

# Dabblings

by J.A.M.

## The Midway:

On the screen, last week, it was **Decision Before Dawn**, a poorly entitled, but well acted drama located in the crumbling ruin that once was proud Germany. The nation's hours were numbered as their armies retreated from East, South and West. Somewhere on the Rhine Nazi PWs were put to work spying on their native land for the Allies. From there the picture started on is-it-treason-or-not theme and the emotional chaos of a young German spy as he faced his country men—and their bullets. With the Germany that was to last "a thousand years" in rapid disintegration young Gary Merrill, with tough, hardened Osker Werner and American Richard Basehart, defied the Gestapo while tender Merrill defied the wonderfully-acted part of the prostitute, played by Hildegard Neff. Authentically real the high light came in a Merrill-Neff scene with the latter shedding iron tears and sobbing the tragic that's-how-I-got-this-way story of her life, as wretched and doomed as the wrecking of her country. From the film, a new view: that lives sink too when nations are conquered.

## Wax Tracks:

In all the annals of modern music there has never been anything like it. Not since the days of Glenn Miller were there arrangements to equal it and even he was overshadowed by it. It seems that the Midas touch was a magic touch as well—that any piece he treated would be a hit, and technically flawless and by modern standards, profound. They went by the name of **The Weavers**. Their brains was composer **Gordon Jenkins**. Approachable only by a man named Mitch (Greensleeves) Miller, Jenkins had come up with another double hit a la Paul Campbell's superb arranging. An old cowboy ballad "Old Paint" is given a fundamental treatment with guitar-backed chorus on one side. The flip side, the incomparable **Wimoweh**, sounding like the progeny of an all fated mating of a Hawaiian war chant and a Negro spiritual, gives an experience in music never heard before. Everything is a feature attraction in it. A male chorus chants the unknown word, with an echoing female group in constant reply while a high tenor wails with increasing fanaticism over all. If ever a melody was a study in syncopated monotony this is it. If it is shallow then so is the theme of many a classic such as Ravel's famous **Bolero**. **Wimoweh** is truly a remarkable demonstration of talent if not genius.

## All Our Yesterdays:

Out of the swamp of mechanized tin pan alley comes the best reflection of the monitory nucleus that bases our society. Already sensationalized beyond all possible justification the exploit of skipper Carlsen's North Sea, death-defying vigil, the deed got attention from the music makers who have produced opportunistically and with an obvious eye on the below-standard-mentality market a public-insulting song called **All Hail to the Captain of the Flying Enterprise**. It is nauseating to hear and more nauseating to know what, at times, is made to masquerade as art.

## The Tiger Smiles:

From the **Diary of Dan Pops**, 11th cousin, six times removed, in the 13th generation, of Sam Peeps: "Did see this day a most strange sight as I passed through the halls of the College on the Hill. 'Twas **King Barbara** pursuing that knave, the Spectator's alleged columnist, who was fleeing for his very life with battered ears assailed by sundry curses. 'Tis said by the scholars an error appeared in a recent column connecting the golden-crowned **King with Scott**, the **Son of Hender** instead of **Scott**, the **Son of Morris**. As he fell to his knees pleading mercy and that it was not his error, the angry fury (looking most lovely in her wrath) cuffed him on the ear more soundly still and bade him go. Did pity the fellow much as it recalled many personal injuries at the hands of the good wife whenever the vapours of sack escaped me in the presence of her well-trained nostrils."

In the forest where Law abides, walks one whose deeds are fired by a humour rare upon this earth. Lawyers all still talk of the latest addition to the hairless legend that is **Harris**. It seems a guest lecturer from the fog-bound shores of Newfie was giving forth to Law No. 3. In the midst of the talk in stumps waiter Harris to present, on a garbage tin-cover platter, a codfish or two to the speaker. The initial icy reception that chilled our coatless dispenser of soundless laughter continued until next day when the guest, finally and with difficulty deciding it was a joke, returned the compliment with herring and lobster, proving that, if dense to continental humour, he was clearly able to dispense the same, even if it appeared to him below standard and obscure.

## Miscellany:

With pride, our spotlight shines, on: youthful **Joanne Murphy** and laughing **Gay Esdale** for Our Hearts Were Young and Gay laurels; also on **Wilson Parsons** who will leave the lately frozen Tigers for big time baseball.

Mystery on the ice, last week, when the same Tigers were upset by Melville Cove who had only three subs. Why? How? and most of all Again?

'The night is young (the sun was still up) and if you want to go walking dear' goes the song, and there on the Inglis Street extension sauntering the Sunday P.M. away, was dark-haired **Shiela MacDonald** and Councillor **Don Woodside** in tongueless announcement of the obvious.

Philosopher, poet and trumpeter **Warner** came up with a suggestion that all will automatically endorse. He and **Patsy** (Make-up artist) **Fownds** plan to study philosophy (and other allied subjects) in any isolated spot that can be found. Such study does need solitude!

Engaged, for a long-time encounter, **Bill MacCready**, of Tiger Line fame, to and for **Marilyn Dauphinee** whose horse-riding fame is legend. Home to Connecticut, a summer wedding and America's Army, they will eagerly go.

Complications, at times arise, out of the amorous diversions Dalhousians often take, but this is one of the better ones. Commerce's **Bruce Irwin**, has emerged out of the cauldron of love holding in his hand **Franny** (Cloudburst) **Wetmore** newly sporting his Frat Pin. Picking himself up out of the debris is viking-blooded **Johann Koppernas** (who loves to compare Norway's maidens with Canada's) with sailor **Jean McLeod**. How this remarkable result came about out of such entanglement is something we can't fathom.

