

Gazette defends Hitler in 1934

Student Government History #58

Late in October 1933 Eileen Cameron Henry, a 1929 graduate who became and still is a municipal leader in Antigonish, wrote an emotional letter to the GAZETTE calling for a union of youth against war. It was a further manifestation of the pacificism which had dominated the editorial page and which seemed to be increasing in popularity with Canadian students.

The student forum on continuation of Pharos and DAAC attracted less than a 100 students, but from a Council viewpoint it was termed a success in arousing interest in the organizations. The reporter said that, "Dalhousie once again demonstrated its amazing ability to keep its nose out of its own business." The vote of the forum was overwhelmingly in favour of keeping both organizations.

Immediately following this popular success the DAAC management committee made a presentation to the Council insisting that although there was no clear definition of the DAAC powers, Council could only act in relation to athletics where DAAC had no direct control. They stressed that DAAC should have been consulted regarding the new agreement with King's. The Students' Council responded by immediately establishing a joint committee to take up all of the work in progress that had an effect on athletics. The athletic budgets were rescinded and referred to DAAC for reconsideration and re-presentation to Council. After this display the members agreed to buy shuttlecocks for badminton.

It was obvious by October that 1933-34 would be the first year under the \$10.00 fee when available funds could not possibly meet the

demand. DAAC was ordered to find and obtain all unreturned athletic equipment, and Council went so far as to hold back payment of a player's hospital expenses until his equipment account was settled. There was approval in principle for cancelling both the GAZETTE and Council banquets. Meanwhile the Law School celebrated its fiftieth anniversary at a gala banquet where the prominent graduates included Premier Tilley of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia's Angus L. MacDonald, who had taught law at Dalhousie. Prime Minister Bennett sent his regrets in a congratulatory telegram. Retired Judge Benjamin Russell, a founder of the school, was present at the banquet.

Through that autumn the anti-Council pendulum began to swing back, with the newspaper carrying the minutes of meetings rather than reports, and editorially defending the Council from critics who took no action to improve matters. A sign of pacifist tendencies was the prominent position given news of the Model League of Nations despite Manchuria and the stalled disarmament talks. The newspaper felt that the DAAC resurgence and resumption of its traditional powers had been spared by the fact that the draft Dal-King's agreement would have left no time for interfaculty football. When the Council-DAAC committee reported it found that few of the Council's athletic decisions needed to be changed. Obviously pleased with the first student forum the Council decided to hold another on the topic "If Dalhousie students shall fight in the next war".

The yearbook, Pharos, continued trying to find ways to save money,

offering Council a choice between 500 cheaply bound books or 200 of high quality. The Commerce and Engineering Societies decided to co-operate permanently for the holding of a formal dance. Council offered its congratulations to George Thompson for organizing a series of Freshman lectures, although there is no evidence that they gave him any more attention than was usual. (He was twice defeated in presidential voting).

To everyone's surprise the forum on fighting in the next war attracted so few students it had to be cancelled. Perhaps the general student body still felt that the disarmament and naval talks would prevent another war. To stimulate public opinion the GAZETTE ran a copy of its 1916 call to arms of Dalhousie students. Bob Stanfield was one of those chosen to organize the Munro Day activities. A graduate wrote in to suggest that a rink be installed on the site of the old gymnasium, since Dalhousie's hockey team had done best when Council ran an open-air rink. He forgot that the open-air rink had been such a financial disaster that Council sold it for scrap.

In a year dominated by obituaries, students returning in January 1934 learned that Dr. John Stewart, the Dean who built up Medicine after World War I, had died during the holidays. The editorials against excessive socializing now stressed that it gave outsiders a false impression that all students were like the frivolous few, leading to a poor opinion of universities in general. In what now appears to be an incredible decision the newspaper carried a defence of the German Sterilization Act - "Hit-

ler, Scientist of Progress". The anonymous author wrote that, "One need not involve a doctrine of the Superman to see that a purer cleaner race will arise from such measures, nor insist upon Nordic superiority." For several months letters arrived on the subject of sterilization and German philosophy, with a majority supporting the original article. Despite those rarely mentioned "economic conditions" Dalhousie was still a place of progress, and so the Dalhousie Swimming Club was formed that winter, using the "Y" pool.

