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Efficiency- a dirty word

The machine -- known as the executive of student council -- continues to roll on, flattening everything before it.

Monday council meetings thus far have borne a closer resemblance to a presidential press conference than a student forum.

In fact, it would be difficult to imagine better type casting than: president, John Young, as LBJ; Randy Smith as Robert MacNamara; George Monroe as Dean Rusk and Peter Crawford as Hubert Humphrey.

The tragic part of the whole affair is that the power elite believes it is acting in the best interest of the unwashed masses. They hammer out student policy in John Young's office, and then carry it to council for rubber stamping.

The process is fast and efficient. It may seem strange to fault a student organization for efficiency but that is this council's mortal sin.

Put in a simplified form, the credo of John Young's regime could be stated: "If it isn't producing tangible results 110 per cent of the time and making a profit, throw it out."

You begin to understand things a little better if you examine the make up of the executive. President Young was last year's very efficient treasurer, and in some ways he has never abdicated the role. Add to this Randy Smith, the 1966-67 treasurer, who as the number two financial man "has to try harder."

Behind the scenes and not part of the council is John Graham the full time student administrator. Mr. Graham is paid a salary by the student union to control illegal spend-

ing by its organizations. The process is known as "internal control." As he explains it, the aim is to assure that "student union affairs will be run in a more business-like manner."

Mr. Graham does an excellent job and has never attempted to direct student council policy. He does not even attend their meetings. The point is that the last thing this year's executive needs is another voice in the wings calling for efficiency.

Of course the blame for council's dismal showing can not be placed entirely at the feet of the executive.

There is an unwritten law in student politics that an executive will expand its authority to fill any power vacuum left by its council. There is a vacuum.

At last Monday's meeting there were some rumblings but nothing came of it. Commerce rep John McKillop and education rep 'Suddsy' Clark led the dissent. However, they received little support from the remainder of council. The meekness of the majority of council was clearly reflected in the vote which withdrew financial support of WUSC. Eight members, including the Young hard liners, turned thumbs down. Three rebels voted against the motion and six others abstained.

These six voters could have granted WUSC a reprieve, but after more than two hours of debate they could not make a decision. Perhaps the executive's methods are justified?

Perhaps there is merit in promising positions on committees (Fall Festival) before council has a chance to make appointments?

Theatre becomes respectable

Tuesday, October 4, 1966. The Dean has supported it; the president has sympathized with it; at last the faculty has approved it.

Dalhousie will offer a degree course in drama. It has been accepted in principle by the faculty members. Aside from this day being a very exciting one to drama students and professors in particular October 4 has great significance for the university at large. Acceptance of this programme has redefined the meaning of a university.

Doctor Bevan, head of the English department supported this programme. He has a voice in faculty discussion but only one vote. Last week he was unsure of his ability to push it through; "I can't tell whether I can or not."

Four years of work hung in the balance. Doctor John Ripley started a drama workshop as an adjunct to the English 9 course in 1963. The only space provided was the Haliburton room at King's, the only instructor Doctor Ripley himself. Susan Valance was added to the staff in '64 and the workshop people were given a house on South Street.

Last year Professor Lionel Lawrence joined the staff and more degree courses were given. This year four credit courses are offered.

One cannot begin to describe the tremendous vitality that has and is being injected into the bloodstream of the college. In a few years Doctor Ripley has lain the foundation for the most exciting theatre venture east of Montreal. Ripley, Lawrence, and now Andrews are reactivating the theatrical world at Dal.

Lectures were delivered, demonstrations given, and productions staged in order to inspire confidence in the programme. The task was phenomenal. To convince a board that physics or chemistry has some value is relatively easy. Everybody knows it. Science is the thing.

Drama is different. Not only must one point out that Arts

students are interested but one must show that dentists love drama, lawyers want theatre, and scientists will attend productions. No one asks if five thousand people came to see a physics demonstration; the question seems irrelevant. To suggest that it is equally irrelevant with regards to drama is heresy.

Added to this one must show that drama courses interest great numbers of students. This again was difficult. Apparently Professor Bennet's drama course was as well attended twenty years ago with a smaller student population as the four courses given today. In spite of this the faculty recognizes its validity.

