

letter to the editor

cover to cover...

Dear Sir:

The "Dalhousie Gazette" has come to me regularly for the past three weeks, thanks to your efficient circulation staff. Naturally I do not agree with all viewpoints expressed, nor do I consider it the best newspaper ever printed! But I DO read it from cover to cover with great interest, noting with pleasure the several improvements over the past two years. You have made a fine start, and the introduction of new staff members has added a certain spark to the paper.

May I avail myself of this opportunity to reply to Mr. Charles Fanning's "Letter to the Editor" which was printed in the October 23rd issue?

Mr. Fanning, the academic year is young—and so, perhaps, are you! Although this is your first year at Dalhousie, you apparently now feel capable of passing judgment on university institutions. Unfortunately, I do not know whether you are a freshman or a student of advanced standing. Perhaps you are just voicing opinion; perhaps you are desirous of stirring up a controversy.

Permit me to give you a few of my impressions of Dalhousie.

Should you glance through back issues of the "Gazette," you would find the word "apathy" frequently recurring. Should you glance around you you would discover that the same group of people form the active nucleus on campus. What is the connection? I believe the Dalhousie student body to be an apathetic one—insofar as no one can be interested in every phase of University life. Perhaps I was especially fortunate in knowing Dalhousians who are eager, interested, energetic, and possessed of a keen sense of awareness, balance, and good judgment. But their interests are not all the same!

Dalhousie there is a multitude of extracurricular activities to complement the student's academic life and further broaden his horizons and increase his talents. The numerous organizations a student joins are important. What does count is his active contribution to his own fields(s) of interest(s). The opportunity to participate. However, these student organizations can operate successfully only so long as active student participation warrants their continuation.

In a school the size of Dalhousie, it seems miraculous that the choice is so great. Naturally, there will be many organizations which appeal to a small minority—and rightly so! Yet these minority groups are important for they CONTRIBUTE.

The subject of a small group or clique of students running campus activities has been argued bitterly and vociferously for many years. Is not the fact that there ARE a few interested people to maintain these organizations worthy of consideration? I can think of no Dalhousie organization which does not welcome new blood, new faces, new ideas. Although I do not believe the student body apathetic, I feel that they are not making the fullest use of their opportunities.

But to return to the "Gazette"—to which you, as a new student at Dal, have given a "cursory glance"! You mention the newspaper's dual purpose of informing and entertaining, and feel that it has let you down in the latter respect because it prints "Miss Mackenzie's poetical inanity." If this is your ONLY complaint about the "Gazette" you rate well above average!

As a fellow reader, I can sympathize with the view taken by you and countless others who have—in the past and present—expressed similar opinions. The paper is NOT always good; it is NOT always informative; it is NOT always entertaining. There are times when it is neither. I am sure that almost any Dalhousian, including the present Editor, would agree.

But what of the other side of the picture? Have you and the rest of the dissatisfied student body troubled to find out how the paper is run, what the underlying problems are, and what the satisfactions are? (As a member of the "Gazette" staff for the past two years, I feel thoroughly qualified to discuss it.)

To the best of my knowledge, there is no group on campus that works harder and longer for less public approval than the "Gazette" staff, unless it be the "Pharos" staff. The current fashion seems to prohibit any complimentary remarks! Yet, year after year, students spend many hours daily and weekly trying to please their public—the readers. They have antiquated machinery, inadequate office space, a limited budget, deadlines, printer's delays, lack of news, and Administrative policies with which to contend. In addition to which, they do not always recruit the best possible staff.

Why do they keep on? Because, Mr. Fanning, they are LEARNING something. No matter how trite their writing may appear, they are developing a new skill or further improving an old one; they are learning the mechanics and dynamics. They are not satisfied to sit back and condemn; these students are of the calibre that demands contribution and action! At the same time, these imperfect humans are prone to err—and they do so frequently. But in so doing, they must make decisions and defend them. This, I believe, is a very important part of "growing up." For me, this very fact justifies the existence of extracurricular activities so long as there is student interest maintained.