There was great excitement about a series of radio debates sponsored by the Canadian Radio Commission in which Dalhousie reached the semi-finals. NFCUS decided that the financial condition of its members necessitated a fee reduction and biennial rather than annual meetings. At its first post-Christmas meeting the Council finally approved the "Advertising Solicitor" system for the yearbook. Ten days later a regular meeting continued the budget trimming by abolishing Girls' Hockey and deciding that instead of a pay phone in the gym students could use the bookstore phone for five cents. The new King's agreement was signed in an atmosphere far more co-operative than that of the 1925 and 1931 agreements. Council decided to split the proceeds of a Glee show between Rainbow Haven and Camp Sunshine in case either morning paper would withdraw assistance. Council offered no support for a proposal that no unpaid student position be held for more than a year.

Psychology ethics

by donalee moulton

Over half of the professors in the psychology department are currently involved in experimentation using animals. For every one of these professors the question of ethics is posed and it is his responsibility to answer it satisfactorily.

The question of ethics is one that has concerned all researchers at one time or another. However with

the greater strides in technology animal experimentation has also changed. Experiments today are often complex and intricate using the most modern scientific equipment. But what is happening to the animal itself? The cry of cruelty is one that occurs as almost a by-product, but here at Dal how substantial is this cry?

In an interview with members of

the Psychology Department they presented their views on the moral question and discussed what the psychology department and Dal were doing to insure that all their experimentation was above board. As John Fentress, chairman of the department, said the question of ethics is a direct reflection of "how do we as a society treat other living things?"

Most of the experiments underway in psychology are paid for by research grants a professor receives. Out of this grant comes the money that will care and maintain the research animals. Besides the experimenters own interest in the well being of his research animal the department also has four people on staff who are in charge of animal care. There are also students appointed to aid in such areas as feeding and cleaning up. Animal care is the responsibility of the whole department and strict precautions are taken to insure the health of the animal.

Animals used in experiments are received from animal dealers. Animal dealers raise animals for the sole purpose of providing them for experiments. Thus any animals that one finds in the Psychology Department are not animals that have been taken from mother nature and placed in captivity. These animals were born and bred in captivity-cages are their natural homes. Put them in the great outdoors and they wouldn't know how to survive.

Before a professor submits a proposal for a research grant to the government it must first be submitted to the Animal Care Committee of the Psychology Department. This

committee reviews the grant and appraises according to its scientific worth plus the treatment the animals involved will be subjected to. If they are satisfied with the proposed grant it is then passed on to the University Animal Care Committee. This body is not concerned with the scientific merit of the experiment but solely with the treatment the animals will receive. From the university the proposal then goes to the Federal Animal Care Committee which assesses both aspects of the grant. If an abjectly cruel experiment was ever able to break its way through this mass of red tape and receive a grant the researchers, problems are not over. The Canadian Council on Animal Care is another body involved in insuring fair treatment of animals. This group makes tours of universities checking on the animals, the treatment they receive, and their living conditions. In addition to this the group is also concerned with administrative detail. Last year they visited Dalhousie and in their report stated, "All the animals appeared well cared for."

When an animal arrives at the university it is checked for disease. This is done with the help of the med school. Professor Fentress also asserts that, "We make sure that by any criteria that the animals are content."

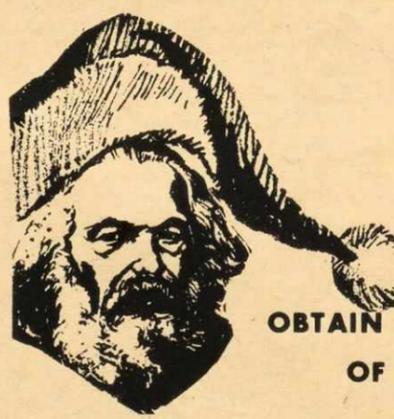
If an unhealthy animal appears or becomes so during the course of the experiment he is placed in a quarantine room, of which there is one in every research area. There is not an enough research area. There is *Cont'd on page 9*

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