The results of an experiment in physics are immediately obvious; the value of a new surgical technique is self evident results of dramatic experiments are much more subtle. Drama doesn't serve a strictly utilitarian function. New ideas often can't be labelled, labelled, and documented. Science has been worshipped as a god far too long.

The university has taken a major step forward by accepting the new drama programme. Humanities need not replace science; it is enough that they be accepted as equals. Realization of this hope seems near.

There is still the Board of Governors that have to be met and convinced. Even behind that is the university grants commission. There are a lot of different bodies that have something to say about the programme. Theatre is an academically sound, very respectable and exciting discipline that is satisfying a real need in the area. The problems that can be raised in a theatre production are those being raised in other departments of the university. There is a significant difference however. The major social political problems can reach far more people both in and out of the university setting by means of theatre. It is in the interest of the student body in particular and the community at large that final approval be given to the programme as quickly as possible.

In Perspective

The flabby body politic ...

By DENIS de ROUGEMENT

Are you bored with students politics? Does it seem to you that the Arts annex is more a sandbox of shortsighted pinheads than a University centre? Will students government always be the same clique skipping around the same circles, building the same wet sand castles; tripping each other with their representative feet and feeling out opinion with their toes? The answer is yes.

Before falling into the Council-Gazette flea ring of petty squabbles let's clarify our position. It's time for the Student Council to see itself as it really is; the breeze of reality might be refreshing.

A few seconds at any Council meeting will convince you that the worst problem of the Student Government is the student governors. They have already muddled

NOTE

M. de Rougement is an exchange student to Dalhousie from the Sorbonne. He is preparing for his political science doctoral here. The Gazette has contracted de Rougement as it's political correspondent on campus during the year.

the means and the ends; the meeting table is no longer a forum for opinion, it is a springboard, or rather a petulant little jump board to self-importance.

What is this student council? It's really not very much; a few young students whose limited verbal dialogue is spiced with "universal accessibility" "student syndicalism" and an occasional "power play" and "pressure gap" for balance; and whose limited intellectual interest has never been stretched to understand these terms. If it had they

wouldn't be wasting their time over the ossified table of Student Council ambitions.

Surely the council members know that their value as representatives is zero; if they don't and were willing to foray beyond the frontiers of the canteen, anyone would tell them.

Consider the fee-hike battle, which presented the "in-group" (as science rep. P. Roy styles himself and colleagues) with fine television exposure, but left us behind as the poorest students in Canadian history.

Or the Student Union Building problem which sent John-John Young and a phalanx of student government heavies touring the continent and providing an example of student government at its finest; the exponents of diarrhetic television personalities, without really interfering very much in realities; luckily construction on the SUB proceeds as

announced five years ago.

Please don't misinterpret the point; we don't object to the members of Council striking a little pose in the canteen at noon hour; or even in refusing to open a window to destroy the image of "back-room politics in smoke-filled rooms". We do object to Councils hiding from reality and pretending to be important; and worse, bothering other people at the same time.

It wouldn't be so bad if they didn't take themselves so seriously; the strange thing is that they don't see themselves like this at all, even at home at night. It should be obvious that if they can't be effective as representatives of concerned student opinion then they should limit their goals to their ability.

This apparently Limits Council to a clearing house for the annual student fee; of this amount, all but 35 cents on the dollar is frozen for the Athletic department, and

SUB fund. Of this remainder, salaries, and commitments (Pharos, Winter Carnival, Gazette etc) limit the sphere of effective decision making to about the price of a donut (-plain-) in the canteen.

What then should these goals be. At present they seem to lean towards anything ending in "Carnival" (indeed there was a movement last week to preserve WUSC by pretending to be World University Student Carnival). Let's broaden them to include the word reality.

Let's stop fooling ourselves; representation by proclamation is a waste of good paper when no-one even reads the proclamations. Student Councils strongest base is ego and fantasy; if its members would try listening instead of talking they might get hold of some facts to keep them on the ground.



HALIFAX: mecca for surfing set

By DENIS de ROUGEMENT

Beneath the crisp Autumn branches of "le quartier" mingled a cross current of searching humanity, begging for definition yet escaping definition, fighting for identity and yet casting its aside. This enigmatic kaleidoscope of human life, teeming with the exuberance of questing youth buried deep within the megalopolis is the left bank of Halifax and the time is today.

