the content of a student newspaper through censorship through faculty, administrative authorities, and the student government so that the student newspaper tended to become a public relations organ of the institution or an instrument of the student government;

5. Financial pressure used to limit or retaliate against editorial policy;

6. By censorship of articles and/or editorial comment, by civil and academic authorities; and,

7. By inordinate and excessive social pressure used to prevent publication of particular issues or opinions.

THEREFORE, the Canadian student press affirms its belief that it should be free from all abuses listed under Article II and declares the following fundamental rights, duties, and responsibilities necessary for the effective implementation of the principles of Article I,

1. That the Canadian student press should be free from pressure by student governments, university authorities, or any external agencies;

2. That within the restrictions of the laws of libel and within the scope of their responsibilities and duties as outlined in Article I, the Canadian student press should be autonomous; and,

3. That the Canadian student press should be free to develop so that it can continue to fulfill its role in the academic community.

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## CHRISTMAS EXAMINATIONS

The present situation regarding Christmas examinations in the Faculty of Arts and Science at Dalhousie is chaotic.

Last February the Faculty abolished Christmas examinations in a motion that also provided that "Professors be required to submit to the Registrar at the end of the first term a mark for each student, based on tests totalling two hours or the equivalent."

The Committee on Studies will use these marks to determine whether certain students will be permitted to continue taking six subjects and the Committee on Scholarships will rely on these marks to determine whether any University Scholarships should be discontinued at Christmas time.

We have serious doubts as to whether or not faculty members considered this motion carefully enough before passing it.

There appears to be no co-ordination of "tests", be they one or two hours in length. Professors are left to decide for themselves when and often where they will hold the tests. And we are still not sure what exactly the marks will be used for — some professors say they will be taken into account in the finals, while others cheerfully tell their classes that the marks are merely a necessary evil to produce Christmas gradings and placate the Registrar.

On top of all this we learn that the gymnasium has been reserved from Saturday, Dec. 15 to Thursday, Dec. 20 to make space available to professors who wish to hold one-hour or two-hour tests at the end of term. However, students sitting these tests must not miss a lecture period or test in any other class he or she is registered for.

When the decision to abolish Christmas examinations was announced we welcomed it with certain reservations. We were led to believe that the two weeks normally taken up by the Christmas examinations would be used to enable professors to cover more ground in lectures. But how many students are going to attend lectures at the end of term if they have two-hour examinations coming up? And this is true to a lesser extent for tests throughout the term.

We think the abolition of Christmas examinations is an excellent idea for students in the junior and senior years. We feel students in their freshman and sophomore years should have properly organized examinations at Christmas if only to introduce them to examination procedures at university before they write their spring examinations.

If Christmas examinations are to be abolished, then abolish them. Don't set them up again under a different name and in a worse form. It would seem at the moment that the faculty is trying to have both the extra two weeks of classes and still retain the examinations. If the university cannot come up with a better excuse for tests than that, the Registrar must have grades to put on the wall at Christmas time, then we might as well forget about the university as a seat of learning and resign ourselves to the fact that it has become a factory for churning out young men and women with a piece of parchment and a couple of letters after their names.

## CENSORSHIP

(Michigan Daily)

In an extremely bald admission for a public relations man, Assistant Secretary of Defense Arthur Sylvester admitted last week that the Pentagon had used the press "as one voice" as a weapon during the Cuban crisis.

Later in the week, the defense department tightened up the news flow further by requiring that its officials must submit transcripts of all interviews.

On Sunday, the Pentagon announced that a central public-relations and news office is being formed.

Although the balance between information and security is difficult to maintain, the current trend seems to favor news manipulation. This is not the censorship of no news, but a policy of releasing only information the Pentagon wants known and nothing else.

As expected, newspapers raised a hue and cry about Sylvester's admission. However, the press has allowed itself to be used by the defense department but rarely, if ever, raising questions about the quality, tone or completeness of information that was being disseminated.

