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CANADA'S OLDEST STUDENT PUBLICATION

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No. 4

FREEDOM OF SPEECH

Late last term a great flurry was caused on the campus when one of the university student organizations invited a member of the Labor Progressive Party (a legitimate party in Canada) to speak on Communism. The particular organization felt that to understand the views of a party it was preferable to hear a spokesman of that party than to formulate judgements on accounts that could be prejudiced. For this the students concerned are to be highly commended.

Shortly after this incident, a local union leader, a socialist who was scheduled to speak to a group of medical students, was suddenly told that his address was cancelled. He was given no justifiable reason for this cancellation. Perhaps other matters bear directly on both cases, but ostensibly the situation is not pleasing.

In a university, of all places, there should be absolute freedom of speech and thought. Lack of wisdom will be quickly discovered in any programme that is brought to light. A programme, however, that is kept hidden by intolerance may well smoulder, attracting gullible and unwise followers, until the sudden eruption of flame is so great that it is extremely difficult to quench. Furthermore, if a person is proud and firm in his political tendencies he should be willing to stand up in their defence, and not merely support them by the negative policy of subduing others. This latter belief, it would appear, is the backward policy of both the people who created the flurry over the Communist hearing and those responsible for the cancellation of the union leader's address.

If these backward individuals feel that the actions of the people whom they wish restrained are evil it might be well for them to ponder over the feelings of John Milton when he wrote the following words: "--were I the chooser, a dram of well doing should be preferred before many times as much the forcible hindrance of evil doing."

AN OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT KERR

THE EDITOR
DALHOUSIE GAZETTE

October 25, 1947

Dear Sir:

In your welcoming address at the Alumni Smoker Thursday, October 16, you described a university as "a fellowship of students and teachers, interested in the discovery of new and old learning." you then went on to say that the expansion campaign was progressing satisfactorily and that a new Art's building could be started before too long.

This letter is not to deny the need of a new Art's building in the discovery of learning. However, I feel that Dalhousie University is more in need of a new residence to promote the equally important service of encouraging "a fellowship of students and teachers."

There is a congestion for classrooms at the present time, but this will have relaxed considerably within the next three years, Dalhousie will then be able to fit fairly comfortably into its pre-war space.

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THE BOOKWORM

by McSTOOP

I love books. I make this statement without reservations of any kind whatsoever. They are my ruling passion. It is, therefore, a source of great glee when I discover that I will need them in large quantities at Dalhousie. I give the University the benefit of all doubts; if the Professor says: "Just look at these; they are all in the Library," I write to the proud parent to send me enough money to buy them all. This I receive, and hasten with unholy glee to obtain my library.

I arrive at Pasha Deadwood's emporium, which is below the Gymnasium. In that hallowed place I expect, in exchange for legal tender, many, many books. But I find the door all jammed with arms and legs and bodies, which have no business there at all. I am small and wiry. With great endeavours I get inside the door, and fall down a flight of steps not noticed due to the bodies in the way. I do not mind, because I am so excited about all the books. But there are still people in the way; these I move aside gently and make my way to the counter. What can they all be doing there? when it is so inconvenient? Eh?

