LETTERS



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Canada's oldest college newspaper.

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Beauty in Distress

GAZETTE editors are as aware as most that the number of beautiful girls on the Dalhousie campus is distressingly small, but we did not realize that the situation is as bad as it would now appear.

No contestants have appeared for the DALHOUSIE GAZETTE BEAUTY QUEEN CONTEST.

The deadline is fast approaching. Dalhousie students are asked to leap to the aid of their college. Let's have some nominations.

* * *

Political Ostriches

The recent decision by Mount Allison's Students' Council to ban political parties from the campus is a tragic reflection of a country where it is fashionable for the intelligent university student to wash his hands of the dirty business of politics.

Although Council President Aiken's view that the campus parties attempted to control the student government" through unethical and unconstitutional practices" is no doubt very well founded, this abolition of the campus political party forgets the party's reason for being, and seems to infer that by putting it out of sight, it will disappear not only from mind but from reality as well. Certainly the parties shoud be limited to politics, and measures taken to prevent their control of the Students' Council. But it is foolishness to take this action "to check the Ottawa-controlled political machines" which "were getting out of hand and have ceased to justify their continuance".

The practice of students disassociating themselves from the national parties, with nothing to put in their place, is often reflected in the campus political organizations themselves. There is often great insistence on the part of university politicos, though it may not be the case this year, to stress their indeor otherwise, of the pendence, morally national party. This is generally highly impractical, and in theory rather stupid. If they fundamentally disagree, then they should call themselves by another name and explicitly reject the policy they find unpalatable . But if they do not fundamentally disagree, then it is certainly possible to fight a campus election on a few major points of national party policy. In fact at Dalhousie, where political concern is at a remarkably low ebb and the permanent student politician does not exist, this appears to be the only way to continue campus politics and still retain some measure of responsible electioneering. Now is hardly the time to forget about the big bad boys in Ottawa, for whether we like it or not they are running this country and it is obvious that our knowledge of how this is done is essential to any responsible citizenry.

... challenge ... Sir:

THE DALHOUSIE COMMERCE FLAG has somehow found its way into our midst. Being that we are reasonable persons, we will ask you to make a \$15 contribution to the Mental Illness Fund in the name of the Dalhousie Engineers. As seniors on the campus, shall we say that the \$15 is "sort of board" for us putting up with an "inferior" flag in our midst.

You shall have two weeks from today to make your volunteer con-tribution. We are certain that the Commerce men have enough team effort to pay. We shall expect the receipt.

We have bestowed on you lower "fac" men the honour of our signatures from Dr. Theakston down, on this "rag"

When you are ready to talk busi-

Because of the fantastic time necessary to develop any appreciation of the complexity of the issues at hand, the national parties can be of immeasurable help in contributing information to their countreparts on campus. As insufficient as this is, it is better than announcements on the blackboards, comes a voice-with-answers, the what we have, which essentially amounts to also bearing swastikas. nothing.

It is with this in mind the Gazette hopes the major political parties will be much more that of emphasizing the topic of the in advance on the Dalhousie political scene, in advance on the Dainousie pointer their and that our local politicians will see their programs as having some relevance to the actual governing of this country. We hope that connotes so much that is evil and destructive should not appear in the halls of learning. A symbol that connotes so much that is evil and destructive should not be used to contribute somewhat to this movement to place party platforms on a rational basis, by giving the candidates the opportunity to back up their programs in writing. Certainly much more of this sort of thing is going to have to be done if we are to prevent the re-burying of student heads in the sand or the Maritime sir: Successionists' view that the whole thing is a farce and should be treated as such.

Trouble in the Gym

. . .

The regular Friday night dance last week was marred by a rather ugly incident During the final hour there was three separate fights. They were short affairs which were quickly broken up, but they were fights non-the-less.

Last year there was much discussion on the black jacketed crowd which frequented Dal record hops. To prevent this element from continuing to disrupt the enjoyment of Dal students, the Council passed a motion forbidding records and permitting only dances with orchestras. The move was a good one

alcohol, coming in and causing trouble. of

There is one obvious remedy to the situation: to permit only couples, one of whom younger generation of which we are has a Dalhousie NFCUS card, to attend the a part. dances. In particular those who come stag should also be required to have a NFCUS or tices we went to a member of this university, who was himself tortur- and responsibility which constitute what it is to be a person. We have a Nurses' card.

A Pin in a Row

by HUGH FARQUAR

Mr. Farquhar is a first year divinity student at Pine Hill and keeps in touch with Dalhousie by taking an occasional course. He is a graduate of Dalhousie, having received his B.A. there last year.

