

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Word 'Negro'

Dear Sir,

In your January 10th, 1962 issue, Mr. Bruce Rawson referred to his Congolese colleague in Holland as 'my Negro friend'.

Although I have no quarrel with Mr. Rawson's use of the word 'Negro' to mean 'African', I would like to remind him that we of African origin prefer to be called Africans and not Negroes.

Not that I belittle the American and Canadian Negroes; no, it is because we Africans are proud of our African Nationality and would therefore ask Mr. Rawson and anybody else to call us Africans and not Negroes. Incidentally, many American Negroes call themselves 'Afro-Americans' and Canadian Negroes prefer to be called 'Coloured' instead of Negroes.

sincerely,
Bernard K. Kamau

Dear Sir:

I have great admiration for Mr. Abbott. He speaks with such casual authority about the Congo and Africa, the U.N., America, Europe and France. No complexity seems to hinder him.

His articles would be perfect if only they were more objective and accurate.

For example, his article on France made me feel very proud to be a Frenchman, to belong to this vibrant people whose economy is improving so quickly. I should like to believe this, but I'm afraid I cannot. You see, it is a goal of De Gaulle's politics to make both the French and foreigners alike believe in the new might of France. In France, we call this the policy of 'grandeur', of 'prestige'.

In actual fact, the French economy is neither weaker nor stronger than during the Fourth Republic. The 'pouvoir d'achat' of the French workers is still low - there was a nation-wide general strike in December, which paralyzed the entire country. Too much money is drained away by the Algerian War, too little is allowed to the universities (which are all state-operated) and public welfare.

Nor do I think that, as Mr. Abbott says, the problems of our Empire have been solved to the advantage of France. A small example is that all our newly-independent colonies vote against France about Algeria.

The inaccuracies I have found in his analysis of a problem I know very well encourage me to express the doubts I had on the objectivity of his studies on the Congolese problems.

Mr. Abbott writes that the U.N. frequently resorts to torture of the Katanganese. This accusation seems rather original, for 100 per cent of the journalists in the Congo agreed on the exact opposite.

Mr. Abbott describes Tshombe as a kind and peaceful man. Good Lord! A Belgian journalist, De Vriess, reported to the world

the proof that this 'kind man' murdered Lumumba and stored the corpse in a freezer for two months until the proper opportunity appeared to announce Lumumba's escape (and consequent death) from an imaginary jail. Even Halifax papers publish the frequent reports of his soldiers' atrocities.

Mr. Abbott seems to forget that objectivity is the essential quality of a journalist. I consider it a lack of respect to lie to his readers. I should like to ask him two questions which illuminate his approach to the Congolese problem:

1. You approve of Tshombe's regime because it is the strongest and most stable in the Congo. Is this really a valuable reason? Hitler's regime, too, was popular, strong and stable, but personally I would have preferred the Weimar Republic.

2. Why do you ignore this paradox: South Africa, which is the most segregationist country in the world is Katanga's (a Negro republic) strongest supporter? Strange, no?

Sincerely,
F.A. Weil

Socialism?

Dear Sir:

Your editorial of January 17th implies that I am against slum clearance, whereas any statement or action on my part would prove otherwise. My interest in slum clearance goes back a long way, in fact, to 1937. In my speech to the Community Planning Association of Canada last year, I approved of subsidized housing for lower income groups. My report in the Halifax 1980 Committee suggested that the best way that Halifax could celebrate the anniversary of Confederation was to see that the last slum building in the City was eliminated by that time.

The fact that free enterprise governments are prepared to put up seventy-five percent of the cost of slum clearance and subsidized housing seems to be overlooked by the average person in Canada.

And now, if I may, I would like to come back to what I said about Socialism.

There seems to be a great deal of confusion in the public mind about social welfare and Socialism. The two are by no means the same, but a number of sincere people are socialists because they think social welfare is the prerogative of the Socialist Party. Such is not the case, as is evidenced by the free enterprise social welfare payments and assistance that are made in countries like Canada, the United States and England, and, in addition, the many voluntary donations to education and charitable organizations.

It has been free enterprise that has built up the standard of living in the United States and Canada to a position unequalled in the world (including Sweden). It is free enterprise that is boosting the European Economic Community to a point where the member countries will soon rival the United States and Canada. But free enterprise has been hampered in Canada in the past few years by such rapid growth in government expenditures and wage demands that even a buoyant free enterprise system finds it difficult to cope with the problem.

Incidentally, as the owner of a beer factory, I am quite capable of realizing the fact that if the working man does not have some extra money in his pocket he cannot buy beer, and this feeling is prevalent among owners of other businesses regarding their products.

Sincerely
Victor deB. Oland
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No Support

Dear Sir:

Success deserves praise not constant criticism. Last Saturday night, at the Dal. Rink, our hockey Tigers captured first place in the Atlantic Hockey Conference. This achievement did not merit a complete sentence in the last issue of The Gazette. If apathy is to be overcome, what better way is there to do so then by proclaiming our victories and our accomplishments?

Your columnists report the faults and shortcomings of our teams. Very rarely is a team collectively, or a player in particular, commended. Allow me to illustrate this point.

