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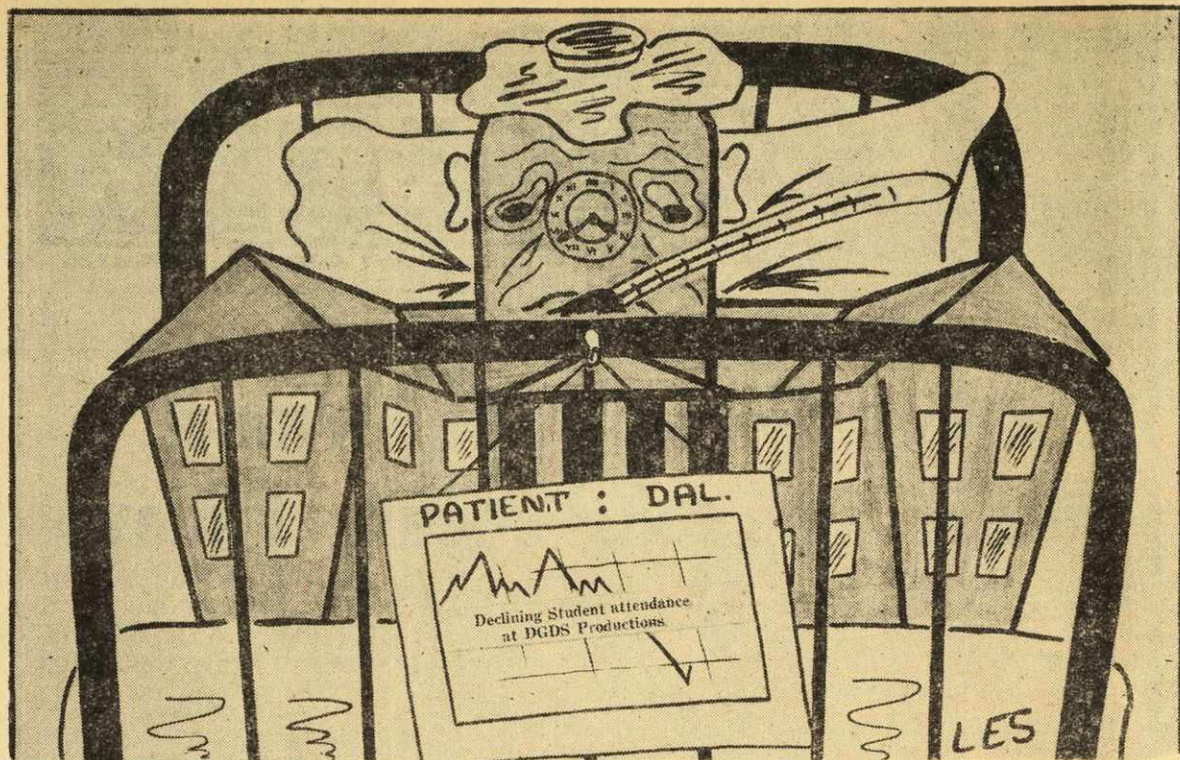
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the sick need support



positive identity

Last week, students street-danced their way down Coburg and Spring Garden roads and held up traffic to a minor degree. Police broke up the crowd and took four students into custody. No one suggests that such were outside the legal ability of the police; it is suggested that the methods employed by the police were too harsh for the type of people with whom they were dealing. The 150 university students were just that—university students; they were certainly neither rebels, nor rioters, nor junior-grade hoods. Yet it would appear that they were treated as such.

Why were paddy-wagons and patrol cars and motorcycles necessary? Why were ten policemen needed? To many, the presence of a single loudspeaker car and one or two intelligent officers could have obtained better results and better public relations in the long run.

The original responsibility was on the students to notify city officials of their plans and to bring about an orderly, coordinated effort. But this was not done. The Council of Students has apologized for this lack of foresight. On the other hand, the Council has not apologized—nor should it—for the result which students feel the police could have alleviated by their choice of technique.

These students are not taxpayers. They do, however, live in Halifax homes, eat in city restaurants, canteens and boarding-houses, and purchase their personal articles from local stores. Yes, some of these grant discounts, but there is no charity involved, for the stores which do so are repaid by volume sales. The city of Halifax has never, extended a formal welcome to the 2,000 college Joes and Janes who annually add over \$2,000,000. to the city's economy. So, why not, once or twice a year, permit students to arrange with city officials to hold a street parade—orderly and organized—to shout the fact of their presence to all at large? They are proud of their university, they want to proclaim their identity with it; given sympathy and understanding, they would also learn to be proud of their identity with the city of Halifax.

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moral support

It is very difficult to perform on the Dal stage; it is more difficult when you play to an almost empty hall.

The students in D.G.D.S. are interested in acting and singing. By participating in Dal stagings they are learning about acting, but they are also capable of competent stage work and want the student body to enjoy itself watching them work. At the same time, they need the moral support of their fellow students in the same way that the football and hockey teams need it. For the past few years, the athletic teams have not won all their games nor all the championships, but the student fans gave them support on the field. Now, the dramatic teams require support on their field.

