

LITERARY

THE COMMUNITY CONCERT de Paur Infantry Chorus

The first in this year's Community Concerts series was presented in the Dalhousie Gymnasium last Monday night. The performing artists were the members of Leonard de Paur's Infantry Chorus.

Five interesting groups of songs were presented, the first of which was composed of contemporary works. Most of these selections were written especially for the Infantry Chorus and served to show the artistry of the Chorus as a whole. The last song in this group, "Speak! for you must," composed on a political text written by Philip Frenau during the American Revolution, was particularly interesting both musically and for the subject matter it contained.

The second group was composed of folk songs from Latin America, including two Calypsos. It was again the last number, a Trinidad calypso, "Ugly Woman," that showed the chorus to its best advantage, and also one of the best solo parts of the evening. This selection was so well received that the last verse had to be repeated. The soloists showed a fine understanding of calypso style.

The third group of selections were songs resulting from World War II. These were particularly well performed. Even the popular ditty "I've Got Sixpence" was real music, when performed by the Chorus. The popular "Meadowland," however, showed a slight weakness in the bass section, and the baritone solo was too much dimmed by the enor. This however, may have been due

to the acoustics of the Gym. Both the "Song Of The French Partisan" and the "Ballad of Roger Young" were among the most outstanding works on the programme.

The fourth group was composed of Negro Spirituals and Work Songs, all of which were admirably performed. The outstanding selection in this group was "Water Boy." Never have I heard a finer performance of this old favorite. Both the soloist and chorus were excellent. Another fine performance was "Deep River," and a part of this spiritual had to be repeated before the programme could proceed.

The final group consisted of a variety of religious works beginning with Palestrina's "O Bone Jesu," which somehow lacked the full expression necessary in such

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READING ABROAD

Many students will remember that during the war there was an annual campaign, held at the time of Student Elections, to persuade us to sign over our caution deposits to the International Student Service. In these campaigns we had it pointed out to us that the money would be spent in providing text books and study materials to prisoners of war who had been students. This appeal attracted considerable generosity at Dalhousie, to the limited extent of caution deposits which we had completely forgotten anyway.

One of the present functions of the I. S. S. is the sending of books and study materials to what may be called the prisoners of peace. It is very difficult for Canadians to conceive an impression of being prisoners, confined by the borders of their own country.

Seven million people, living in an area no larger than Nova Scotia, surrounded on all sides by other small, crowded countries, each with a fanatically strong national tradition, each speaking its own language, are trapped, confined. Students in such countries have no dollars with which to purchase cultural contact and political good-will — and dollars are the only things that can buy these today.

The I. S. S. does its best to provide cultural contact, however, in the form of standard libraries which are being sent to all German-occupied countries of the war. These libraries contain many of the books suppressed under the Nazi regime, and books representing the thought of other nations since 1939. Such libraries are sent to universities all over Europe.

New books are considered from time to time, and added to each library. In this way, many universities whose complete libraries were destroyed during the war, can begin the work of rebuilding.

It may seem somewhat far-fetched, but be assured that it is true. One copy of the Dalhousie GAZETTE, sent to each university in Europe, would be the most widely read document of many months. The most trivial details about initiation, football stunts, casual campus gossip, ponderous political discussions, even the advertisements, would be read and read again with an unbelievable interest and concentration, such as would make GAZETTE editors brush their hair back out of their eyes and think that perhaps it is worth the effort. At least one colorful character in the office would shout "Recognition, at last!"

How difficult it is to be convincing about such a subject, on which the reader has never given any thought. This one venture of sending a copy of the GAZETTE, or any Canadian college paper, to European universities, could give a return in appreciation entirely out of proportion to the effort involved. Yet, to us, it would seem too small a thing to be worthwhile.

You see, there is much truth in the remark above that it could be the most widely read new document in many months. It could very easily be the only new document.

G. B. Payzant

THIS ATOMIC AGE

By Roberta Daye

Few of us are contented with the conditions of the world today. We are dissatisfied with the way things are being conducted by our governments, both at home and abroad. We are upset by upheavals in labor, and continually recurring crises in foreign affairs, and the general tension and suspense in our everyday lives. We console ourselves for all these hardships with the constantly re-affirmed faith that things will return to normal, balance will be regained, within periods variously estimated from one to twenty-five years.

