

# The Dalhousie Gazette

Canada's Oldest College Newspaper

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## ON THE STUDENT MISSION

On looking forward to the University Christian Mission which starts today, it would be well to do so with a sense of expectancy — expectancy of finding out what the Mission is all about and of getting something out of it. We should look to the Mission as a constructive experience relating to our daily lives and related directly to our academic and professional work. We must adopt this attitude if we are to benefit at all from it. If we expect to get nothing out of the Mission, that is exactly what we will get out of it, nothing.

Some will probably look upon the Mission with apathy. They will regard it merely as another extra-curricula activity and the noon-hour lectures that are dismissed because of it will be looked upon as a time to catch up on lost sleep. To them anything that goes on instead of a class lecture will be as annoying as attendance at the lecture would have been. Or, to that small group who are opposed to the idea of a mission, we would suggest that they stop being so sure that they are always right and see what the Missioners have to say. It certainly can't do any harm.

Another group of students may feel that religion doesn't apply to them. They've never bothered about it before; they have always got along all right in the past. They'll probably keep their minds closed and will get little out of the Mission.

But, for the average student who is willing to be open-minded, to examine things with an enquiring mind and with a genuine interest in getting all he can out of what is offered while in university, the Mission should prove to be thought provoking. It is not intended as an attempt at mass conversion. Its purpose is to make students aware that religion is not something spouted forth from the pulpit. Christianity is not just so much dogma or a set of ethical "thou shalt nots". The topics that are to be discussed during the Mission will lay the Christian faith before students and should make them fully aware of the true relation of religion to every-day life.

We should take advantage of our opportunity to meet and converse with the missioners informally. We can discuss our viewpoints and beliefs with them and probe their beliefs. We should freely ask questions. Also, we should realize that religion is not a thing to be thought about only in our spare time. To benefit from the Mission we must expect to spend some of our time each day at the main addresses and at the other meetings.

It is up to us. The Missioners and the committee of students and members of the Faculty have gone to considerable trouble to bring this Mission to Dalhousie. It is up to us to say whether or not their efforts will be rewarded.

—A Contributed Editorial.

## Students; Dumb? or Mum?

Football fever has again hit Dal, but the enthusiasm which goes with the fall grid sport seems to have hit only the team. At the four Dalhousie games to date, the Dalhousie cheering section has not only been poor, but also infinitesimal. Three of these games have been played on away fields, and two of these four games have been played in rain, although we realize that lusty and vociferous cheering cannot become as well organized under such conditions as these, nevertheless there has been little co-operation on the part of the fans.

To date, a famed group of "tabby" bandmen have yet to put in an appearance on the grid front. Instead, Dal and civilian supporters are forced to listen and watch the crack band of HMCS Stadacona, prance pompously up and down the field. The real insult and personal indignity has yet to come. Dal football experts assume it will occur in the finals... the strains of "Glory", coming from the Stadacona side of the field.

Last year, a group of pipers organized a band which was greatly approved by the fans, but unfortunately had an opiate effect on the players. Instead of marching like the proud Scots, they curled up and napped.

This year, however, the Tigers of the NSCFL are on the roar; roaring as they did in '51 for the Purdy Cup. They have been a spirited team, but they alone seem to have spirit. Even in Saturday's game, when the Dal Tigers were on the mat, their spirit continued. The fans were different, however, they mumbled about the play in

the first half, yelled courageously in the third and shut up when the team was in hot water in the fourth.

Organized cheering, with cheerleaders who can get the cooperation of the fans is one of the greatest stimulants to team spirit. It is the common belief that Dal will eventually become totally football spirited. At the present time though, it is enough to allow the team itself and a few top supporters to carry all the spirit?