The intellectual panorama stretching beneath the towering figure of Sir Walter Scott and the immortal bronze of that kilted bard Bobby Burns is witness to the constant interchange of travelling hipsters, disenchanted hipsters; the travelling halucenogenation from the four corners of the earth groping for the key to why they are here.

And why, might we ask the leader of tomorrow in the park, are you here? Our answer bares the essence and life blood of this University community, the atmosphere that pervades "le quartier"; not a tableau of hopes for the future but a collage of academic rejects. Let's follow one of these young rejects on an idyllic stroll beginning with a cafe-au-lait at Diana Sweets, along the scenic arm dotted with varicolored billowing spinners that seem to say "Nova Scotia", and later to an evening at le Theatre Capital.

On to the bustling concrete

steps the tartan clad demoiselle, with sensuous limbs (warped no more than a charming fraction by the invigorating Maritime air) artfully concealed beneath a subtle blue "Isle 'o Sky" U-line kilt, juxtaposed against the magnificent poplar lined avenues by a brown "Strech-Tex" jersey, highlighted by pointy little "neoprene Busti-Boosters" by After Six. And as a catharsis, highlighting the golden brown hushpuppies that say so emphatically "This is the Maritimes" a meaningful set of Bobbie-soks" by Teeni-Popper Inc. with a daredevilish little red strip lethally near the top.

Continuing later toward the gates of "le Theatre" known to the Quartiers community as Place Cinematique we stop for a moment in the Lord Nelson Mall, perhaps best remembered sometime as scene to the traditional Ball at the Mall; past the appreciative glances of the Spring Garden "Boulevardiers (even the name has a surrealistic ring)" and perhaps resting for a few moments with the refreshing "big-beat" of Pat Boon at Frams "Disco-Centre" and with note board boldly huddled against her breast before faring again that never ending voyage.

Watch closely next for the next episode in the life of the travelling intellectual.

Origin of the Universe

Universe solved: $\infty \div \sqrt{-2} = \text{god}$

The three theories which attempt to solve the problem of the origin of the universe are all eventually concerned with the nature of time.

The Bondi-Gold-Hoyle theory which holds that matter is constantly created at some point and the total density of matter in unchanging, for example, works only if we suppose the universe's existence is restricted to an unlimited set of finite time intervals.

Richard Schlegel, a professor of physics at Michigan State University, in 1964 demonstrated that the steady-state cosmology, existing for an infinite time, would end up with infinite number of atoms.

And the trouble with that, Schlegel points out in his paper, is the order of the infinity. The number of atoms you get is not a countable infinity, but an infinity equal to the number of points in the universe.

Since it is clearly impossible to have one atom for each point, Schlegel uses a universe limited in past time to an unlimited, but not infinite, number of time units.

What he means is that the steady-state universe must have a limited past time span - once, it did not exist.

Schlegel's proof, published in Philosophy of Science, January, 1965, shows first that an infinite past time produces a second order infinity of atoms.

If each atom in the steady-density universe occupies one atom space, then the number of atom spaces is an increasing

exponential function of the time. If you like, we can say the number of atom spaces which now exist equals 2 raised to the power of the number of time intervals which have elapsed since the beginning of time.

Now, for an infinitely old universe, the number of atom spaces will be 2 raised to the power of at least the first order of infinity.

Earlier this century, George Cantor defined the first order of infinity as the number of natural numbers, 1, 2, 3, 4, . . .

This number is equal to the total of all rational numbers, but is less than the number of real numbers or the number of points on a line.

Real numbers included the natural and rational numbers along with those which cannot be expressed as pi or e.

Pi is a non-repeating decimal which begins 3.1417 . . . and carries on to an infinite number of decimal places.

It cannot be expressed as a rational number.

Cantor shows that if you pair each of the natural and rational numbers with a real number, you can always write another real number.

The number of real numbers is the second order of infinity.

Cantor also shows that any number, greater than 1, raised to the first order of infinity is equal at least to the second order of infinity.

