

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SOUR GRAPES

Sir,
Congratulations to Miss Betty Pendleton on her remarks in the last issue. I and several others agree completely.

Yes indeed, the negative attitude toward God and man is distasteful and unseemly in any student publication and the fact that it is to be found in the paper of one of the finest Canadian colleges makes the matter even worse.

I particularly dislike the "sour grapes" attitude toward the members of the St. Mary's and St. Francis Xavier's football teams. And laurels they receive can be chalked up to hard work and that is something of which to be proud. The editorial "A Myth Destroyed" is but an excuse for apathy and I would say in poor taste.

This is no time for excuses for apathy, "sour grapes" at our losses: this is the time for more support, more cheers and more faith in the "Black-Gold" team. Let's be proud of our team, let's cheer them on in victory and in failure!

ELEANOR DUNSWORTH

ON NFCUS

Sir,
In the Gazette last week, there was an editorial questioning whether NFCUS is necessary. It stated that each year NFCUS is given \$1,150 from this university. This is true, but I feel that through NFCUS, we are saving our parents \$500 a year on income tax deductions. It costs the national federation at least \$500 a year to send Dalhousie delegates to the national Congress and Seminar.

Does NFCUS fulfill a purpose? I think it does and will continue to expand its activities if the 90,000 Canadian students give it their support.

Sincerely,
SHARON CONNOLLY
Dalhousie NFCUS Chairman and Atlantic Regional Vice-President.

Dear Sirs,
Last week's article "A Story About Berth Control" has aroused much indignation among Catholics and Non-Catholics alike! Is the Gazette Staff happy?

The article was such a worthless one - why must the Gazette go to McGill for its smut? Not only was the article poorly written (a fine example of sick punning and very poor satire), it was also full of doctrinal error. There is no such passage in the Bible as quoted in the article! The Catholic Church does not approve of people having as many children as possible - that is false! The Church, however does

approve of parents having as many children as are possible if the children can be reasonably provided for and if the parents can give the children the necessary love and affection due to each child. If the parents can not provide for more children they can practise Rythm or practise total abstinence from their marriage rights, realizing that having more children would be unfair to their present children, unfair to their future children and unfair to themselves. You know - sex is not the most important thing in marriage. Birth Control, said G. K. Chesterton, is like cutting off the heads of children because there were not enough hats! The solution to that problem is simple enough - get more hats.

What is the next sham on the Gazette's agenda - an attack on the condition of Jewish Kosher Laws?

May it be made clear that the theories and laws formulated and set down by the Catholic Church affect Catholics only and if the Catholics do not abide by these laws, the consequences lie within the Catholic Church. The Roman Catholic Church does not meddle with other sects. Yes, we are irate and rightly so! The article was written to taunt and it has.

Sincerely,
ELEANOR DUNSWORTH
(Pharmacy)

Sir,
It is my belief that the article "A Story of Berth Control" in last week's Gazette was both irrelevant and in bad taste as regards to the situation concerning population versus food and survival. The article which implied that the only means of keeping the "population explosion" in check is by use of contraception, was an unnecessary and ignorant attack on Catholic doctrine and practice.

I sympathize with the writer's attempt to find a solution to the problem of over-population but to do so in a manner which constitutes a sneering satirical attack on the Catholic Church is disgusting. The Catholic Church teaches that birth control is opposed to both natural law and the divine will of God as found in the Holy Scripture which she (the Church) cannot abrogate. As for the implication that the Church alters her doctrines with every change of wind just shows the author's ignorance of the nature of Roman Catholicism. The teachings of the church now are the same

"There's only one thing in the world that's worse than being talked about and that's not being talked about."
Oscar Wilde.

as of 20 centuries ago.

Doctrines have two sources of origin: (1) the interpretation of the Bible and (2) the traditions of the Church that have carried down through the centuries from the Apostle's time. Either way, a doctrine has as its source Christ and His teachers. To a new doctrine such as the pronouncement of 1854 of the Immaculate Conception of Mary is not new at all but just a formal declaration that such a doctrine, which has been held by tradition since the time of Christ, is a universal belief of the Church.

Yours truly,
DON BRAZIER.

Sir,
I deeply resent the Dalhousie Gazette telling me who must be able to join my fraternity. A fraternity consists of a brotherhood in which each brother likes and is friendly with every other brother; at least this is what is attempted, and in this attempt, the "blackball system" is utilized. A man is not required by any Canadian statute to like or dislike a particular race, ethnic group, or religious faction. If I should happen to dislike Englishmen, red-heads, or people wearing size nine shoes, there is no reason why I should have to accept them as brothers. Any and every man is entitled to choose his friends by whatever criteria he wishes.

No man is entitled to join a fraternity, lodge, bridge club, or any other private organization; invitation to membership is a privilege extended by the organization to those whom it wishes in its ranks.

Whether or not a fraternity accepts a particular group is the concern only of that fraternity, AND NO ONE ELSE'S. Let us then have no more whimpering from the Dalhousie Gazette with cries of Segregationalism.

Yours,
"A FRAT MAN"

Sir,
All fraternities have a moral right to discriminate in the choice of their membership.

Fraternities are free associations of people who voluntarily spend their money, their time and their effort purely for their own benefit. It is the sacrifices of the members which create this organization and it is up to these members to decide what the character of this organization is to be. It is their right to make all decisions concerning all actions of the fraternity. No one, for any reason whatsoever, can morally demand that any action against the wishes of its members, be taken by the fraternity. No one can morally demand that any fraternity accept as a member anyone whom

the fraternity does not wish as a member.

