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LIAISON WITH I.U.S.

Expressions of surprise were heard from Dalhousians who had not attended the Students' Forum shortly before the close of last term when it was announced that Dal had voted, along with thirteen other Canadian universities, for affiliation of N. F. C. U. S. with the Communist-dominated International Union of Students. At this meeting considerable controversy was held before the decision was reached. The vote for affiliation was decisive and unquestionable. For those who are now opposing the Dalhousie vote this should serve as a reminder that Students' Forums are for the airing of personal opinions. This last forum was adequately advertised and was attended by a quorum of interested students. Hence the vote must be considered to be a legitimate expression of Dalhousie student opinion.

The vote was not made with haste and without discussion. The natural fear was that Communists would ultimately dominate the N.F.C.U.S.; and it was felt that if Nifcus desired to affiliate with an international body why should not that body be I.S.S., an organization already established on the campus that has no apparent red blemishes? Geoffrey Payzant, the Dalhousie representative to the recent I.S.S. conference at Toronto, explained that I.S.S. would not fulfill the same need as I.U.S. An affiliation with I.U.S., he explained, would enable Nifcus to participate large scale tours of goodwill and similar undertakings to develop international understanding. I.S.S. has no similar programmes. Mr. Payzant further declared that Canadian affiliation would be of the same nature as the recent American student affiliation — the Canadian body virtually independent of the I.U.S. executive but merely maintaining a liaison for purposes of organization. The word 'affiliation', in fact, might be better expressed as 'liaison'.

Possibly the deciding factor in favor of affiliation was that, along with American universities, Nifcus might exert a tempering

influence on the feared spread of Communism. The opinion of those who voted for affiliation might be better expressed in the following words of Milton: "...a dram of well doing should be preferred before many times as much the forcible hindrance of evil doing." Communism is spreading among European university students, and we, who take liberty for granted, who find Communism a deplorable status, shall achieve nothing by being complacent about its spread. If we should spend as much time endeavouring to spread the tenets of Christian liberty as Communists spend in spreading their doctrines of Power and Authority we would undoubtedly be followed by the countless starving students of Europe and Asia who are now grasping in despair for anything that might ultimately be better than their present existence. If we should band together as power blocs to oppose its spread we should only add emphasis to the apparent stature of the deadly balance-of-power policy that has proved so disastrous and so wrong in the past. The choice of Dalhousie to affiliate was a declaration of action as opposed to inaction. If we fail to support this affiliation to the utmost we shall have cause to fear.

In a past editorial we advised caution in the approach to this problem. We still maintain that Communist leaders are more vigorous and more unscrupulous in their endeavours to spread the doctrines of their revolution than we are in maintaining our political liberties. Since the N.F.C.U.S. Committee on each campus is composed of the student leaders of most of the student organizations there should be no danger of Communist control of our national organization so long as each student carefully exercises his right of vote in Council elections. We have to fear only inertia and complacency. The affiliation, we repeat, is a call to action, for in it we possess our best and, at the moment, only weapon against Communism.

Aunt Fanny's Column

Published Weekly for all the little boys and girls at Dalhousie School in Halifax.

Dear Boys and Girls,

I do so hope that you all had a very merry Christmas and are having a happy new year, and that those mean old Professors gave you good marks. I mean, at this time of year you expect even a professor to feel jolly and full of good will and spirits, don't you? I hope that you are all keeping your New Year's resolutions faithfully; I am sure that if you promise faithfully not to chew gum on Sunday you will keep to it, and not weaken. Perhaps you should give it up on Saturday nights, too. But I must get on with the column; those awful Editors said I could only have three hundred words, which seems so dreadfully little when you think of all the things I want to tell you.

I was pleased when they asked me to write a weekly column for all you little boys and girls; I feel that in a place like Dalhousie you cannot have enough guidance of the right sort, and that unless there is a guiding hand somewhere you will all go and do naughty things, like throwing ink-balls in class, and perhaps worse. Who knows? But I must get down to my subject, on which the first column is to be written.

One thing that I don't like is the word "column"; I suppose that it is necessary but it always reminds me of those awful political things, or even worse, of those awful Hollywood things, all about divorce and nasty things that you are all too little to understand. I hate to think of your young minds being exposed to such horrors, and, indeed, I have written strong letters to the local papers pointing out what harm the awful Hollywood things do among young and undeveloped minds like yours. I hope that the letters will have their desired effect. Of course, the political things are seen worse; all about war and hunger and other awful things. You must never trouble your little heads about such things, and they will never touch you. If those awful Europeans want to revolt and riot and so on, why should we worry? It's their own affair, isn't it?

But I must get down to the subject of my column. I've only got three hundred words, haven't I. It's ridiculous, really; those awful editors should know better than to limit a good, wholesome influence on the young and helpless minds they write for. I hate to think of the Dalhousie Gazette being in such irresponsible hands. I even hear that one of the Editors was seen going skating on Sunday, when he should have been in Church! Such goings on! I also heard that another said that he didn't think that beer was bad!!! Horrible! Beer is the worst — well I mustn't talk that. The evils of liquor are not for such young ears And I must get down to my column. But I still think that the Editors are...

Editor's Note: Three hundred words only, Madam. This column should appear again next week.

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