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HOUSING SERVICE SMASH HIT - NEARING THOUSAND MARK

by PETER SHAPIRO
GAZETTE NEWS EDITOR

The new Student Housing Service is well on its way to finding accommodations for over 1000 students. Chairman Eric Hillis told the Gazette that by September 1st the number on his list had passed 700, and that at the present rate it may reach 1000 before the end of registration.



Housing Commissioner Eric Hillis checks lists with staff Wendy Stoker, Cheryl Hirschfeld, Barb Lynch, and Peter Spencer.

EVICITION NOTICE FOR STUDENTS

A new ten thousand dollar gym floor may cause the end of social events in the gymnasium.

The director of athletics, Ken Gowie, told the Gazette that the old floor in the gym had been ruined by the mass meetings, dances and concerts held there in recent years. As a result, he said, most student organizations planning to use the gym would have to find other places to hold their activities.

Reaction to the move has been generally unfavorable throughout the campus. Peter Herrndorf, the president of the Student Council, labelled the decision a great handicap to students. He said that the university had a responsibility to its students to provide space for various activities, and that the university should find positive alternatives.

The first to feel the effects of the new policy, the freshman orientation committee, has decided to move its meeting centre, formerly in the gym, to the rink and off campus. The committee in charge of the homecoming weekend — to be held in early October — and Winter Carnival, scheduled for early February, are attempting to rent space off campus, as well as seeking the aid of the other Halifax universities.

Neither the Student Council nor the administration has been willing to say what will happen to the weekly dances formerly held in the gym. But, if some arrangement is not made in the near future, a number of Dalhousie organizations, who receive most of their revenues from the dances, may have to fold, or seek new sources of income.

Mr. Gowie emphasized that the rink could be a solution to the student's problems. He said that a new floor has also been laid in the rink, which he hoped would end the cold breeze which seemed to sift up from the old concrete.

The rink however, will be available only throughout the fall months, and will be inaccessible once the hockey season starts.

Another alternative to the gym is the Men's Residence, but Mr. Gowie told the Gazette that as a result of increased enrollment at the residence, these facilities would be severely restricted.

The problem may be settled later this week when Mr. Herrndorf plans to meet with both Mr. Gowie and President Hicks. If no solution is reached, it could be a long, hard winter for the students.

The Student Housing Service was created by the Student Council in the spring of 1964, after a motion of principle had been passed condemning the lack of adequate and non-discriminatory housing in Halifax. The Council appointed Mr. Hillis Chairman and allotted him a budget of 3500 dollars for advertising costs and salaries. He hired four assistants (Cheryl Hirschfeld, Wendy Stoker, Barb Lynch and Peter Spencer) to help set up the organization. Scrapping the original plan for a massive radio, television and newspaper campaign, the Service placed a small ad in the Halifax dailies. The telephone rang with reassuring consistency. Receiving the calls was a secretary who asked the prospective landlord for an appointment. Then one of the girls would visit the home and check the room for size, cleanliness etc. Using an S.H.S. rent scale, she would often offer suggestions about fair rents and general student needs. Before leaving the home, the girl would present the homeowner with a written pledge stating that he would not discriminate, and would request that he sign it. As soon as the pledge was signed, the home was placed on the S.H.S. list with notations A, B, C, D, etc., according to its distance from the campus. Other information plus the inspector's feelings about the home were placed on file. If the homeowner refused to sign, Mr. Hillis sent him a polite letter explaining that he could not advertise through the Service lists, suggesting at the same time that he continue to offer his room via the public media.

LOSS THROUGH DISCRIMINATION

It was expected that many homes would be lost to students because of the new Student Housing clause, but at the moment such losses have been surprisingly low. Approximately 23 per cent of those approached refused to sign, some resenting the implied coercion in such a pledge. It was explained that they should not discriminate because of race, colour or creed or else their advertisement could not be accepted. Personality differences were en-

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COUNCIL IN HOT WATER OVER RED BACKLASH

The Student Council narrowly escaped one lawsuit last spring and may be in the midst of another as a result of the red scare escapades of an ex-Gazette features editor, Don Brazier.