No person has an inherent "right" to become a brother in any given fraternity. He can only do so providing that the fraternity agrees to such an action. He cannot claim that the fraternity was morally "wrong" in refusing him membership, for it is not he who decides what is "right" and what is "wrong" for the fraternity to do; only the members can decide.

Rejection of a candidate can be caused by various factors, such as the character of the candidate, or the financial circumstances of the candidate, or many others. It can, logically, also be caused by the race, deligion and nationality of the candidate. The reasoning behind rejection on these grounds is sound: the candidate's membership will simply not, to the brother's view, in any way advance the objectives of the fraternity.

No one would dare claim that a group is morally obliged to accept any person whose political views are anathema to the members of that group. No one would dare claim that a Jehovah's Witness, for example, has a moral "right" to membership in a private organization of Catholics - say, the Knights of Columbus. Yet, many people do honestly feel that fraternities which are similar to private organizations should be morally obliged to admit people who are unacceptable to them on identical grounds. This is manifestly a highly irrational and un-maintainable view.

It is up to the members, and only the members, of any fraternity to decide who is a suitable candidate for membership. Whatever they decide is morally right.

Sincerely,
A FRAT DEFENDER

Sir,
The article appearing in your paper entitled "A Story of Berth Control" reproduced from the McGill Daily was in very poor taste and has raised the indignation of all Catholic students attending this university. This bit of satire - besides being cheap and completely in error - also tends to show that there is religious discrimination at Dalhousie.

I suggest that you discontinue the Gazette altogether if you have to resort to using this trash as a filler.

W. J. WAMBOLDT (Pharmacy).

ON CAMPUS

Wednesday, October 24

Commerce Tea Party, Men's Common Room, 7:00 p.m. Arts Building.

Thursday, October 26

ISA, Arts Building, Room 234, 12 noon. Arts Society, Room 130 Arts Building, 12 noon. Combined Universities Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Room 212 Arts Building 12 noon.

Friday, October 27

Engineers' Hayloft Jamboree.

Saturday, October 27

Football - Shearwater at Dal. SCM Camp, leave SCM office 1 p.m.

Tuesday, October 31

Canterbury, Arts Building, Room 222, 12 noon WUSC public meeting, Room 21, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday

Tom Allan Mission

Wednesday, and Thursday

Connolly Shield, Room 21, 7 p.m.

DRINK TEA?

If you like going to tea parties, don't miss the Commerce Tea Party tonight, Wednesday October 24. The tea party is being held at 7.00 p.m. in the Men's Common Room of the Arts and Administration Building.

DAL DANCES

Dear Sir:

This letter isn't a "beef" but just a suggestion concerning the Dal Dances. It's fine for people going in couples; but often you don't get a good chance to meet someone of the opposite sex in your classes; so naturally, you look forward to the dances. Couldn't these dances be a little less formal; perhaps with just records; and less emphasis on going in couples? In this way more people would be in the same situation and, therefore, meeting a girl or a boy would be easier because of the relaxed atmosphere.

Sincerely,
A DAL MAN

DISTORTED FACTS

Dear Editor,

We in Alta Gamma Delta would like to protest the strong anti-Fraternity accusations which appeared in last week's Dalhousie Gazette. The articles were not only misinforming but were not accurate. As is usually the case, only a general picture of the issue was presented and this generalization was made applicable to all Fraternities, men's and women's.

A women's Fraternity is a social organization of university girls which at Dalhousie is relegated to an off-campus position. Meetings are held once a week and social events occur during the University year. At no time is liquor permitted at these functions and any Fraternity girl found inebriated on the campus is immediately banned from Fraternity life. We refuse to waste our time refuting the statement that indicates that fraternities such as these "promote immorality". This is a ridiculous, bigoted, opinionated accusation for which no basis can be found.

Another erroneous judgement found in both articles was the stated method of bidding. There is no black-balling in women's fraternities. One member's prejudice will never prevent any girl from becoming an Alpha Gamma Delta. Black-balling is a method of procedure with which Alpha Gamma Delta would never be associated.

Rushing is a time when the interested party decides whether or not she will become a Fraternity sister. "The emotional tools" employed this year will consist of two get-togethers and one theme party. At these functions she will meet Fraternity women and be met by them. Any questions she may have concerning Fraternity life will be answered honestly and sincerely. She will make her decision during a four day silence period during which time she cannot be approached by a Fraternity member concerning the latter's organization. Contrary to our misinformed columnist, friendship ends neither with fraternity initiation nor with university graduation but continues long after other university acquaintances are lost. We beg to differ with the writer of the articles who considers friendship in a fraternity a fleeting and translucent thing.

We have written this letter solely in defense of women's fraternities with the hope that no Dalhousian, male or female, will be influenced by articles that not only fails to present a complete picture but also give distorted facts.

DISARMAMENT EXPERT?

All Dalhousie students are invited to attend the Dalhousie Student Christian Movement week-end camp being held Oct. 28 at Camp Brunswick about 30 miles from Halifax. Transportation is provided. Speaker at the camp will be Dr. J. B. Hardie of Pine Hill Divinity Hall. Space is limited, and interested students are asked to register at the SCM office in the men's old residence.

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ART FILM

The film, The Story of Michaelangelo will be presented at 8 p.m. Friday, October 27 in the Physics Building. All students are welcome.

Royal Canadian Navy Officers will be here

to interview and counsel students interested in a sponsored education and a career as an officer in the RCN on Wednesday and Thursday, 1-2 November, 1961 all day at Dalhousie University.

Make an appointment for an interview through your University Placement Officer at:

MR. BECK

A.A. Building, Dalhousie University

or

Lieut. Cdr. A. T. Love, R.C.N.

R.C.N. Training Officer

311 Barrington Street — Phone 422-5956



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