

# Harris Retaliates On WUSC Debate

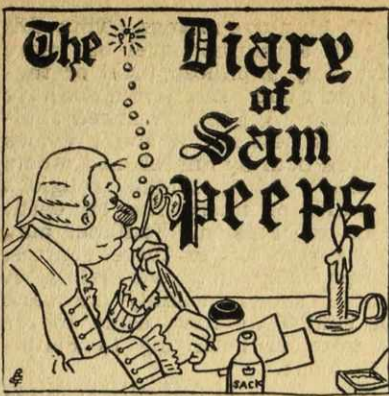
It would seem that it is my place to give some answers to Mr. Hambrick's inditement, "A Seminar or Not a Seminar," since I was the most recent participant and from what he says, have failed to justify that privilege. First of all I should like to clarify the position of Seminar participation, which he claims to be the "most" important project it (WUSC) sponsors. World University Service grew out of the World Student Christian Federation after World War I as a relief organization. When the immediate European relief problem was alleviated the organization continued as a general relief program, attempting to help students in less fortunate circumstances than we find ourselves. Finances raised by students do go for this purpose. The WUS has tried at the student level to work with aims similar to UNESCO at the general population level. The Seminars for Canadian students sponsored by WUSC financed by private interests are organized with hope of having Canadian students see something of the problems faced by other students in their particular situations with hope for learning how and why we can and should be concerned.

The (B) question, "how are the benefits transmitted to the people affiliated with the University?" can only be answered in terms of the (C) question "what response is given the subject?" At the personal level there has been response from particular students, and I have enjoyed talking with anyone who has shown any interest. At the level of general attempts with students, the persons there on the evening last week when I tried to present some picture of the summer's work, were an interested but very small group. I should very much like to know how the author thinks anything can be done, since he was not one who chose to present himself there to listen and discuss. How then would he propose to find out if we spent our time "reading musty volumes of Communist literature through thick, horn-rimmed glasses . . . or head for another day at Charlie's American Bar (Belgrade)." Truth to tell, we did both, and I think much more besides.

I have not been anxious to write a message of some sort for Dalhousie students. I should much prefer to discuss and attempt to answer their questions. Some time ago a short resume of our trip and its purpose was published in the Gazette. Beyond that it would be helpful to know what the students want to know about it, but that does not seem to be forthcoming. The greatest realization of the summer was about ourselves as Canadians—how insular we are, how unmoved we are by situations in the rest of the world, and how very inexperienced we are, inexperienced in making political, religious or cultural decisions, in the horrors of war, in suffering. Probably our biggest gain was just this, seeing Canada in a new light. We saw Canada as a country that within the past 15 years has rapidly been becoming a nation, a wealthy country but very young, not only historically but experientially. Everyone here is nominally Christian and nominally Democratic, at least to the point that it is easy to fall back on these positions. We in Canada do not realize what it means to decide to die for Communism, to starve for Christianity, to be tortured for nationality. We do not grasp the desperateness of the situation. Europe must face now the possibility of annihilation by either or both of her overwhelmingly children, America and Russia. Is she to be just a museum for the world, and if not, what can she do against the vast resources of men and goods available to both America and Russia? Will German rearmament make or break Europe? Everything is at stake, and Europeans must see themselves as personally involved in a way that we can hardly conceive. We are as it were the children who view all manner of things going on around them, but as long as they do not touch us personally, we feel little more than a sort of fearful uneasiness whenever we think of them, which is as seldom as possible. Perhaps more than anything we learned that what Canada needs most is for her people to wake up, to see that we too must be concerned, and that a mere "yea" or "nay" to MacCarthyism is not the end of our responsibility, but only a very small beginning.

This, however, is probably not what Mr. Hambrick wanted to hear, and no doubt most people will not give these ideas much thought, because they are self-satisfied Canadians.

As for our time in Yugoslavia itself there is much to be said about what we did and why, and what picture we received of the country, and I am anxious to speak about it to anyone interested.