As far as a Dal band goes, sooner or later one will put in an appearance. The Council President has approached the Halifax Youth Band for the Dal games. Now that sounds fine... a Youth Band playing for proud University students, many of whom can themselves play instruments in a more appropriate way for football than any organized group outside Dalhousie. We are not that proud and stubborn surely that we expect the N.B.C. Symphony Orchestra to play martial music or "Glory" or better yet ham and ridicule the opponents. In the past, the Dal band has drawn more attention and criticism than any Stadacona Band, at least more attention and criticism from the Dalhousie Student Body. A college band is essential in arousing spirit. There is no reason why DAL students cannot have their own band, not only for football, but also for the rest of the year. If you play, why don't you tell somebody. Maybe he will tell someone else and the idea will grow. At any rate, let's get spirit for everybody at the football games. Then watch those spirited Bengals roar. Yea, team!

## Quebec Students to See Duplessis

University delegates from Bishop's, McGill, Montreal and Sir George William, arrived in Montreal Thursday, October 7th for a long-awaited conference with Premier Duplessis.

Rosaire Beaulieu from Montreal assumed the role of spokesman for the delegation. He read the report jointly submitted by the universities in question. Mr. Duplessis listened with marked interest, and gave a few nods of approval here and there.

The honorable premier then answered the report. He first enumerated everything his government had done for the universities since 1945, pointing out the few realizations of previous governments. He admitted that there was still very much to do; "You should be very patient and Comprehensible" said he.

Mr. Duplessis then went on to establish a comparison between the financial status of a student today with that of a student of his days. "When I was earning \$20.00 weekly, I saved more than I did when I earned \$60.00". With this profound statement the meeting came to an end.

Probably nothing much was gained by this meeting, except the fact that a precedent was established, and students may now discuss their problems with the Premier.

The delegates now plan to prepare a concrete list of suggestions to be presented to the civil authorities, which suggestions, they hope, will be readily accepted and acted upon by the Quebec Government.

## Govt. Invites Applications

Career opportunities in the Canadian Foreign Service are being offered to young men and women university graduates or students in their final year at university by the Department of External Affairs through competitive examinations conducted by the Civil Service Commission.

Appointments as Foreign Service Officers, Grade 1, starting at an initial salary of \$3,480 annually, with opportunities for advancement will be offered to candidates who are successful in a two-stage competition which begins with a written examination to be held on Saturday, November 20 at university centres across Canada and at Canadian diplomatic and consular posts abroad. The required qualifications for candidates are graduation from a university of recognized standing (or, in the case of final year students, graduation within the current academic year) at least ten years' residence in Canada, and age below 31 years.

The competition is not restricted to students of any particular field of study but a relatively high standing in one's own chosen academic discipline is expected. In addition to formal education, other types of training, as well as general experience and knowledge, are taken into consideration in the competition. Candidates who are successful in the written examination will be interviewed by an oral examining board which will make an assessment of general suitability for work in the Foreign Service.

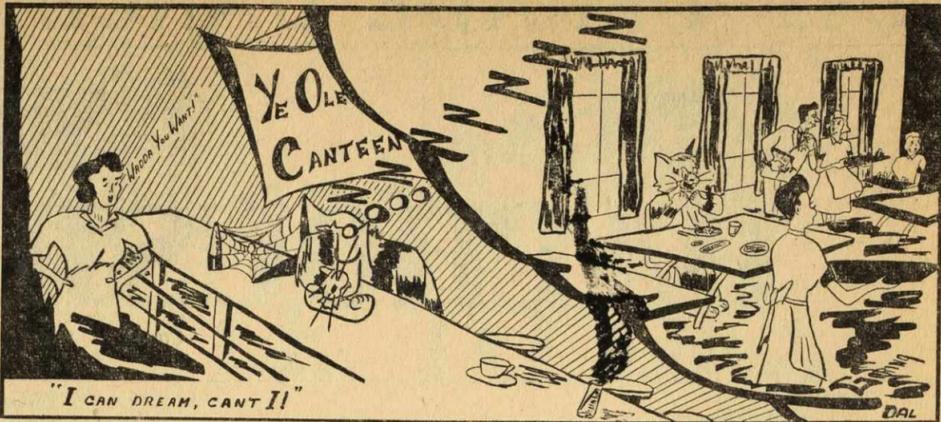
While candidates with the required qualifications actually need not submit their applications until they report to examination centres at 8.45 a.m. on November 20, it would be useful for candidates who are in doubt about their eligibility to forward completed applications to the Civil Service Commission, Ottawa. Copies of standard application forms are available at most post offices in Canada. Further information may be obtained either from the Civil Service Commission or the Department of External Affairs, Ottawa.