Newspapers must now press for the congressional investigation proposed by Rep. John Moss of California. Long a critic of governmental secrecy, Moss is planning a probe into the ethics and effects of the government's press policy during the Cuban crisis. In the past the press has blandly reported Moss's hearings, perhaps writing a humorous color story on the absurdities of government censorship that turned up. It has never consistently put its editorial pressure to bear in efforts to loosen censorship.

However, protesting is not enough. As long as newspapers uncritically accept the goals and methods of the defense department, they will be its tools, available for manipulation. A skeptical attitude will prevent the press from accepting defense department handouts as dogma and will encourage newspapers to question editorially what the Pentagon is doing, if not by their reporters on the scene, at least in editorials.

Conveying this attitude to the public will further help the newspapers' cause. Public opposition to spoon-fed news will make Sylvester and ilk think twice before handing it out.

Editorial protests about details while uncritically accepting defense department policies is quite useless. If the press is ever going to stop being the unwitting tool of Pentagon publicists, it must skeptically re-evaluate the defense department and its relationship with it.

are attributed to club president Ross Wayland "in an interview with the Gazette" to quote your paper. Mr. Wayland was never interviewed by Mr. Brazier or any other representative of your paper.

## LETTERS

Sir:

Referring to the Feature by Mr. Brazier entitled "If we only knew" in the Dalhousie Gazette of October 31, 1962, I would like to state most emphatically that the Dal-Tech Newman Club has been misrepresented.

Due to the random use of quotation marks, I am sure that your readers must be confused as to what was said by whom.

First of all, I would like to make it quite clear that, I was not at any time interviewed by Mr. Brazier or any other representative of the Dalhousie Gazette. I did speak to Mr. Brazier for a few moments one Sunday at the Newman Centre, but only to greet him in his capacity as representative of the S.C.M.

Had any interview ever been arranged or ever mentioned, or had I been asked for a statement, I can assure you that I would at least have given him the correct spelling of my name.

I also deny having said "Marriage is the ultimate purpose for bringing Roman Catholic students together." Such is not the case.

In conclusion then, I feel that Mr. Brazier's comments on the Dal-Tech Newman Club were at least inaccurate and certainly misleading.

Yours, Ross E. Wayland,

President, Dal-Tech Newman Club.

Sir,

May I be permitted to make one or two comments on Mr. Brazier's presentation of the Newman Club in his article "If We Only Knew"?

The purpose of the Newman Club is to foster the intellectual, spiritual and social development of the Catholic student on the secular campus. To say that "Marriage is the ultimate purpose of bringing Catholic students together" is simply not factual.

Several statements in the article

I would like to state that I did not say that: "discussions on such topics as birth control would be foolish." Here I have been quoted out of context, and my statement has thereby been changed. What I said was that it would be foolish for a Catholic to enter a discussion on a topic such as birth control in order to reach a conclusion or come to a decision on the matter, when the Church has already decided on the morality of such a practice. This is quite a bit different from the meaning given to my words in your paper. I further told Mr. Brazier that we would be glad to enter any such discussion and present the teaching of the Church and the reasons for such teachings.

The Newman Club was founded as a means to maintain contact between the Church and the Catholic student on the secular campus. By its very nature then, non-Catholic students are excluded from membership. They may however, attend any of our lectures.

The author was given a booklet on the Newman Club. In this booklet he could have found all the necessary information to write accurately about our club. If he was still uncertain about certain things, why did he not make sure of his statements before going into print? Rather, he wrote, and your paper printed an article which was factual, misrepresenting and damaging to the Newman Club.

I regret sir, having to write to you in such manner. Yet in the interest of truth and for the sake of the high minded students who read your paper, I felt that Christianity would not be served if the mistakes printed about the Newman Club were allowed to go unanswered.

(Rev.) Gordon J. Hayes Chaplain, Dal-Tech Newman Club