In the last hockey game, our team fired forty-one shots on net.

Only the superb netminding of the Shearwater goaler prevented our team from racking up a higher score. In fact, in all our games our team has outshot as well as outplayed our opponents. Eric Parsons, an outstanding football player in the fall, and an equally good hockey player in winter, finished second in the League's scoring race. Our two netminders, George MacDonald and Reg MacDougall, collectively had the best record in the league. Were these accomplishments acclaimed in The Gazette?

With the semi-finals approaching, let us back our hockey team by supporting the team at the games, both home and away, and through the pages of The Gazette.

Sincerely,

A Hockey Supporter

Eds. Note: See page 6, Jan. 29 issue.

MUSICAL STARS



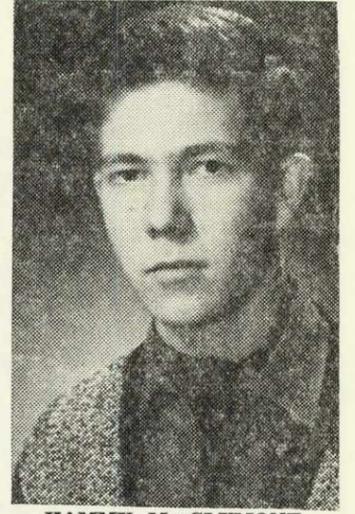
NORMAN HALL



Penelope Stanbury



FRED SELLERS



HAMMY MacCLYMONT



HILARY BONNYCASTLE

McMaster elections charges of illegality

HAMILTON (CUP) — Rumours and charges of falsification and illegality spread across McMaster University last week in the wake of model elections.

Cecil Mahabir, second year Social Sciences student, charged there had been double voting, voting on other student cards, and no electoral lists for identifying the voters. He asserted he would seek dissolution of the parliament on the grounds that the election was null and void.

The Progressive Conservatives came first in the election, taking 28 seats. The Liberals gained 18, NDP took 12, and the Independent Political Association, 7.

Mahabir also charged that "candidates were canvassing while the balloting was taking place, and advertising posters still remained on campus on the voting day." He further alleged that admission of the Independent Political Association after the deadline for nominations "was in direct contravention of the rules set up to govern the parliament."

Mahabir claimed that his proposed petition to dissolve parliament had gained considerable support. "My chief point is the principle of corruption; the university is the breeding ground for the men of tomorrow, who will be called upon to hold high office. If corruption starts here, what will be the future of this nation? More corruption!"

The admission of the IPA after nomination deadline has not yet been explained, but other irregularities have been brushed off as 'the result of forgetfulness and practical jokes.'

The party leaders have agreed that they are satisfied with the legitimacy of the vote as recorded.

The steering committee for the model parliament — the first at McMaster — stated that the system was not the best and that they are examining the flaws brought forward and trying to discover the best solution.

NEW NATIONAL MAGAZINE goes into BUSINESS

OTTAWA (CUP) — Still another national magazine is about to make its entry on the Canadian scene.

This time it's a student-sponsored publication, produced under the auspices of the Student United Nations Association of Canada (SUNAC).

Angus Archer, national SUNAC president, said this week that the magazine is still nameless, but this won't hold up production.

The first edition, due in February, will be a run of 5,000 copies. These will be distributed across the country to campus United Nations clubs and to Students' Councils.

"Most of the articles will deal with international affairs and their effect on students," explained Mr. Archer. "There will be national affairs articles in the magazine, but they will be on topics which will have international significance."

In the first edition will be an article on the Acting Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant; Lester B. Pearson, leader of the Opposition, writer about Canada and the U.N., and Livingston Merchant, United States Ambassador to Canada discusses Canadian-American relations.

Rehearsals Start

Rehearsals for the DGDS musical 'BYE BYE BIRDIE' are in full swing. Members of the cast are meeting nightly to whip this show into the biggest hit Dalhousie has ever seen.

The cast list includes names seen on the program of many former DGDS productions, as well as many names to be seen in lights for the first time at Dal.

In the controversial role of the famed rock'n roll singer, Conrad Birdie, Norman Hall, first year engineer from Charlottetown, looks very good. Fred Sellers, not a novice at this game, plays his engineering manager Albert Peterson.

The co-star of 'Wonderful Town' last year, Penelope Stanbury, lends her numerous talents to the role of Rose Alvarez, Albert's faithful secretary.

Hilary Bonnycastle, remembered for her role in 'The Boyfriend', appears as Albert's domineering mother. This crew arrives from New York and take the town of Sweet Apple, Ohio, by storm. Starring as the lucky miss who is to be the recipient of 'One Last Kiss' from Conrad before his entry into the army is Peggy Mahon, who played one of the leads in last year's show. Her irate boyfriend, Hugo Peabody, is played by Hammy MacClymont and her bewildered parents are Ann Suydan and Laurie Borne.

The musical is being directed by Al Bishop, who also directed 'Wonderful Town'. Choreographer is Miss Elizabeth Bentham. 'BYE BYE BIRDIE' is slated to open at St. Patrick's Auditorium on February 27, and will have a four night run.



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