NOV. 19th. This morning up by the moon-shine, at 5 o'clock, to await the return of my wife from her carousing. Tripped over the hem of my night-shirt on arising and received many bruises stumbling blindly about in the darkness. Didst put me in a vile mood which was still with me when my wife returned. Today I find her behaviour much worse than the other day, telling great falsehoods concerning her activities of the evening, for which I did beat her and was mightily vexed. In the afternoon to the Courts to witness the great contention between a merchant seaman (known as a radical) and a gigantic Teuton alleged to have assaulted the seaman. A most unruly display into which the seaman was led swathed in bandages. Didst plead most pathetically but was rebuked with taunts and fists from the gallery. An exceedingly dull affair caused mostly by the dullness of the lawyers who in presenting their evidence showed complete lack of knowledge. Worst of these were Townboy looking ridiculous in a new hair piece and Ivy who from my observations doth study in the Faculty of Everybody's Business. The only feature of the affair was the appearance on the witness stand of a most comely wench alleged to be a chorus girl, which I readily believe for a great chorus of shouts was raised by the rabble in the pit upon spying her. Thus mightily pleased to home resolved to make the lady's acquaintance.

SAT. NOV. 20th. To my lady Hamiltons to partake of a light repast of hops and malt. Therein many preparing to venture to Dart to witness the fight for the bladder. Over water thence by coach and four to the field. Many scholars present. Didst take place apart from this unruly crew not desirous to be known as one of them, fearing my personal safety. Among the scholars one of small stature, a card-sharp methink who goeth by the name of All. Others in this base company of noise makers were the renowned Noisy Numbshull and Mound who did abet the aforementioned varlet in his crude cursing of the combatants. Didst note with approval the belated arrival of a scantily clad band from the Hovel who didst endeavour to raise a cry of hoots and whistles, most unseemly by virtue of their prancing and gyrations. Another dull affair thus dejectedly back to my patrons to slake the burning in my throat. Home at a late hour greeted by cursing from my wife who didst menacingly threaten me with a poker. Beat a safe retreat and gained access to my cellars through a window thus making

# A Seminar or Not a Seminar

by D. J. HAMBRICK

This then is the problem facing WUSC. How can WUSC obtain the proper response to its seminar? First, it is sufficient to say that if there is neither enthusiasm nor intellectual interest in the project, then the aims of the two projects are not achieved.

good from bad and spending a most peaceful night.

MON. NOV. 22nd. No news stirring; usual Dull Day—remained in my chambers reading my Monroe calendar.

TUES. NOV. 23rd. This noon comes to me news of a great contest on the plain betook myself thither but nothing resolved. Many men there in great anticipation of the struggle between the sexes in the manner of shin bludgeoning Cutit's band in absence afraid to show expecting a resounding defeat. Thence, exhausted by my rushing bout to the Hamilton to darts. Under cover of darkness didst sneak into the great building behind the games. A great shock for I was under the delusion that it was a great mead hall erected by Lord Otto for the scholars' benefit. Instead didst find a great pond frozen over and upon which many fools didst rush willy nilly with metal runners on their feet. Away in disgust resolved never to enter therein again until the spring thaw for a swim for I do believe the many wenchs therein would be more pleasing to the eye if encumbered with fewer garments. They present a most unladylike appearance in their men's trousers and great coats. Didst pass the Hovel on my way home, a most disgraceful spectacle, there being shouts and screams from many darkened recesses about the walls, caused, I suspect, in part by my chief the Lord Editor of the Spectator. And so to bed.

Each year there is much discussion about financing the Seminar, but little or no discussion about its purposes. The usual organizations are heatedly disputed: the Students' Council, Alumni, Nova Scotia Government, University Bonds, and Dr. Kerr; those organizations which are expected in one way or another, to finance the seminar. The fact that is most important about these discussions is that they always end in bickering. None of these organizations is co-operative with WUSC, and the obvious reason is that they do not benefit enough from the seminar in order to justify the expenditure. Logically, these organizations should be interested in WUSC whose purpose is to preserve, advance, accumulate, and distribute, the most worthy achievements of our society, and as such, whose interests are synonymous with a University. If they remain disinterested, what justification is there for the existence of such a seminar? Could not WUSC be performing greater duties toward the Campus?

least, bring people into contact with WUSC, there are three important modes of promulgation: (a) there has been an Annual Report written, on the Seminars, by our delegates, which seems to be annually lost among our disinterested university officials; (b) there have been annual, well-prepared talks given on the seminars, which have been, just as annually, poorly attended; (c) there has been something annually in the Gazette.

If the Seminar is to be criticized at all thoroughly, we must, necessarily, analyze the failure of these media of advertisements. Primarily, I think, because of two reasons. First, I have heard the reason given that WUSC is viewed unfavorably is that "charity begins at home." If this is the case, let me enquire what kind of charity, and what are we going to do with it? If the charity, in question means money, WUSC will, definitely not provide it to Dalhousie. But what should money, in a University, ultimately provide for that University? Nothing more, and I defy anyone to argue the point, than assistance to a better education. This is what WUSC does provide, a means to better understanding of the world around us. Because it does not do this, by means of providing money for the University, who is to judge if it does not ultimately provide more education than an equivalent expenditure by another organization? This materialistic attitude is one reason why we have apathy at Dalhousie. If we attend University solely to make money by obtaining a degree, why should we be interested in extra-curricular activities?