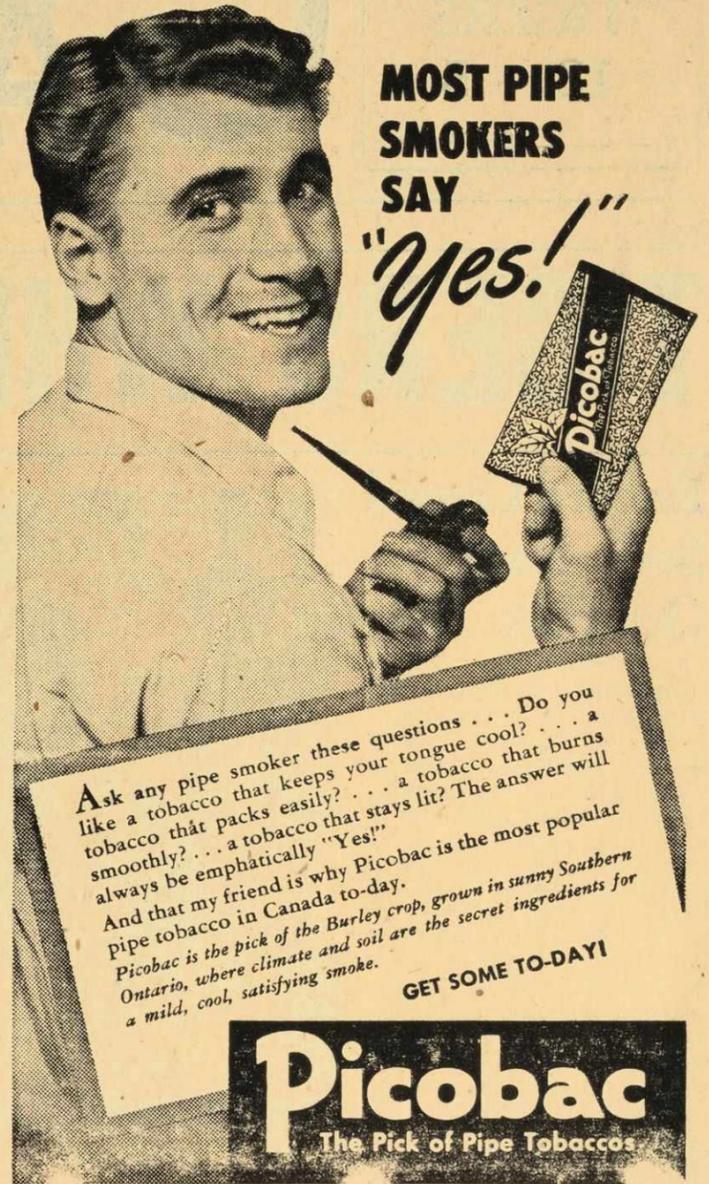
At the counter there are many people. I attract the attention of a young lady who sells, and am about to ask for books, when some clod of a most enormous cloddishness settles on my left ear, bellowing for coffee and sandwich. This one I dislodge, but his coffee, etc., arrive, and he remains. I renew my order for books. Alas, they are all sold except for one English text and two lab. books. These I purchase in silence. I open the text, and admire it. At this moment the clod behind leans forward to say something of no consequence to someone of no consequence, and a great lump of jam from his sandwich hits my text in the middle. As I turn in protest, coffee dribbles down my chin into my lab books. This surprises me; I pause. I am drinking no coffee! Then I see that it is another who is gesturing with his coffee cup, whereby some coffee is detached from the gesture to my head, and so to the books. I am crushed; I turn to go. I am rudely buffeted hither and thither, and I loose my ink bottle. This falls and is broken, whereupon a gross co-ed, of doubtful ancestry and no virtue, accuses me of throwing ink at her. Her boy friend is a football player, who fells me to the ground...

In class, the Professor of English says: "Open your books at page three hundred and fifteen." Doing so, I come across, not book, but jam. Henceforth, I buy no books, or I buy them second hand or I spend my father's lawful currency on sensible things like beer.

NOTICE

Would the person who mistakenly took the grey gabardine from the coat rack in the men's residence at supper time Saturday, Oct. 18, please return it to the rack or contact Bob Latimer, 50½ Seymour Street.

BEAT ST. MARY'S



MOST PIPE SMOKERS SAY "Yes!"

Ask any pipe smoker these questions . . . Do you like a tobacco that keeps your tongue cool? . . . a tobacco that packs easily? . . . a tobacco that burns smoothly? . . . a tobacco that stays lit? The answer will always be emphatically "Yes!"

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Meals for all students are available at the University.
For full information write to THE REGISTRAR.