Come Feb. 14 and more hearts than enough will be spared by Cupid's arrows. Among the more notable archers will be **John Graham** (Economics) and **Peter Wait** (History) whose accuracy with the bow may prove to excel that of their teachings.

One of the more succulent romances to date; actress **Murphy** and **Ron Pugsley**. Also to be named, with some hesitation: **Goldberg** and **MacLaughlin**.

And lastly, in the united-hearts department, is **Westerner Neville Lindsay** and **Shiela Machum**, the sight of whom together is both touching and moving.

In conclusion, we conclude. Thank God, you say?

## Introducing . . . KIRA OBRAZCOVA



The above face, already well known at the Forrest Campus, belongs to Kira Obrazcova, another of the European students attending Dalhousie this year.

Born in Riga, Latvia, Kira lived there, attending both elementary and high schools, until 1944 when her family fled to Germany to escape the Russians. Shortly after she finished high school, in 1948, Kira and her family set sail for Cornerbrook, Newfoundland. The following year she began her Pre-dental studies at Memorial University, in St. John's. After completing two years of study there, Kira arrived at Dalhousie this fall.

Humorously describing herself as "always on the go", Kira likes Dal very much, but wishes she had a class or two at Studley Campus, instead of spending all her time at the Forrest Building and Medical Library.

She likewise is fond of Canada, having found the people exceptionally warm-hearted and hospitable even on her first day here. Laughingly, she adds that Canadians are very understanding of the language barrier as the very day after her arrival in Cornerbrook she was invited to a dance, although her English at that time consisted mainly of "yes" and "no". She remarks more seriously that she will probably make Canada her home forever, especially since her family is in this country.

Tall and blonde, Kira's hobbies include all sports, especially skiing, tennis and swimming, along with such indoor games as basketball and volleyball. She also loves to dance but declares that she will soon have to give up this activity until after exams. Although she loves ballet music and plays, Kira is not particularly fond of the movies, term them as "occasionally relaxing". She also likes to read, when time permits, and enjoys sewing, knitting, in fact all handiwork.

Next week Kira will appear on Dalhousie's Radio Program taking part in a panel discussion on Canada, along with several other foreign students. We can all rest assured that Kira's views will be as scintillating as she is herself.

After Classes Meet the Gang at Joe's and Tom's

**Diana Sweets Tea Room**

The Students' Recreation Centre

## Such Moments As These

How oft' at dusk, in solitude,  
Has nature's wonder stilled my doubt;  
I wonder if my peaceful mood  
Is not just mine, but more without.  
At times like these, I breathe in deep,  
Her ample harvest mine to reap.

How oft at night, when still she reigns,  
And chance is given to feel her care;  
I wonder why she ne'er complains  
When men care not, nor seek not where;  
At times like these I dare to pray,  
With thanks for all such gifts that day.

How oft at dawn, we both awake,  
And then we smile, though lying still,  
For both of us in joy partake  
Of part of being, through God's will;  
At times like these, I feel so right,  
So glad to know such loving might.

How oft we fail, amidst such scenes,  
To justify why freedom flowed,  
For all are born with ample means;  
Oh, let us seek the nobler road.  
On days like these, our souls laid bare,  
Return such dedicated care.

—D. M. W.

## False Impressions

It doth come to the ears of a well-known, and loved? writer, poet, that is, on this campus, that the authenticity of her poems has been held in due disregard. Be that as it may, we would not like to disagree with zese famous critiques zat know so much. There is one little item that has been overlooked. The poems appearing over the worthy initials — MEN owe nothing whatsoever to the lady of the same initials in Law School. All adverse criticism, and naturally, praise also would fall like manna on the ears of the true author, undistinguished truly by any LL.D., but whose final initial does not come from the state of holy matrimony, but rather from family tradition.

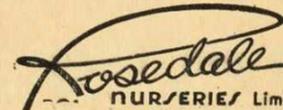
Any worthy criticism will willingly be heard, but please apply it in the field of Arts and Science rather than in the Forrest Building. It is naturally difficult and no doubt depressing to have always to read poems but they do look nice on the page, we think. If you would rather see different initials, try sending in one of your own. Later in the year, it is hoped to hold a poetry competition, and any articles, or poems will be duly regarded, and judged according to their merit. The main purpose of this space filler, was for the real MEN to acknowledge her existence.

## Law Notes

**JOIN A PARTY!!** — The Law School these days resembles a country store the week before a general election. Advocates of all the major parties and several not so well-known political groups are all urging on-the-fence Law students to sit with their parties in the forthcoming Mock Parliament. It is regrettable that many Law students will forgo this marvelous opportunity. Is not the fact that a large number of members of Parliament are graduates of Dal Law School enough to give a clue as to how their political polish was gained? First year students should not be hesitant in joining one or another of the parties—after all it will give you good speaking experience—and it is not as hard as it seems. Many students in their first year who have passed up the chance to participate in Mock Parliament, and do not quite get under way until their third year, losing a chance to get a great deal of valuable experience and fun into the bargain.

**J. B. McEVoy**—The three years of Law were privileged to hear a series of five addresses by the prominent Newfoundland barrister **J. B. McEvoy, K.C.** Ignoring to a great extent the substantive law, Mr. McEvoy devoted most of his time to a discussion of the practical side of courtroom practice, a subject little considered in the regular curriculum. The lectures were of a type to be useful to first year students to give them a general impression of what goes on in a courtroom. The philosophy which underlay the whole series was extremely sound and should be seriously considered by all students intending to practice.

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