## Addresses, Numbers Needed Immediately

The following people did not put their addresses or telephone numbers on their Students' Directory Information Cards. They are asked to contact the Editor, Joy Cunningham, in the Gazette Office, or phone 2-3659 between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. on October 26 or October 27. Information cannot be received after this date.

Leith White, Paul Warner, Gerald Moore, Scott Kerr, Vincent Willden, Carl Gourley, James Alquire, Arthur Harrigan, Malcolm Beck, George Young, Murray Foster, Ted Marshall.

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## National Student Unity Demanded

One of the largest universities in Canada, the University of Montreal, has ceased to be a member of the National Federation of Canadian University Students. Its delegates announced their decision last week at the annual convention of NFCUS. By the time this article appears, others may have walked out of Canada's only national organization of university students.

The withdrawal of the University of Montreal represents a pessimistic attitude toward NFCUS, and here at Dalhousie, there are a good many students who have a similar disregard for the objects of NFCUS, and for its accomplishments. They will be the ones who would oppose an increase in the NFCUS levy from 20 cents a student, as it stands at the moment, to 50 cents, as requested by the executive of NFCUS.

Such a view typifies the short-sightedness and mercenary attitude held by too many students on this campus and on others throughout the country. It stems from the all-too-common approach of "what we are getting for our money now" or "what are we getting out of the organization anyway?" Instead of spending so much time considering how much benefit they'll derive FROM NFCUS, it might be better for higher education and the country as a whole if they considered how much they could contribute TO NFCUS, not only in terms of pennies but in terms of strong support for the organization on both campus and national level.

If the arguments Dalhousians and others mustered in support of saving their 30 cents for three extra cups of so-called coffee were turned to a positive approach, universities and university students across Canada would find their positions improved in years to come.

In the past few weeks on this campus, we have been given a good example of what unity of opinion and action can accomplish. In short order, administration officials promised improvements in catering services following a direct and united approach by a delegation headed by members of the Council of Students. What better example could Dalhousie students want than has been illustrated here in the last week or so? Yet, the same students who endorsed a movement for better catering services on the local level, are often too nearsighted, too narrow-minded or too interested in their own little lives to regard NFCUS from a long range point of view and try to see just what a national organization of students could accomplish by unity on the campus, by unity across the nation.

Certainly no one believes that NFCUS is the answer to all the problems of university students, but quitting the organization, or refusing to take an active part in the campus committee of NFCUS is no way of improving the picture. The TLC and the CCL didn't reach their positions of power today until they succeeded in persuading labor groups all across Canada that in unity there is strength. Although university students lack the effective weapon of the strike, they can and should present a united front on questions and problems which have a direct bearing on the welfare of all students. Both prices are far too high, income taxes extracted from students are ridiculous, compelling students to contribute to the Unemployment Insurance Fund four or five months a year for four, five, six or more years is unjust.

On all sides may be heard sympathetic outbursts pitying the poor universities struggling along on limited finances, crying out for the students who are barely getting by financially, and bemoaning the fact that numerous above average young Canadian, are denied whatever benefits there are in a university education merely because they lack finances to pay the shot. These are only a few of the problems which will remain as such, until sufficient attention is brought to them to bring about improvements.

The benefits which may accrue by unity and nationwide organization will not be a help to you today or tomorrow, but they probably will help the children of your old schoolmate who wasn't able to obtain a university education — all because the cost was too high.

Montreal University's action in quitting NFCUS is like raising the white flag in the face of a few difficulties. It should be taken as waving the red flag by which Canadian students may be stirred to a more united front.

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