

DALHOUSIE Gazette

CANADA'S OLDEST STUDENT PUBLICATION

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I. S. S. AT DALHOUSIE

International Student Service is established at Dalhousie. The recent meeting of the Students' Council appointed a nucleus committee around which to base the organization on this campus. This committee must now tackle the important tasks of making I. S. S. known to the Student Body, arousing interest in the organization, and directing this interest toward the aims of I. S. S.

To make the task easier, the I. S. S. is interested in Dalhousie. But will Dalhousians take an active interest in I. S. S.? They should.

During the war many Dalhousians became vaguely acquainted with I. S. S. as a relief organization designed to aid university students in war torn countries. This, while a magnificent gesture of growing understanding based upon education, is not the basic factor behind I. S. S.

The organization is now in the process of regaining its original program, a program founded upon the need for understanding and co-operation among the nations of the world. As it is generally adjudged that university students, by the very fact that they are attending a university, are attempting to attain some degree of catholicity and broad-minded thought, it is to them that any plan for international understanding must be directed.

Years before the second world war, while Europe writhed in the grasp of opposing political systems, students turned to their own ranks in a futile, though well intended attempt to avoid the inevitable. International Students' Service was launched. Now with the war slowly relegating itself to the pages of history, I. S. S. reorganizes to prevent a third world struggle distinguished from its predecessors as being the last.

Students formed I. S. S. Students must continue to further its cause. It is, in the final analysis, an international co-operative student movement. Only by such a movement can there exist the functions of an international student exchange or an international correspondence scheme. Defined by an ideology, it exists as an intensely practical organization in a materialistic world.

At last students of this university will be called upon to take part in a movement not bounded by the limits of the campus. A world wide experiment in co-operation has been launched. Dalhousie Can have a part in this. If interest and co-operation do exist at Dalhousie this is the opportunity for them to be exercised.

THE GAZETTE

During the past week there has been some criticism of the GAZETTE for the position it has adopted regarding some-campus activities. Apparently it is time to once again bring before the student the policies and aims of their paper.

First, let it be clearly understood, that stories appearing under a by-line are not to be taken as the opinion of the GAZETTE. They are personal opinions, and as such, the names of the authors are signed.

The GAZETTE is the property of the students. If a representative group are not sufficiently interested to play an active part in its publication, it falls upon the shoulders of a small group, and eventually this group is greeted with loud calls of "Clique, Clique" and its efforts are appreciated by cries of "Closed shop".

There are some on this campus who feel that the GAZETTE staff is not capable of publishing an eight page paper. We, the editorial staff, repudiate this charge. Not all the material which appears in the GAZETTE is padding, in fact, there may even be some isolated instances when stories and articles have had to be cut down, impossible as it may seem.

The GAZETTE attempts to publish what it considers 'contributory to the common welfare of the Student body'. Despite adverse criticism, it will continue to do so. There are many obvious mistakes in the manner in which this is done. Criticism and suggestion on the means to the end will be welcomed. But the end remains clear.

EDITOR'S MAILBOX

Dear Mr. Editor:

The article which appeared in the last issue of the GAZETTE under the heading "Glee Club's Evicoms" directly and indirectly strongly hurt the feelings of many students, and it was, therefore, felt that a reply should be in order.

It is not my intention to discuss here the possible merits or demerits of the evening's presentation. Suffice it to say, that, judging from comments received, by far the greater part of both students and public enjoyed the concert; that this was in no small measure due to the generosity of

the Ladies Musical Club who very kindly allowed us, gratis, the use of their piano, the first grand piano obtained for the use of Dalhousie students in years, and also due to the ingenious acoustic arrangements backstage; and, finally, that the response of the student body was a most gratifying one and those who participated are to be congratulated in every respect.

All this, of course, does not mean that there is no room for improvement or for more members. On the contrary, half the fun in life would be missed if one did not always try to do even better than before. But anyone wishing to pass judgment should always bear in mind that those participating in Glee Club activities are amateurs who strive to do their best in order to entertain. Fully realising that if they failed to entertain they would soon lose their audience, they voluntarily work very long and tiresome rehearsal hours. Certainly they are not professionals who strive for perfection nad can, therefore, not be gauged by professional standards.

What I object to chiefly in the article of last week, and other articles of similar nature, is the open criticism in the student body's publication, of those members of the student body who exert themselves on behalf of their fellow students, and contribute their modest share to upholding the name of Dalhousie and all it stands for. I object to such publications because I consider them to be unethical and as being directed against the interest and welfare of the student body as a whole.

If, in everyday life you want to make friends with someone, do you insult him first and then ask for his friendship? If not, why do those who want to foster this extended friendship called "College Spirit" follow such practices?

A students' publication such as the GAZETTE, which strives to encourage students to participate in extra-curricular activities and unites students in their common interests which, furthermore, is generally considered to represent the VOICE OF THE STUDENT BODY and is supposed to recommend Dalhousie to the outside world, must endeavor to bring out all the assets of student activities and their respective leaders. Actually, I sincerely believe that, generally speaking the GAZETTE staff of this year is to be commended on their efforts along these lines, with the possible exception, I may add, of one of the columnists whose efforts, although undoubtedly sincere, were certainly misdirected. As a point of interest, however, I should like to mention that one of the slanted articles against the Glee Club published in the GAZETTE in the winter of, 1945-46, was reprinted in full on the front page of the Queen's university students' publication under the heading: "Activities on other camp."—I am not suggesting here that all that is being done by the students should be called "excellent" or "superb" but rather that anyone writing for the GAZETTE should before he turns in his contribution, think it over twice whether his article actually serves the above interests of the GAZETTE and the student body, or whether it could possibly be misinterpreted an ddo more harm than good. In other words if anyone wants to try his pen on impartial "literary" criticism, he would do much better if he picked on Hollywood productions, for instance; and if anyone finds a need for improvement in ANYONE of the campus organizations he would be better

(Continued on page 8)



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