In the "Letter from the Editor" (October 9 issue) Mr. Nathanson states his policy as follows: "The Gazette, this year, is not particularly seeking after honours and awards whether of national or local origin. We hope to please only ourselves and the readers of the paper..." I commend the Editor for his approach, and hope that this year will bring some fulfillment of his goal. From my experience, I KNOW that the staff does its utmost with the time and facilities at its disposal to please the readers. The amount of praise or commendation it receives in return from the general public is usually minute, if not non-existent. A situation where one (or many) is unable to please others is very depressing—and still the staff fights this uphill struggle year after year, always trying to improve the quality of the paper. (I might add that, in general, this is true of most campus organizations.)

You, Mr. Fanning, and others like you can perform a service to your University. Where you feel you can contribute to a campus organization, DO SO! If you are unable to write better poetry than Miss Mackenzie, I fall to see where you should criticize her; rather, I think she is to be praised for her enterprising spirit! But if you CAN write better poetry (or do anything else), WHY AREN'T YOU OUT DOING IT?

In closing, may I say that I have intended no personal animosity towards Mr. Fanning, and sincerely hope he will understand the spirit in which this letter is written.

It is my hope that ALL Dalhousie students will avail themselves of the rewarding opportunities the school offers by giving their service and talents to the betterment of extra curricular affairs. The fruits of such labors cannot be measured by the Point System, but by personal satisfaction and enrichment of character. Soon the world will be looking to us for the answers. Will we censure our firesides, or will we have the courage and conviction to GET UP AND DO SOMETHING!

Anne Carolyn Coburn
Chappaqua, New York.

D. G. A. C.

GENERAL

Marjorie Leonard Award \$	4.95
Class '55 Trophy (miniature)	6.50
MWIAAU Conference	
Fee	10.00
Transportation (train)	19.10
Meals	9.50
Accommodation	10.00
Miscellaneous	5.00
Buffet Supper	62.50
Telegrams	10.00
First-Aid Kit	15.00
Engraving	15.00
Books	15.00
Basketball rules (6)	2.40
Ground Hockey	1.25
Volleyball	1.25
Basketball	1.25
Crests	
Big D's	48.00
Little D's	40.00
Bars	7.80
Miscellaneous	50.00

BASKETBALL

Equipment	
Scorebooks	3.00
Clock	10.95
Basketballs	42.00
Dry-cleaning skirts	18.00
Dry-cleaning blouses	6.00
Sweaters	36.00
Waist gripper	7.00
Acadia at Dal, Mt. A., at Dal, UNB at Dal	
Referees	30.00
Senior & Intermediate at Acadia	
Bus	64.00
Meals	33.75
Miscellaneous	5.00
Dal at Mt. A	
Taxi	120.00
Accommodation	56.00
Meals	66.50
Miscellaneous	5.00
Dal at UNB	
Transportation (plane)	392.00
Taxi (to and from airport)	60.20
Accommodation	56.00
Meals	49.00
Miscellaneous	5.00
Varsity Exhibition Games	
Referees	32.00
Intermediate Tournament	
Referees pool	15.00
Reception	50.00
City League	
Team Registration	1.50
Referees	36.00
Miscellaneous	5.00
N.S.W.B.A.	
Travel pool	16.00
Individual Membership	7.00
Team Registration	1.00
Banquet	18.50

Transportation (plane)	392.00
Taxi (to and from airport)	60.20
Accommodation	56.00
Meals	49.00
Miscellaneous	5.00
Varsity Exhibition Games	
Referees	32.00
Intermediate Tournament	
Referees pool	15.00
Reception	50.00
City League	
Team Registration	1.50
Referees	36.00
Miscellaneous	5.00
N.S.W.B.A.	
Travel pool	16.00
Individual Membership	7.00
Team Registration	1.00
Banquet	18.50

GROUND HOCKEY

Equipment	
Score books	2.50
Practise balls	7.20
Tape	2.10
Total	\$2,937.75

GAZETTE

Printing	\$3,550.00	Manager	50.00
Cuts	800.00	Telephone	115.00
C.U.P.		Office Expenses	20.00
Dues and Arrears	35.00	Typewriter Repair	30.00
Travel Pool	50.00	Transportation	15.00
National Expenses	25.00	Art Expenses	9.00
Atlantic Regional	25.00	EQUIPMENT:	
C.U.P. Filing	3.00	New typewriter	174.00
Telegrams	10.00	STAFF PARTY	50.00
CIRCULATION EXPENSES:		SALARIES:	
Transportation	24.00	Editor	100.00
Postage	40.00		
OPERATIONAL:			
Editor & Business	\$5,125.00		

BIRKS CHRISTMAS CARDS

Have you purchased your Christmas cards yet? If not, visit our Stationery Department where the largest assortment of personal greeting card samples in Canada are on display. Special attention given to group or class orders.

