

An open letter

To all graduate students:

Fellow Graduate Students:

The report of the Faculty Committee on Scholarships will be discussed before the Faculty at a meeting this Monday, Dec. 14. Faculty Council has submitted a set of alternate proposals to sections #3 and #4 of this report. All departments have copies of the Scholarship Committee's Report, minutes of the Faculty Council meeting, and

Faculty Council's alternate proposals for distribution of funds to graduate students. Departments have been urged by Faculty Council to hold departmental meetings of faculty and graduate students to discuss the matter.

In a brief submitted to the Scholarship Committee last year, the Graduate Council recommended the following four points as the bases for a new scholarship policy:

- 1) The School of Graduate Studies implement a scholarship program which provides all graduate students with a stipend which adequately meets the cost of living in Halifax. This amount should be reviewed yearly and appropriate increments made which meet increased living costs.
- 2) The performance of demonstration, teaching, and any other departmental duties not be required of a student in order to maintain his graduate scholarship; that the performance of this work be optional to the student and that he or she be paid for this work above and beyond the basic scholarship funds.
- 3) A committee be set up composed of equal numbers of students and representatives of Graduate Studies, for the purpose of determining the cost of living in the Halifax area. This should be the continuing mechanism for the determination of the "cost of living" mentioned in Resolution 1.
- 4) Continuing students should receive a letter by March 1 of each year stating the exact amount they will be receiving in the next academic year, depending on the fulfillment of their academic requirements. Further, incoming students should get a similar letter by April 1 of each year.

We urge all graduate students to read and consider all the recommendations on scholarship policy and to discuss them in departmental meetings.

There will be a meeting of the Faculty on the evening of Monday, Dec. 14, in the Weldon Law Building, to deal with the formation of the new scholarship policy. The matter is also on the agenda of the Graduate Students Association General Meeting scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 13 in Rms. 328, 330, 332 of the SUB. We urge all graduate students to attend these meetings and take part in the discussion and formation of the new scholarship policy. It's your money.

The Council,
Dal. Ass'n of Grad
Students.

Smith new SUB affairs Sec.

MERRY CHRISTMAS to Brian Smith, newly appointed Sub Affairs Secretary, who succeeds Peter Harvison in that position. Mr. Harvison resigned recently due to pressure from outside interests and old age.

Mr. Smith is no stranger to the tangle of Student Union bureaucracy. In addition to the Sub Affairs post he also holds positions as Night Manager and Program Chairman, and of course holds the stipends attached to all three jobs.

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New staffer

The Editorial Board of the Gazette is pleased to announce that beginning Jan. 1 veteran reporter Clark Kent will be a regular contributor to Gazette news pages.

In joining the Gazette news staff, Mr. Kent brings with him the wealth of experience he gained during many years reporting for the Daily Planet in Metropolis. We are sure that his mild manner and penetrating analysis will benefit both the Gazette staff and our many readers.



The World Tomorrow



by Garner Ted Strongarm

Good day ladies and gentlemen.

It grieves me mightily to have to be the bearer of tidings in this joyous season, especially when the tidings are as bad as the tidings I have to bear to you. Nevertheless, it has always been a firm belief of mine that a stitch in time saves nine, not to mention better safe than sorry.

It has been a commonplace saying for years that we ought to put Christ back into Christmas — a saying, I might add, with which I heartily agreed, until three days ago. Many co-religionists of mine felt, and rightly so, that the profit of Christmas lies with the Prophet of Christmas, and that, however praiseworthy the last minute bustle and rush of our merchants, the greatest dividend of Christmas was its spiritual one. What a fool I was to believe this pious humbug.

Three days ago, had someone told me that Christmas was a Communist Plot, I would have treated them kindly, but firmly, much as one would treat a well-meaning, but slightly intoxicated nephew trying to seduce him into accepting the preposterous motion that Our Maker intended for us to fly in the air in aeroplanes.

But, dear reader, three days ago, to my utter shock, and I might add, dismay, I discovered the meaning of Christmas.

A friend of mine who lives in Halifax, and who makes his living blessing grenades in a factory, was on a picnic

luncheon when he tripped over an ancient urn. He found inside it an ancient parchment manuscript, which he sent to me to translate, knowing that I had picked up more than a smattering of Aramaic in divinity school.

As I sat translating the document, I could feel the world crumbling around my ears. For it provided indisputable, absolute proof that Christmas is, and always has been, a communist plot!

The document was a complete set of minutes of a meeting of the Central Committee of the Conspiracy of Hebraic Revolutionary Insolent Terrorists, dated September 17, 1 B.C. In part it says:

"The people's progressive anti-imperialist movement must constantly look to the future and plan its actions accordingly. We cannot forget the fact that Chairman Mao Tse-tung's birthday will be a date that will ring in history. But we also must remember that there will be vile and dastardly military cliques and revisionists of all sorts who will seek to inflame the people against this happy day.

"Therefore, the Central Committee of C.H.R.I.S.T., resolves that on December 25, and on the same date in every succeeding year, the day before our heroic chairman's birthday, there shall be a great proletarian feast, orgy, debauch and celebration throughout the People's Democratic Republic of Tyre, Ninevah, Assyria, etc., and that the masses shall be bedazzled with wine, hashish and

quotations from the Selected Metaphysical Essays of our dear comrade J. Stalin.

"This clever strategy shall undermine and trounce the vile and dastardly military cliques and revisionists of all kinds who will seek in vain to win 'the hearts and minds of the people' to the road of bourgeois necromancy.

"Inasmuch as it will be the annual festival of the masses, of whom the Conspiracy of Hebraic Revolutionary Insolent Terrorists, is the vanguard, we shall name the festival, appropriately, Christmas.

Signed,
M. Tse-tung,
J. Stalin,

W. Kashtan,
R. Cruise.

Dear reader, every Christmas card you write brings socialism one step closer to our shores. Every stocking that you hang by the chimney with care ensures that, sooner or later, Papa Joe will be there, with one-way tickets to the salt mines for everybody.

The answer for every patriotic and decent Canadian to this crisis is clear: Don't deck that hall with boughs of holly, don't make it easier for atheistic Godless long-haired socialism to "make a list and check it twice. We must not put C.H.R.I.S.T. back into Christmas this year.

"But what," you might ask, "should we do?" His answer is in the Good Book.