In an article printed in the Gazette on March 5, Mr. Brazier accused a well known Toronto Rabbi, Abraham Fineberg, of being a communist, or at least a communist stooge. The reaction on campus was immediate. Mr. Brazier was bombarded with nasty letters, hung in effigy, and publicly lectured by his fellow students. Alarmed at the response, he attempted a hasty retreat. He phoned Rabbi Fineberg in Toronto, apologizing for the article, and received a gentle reprimand from Mr. Fineberg to the effect that many other fools had also called him a communist. However, Rabbi Fineberg, his curiosity aroused, made it a point to read the article. He was allegedly infuriated by its contents, and sent a sharp letter to President Hicks of Dalhousie, asking that the staff be censured. After some delay, President Hicks returned the correspondence, apologizing for the incident, but refusing to take any action. Fineberg then is reported to have fired off a highly charged letter to an old friend of his, Professor Gordon Kaplan, of the Dalhousie Physiology department, telling him that he had hired a lawyer and was prepared to sue.

Dr. Kaplan informed Peter Herrndorf, the Student Council President, of these latest developments. Mr. Herrndorf immediately phoned Mr. Fineberg, and apologized for the student body, which, he said, disapproved of Mr. Brazier's article. Rabbi Fineberg was apparently mollified after talking to Mr. Herrndorf, and finally agreed to come to Dalhousie this year as a guest

lecturer. Thus the first crisis passed and the second loomed close behind.

In his haste to clear himself, Mr. Brazier once again proved that his pen was far more dangerous than anyone's sword. He denounced his earlier source, the Canadian Intelligence service, a semi literate publication run in Flesherton, Ontario, as being "a sick, anti-semitic, semi fascist outfit." The C. I. S. received a

copy of the denunciation, and headed for its lawyers. The lawyers demanded a retraction, or else. The Council President ignored the demands, and hired a Halifax libel lawyer to represent the student council. During the course of the summer, the matter was continued by lawyers for the respective sides, and at present, the student council is awaiting the next legal move in what could be a long siege.

VARIED PROGRAM FOR DGDS

The Dalhousie Glee and Dramatics Society (D.G.D.S.) is beginning its 78th year this term with ambitious plans.

Its first production will be a special venture in co-operation with the Dalhousie English Department, commemorating the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's birthday: "Romeo and Juliet" to be presented from the 17th until the 21st of November. The production will be directed by Professor John Ripley, and produced by the Vice-President of the Society, George Munroe. The auditioning for this show will begin in several weeks.

The Society's second show will be a modern play presented off-campus, in late November. As the details are completed, they will be announced; auditions begin about October 14.

DGDS will sponsor a competition for one-act plays in mid-January known as the Connolly Shield, a miniature drama festival open to any Dalhousie group. There are no restrictions on

offerings except that they should not exceed 45 minutes. Thespians will compete, thanks to the University of King's generous offer, in the Kings' Gymnasium.

The climax of the season is in late February, when the Society presents its annual musical. Casting is scheduled for late November, with rehearsals commencing immediately afterwards. Choices of musical, Director and Theater are soon to be announced.

In keeping with expanding activity, DGDS has obtained additional facilities. On September 1, the Society took possession of the "Coachhouse", a University building on South Street, for the purpose of converting it into a series of storage areas and workshops. DGDS also plans to occupy the old Students' Council office shortly, to facilitate administration, and to allow construction of a proper box-office to handle ticket sales. The Student Council will move to the office formerly held by the Student Placement Service.

WE DON'T NEED YOU

Not much! The six million volunteers who gave their all inputting out this paper have all just resigned for personal reasons. And when you see our looneybin, you will know what you have been waiting for since your first primitive little squal. We want reporters, typists, proofreaders, and photographers.