Henry Birks & Sons (Maritimes) Ltd.
Halifax Nova Scotia

THE BUDGET

DELTA GAMMA

DRAMATICS:		CO-ED WEEK:	
Director	\$ 5.00	Publicity	5.00
Royalties	5.00	Orchestra	120.00
Copies of play	5.00	Refreshments	12.00
Miscellaneous	5.00	Prizes	10.00
Costumes	5.00	Chaperones	5.00
Electrician	5.00	A. O'Brien	5.00
Policeman	6.00	Decorations	15.00
Programs	11.00	Leaflets	4.00
STAMPS, telegrams, etc.	5.00		
Total	\$ 313.00		

SUMMARY

	1956-57 Budget	1956-57 Expenditures	1957-58 Budget
Student Council	\$ 4,815.00	\$ 6,410.90	\$ 4,445.00
D.A.A.C.	7,207.00	7,105.88	8,764.80
D.G.A.C.	2,938.80	2,614.85	2,937.75
Gazette	5,726.50	5,698.74	5,125.00
Pharos	4,495.00	3,796.45	4,310.00
Delta Gamma	313.00	249.56	313.00
Societies	523.00	501.91	426.00
Publicity	234.00	182.70	104.45
Photography	737.20	667.72	700.55
Advertising Bureau			135.00
Pep Cats			255.50
Co-ordination			10.00
D.G.D.S.	1,875.00	2,086.39	3,705.00
Total	\$28,884.50	\$29,315.00	\$31,232.05

SODALES

Away Debates	\$ 30.00	Bennett Shield Trophies	9.00
Home Debates	20.00	Bennett Shield Engraving	5.00
Secretarial Fee	2.00	MacDonald Award	15.00
CUDA Membership Fee	50.00	Petty Cash	30.00
MIDL Conference	15.00		
International Meet	200.00		\$ 426.00
Model Parliament	50.00		

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographic supplies	\$ 194.30	Blotters	.90
Batteries	24.50	Bucket	1.50
Omega D-Z Enlarger	300.00	Stirring paddle	1.00
Studio Curtains	10.50	Salary	150.00
Static Master	4.75	Photo-Flo	1.50
Envelopes			
Flexigloss	8.00		
Squeegies	2.00		\$ 700.55
Light bulbs	1.60		

PEP CATS

3 megaphones	\$ 15.00	Posters	1.00
3 prs. white ducks	10.00	Hockey trip	100.00
Band music	30.00	Miscellaneous	30.00
Caps for band	30.00		
Tiger	30.00		\$ 235.50
Pep rallies	9.00		

PUBLICITY

Bristol Board	\$ 4.80	Supplies	43.85
Paint Brushes	9.00	Advance	100.00
Poster Paint	90.00		
India Ink	.65		
Total	\$ 104.45		\$148.85

RINK CANTEEN

Supplies	43.85	Advances	100.00
Total	\$ 148.85		

D. A. A. C.

First Aid Supplies	\$ 225.00	Balls	35.00
Dry Cleaning	25.00	Referees	45.00
Equipment Manager	250.00	Soccer	80.00
Awards and Engraving	80.00		
Interfaculty Pins	90.00		
MIAU Meeting	100.00		

GOLF

Transportation, Meals and Overnight, 1957 Match in Amherst	112.75
--	--------

BASKETBALL

Balls	45.00
Referees fees	125.00
Miscellaneous	20.00
Scorebooks	3.50
Jr. Varsity	
Affiliation & Referees	75.00
Miscellaneous	10.00