1	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
2	—	2	2	2	2	2	2	...
3	—	2	1	2	1	2	1	...
4	—	1	2	1	2	2	1	...
5	—	2	1	1	2	2	1	...
6	—	2	2	1	1	1	1	...
		2	1	1	2	1	2	...

DESIGNATE EACH PRODUCT of a doubling atom space with a 1 or a 2 so each space is represented by an infinite series of 1 and 2. In the same way Cantor constructed his second order infinity: you can show the number of atoms after infinite time is a second order infinity.

1	—	0.7	4	7	5	0	1	...
2	—	0.8	3	9	1	4	2	...
3	—	0.5	3	9	6	2	1	...
4	—	0.3	9	6	4	0	0	...
5	—	0.8	2	6	8	4	6	...
6	—	0.5	7	4	1	1	3	...
		0.5	7	5	9	2	1	...

GEORG CANTOR, THE INFINITY MAN, showed that however many real numbers you wrote down and match up to the natural numbers, you could always generate a new real number by drawing a diagonal through the matrix and choosing terms not on the diagonal. So we get 0.5 (not 7) 7 (not 3) 5 (not 9) and so on. The number at the bottom is the new one.

Schlegel uses an isomorphic proof to prove his thesis.

When an atom space doubles, he says, its doubling can be represented as a combination of two paths, designated 1 and 2.

Thus the first atom space becomes two spaces, designated as space 1 and space 2.

Space 1 doubles to become 11 and 12.

Suppose this doubling continues an infinite number of times.

Each atom can be represented by an infinite series of 1 and 2.

Writing these series in a matrix, Schlegel proves you can always write a new series by drawing a diagonal through the matrix and using for each term in your new series the number which is not the number in the diagonal crosses.

This is isomorphic with Cantor's proof of the existence of the second order infinity.

The result is a second order infinity of atomspaces, and therefore a number of atoms equal to a number of points in the universe.

Schlegel, in attempting to resolve this contradiction, uses the model of the universe developed by Michigan State mathematics professor Paul Axt.

The Axt model supposes that there are a first order of infinity atoms in the universe.

Counting back into time, and having this number for each

past time assumption, which is impossible.

Therefore, says Schlegel, we must conclude that the number of past time units though unlimited, is not infinite.

The steady-state theory is usually regarded as a nice way out of explaining the creation of the universe.

But Schlegel's proof shows the steady-state cosmos cannot be infinitely old, but must at some point have entered time already created, or have been created at some point in time.

If it was, how can there be an infinite amount of matter now? Schlegel leaves the question open.

"It would seem that the answer to this problem must lie either in reference to some domain or being that is properly outside of time, or in acceptance of an essentially subjective origin for the concept of time."

THE UBYSSSEY
University of British Columbia

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,
In response to your last issue's news story on the position of WUSC at Dal, I feel it necessary to add a few details to Miss Gillingwater's information coverage.

I am definitely not criticizing the organization itself, (having served on the committee at the end of last year) and strongly back Yazer in his interpretation of the intangible benefits of WUSC. However, "Yazer says around like molecules" form a wait. Wait for what? Wait for the same type of inept handling of this valuable organization as has been witnessed at Dalhousie since the present chairman has been "defending the organiza-

tion". No one can argue with Yazer when it comes to the program of WUSC on this campus. But for him to cite the book drive as one of his pet projects is sheer lunacy. After all, who made the posters, distributed them, collected the books, and conferred with WUSC delegates from other Metro campuses? Was it Yazer?

Where was our defending chairman for the four months when Dal's appreciable contribution to WUSC at Dal, I feel it necessary to add a few details to Miss Gillingwater's information coverage.

Three cheers for council - at least they can make decisions. The decision they have made, however, is I feel not the correct one. WUSC can move again (even at apathetic Dalhousie) when certain students who are "floating around like molecules" form a compound, and give council the information they need -- Yazer must go, WUSC must stay.

This view, while not a personal attack is a view shared by others on his inadequacy to coordinate the talents of interested students. Nevertheless he is able to distribute effectively (or should I say affectively) the powers to executive, and "conscientiously" dismiss any but his chosen disciples, to "lead" WUSC through Hell or Highwater.

A would be WUSC enthusiast,
Bill Kerr,
Arts II