During the past two years many students expressed dissatisfaction with D.G.D.S. productions. To meet these complaints this year's Council has budgeted for a Broadway musical, Finian's Rainbow. If student attendance at this musical and other impending productions is poor, it will be obvious that glee and dramatic activities on this campus may have to be curtailed. If this happens, it will be quite unfortunate, for it is also obvious that such curtailment will give rise to a balancing demand to curtail other campus activities.

letter to the editor

Dear Sir:

Some of the stodginess so typical of the format of the "Gazette" from time immemorial (i.e., January 25, 1869) has disappeared. I hope and trust that this improvement will continue. It is needless (and perhaps a little presumptuous after a two-year absence) to go into details of type fonts and layout; this sort of stuff is strictly your business.

Apathy and provincialism, the two bugbears of the outlook of the Canadian university students, are always with us. If you can overcome these, as seems to be indicated by the space devoted to WUSC, NFCUS, Esperanto, and the wide incursions on Canadian life made by old Dal-Kingsmen, you will have accomplished far more than anyone at this time realizes. How students in Canadian universities can spend three or (many) more years studying in what is supposed to be a community of scholars, and yet come away with satisfaction from having achieved nothing more than some years of bookwork (if that); how they can ignore, or afford to ignore, the actions, interests, and problems of their own kind (and how limited even this area of concern is, if the statistics which say that the university student is one of a hundred who start public school (are even partially true) in the twenty-odd Maritime universities, in nine other provinces, and in five other continents; how they can, in short, waste the opportunity that will be open to most of them once only, remains a mystery to me. Even if one's interests are restricted to the particular sphere of politics, or athletics, or dramatics, or the necessity of writing the next theme or meeting the right girl (boy), surely it is only

the most blatant optimism, or the blindest self-interest, or the most vegetable-like mental inertia, that can account for the total ignorance and lethargy of most Canadian students. Nobody expects you to sweep out the Augean stables in a year, but you can make a start. Down with the vegetables!

There is, then, this feeling I have that a new breath is blowing through your pages. Or it may be only that for the first time in some years, an editor has got the whole staff working. I see signs of this: the proofreading has risen from its depths of two years' back, when hardly a line went unscathed (though I notice that the NFCUS telegrams were pretty bad); Alpha and Omega, the features articles, and even the letters to the editor, seem to have something to say; the articles on the Dalhousie tradition and the resources of the campus seem to have escaped their chronic dullness; the sports page seems to be aware of the dangers of precious twaddle about "Tabbies," "spheroids," and "hoopsters," etc.; and the photos are sharp and clear.

I know your difficulties, and the dangers of neglecting campus news in pursuing the news of the student community in the world at large. I know that money, as always, will be your biggest problem, and that nothing I can do will change this situation. But I congratulate you (and the staff) on your incursions into the wider field, Maritime spirit, and university tradition, by all means! If you don't express them, no one else will. Let's leave Outer Space* for Sputnik, but in the meantime let's not forget that there's an Inner Space too, and we're part of it.

DAVID MILLAR.

*except, of course, for the moon.

the nfcus question

(the carleton)

All surely look forward to the day when men will be united in a world state, governed by the same laws, motivated by common desires for the same ends, with no recognition of differences in color or creed.

Such a Utopia — at best difficult to achieve — is made impossible if the members of what is presumably the most enlightened class in one of the most materially prosperous and intellectually advanced countries in the world cannot find enough common ground to work together for goals which benefit all its members.

Its own United Nations, Canada's farflung territories embrace not only the two major ethnic groups, but representatives from almost every possible race and religion who have chosen our country as the one in which they would like to live. We have many things to learn from each other. Our national federation is worth maintaining if only because it gives us a channel through which to accomplish this objective.

through the keyhole

by Pat McDonald

I see by the Silhouette that the hair-cutting feud between McMaster and the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph was renewed Monday night with a few deft snips of O.A.C. scissors.

A North frosh was abducted, taken to O.A.C. and later returned at 1 a.m. with an "A" of hair prominently displayed on his otherwise naked skull.

* * *

I see by the Carleton that the University Judicial Committee met for the first time in two years to deal with the recent infraction of the Students' Union rule against drinking. Two students were caught drinking in the front lounge of the Union. This was not the first time this year that the issue had been brought to the attention of the Carleton.

* * *

The Toronto Varsity narrates where the second campus fire alarm in 10 days sent fire trucks screaming to Wycliffe College—but there was no fire. Firemen blamed someone testing the alarm for the incident, but Wycliffe authorities refused to comment.

While other students may suffer from the flu, McGill will soon be plagued by a new virus—parking itus. The University will soon lose their 100-car parking lot to an eight storey engineering building.

* * *

I see that Doug Wilchovy of the University of Manitoba, advertised recently for "all those interested in discussing powers, ghosts and other psychic phenomena to get in touch with him" with hopes of forming a small group for the scientific investigation of the above. Anyone interested should contact him by mental telepathy.

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I see by the McMaster University paper that five thousand tons of concrete were poured last week to start construction on Canada's first university atomic reactor.

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I see by the Varsity that Trinity men have voted overwhelmingly in favor of having female guests in their rooms on Friday nights until 10:30.

Ed. note—If this column this week appears immoral my humble apologies.

* * *

Good night Shirreff Hall Girls.