SWIMMING

MIAU at Wolfville	125.00
-------------------	--------

BADMINTON

1958 meet in New Brunswick	125.00
----------------------------	--------

TRANSPORTATION AND MEALS

Football	
St. F.X. Transportation	176.00
Meals and Overnight	193.40
Greenwood	
Transportation	110.00
Meals and Overnight	95.00
Bus to Wanderers	12.00
Bus to Dartmouth	17.00
Basketball	
Bus to Acadia	69.00
Taxis to Antigonish	100.00
Meals—Acadia	50.00
Junior Varsity	
Acadia	20.00
St. F.X.	50.00
Meals	35.00
Hockey	
Bus to Acadia	68.00
Bus to St. FX	155.00
Meals & overnight "X"	180.00
Meals Acadia	35.00
Junior Varsity	
Truro	30.00
Acadia	30.00
Meals	60.00

INTERFACULTY

General	
Timer	10.25
Repairs	15.00
Basketball	
Balls	21.00
Referees	90.00
Scorebooks	3.50
Hockey	
Shin Pads	40.00
Goal Sticks	18.00
Pucks	5.00
Referees	60.00
Gloves	40.00
Touch Football	
Football sneakers	225.00

D. G. D. S.

Caretaker fees	\$ 15.00	Caretaker fees	5.00
Royalties	85.00	Music	25.00
Sets and props	300.00	Publicity:	
Costumes	150.00	Posters, tickets (play)	30.00
Make-up	15.00	Ads (paper, radio) (play)	50.00
Miscellaneous	30.00	Programs (all)	220.00
Revue:	2,500.00	Tickets, posters (Review)	30.00
Caretaker fees	15.00	Ads (Review)	20.00
Music	50.00	Electrician (all)	105.00
Miscellaneous	60.00		
Connolly Shield:			\$8,705.00

COUNCIL

Directory and Handbook	\$ 900.00	Council Election	40.00
Student Functions	600.00	Expenses	25.00
Salaries	950.00	Desk	75.00
Awards	300.00	Typewriter	180.00
NFCUS	800.00	Miscellaneous	25.00
WUSC	100.00	Directory	50.00
Newspapers	50.00		
Miscellaneous (telephone, office)	350.00		
Total	\$4,445.00		

PHAROS

Printing	\$2,300.00
Engraving	1,300.00
Binding	100.00
Covers	400.00
Equipment	30.00
Salary	100.00
Miscellaneous	
Gown Rental	20.00
Postage	25.00
Transportation	20.00
Incidentals	15.00
Total	\$4,310.00

ADVERTISING BUREAU

Filing Cabinets	\$ 30.00
Printing	25.00
Postage	5.00
Stationery	44.00
Stamps	20.00
Stencils, etc.	3.00
Miscellaneous	8.00
Total	\$ 135.00

A Review

The Admirable Crichton

by Stuart MacKinnon

The D.G.D.S. came through with flying colors on Thursday last when, in spite of a fire backstage early in the evening before curtain time, the show went on as per schedule. The only evidence of the blaze was a slight odor permeating the gym, and a small piece missing on one side of the second act backdrop. According to one report the blaze was caused by a miscreant light bulb which exploded.

The show was "The Admirable Crichton" one of the best of Sir J. M. Barrie's comedies. In it was contained a more definite theme than in most of his works. His satirical portrait of an English aristocrat with liberal ideas is skillfully done. Like many liberals, Lord Loam is a split personality; express liberal ideas while actually holding on to his vested interests.

Opening Night

Due to such nasty things as editors and deadlines, I am obliged to give my impressions of the opening night only. I should have liked to have had the same opportunity to review the production on the final evening and to have seen the ironing out of all the little "hitches" which occur on opening night. One of these details was lighting, which might have been used more subtly on occasion. Once in the second act darkness fell, was lifted, and fell again in the course of a few moments.

There were a few slips in timing which I trust were corrected. Perhaps the most striking of these occurred immediately after the big moment in the third act when Crichton has decided to renounce his authority and the idyllic island life, and pulls the switch which lights the beacon fires and catches the attention of the passing ship. Here is a place where the significance of the act can and should be accentuated by a reasonable pause in the action. Indeed, the action offstage demands a pause, but none was given, as Ernest rushed in immediately saying that the boat had turned back to the island.

Title Role

The title role of Crichton was excellently performed by Don Aitken. With a backlog of experience and a magnificent speaking voice, Mr. Aitken captured the essence of this strong part, particularly rising to the heights