

Dal can't escape depression

Student Government History #57

As 1932-33 drew to a close the GAZETTE had so many positions to support and defend it must have found it difficult to limit the number of editorials printed each week. On March 14 one finds a front page article continuing the opposition to dances in the gymnasium, pointed to the cold air, hard chairs, no smoking rule and difficulty in serving food. Great play was given to the passing of anti-hazing motions by a wide variety of student organizations. The main editorial was summed up in the sentence, "The war-time cries of 'slacker' and 'whitefeather' will fall upon deaf ears, for common sense is supplanting patriotism and the divine right of militarism." A week later a contributed editorial supported what had been Dalhousie's great dream of the 1870's - a University of the Maritimes located in Halifax.

The outgoing Council decided that, for the first time, applications for all appointed positions would be called simultaneously. It continued the practice of holding the final meeting as a party at the Nova Scotian. The newspaper was allowed to publish a Convocation issue, something that had ceased with the birth of a yearbook. That yearbook itself seemed to be doing so well that in mid-April half of the salaries were paid. As it passed out of office the Council voted to hire a professional coach for football, John McCarthy. He had coached other teams to Maritime championships. A committee representing both Council factions was appointed to defend the hiring from "any opposing authorities".

When the newspaper's convoca-

tion issue appeared in May it kept up the somewhat extremist approach, printing an editorial that described as "a vicious system" the old Council staying in office to make appointments and binding decisions from election time to the end of the year. A Dalhousian in France wrote to say that European students (who were either defensive nationalists or offensive nationalists) felt that the Anglo-Canadian student pacifism was unrealistic and doomed to fail. The University Book Store was doing well, with a cash balance sufficient to meet all of its obligations and more. Among the 1933 graduates were Clarence Gosse, B. Sc. and an M.A. for Catherine Olding Hebb who was going to U. of Toronto to earn her Ph.D. in Physiology.

In September students discovered that on August 8 Archibald MacMechan had died, shortly after receiving an LL.D. from Dalhousie and after only a year of retirement. The new faculty included John Willis, who substituted at the Law School for Horace Read. A new form of initiation was in effect, featuring "Courtesy and Respect, not Subservience Required". It was viewed as ultimate triumph for those who had opposed uncontrolled hazing but wished some method of making freshmen realize their lowly position.

A year after the formation of a Parliamentary Procedure Club the Council decided at its first meeting to use parliamentary procedure, the decision having no visible effect. Policing was becoming an important part of running the football games. As is perhaps typical of new

Councils, the 1933-34 one passed a great many motions at that first meeting. It was decided that blind students need not pay the Council fee, and that the Council dance would not be held in the gymnasium. Council opposed a Senate committee's recommendation that all dances at the university be held on Friday or Saturday nights. Robert Stanfield allied himself with the closest person to an opposition leader, George Thompson. Together they convinced the Council to hold a forum on the future of the yearbook and DAAC. Poster-making was centralized on a trial basis thanks to an offer from Aileen Meagher. After two years of inaction Donald Mahon offered to put the Directory out, and Council agreed.

By the beginning of October it was clear that Dalhousie would not escape the effects of the Depression. From an all-time peak of 1015 in 1931-32 enrolment had fallen to 870. Dalhousie's decline was less than that elsewhere in the Maritimes thanks to increased professional enrollment, especially from the United States. It was reported that fraternities in the States were weakening rapidly due to financial troubles. At Dalhousie their growth had reached a level of eight fraternities and three sororities. October 1933 was the first time that wide publicity was given to the Dal-King's Councils' agreement. It had been renegotiated and was about to be renewed.

In his address to the university President Stanley urged student participation in campus activities, paid tribute to Archibald Mac-

Mechan and stressed the threat to intellectual training in the world from Nazi book-burning. Stanley was somewhat unique in never developing a pat speech or statement for use on such annual occasions.

Newspaper references indicate that in 1933-34 the Murray Homestead, which students had run unsuccessfully after World War I, was returning to widespread use. The GAZETTE offices were now located there, and clubs began to use it for meetings. The half-holiday for interfaculty track and field brought forth only 70 students, and it was predicted that this would end the two year old practice. The football Tigers were performing better under the professional coach, John McCarthy.