This word "normal" is a very much over-used and misused one. Can we ever return to "normal times" again? The economic and political factors which produced the era of the late thirties will never recur. The wartime developments in science and industrial

production alone forbid this.

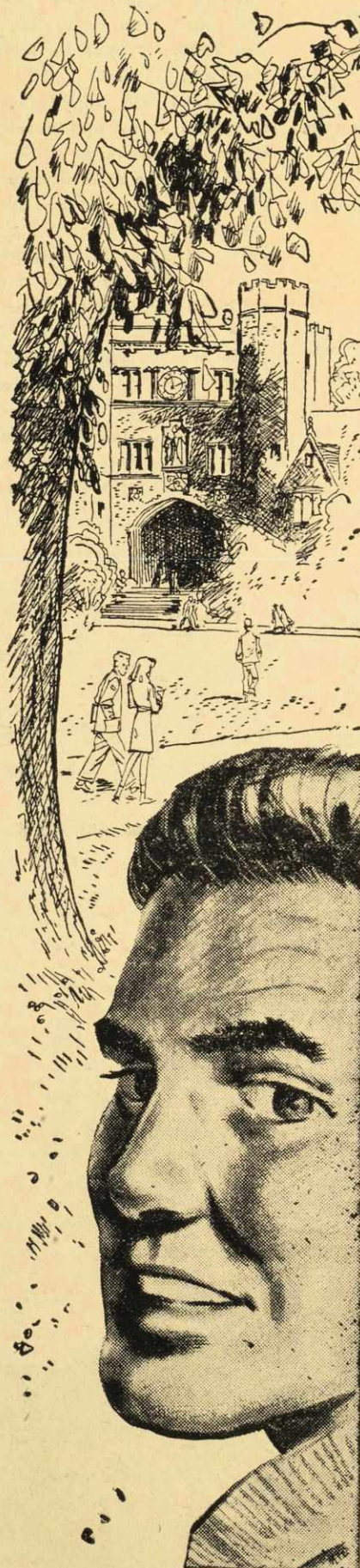
Why do we think of this period immediately preceding the war as "normal"? Why do we hope for a return to those conditions? Perhaps it is because we have been plunged abruptly into such a changed world that we cannot adapt ourselves to it. The majority of people are in an intellectual and emotional lag, from which it seems easier to turn back to the familiar than to brave the unfamiliar.

The presumption that there is a parallel between the after-effects of World War I and those of World War II strikes me as undesirable. There is no parallel, except possibly in the principles for which they were fought. There was no similarity in scope or methods of warfare.

We used to be continually reminded that this was the "Atomic Age." Now that the first panic

over atomic energy has passed, the tendency seems to be to ignore the whole thing. We cannot successfully ignore its implications, however. It is too strongly tied in with the unrest and distrust between nations. There are changes to be considered in many other directions also, changes which affect all of us directly or indirectly: the rise in the cost of living, and the consequent unrest of the working people; the apparent failure of democratic government to meet this situation, and the problem of whether a revolution in government will be necessary to meet it, or whether the present systems can be modified sufficiently to satisfy the demands of the new age.

Surely the present generation should know the sad results of an "Ostrich" policy. It is each person's responsibility to consider these problems of our time, to form an opinion, and to voice it.



Hi There!

right now your grades
are good ...
but life holds harder tests

Harder indeed! Life was never a lenient schoolmaster. And making the grade in life demands all a man can muster in the way of knowledge, ability and forethought.

Especially forethought! The sort of forethought that prompts a man to start charting a life insurance program early in youth. The sort of forethought that enables a man to realize that whatever the experiences life holds for him — earning a living, getting married, raising a family, having earning power cut off — he is better equipped to meet them and enjoy them when he has behind him the security and protection provided by life insurance.

Talk to a Mutual Life of Canada representative and get the benefit of his special training and our long years of experience in adapting life insurance to the varied desires and responsibilities of people of all ages and all incomes.

Ask him what policy or combination of policies is best suited to your particular circumstances. Let him show you the special features of Mutual low-cost life insurance.

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