"Man himself has no more individuality than one pin in a row, a mere object of general utility . . . " Thus wrote Karl Jaspers, and as one travels through the countries of the West, one realizes that the depersonalization of man which we attack in the totalitarianism of the East is threatening to weaken the foundations of our Western society.

may be posted.

where this is as he so rudely interrupted the "masters of the campus" in the den.

"THE ENGINEERS"

... swastikas ...

Sir:

The new S. E. Movement has put up notices all over Dalhousie announcing a speech by Rabbi Dobrinsky. I was shocked to see two swastika signs printed on the notices. I was even more shocked to walk into

I have no doubt these signs were speech. However, the swastika is a symbol of hatred and prejudice and lightly or indifferently.

> VICKI HAMMERLING (Class of '63)

... feelings

Rumours indicate that a few of our fellow students misunderstood misunderstanding, because it was not the intention of this movement to hurt anyone's feelings.

We thought, however, that the thinking reader of our notices could imagine that the mentioning of a understood in regard to the lectures by Rev. Dobrinsky.

Just the opposite, we, as members of the younger generation in charge ciple of social solidarity which of this movement, believe that this makes a society strong is dangersign should be seen often in order ously weak in the western world. and it went far towards improving the situation. But now we are faced with a different problem, and a much more pressing one, that of non-Dalhousie stags, under the influence of non-Dalhousie stags, under the influence of non-Dalhousie stags. to remember, at a time where Nazieven suggest that in our universities lectures be given on what Naziism dignity of man. really means in order to inform the

> mimeographed our n by these notices. His reply was, "If Life magazine can print this sign of

Evidences of this are to be found Common Room on which the receipt even in the common relationships of everyday life. Personality has given We believe Mr. P. Green knows way to utility, and people have become merely what they can give or offer to the great social machine. In the scientific drive to control and manipulate nature, we have also come to regard people generally as objects to be manipulated for private advantage.

Our relationships with people are becoming more and more impersonal and superficial. E. V. Stein says that for many the cashier becomes a hand-with-money, the clerk bewife a cook-with-sex, and the parent in the eyes of the child a disturbnot displayed with any malicious ing break in the television routine. purpose or any other motive than The warmth, friendliness and personal atmosphere of the "corner store" has given way to the cold and impersonal supermarket. The dialogue between friends and the social life of the family and community has given way to the impersonal gathering of TV addicts. The family has ceased to be the structural cell of society and the center of personal life.

As life speeds up, it become the center of a mechanical existence where the basic needs are satisfied. TV has moved into the British pub, our notices mentioning the opening TV has moved into the British pub, evening of the SEM lecture series once a place where persons com-tonight. We very deeply regret this municated with persons. Even the Church, with its genius of Christian love and brotherhood has for the most part become another efficient cog in the machinery of social activity. The professions are becoming Rabbi on them, especially the re- more specialized and are beginning nowned Jewish theologian Herbert to deal, not with persons, but with Dobrinsky, would speak for itself. minds, problems or diseased flesh. A swastika, under which Germans have murdered millions of people, state, our attitude is to help people in state, our attitude is to help people among them six million Jews, in state, our attitude is to help people this way of use could hardly be mis- rather than to acknowledge their needs as persons.

Thus it seems to me that the prin-

In view of this I believe that we have to rethink our conceptions of what is and the qualities of freedom ed in one of the notorious German to tear away the facade which hides personality, and through true communication attempt to discover who we are. We must revamp our ideas horror in connection with the Eich- and values, and attempt, as Kant mann case, you can do it too. As God forgives, the world should for-give, but it should never forget what bestialities have been done under As proposed, to treat humanity always the protests of great men like Blake, Hugo, Dickens, Wilberforce, Tolstoi,

As a further precautionary measure, the concentration camps, in order to find out whether he would be offended organiation szponsoring the dance should employ two policemen, instead of the customary one. For at a dance like last week, which attracted a large number of people, it was impossible for the one policeman on duty to see the whole gym at once. As a result, a good number of blows were traded before the this emblem." law came on the scene, and by the time it got there, some of Dal's bigger men had already stepped in to break things up.

These two new rules would eliminate the possibility of a repetition of last week. They would also go far towards insuring that Dalhousie dances would be enjoyable for all those who attended.

We again would like to express Dostoevski, Ibsen and countless nost sincerely that our intentions others of ages past, against any-ere far from hurting anyone's thing which neglects or discounts most sincerely that our intentions were far from hurting anyone's feelings.

The Student Ecumenical Movement

A. W. SMYTH (Dal) E. L. PECK (King's)

(continued on page eight)

In the words of Ruskin, "There is no wealth but life, and there is no consummation of life except in the perpetual growth and renewal of the human personality."

the human personality.