When Council met on October 22 the new gulf between it and the newspaper was indicated when, regarding an unfounded report on King's use of Studley Field, "The meeting felt that the student body could exercise enough intelligence to discount such reports." A new Glee and Dramatic constitution presented by a mid-term executive received tentative approval. In a final abandonment of the free admission to sports games for Dal students that had been started three years earlier the Council set a 35 cent fee for entrance to football games, perhaps higher during play-offs. Council made it clear that the student forum on Pharos and DAAC continuation would only be an expression of opinion. Future events proved this to be a wise decision.

Cont'd from page 1

exceed a certain level. Cooling the reactor will be a 20 ft. deep surrounding pool of water. Heat will be removed from the water by cooling coils. Thus the reactor's cooling system is a closed system

needing none of the constant circulation of water necessary for a power reactor. The pool of water and the laboratory will be constantly monitored for excess radioactive leakage.

Security will be very tight around the reactor. The core will need to be

changed about every 10 years. The core itself is in a sealed box and when replaced it will be taken to Ontario for opening and processing of the spent fuel. The only key to open the seal will be in the hands of the AECL, thus no one using the reactor will have access to the

Uranium. The entrances to the lab can also be well guarded since there are only two possible ways in.

Earthquake studies have also been done which apparently indicate that the reactor can take anything this relatively inactive area can dish out.

Professor Chattopadhyay stated that, "If I did not think, personally, that it was safe I would not go along with it."

However, many people in the Psychology Department feel that closer scrutiny should be given to all the possible safety hazards. For this reason it has been agreed that someone from AECL will come to fully discuss the reactor and answer questions about its safety. The date has not yet been set but hopefully this will be a forum open to anyone interested in the installation of Slowpoke.

This will probably be the first time that the AECL will answer to the "general public" concerning the safety of a nuclear reactor.

It seems that certain principles are involved here, not just the installation of a nuclear research reactor. Some people are tired of leaving nuclear power up to the experts and bureaucrats who do not deem it fit to consult the public.⁶ Dalhousie may just turn out to be a precedent setter and start off a trend of public questioning of the AECL.

Another side of Slowpoke

Vice President L.G. Vagianos was responsible for selecting the location of the reactor. He told the Gazette that he would rather have a separate building for Slowpoke but says that there is no money for such construction. The basement of LSC was chosen because it fit the requirements and saved the University money. According to Mr. Vagianos the decision to put the reactor next to Psychology saved

Cont'd on page 5

The following list are those books that have been placed on recall and that the library has been unable to contact, due to the mail strike.

Since the end of the term is just a few short weeks away it is

imperative that these books be returned as soon as possible. Many students will be needing them to complete their term's work.

All other requests for recalls have already been processed.

- AP 2 C734 V.80 1964 - Commonweal
- GN 60 C72 - Coma: Manual of Physical Anthropology
- GV 885 W64 - Wooden: Practical modern basketball
- H 33 W36 - Gerth: From Max Weber
- HB 71 M87 - Myrael: Against the stream; critical essays on economics
- HC 110 I5 M64 - Miller: Rich Man, Poor Man
- HD 31 T39 1972 - Terry: Principal of Management
- HD 70 C2 S3 C.1 - Safarian: Foreign ownership of Canadian industry
- HF 5429 C76 - Curry: Partners for profit
- HN 29 S9 - Szalai: The use of time
- HN 39 C2 E4 - Algee: Social techniques of the Canadian churches
- HV 6545 D812 1966 - Durkheim: Suicide
- HV 9650 L72 N453 - Babington: The English Bastille
- HX 86 E52 - Ely: Socialism, an examination
- HX 914 A9 - Avrich: The Russian anarchists
- JC 423 P274 - Pateman: Participation and democratic theory
- LC 4611 S3 1968 - Schmidt: Craft projects for slow learners
- ND 653 G7 T6773 - Tralbaut: Vincent van Gogh
- PN 81 F94 - Frye: Anatomy of criticism
- PR 2976 R57 - Righter: Shakespeare and the idea of the play
- PR 3541 L2 R4 1972 V.3 - Lee: The Recess
- PS 3527 I865 Z5 1966 V.1 C.2 - Nin: The Diary of Anais Nin
- PS 3531 O93 H89 E77 - Espy: Ezra Pound's Mauberley
- PT 7181 K6 1971 - Koht: The Old Norse sagas
- 2CP NS ED 1.1: 1967-68 - Journal of Education
- 2CP NS ED 1.1: 1969-72 - Journal of Education
- 2FG E O-D-7 - Canada. Dept. of External Affairs: The future of the oceans
- 2FG Z1 1967 1 C.1 - Studies of the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada