



The Dalhousie Gazette

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Where have the leaders gone?

Next weeks student council elections should prove to be almost as big a farce as last year's.

After the process of natural selection has taken place within the present council an heir-apparent will be named to ascend to the throne. If no one comes forward from the gray amorphous mass, which constitutes the student body, then the machine will be forced to put up its own opposition.

The constitution rules out the possibility of the Student Union president being selected by acclamation. Last year when Robbie Shaw stepped down as president and named John Young to follow there was a real scramble to find some opposition.

The day nominations were to close two victims were found to run as presidential and vice-presidential candidates against the 'favorite-sons' ticket. They were slaughtered in the vote.

After it was all over one of the put-up candidates made the perceptive comment: "The campaign did smell a bit. I guess it did look like a set up election."

The same thing could happen this year unless some of the ambitious members of council refuse to play the game. The potential is there if the individuals are willing to make the effort.

What is really needed to put some life back in Dalhousie student affairs are some candidates from outside the present council. People that don't have the civil servant mentality and are willing to try some new - yes, revolutionary ideas.

King's college president Wayne Hankey made the suggestion several weeks ago when interviewed by the Gazette that what was needed at Dalhousie was to break the present

council up into smaller more viable units. The existence of residential colleges on the Dal campus, he reasoned, would allow the student body to identify with its representatives and enter into the decision making.

There is little doubt that ideas work for King's. Why can't these ideas be adopted to the Dalhousie scene. The University of Toronto's swing to the small college system and satellite colleges is another example of this ideaput into practice. Unfortunately, here at Dalhousie we believe in the blob. The bigger blob the better it has to be.

This is one example of a revolutionary idea that could be championed at Dal. Co-op housing is another progressive step that could be taken at this university.

Rather than packing all the out-of-town students in the wombs the university calls residence, it might make more sense to offer co-ops where people learn the responsibilities of living in community. Every year more students reject the idea of living in residence in favor of getting an apartment or moving into a rooming house. These people escape the womb but lose the advantages and responsibilities of being part of a community. Co-ops are the best answer to date.

The ideas are one thing; finding the people capable of putting them into effect is another. Leaders are a breed apart. They are born as much as they are made. They are the people that will rise above - in the university and outside the university. Nothing is as foolish as the belief that many students have that they can play the part of the follower in the academic community as undergraduate and graduate and then emerge as a leader. They might be supervisors, but never leaders.

If there are any true leaders at Dalhousie now is the time for them to come forward and lead.

A look at U.S. - Canada relations

The Toronto Daily Star has recently completed a series of articles on Canadian - American relations. The findings of these articles lead to the following editorial.

It is clear from Star staff writer Val Sears' articles on nationalism and foreign investment that if Canada falls under the economic and political domination of the United States the blame will be largely at Ottawa's feet.

A majority of Canadians, according to a nationwide poll reported in the first article, don't want this to happen. Seven out of 10 Canadians want the federal government to take steps to reduce foreign control of our economy.

And yet while the people want action to preserve our independence, the Liberal government continues to dither, issuing vague pronouncements about "good corporate behavior" and trying to patch up differences between its left and right wings on the issue.

Each day Ottawa dithers a little bit more of our economic independence slips away. Foreigners now control 46 per cent of our manufacturing industry, 91 per cent of rubber, and 62 per cent of petroleum and natural gas. And the process is continuing. Foreign spending for plant and equipment has increased 18 per cent in a year. In 1966 there were 32 Canadian firms sold to foreign interests. In 1965, there were 19.

Americans certainly are not to blame if they take advantage of Canada's vacillation over economic goals. Mr. Sears' interviews with American corporate heads with subsidiary plants in Canada, revealed an understandable uncertainty about how Ottawa wanted them to perform.

Why, the Americans asked, should they offer Canadians an opportunity to share in the ownership of U.S. plants in Canada, for instance, when Ottawa itself seems so uncertain about its long-term goals in foreign investment?

In those countries - France, Sweden, Japan, Mexico - where the governments carefully regulate foreign investments so as to make their own citizens partners in key enterprises, U.S. money continues to pour in, attracted by profits.

Similarly, the flow of U.S. investment capital into Canada would not be reduced, if reasonable and responsible measures were introduced to give Canadians a share in company stock and directorships. But American companies are certainly not going to make any such moves unless Canadian government policy induces them to do so.

In the foreign policy field, Mr. Sears' reports showed Washington is surprised by Ottawa's implicit concern about retaliation. American state department officials pointed out that America continues to do a booming trade with France, for instance, though General De Gaulle certainly has not gone out of his way to accommodate Washington in the conduct of French foreign policy.

The fact is, Ottawa seems a victim of its own timidity. There is no evidence of U.S. economic retaliation in the past as a result of our trade with Cuba and China, or because of President Johnson's annoyance over Prime Minister Pearson's call for a bombing pause in Viet Nam.

And, even if an independent Canadian foreign policy did lead to U.S. economic retaliation, perhaps the Canadian people would be prepared to pay the price, for the sake of independence of action in foreign policy. They've never been asked.

It's time the federal government asserted a policy that would ultimately restore control of this nation's economy to the hands of Canadians.

The Canadian people want it; other nations have shown us that economic independence can be preserved without inviting disaster.



This cartoon appeared on the front page of the July 2, 1966 edition of Lot's Wife, the student newspaper at Monash University in Australia. It is reprinted here to show what the Australian student press thinks of the war in Viet Nam. They are vitally concerned with this war as they have brothers and friends fighting there.

Voice of the Student

"Bomb the dykes...!"

To the Editor:

Large portions of the most arable land in Vietnam are protected and irrigated by a complex system of dykes. The civilian population of Vietnam depends upon those dykes for the rice which is its main foodstuff. Obviously this land is central to the preservation of life in Vietnam - it is estimated that eliminating the dykes would kill 6,000,000 Vietnamese people in a single year.

Recently the same "minds" which proclaimed "Better Dead than Red" and the slogans associated with it have devised and promoted a new phrase: "Bomb the Dykes". Buttons are available; spot commercials have been heard on American radio stations; and a national coordinating committee has been established.

Of course it all sounds impressive in light of the American pledges that they are bombing only military installations. Indeed, if such were true, the movement would have little chance of success. But the evidence now seems to be that the Americans have already crossed the brink to deliberate civilian bombing. Consider for example this excerpt from a letter by Freda Cook, an English Newspaper correspondent:

"Vinh Yen is a very small town, the administrative centre of Vinh Phuc province. Clustering round it are a number of hamlets, enclosed in bamboo thickets, where peasant families live. It is clearly a fertile agriculture area, vegetables and rice being the main crops. The paddy fields are being prepared for the next planting.

"This area was subjected on December 8 to a pounding by U.S. fragmentation bombs, missiles, rockets, and other explosives, with the result that 26 people were killed and 87 wounded, including many children. Ninety-nine buffaloes, oxen, geese, and other domestic creatures were also killed, some with the little herdsboys who were tending them.

"Our group was addressed by the chairman of the district administration, and a colonel in the North Vietnamese defence forces; but even more convincing were the victims themselves.

"A mother carried in her 12-year-old daughter, Tu, her eldest child, who had been seriously wounded in the legs while shielding with her own body her 2-year-old baby brother. The boy was uninjured, but his two small sisters were killed.

"Then came an old man and his son, each carrying a wounded child, the smallest only 16 months and wailing pitifully. Both children were badly and multiply scarred with pellets, and the 4-year-old girl's arm had been smashed. The mother had been killed in the same episode.

"In other families, all five and again all four children had been killed. A young man, aged 26, was brought in, with 20 wounds altogether, mostly on his back, six of them too deeply imbedded for the surgeon's probe to extract. We were taken to see the twisted fragments of the bombs. The lettering on them was clear: 'Dispenser and bomb'; 'Aircraft CBU 24/13'; 'Loading date 11/66'. They were filled, please notice, in November 1966, each with 400 metal capsules about as big as apples, which in their turn contain 360 little shinning balls, padded in a sort of sand.

"When the bomb explodes, these pellets fly with immense force over a wide area, imbedding themselves in anything soft, such as a human flesh. The U.S. government is still saying that it is only attacking military installations; but however incredibly they may claim that the houses, hospitals, churches, and schools they destroy are the result of 'accidents', they cannot possibly pretend that these weapons are for use against steel and concrete.

"For THESE ARE ANTI-PERSONNEL WEAPONS and the greatest number of their victims are children.

The use of 'Fragmentation Bombs' (F-Bombs), as these bombs are called, has been verified by the American State Department and has been reported by TIME magazine.

F-bombs are useless against even bamboo (being basically bullets, they pierce but do not destroy), much less 'military installations'. They are anti-personnel weapons and this is what makes Political Observers watch so carefully the "Bomb the Dykes" movement. Surely we need not fear that the United States would stoop to such tactics. Yet the fact that the exterminations would be six times as fast as the rate attained by the Nazis must have some appeal. And as well, the State Department is already accusing those opposing civilian atrocities in Vietnam of being 'naive sentimentalists' - precisely the same words used so successfully twenty-five years ago by our friends at Auschwitz.

A King's Student.

Jewish Congress views von Thadden interview

In the interests of fair reporting, based on knowledge of all the facts, it would have been desirable for you to seek out the reasons behind the opposition of the Canadian Jewish Congress and other groups to the von Thadden interview before editorializing on this matter.

In the interests of presenting all the facts to your readers I hope that you will give me the opportunity through your columns to express the views of the Canadian Jewish Congress on this matter.

Your editorial creates the impression that the Canadian Jewish Congress was the only group protesting the von Thadden interview. The Congress rejects entirely the suggestion that an "outside" group was here imposing its views upon Canadians and the CBC. The fact is that in addition to the CJC, arguments against the interview were raised by responsible parliamentarians, by the Canadian Labor Congress, by the Saint John Ministerial Association and others. All these people - Mr. Diefenbaker, Mr. Thomson, Mr. Claude Jodoin, are all Canadians, as are the Jewish citizens of Canada.

I can only speak for the Canadian Jewish Congress, and the reasons behind the opposition of the Congress to the von Thadden interview are neither irrational

View from the Top -

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dents. If some one started talking about Viet Nam right now, probably everyone but about three of us would get up and walk out. Open opinions they feel is something that they need much now and would obtain by going to Dal.

ZETA MENGALSINGH: (A third year student at the Mount born in India - a boarder who went to Dal for Freshmen and Sophomore year).

Question: Being used to a secular College, did you find it hard to adjust to a Women's Catholic College?

Answer: Yes! When I first came, I only wanted to leave. The cliques were so dominant. The pattern of life according to a Catholic ideal was so definite. It's just like finishing high school. When you come into the canteen, you can't sit anywhere as you can at Dal but you have to sit with your own little group.

And the girls' reactions are so funny with boys. A boy at the Mount is an original thing. All heads turn when a boy enters the canteen.

Question: Would you go back to Dal?

Answer: Oh yes, if I had it to do over again, but I'm glad I had the experience of coming here. ANNE MORAN: A sophomore in a diploma course in Education. She is a boarder from the States who has a much more open view of the college than the others. Question: Why can't apathy be alleviated in the students at the Mount?

Answer: They talk among themselves but not to other people... especially the Freshmen who could really do something about it. Years ago it wouldn't have done any good to voice your opinion because nothing could be done anyhow, but this is not true anymore. Students should get involved and realize that the Administration and the Student Leaders are open to suggestion.

Question: Can you give some examples of the apathy of students?

Answer: Yes, There is no one to work on the Student Newspaper. We have discussion groups every Wednesday night but no one attends. The only one which was a success was one on "The Aspects of Physical Love". There was a leadership seminar in the whole college and 20 showed up. We can't have a year book because no one will go out and get ads. A drama workshop was to be set up first semester but due to lack of co-operation it folded second semester.

MAHA ARAB: (A senior Arts student, Majoring in French)

Question: Is the religious atmosphere stressed in a non-sectarian University?

Answer: Yes, But I feel that this is right. The Mount is known to be a Catholic College and they are trying to fulfill their ideal to educate strong Catholic girls.

Question: Do you feel that this takes away from the broader view point that Students, for example, at Dal would have about religion?

Answer: Yes I do - Dalhousie students have a less prejudiced view point of all religions including Catholicism - but the Mount is a Catholic College and there is no other way for it to operate.

Maritime Grads -

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to invest. Our money is invested in savings accounts or Canada Savings Bonds when we could gain much more profit from investing in industrial stocks.

Hees' speech ended on a discouraging note. He said that in the re-study of financial structure going on at present, the resulting recommendation would surely be to discourage foreign capital in Canada.

A short question and answer period followed the talk with Hees giving his views on the common market and mercantile banks in Canada.

Contest Continues -

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and Lynn Bowser. The last production of the evening is "The Mediator", a strange original play by Brian Crocker, a brother at Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, the sponsoring organization. Crocker is also directing the production. Members of the cast are: Ted Rowan-Legg, Bob Waind, Hammy McClymont, Ewan Clarke Jr. and Tom Dupphy.

Following this play will be adjudication of the evening's productions and awarding of prizes for the entire three-night competition.

The Connolly Shield competition, sponsored by the Dalhousie Glee and Dramatics Society, is being held off-campus for the first time and was opened this year to all university groups in Halifax.

Kings Student Chief -

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Union and the signature of the nominee signifying his acceptance. Faculty nominations require only 10 members of the Faculty concerned plus the signature of the nominee.

3. Nomination forms are available at the Student Union Office. The following positions are also open:

- 1) D.G.A.C.
 - a) President
 - b) Vice-President
 - c) Secretary - Treasurer
- 2) D.A.A.C.
 - a) President
 - b) Vice-President
 - c) Secretary
 - d) Public Relations Director

All positions require 25 signatures and signature of candidate signifying his approval.

Nominations for all positions (Council representatives and Athletic representatives) close Friday, February 10, at 5 p.m. Elections will be held Friday, February 17th.



ELECTRIC CHAIR which Konrad Mirt rigged up with metal foil carried 35,000 volts from transformers. Police believe he tied himself to the homemade deathtrap.

-Toronto Daily Star photo by Frank Teskey

Inventor scores success on his very first try

A technical school student who scored 93 in electricity, Konrad Mirt 20, died in his own electric chair Saturday in a garage behind his Roxton Rd. rooming-house police disclosed Tuesday.

His landlord thought he was wiring the building. Instead, police believe the student covered the back and seat of an ordinary kitchen chair with metal foil, boosted the 110-volt of an extension cord from the house to 35,000 volts through transformers and flipped the fatal switch with his foot, while holding a wet towel to his chest.

The victim, police believe, tied himself to the chair. Neighbors found the body when

smoke from the overheated transformers seeped from the garage. Coroner Dr. Elie Cass and Det. Mervin Bates of Markham St. Station are investigating.

Mrs. Joseph Sobansky, wife of the owner of the house, was almost in tears as she described Mirt as "a quiet young man who never caused any trouble." He lived there two years.

She said he had a sun symbol on his wall and read Buddhist literature. She said he sent to Chicago for the transformers and was struck by a car as he tried to carry one of them home from the post office on his bicycle, but he never revealed what they were.

There will be Model Parliament in '67

January 30, 1967

The Editor
Dalhousie Gazette

Dear Sir:

Your editorial entitled "Parliament Must Go" I appreciate your obvious position. Unable to come up with a new and interesting editorial you reverted back to the old standby, namely, "Student Apathy". Of course you have added a new twist this time, for you come out in support of it.

There will be a Model Parliament this year despite the efforts of subversive elements such as yourself and Student Council to undermine every move.

The "few idealistic people", as you call them, have been up nights preparing party policies and platforms fully aware that every student will not become familiar with their contents. They are not disheartened at this point, as you are not disheartened, knowing that approximately one out of twenty students ever reads your editorial.

Yours truly,
Elliot DeWolfe
President,
Dalhousie Liberal Association
EED-ed

EDITOR'S REPLY:
I am glad to know you are among the, "one out of twenty."

Sincerely yours,
Uri Rosenzweig,
Regional Executive Director.