I have, already, indicated my answer to such a question. I will never know if it can or not until I realize the benefits of what we already have. Obviously, in order to judge whether the results of WUSC's seminar are good or bad, or indifferent we must first get SOME results! The goal of WUSC, after all, should not be an attempt to foster enthusiasm toward the sale of Calendars as much as an attempt to sell itself.

To review our present methods of advertising, which should at

## Nichols Was S. C. M. Guest

Rev. E. M. Nichols, General Secretary of the Student Christian Movement of Canada, left Halifax Wednesday, November 24 after a five-day visit on the Dalhousie campus. During his stay he spoke to student gatherings at Dalhousie, Kings College, Queen Elizabeth High School, and Pine Hill Divinity Hall. He was also heard at King's College Chapel on Sunday, and over the C.B.C. Morning Devotions on Tuesday.

On the Dalhousie campus he gave a series of three noon-hour talks on 'Christianity is Faith', 'Christianity is Mercy', 'Christianity is Judgment'. On Sunday evening at the S.C.M. Open House, he spoke on 'Christianity and War'. He outlined three possible positions one could take regarding war: Fight for one's country whether it is right or wrong — extreme nationalism; war is evil and therefore do not fight at all — extreme pacifism; or objective analysis of every situation, for each has some good and some bad, and it is for each to weigh the good and bad points and act upon their decision. Special guests at this meeting were members of the I.V.C.F. and the Canterbury Club. Refreshments were served.

Mr. Nichols spent a great deal of his time with the student executive of the student Christian Movement, and with the advisory board of senior friends of the movement. He also met the leaders of other organizations on the campus.

Mr. Nichols has been in the

Maritimes since October, visiting S.C.M. units at Memorial, University of New Brunswick, and Mount Allison. He went from Halifax to Wolfville, where he will spend five days as guest of the Acadia S.C.M. He will be returning to the S.C.M. national office in Toronto in December.

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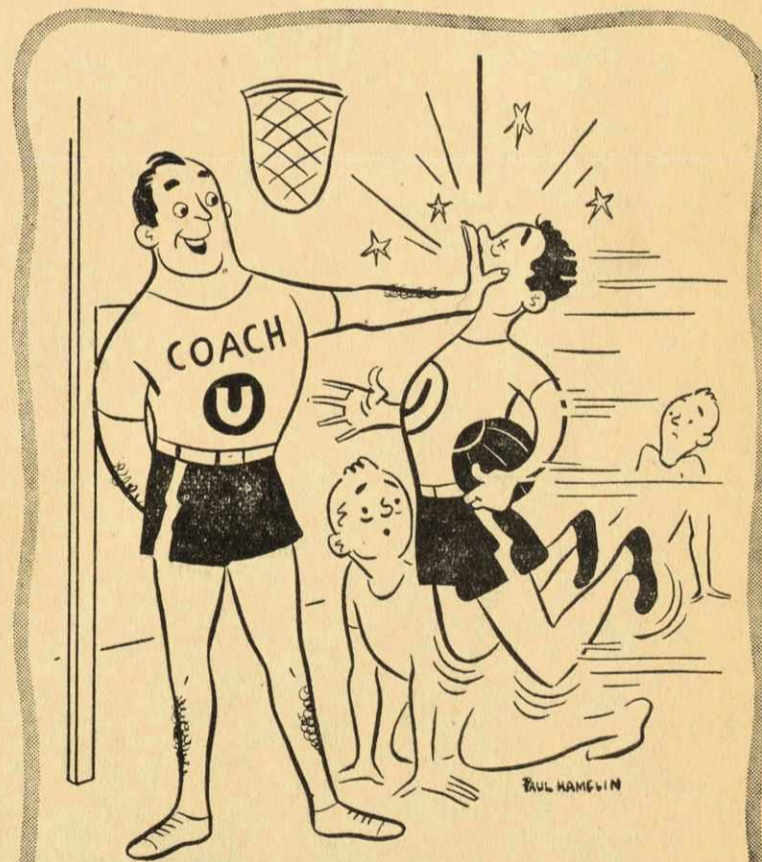
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